

Environmental Skills Sheet for Chicken Business

Be mindful of the environment that you want to rear your chicken in.

This way you will be sure that your products are safe to eat and can be sustained in your environment over time!



Biosecurity

Biosecurity means keeping your birds safe from diseases and pests. This is achieved by:

- Only allowing essential staff to enter the chicken house.
- Placing a footbath with a disinfectant like Kupacide outside the chicken house.
- Ensuring no rodents or wild animals can enter the house.
- Throwing away old feed as it may have mould or produce toxins.
- Vaccinating your birds as advised.
- Only keep chickens here and don't mix with other birds.



Throwing away old feed

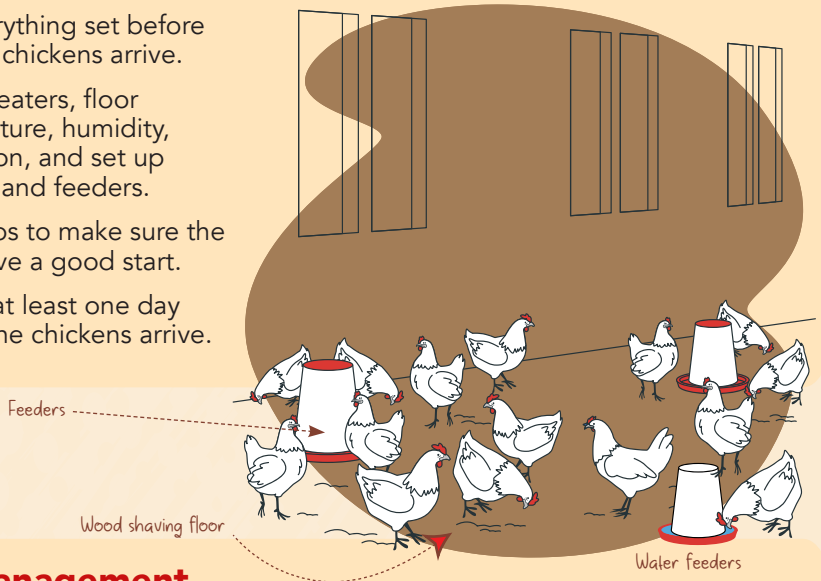


Downtime between Flocks

- Downtime is the break between one group of chickens and the next.
- It should be at least 14 days.
- This will allow you to clean and sanitize the house and get rid of diseases that only survive in birds.

Pre-placement Preparation

- Get everything set before the new chickens arrive.
- Check heaters, floor temperature, humidity, ventilation, and set up drinkers and feeders.
- This helps to make sure the birds have a good start.
- Do this at least one day before the chickens arrive.



Litter Management

- Litter is a bedding for chickens to make them feel more comfortable. The litter can be straw or wood shavings, spread on the floor of the chicken house.
- Take care of the bedding in the chicken house as this is where they live.
- Wet bedding can make birds sick and create a place for harmful germs to grow. It also raises ammonia levels, which is bad for the birds.
- Have the right quality and depth of litter.
- Check water and drinkers regularly.
- Manage the light, temperature and ventilation well in the chicken house.

Water Management

- Chickens need lots of clean water daily, even more than their food.
- Make sure the water is clean and placed at the height of chickens neck for easy reach.
- Check for mineral levels.
- Keep the drinkers clean at all times.

