

Health & Consumers Directorate General



Data collection of welfare indicators in broilers' slaughterhouses

Directive 2007/43/EC on the protection of chickens kept for meat production

- Whereas (14) it is appropriate for the Commission to submit a report based on new scientific evidence taking into account further research and practical experience... that report should specifically **consider the possibility to introduce thresholds for indications of poor welfare conditions identified during the post-mortem inspections.**



Directive 2007/43/EC on the protection of chickens kept for meat production

- Articles 6 and 11 of the Directive

- MS shall submit to the Commission the results of data collection based on monitoring of a representative sample of flocks slaughtered during a min period of 1 year.

- In order to enable a relevant analysis, the sampling and the data requirements as referred to in Annex III should be scientifically based, objective and comparable.

- Laid down in accordance with the Committee procedure

10 October 2011

Working group MS data collection
Broilers



Directive 2007/43/EC on the protection of chickens kept for meat production

- Annex III to the Directive monitoring and follow-up at the slaughterhouse
 - Mortality
 - Post-mortem inspection
 - Communication of results



Objectives of the data collection

- Objective of the Commission: to set a harmonised system of data collection in the 27 Member States
- Overall picture in EU and 27 MS on welfare of broilers over a period of one year.
- Data collected and analysed will be used to identify possible indications of poor welfare conditions
- Data collected and analysed will be used for a report to the EP and Council on the implementation of the Directive



Representative sample of flocks

- Geographical situation: MS
- Maximum densities of the flocks (<33, 33-39, 39-42 kg/m²)
- Seasonality (1/month for 12 consecutive months)
- Slaughterhouses (at least 5 different SH or all)
- Number of flocks (2%, min 200, max 1000)
- Number of birds per flock (300 birds/criterion, 100 FPD)
- EFSA technical assistance under consideration



Food Chain Information/flock



- Name and contact address owner/keeper
- Date slaughter
- Number of birds slaughtered
- Hybrid or breed
- Age of birds
- Thinning?
- Max stocking densities at any time
- Holding number
- Flock identification
- Cumulative daily mortality
- Culling rate of the flock
- Live weight at slaughter

Welfare indicators: criteria

- Under the responsibility of Official Veterinarians
- Feasibility to collect such indicators in slaughterhouses based on MS experiences
- Criteria mostly reflecting welfare on farms and already collected according to the Directive
- Impact, in terms of animal welfare, of the data to be collected according to:
 - Number of birds affected
 - Severity of the condition
 - Correlation with management practices



10 Welfare indicators to assess

- Where: Place of data collection
- How: EU harmonized assessment rules
- Who: Staff measuring and recording indicators and training needs
- Constraints data recording systems for MS

1. Ascites
2. Breast lesions (blisters and burns)
3. Hock burns
4. Foot Pad Dermatitis
5. Scratches
6. Wing fractures
7. Total rejections
8. Culling rate
9. Cumulative daily mortality
10 Dead on arrival at the slaughterhouse

Future use of the data

- Data compiled and analysed by the Commission
- Define relevant indicators of welfare conditions at EU level
- Report to the EP and the Council on the implementation of the Directive



Thank you for your attention!

