

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