

## LITTER QUALITY ASSESSMENT



**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**House ID:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Flock ID:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Flock age (in days):** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Flock size (when placed):** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Litter type:** \_\_\_\_\_

Score 0	Score 1	Score 2	Score 3
Dry	Moist	Wet	Very wet
Dry and crumbly, free flowing on compression (will not form a ball or clod)	Sticky on hand when compressed, clod forms but does not hold – crumbles when released from compression	Forms a clod when compressed that holds form when released from compression	Litter is noticeably wet, moisture comes out of it on compression
No action required for this standard, but note this could be causing dusty conditions	No action required - this is the target score	Yes – needs work to improve litter quality	

**Protocol:**

- Assess each flock between 15 and 20 days of age
- Pick up three litter samples from three different areas in the house – one from each end of the house and one in the middle
- There is no need to dig out a sample – it can be collected from the surface
- Use the scoring system above to assess litter quality
- Record the score in the table below

Area	1: Top of house	2: Middle of house	3: Bottom of house
Litter Quality Score			

**GUIDANCE**

If either of the following happens:

- A) The Litter Quality Assessment gives litter scores of more than 1
- B) 5 or more birds in a flock have a Soiled Feather Score of 2

Then you must do the following:

- 1) Complete an intervention plan to improve litter quality and ensure that feather soiling does not deteriorate further
- 2) Conduct an additional Litter Quality Assessment for the flock in the week prior to slaughter
- 3) Conduct an additional Soiled Feather Assessment for the flock in the week prior to slaughter