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How various broiler chicken standards compare to the CIWF criteria for higher animal welfare: Broiler Chickens

| Certification (or Legislation) | Label | Country | Stocking Density ¹ Indoor stocking density ≤30 kg/m ² (6 lb/ft ²) | Thinning ² No more than 1 thin per flock | No Cages or Multi-Tier Systems ³ | Higher Welfare Breeds ⁴ Adopt breeds approved by the RSPCA Broiler Breed Welfare Assessment. For the U.S. & Canada BCC, breeds that pass the G.A.P. Broiler Chicken Assessment Protocol are also permitted | Source of natural light ⁵ | Daytime light intensity ≥50 lux ⁶ | Enrichment ⁷ ≥2m of usable perch space & ≥2 pecking substrates, per 1,000 birds | Air Quality ⁸ Ammonia (<20 ppm), CO ₂ (<3000 ppm), temperature (<3°C hotter when outside >30°C), & humidity (<70% indoors when <10°C outside), regardless of stocking density | Litter ⁹ ≥3 inches of dry, friable litter covering the whole floor, without caked or wet areas (U.S. & Canada BCC ONLY) | Controlled Atmosphere Stunning (CAS) ¹⁰ Adopt CAS using inert gas or multi-phase systems, or effective electrical stunning without live inversion | Third-Party Auditing ¹¹ Demonstrate compliance with all standards via 3rd- party auditing | Meets ECC Criteria? | Meets U.S. & Canada BCC? | Additional to the ECC/BCC: Veranda/Wintergarden Access? ¹² | Additional to the ECC/BCC: Outdoor Access? ¹³ |
|--|---|-------------------|---|---|---|--|---|---|---|--|--|---|---|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|---|
| ECC requirements |  | Europe, Global | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | Comply with EU regulation | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | Maybe | Not required | Not required |
| U.S. & Canada BCC requirements |  | U.S. & Canada | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | Natural light encouraged, but not required | ✓ | ✓ | Not required | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | Maybe | ✓ | Not required | Not required |
| EU broiler directive Legislation (2007/43/EC) |  | European Union | NO - 33- 42 kg/m ² (6.8 - 8.6 lb/ft ²) | NO | MAYBE - Multi-tiered systems with litter may be permitted | NO | NO | NO | NO | MAYBE - Only if barns are stocked >33 kg/m ² | MAYBE - Dry and friable litter is required, but no minimum litter depth | NO | NO | NO | NO | NO | NO |
| EU organic standards Legislation (2020/464 & 2018/848) |  | European Union | YES | NO | YES | MAYBE - Slower-growing breeds are recommended, but conventional breeds allowed if grown a minimum of 81 days | YES | MAYBE - Daytime light intensity must be high enough for the auditor to read a newspaper without difficulty | YES | MAYBE - No set environmental limits | MAYBE - A minimum litter depth and full floor coverage is not specified | NO | MAYBE - Audits every 24 months under certain exemptions | NO | NO | NO | YES |
| Genesis standards |  | Global | NO - up to 38kg/m ² (7.8 lb/ft ²) | NO | MAYBE - Cages not mentioned, but livestock cannot be permanently restrained | NO | NO | NO | NO | YES | MAYBE - Litter depth minimum is 0.79 inches (2 cm) and full floor coverage is not required | NO | YES | NO | NO | NO | NO |
| GlobalG.A.P. Animal Welfare Add-on |  | Global | NO - 33 -39 kg/m ² (6.8 - 8 lb/ft ²) | NO | YES | NO | YES | MAYBE - Inlets for natural light must equal 3% of the barn floor area. However, the minimum daylight level is 20 lux | MAYBE - Must have indoor enrichments, such as pecking objects or straw, but perches are not required | YES | MAYBE - Litter depth minimum is 0.79 inches (2 cm) and full floor coverage is not required | NO | YES | NO | NO | NO | NO |
| Demeter (Bio-Dynamic Research Institute) |  | Global | YES | NO | YES | MAYBE - Slower-growing breeds are recommended, but conventional breeds allowed if grown a minimum of 81 days | YES | MAYBE - Indoor natural light requirement may meet minimum daytime intensity | MAYBE - Sand baths are required, and elevated resting places are recommended | MAYBE - No set environmental thresholds | NO | NO | YES | MAYBE | MAYBE | MAYBE - Only required for young birds | YES |
| Global Animal Partnership (G.A.P.) Steps 1-5+ |  | Global | YES | NO | YES | MAYBE - Step 4 & above by June 1, 2025; Step 3 by 2027, and Steps 1 & 2 by 2030 | MAYBE - Only Step 2 & Above | YES | MAYBE - 2m perches/1000 birds required program- wide by 2030. Steps 2- 3: at least 2 different enrichments/750 birds, but not necessarily perches or pecking substrates | MAYBE - No set temperature or humidity limits | YES | MAYBE - Only for optional BCC certification | YES | MAYBE | MAYBE | MAYBE - Step 3 & above: Verandas can count towards 50% of the outdoor space | MAYBE - Only for Step 3 & above |
| Certified Humane |  | Global | YES | NO | YES | NO | NO | NO | MAYBE - Meets U.S. BCC, but perching & pecking objects need to be verified for ECC compliance | MAYBE - No set temperature limits | MAYBE - Full floor covered by dry and friable litter, but no minimum depth | NO | MAYBE - Only 10% of producers for group certifications need to be 3rd-party audited annually | NO | NO | NO | MAYBE - Only for free-range and pasture-raised operations |
| Regenerative Organic Certified ¹⁴ |  | Global | YES | NO | YES | MAYBE - Breeds must grow ≤45 g/day or pass a recognized breed assessment (RSPCA, G.A.P.) | YES | MAYBE - Compliant if G.A.P. certified | MAYBE - Only if G.A.P. Step 4+ or AWA certified | MAYBE | MAYBE - Compliant if G.A.P. certified | NO | YES | MAYBE | MAYBE | NO | YES |
| NSF Global Animal Welfare Standards |  | Global | NO | NO | NO | NO | NO | NO | MAYBE | MAYBE - No set environmental thresholds | MAYBE - A minimum litter depth and full floor coverage is not specified | NO | MAYBE - Only Tier 3 operations are required to be 3rd-party audited annually | NO | NO | NO | NO |
| LQRA Poultry Standards Farm First Poultry Scheme |  | Global | No. 38kg/m ² (7.8lb/ft ²) at silver and gold levels. 33kg/m ² (6.8 lb/ft ²) for platinum level | MAYBE - Only at platinum level | MAYBE - Only at platinum level, but unclear if multi-tiered systems are allowed | NO | NO | NO | MAYBE - Only at platinum level | MAYBE - Ammonia and CO ₂ thresholds only for platinum level, but no temperature or humidity thresholds | NO - Minimum litter depth only 0.78 inches (0.2 cm) | NO | YES | NO | NO | NO | NO |

| Certification (or Legislation) | Label | Country | Stocking Density ¹ Indoor stocking density ≤30 kg/m ² (6 lb/ft ²) | Thinning ² No more than 1 thin per flock | No Cages or Multi-Tier Systems ³ | Higher Welfare Breeds ⁴ Adopt breeds approved by the RSPCA Broiler Breed Welfare Assessment. For the U.S. & Canada BCC, breeds that pass the G.A.P. Broiler Chicken Assessment Protocol are also permitted | Source of natural light ⁵ | Daytime light intensity ≥50 lux ⁶ | Enrichment ⁷ ≥2m of usable perch space & ≥2 pecking substrates, per 1,000 birds | Air Quality ⁸ Ammonia (<20 ppm), CO ₂ (<3000 ppm), temperature (<3°C hotter when outside >30°C), & humidity (<70% indoors when <10°C outside), regardless of stocking density | Litter ⁹ ≥3 inches of dry, friable litter covering the whole floor, without caked or wet areas (U.S. & Canada BCC ONLY) | Controlled Atmosphere Stunning (CAS) ¹⁰ Adopt CAS using inert gas or multi-phase systems, or effective electrical stunning without live inversion | Third-Party Auditing ¹¹ Demonstrate compliance with all standards via 3rd- party auditing | Meets ECC Criteria? | Meets U.S. & Canada BCC? | Additional to the ECC/BCC: Veranda/Wintergarden Access? ¹² | Additional to the ECC/BCC: Outdoor Access? ¹³ |
|---|---|-----------|---|---|---|--|---|---|--|--|--|---|---|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|---|
| LQRA Better Chicken Module |  | Global | YES | YES | MAYBE - Unclear if multi-tiered systems are allowed | YES | YES | YES | YES | MAYBE - Only for Ammonia and CO ₂ , but no temperature or humidity thresholds | NO - Minimum litter depth only 0.78 inches (0.2 cm) | YES | YES | MAYBE | MAYBE | NO | NO |
| RSPCA Approved Australia |  | Australia | MAYBE - 28 to 34 kg/m ² (5.7 - 7 lb/ft ²) | NO | YES | NO | NO | NO | MAYBE - 2.7 m of perching space, but only 1 pecking object per 1000 birds | MAYBE - No set environmental thresholds, except for ammonia | MAYBE - Full floor coverage is required, but only 2 inches (5 cm) of litter ¹⁶ | NO | YES | NO | NO | NO | MAYBE - Only for free range operations |
| Australian Certified Organic |  | Australia | YES | NO | YES | MAYBE - Slower-growing breeds are recommended, but conventional breeds allowed if grown to a min. 70 days (81 days for EU market) | YES | MAYBE - Indoor natural light requirement may meet minimum daytime intensity | NO | MAYBE - No set environmental thresholds | MAYBE - No minimum litter depth is specified | NO | YES | MAYBE | MAYBE | NO | YES |
| Free Range Egg and Poultry Australia Ltd. (FREPA) |  | Australia | YES | NO | YES | NO | NO | NO | NO | MAYBE - No set environmental thresholds, except for ammonia | MAYBE - No minimum litter depth is specified | NO | MAYBE - 3rd-party audits required, but the auditing frequency is not specified | NO | NO | NO | YES |
| Humane Choice |  | Australia | YES | NO | YES | MAYBE - Only breeds that grow <45 g/day are allowed | YES | MAYBE - Indoor natural light requirement may meet minimum daytime intensity | NO | MAYBE - No set environmental thresholds | MAYBE - Primarily outdoor rearing, but only 1/3 of floor covered with litter in housing | NO | MAYBE - Only requires auditing every 3 years | MAYBE | MAYBE | NO | YES |
| Organic Food Chain |  | Australia | YES | NO | YES | NO | YES | MAYBE - Daytime light intensity must allow the auditor to read a newspaper without difficulty | NO | MAYBE - No set environmental thresholds | NO | NO | YES | NO | NO | NO | YES |
| National Farm Animal Care Council (NFACC) |  | Canada | NO - 31 - 38 kg/m ² (6.3- 7.8 lb/ft ²) | NO | NO | NO | NO | NO | NO | MAYBE - No set CO ₂ threshold | MAYBE - A minimum litter depth and full floor coverage is not specified | NO | MAYBE - Unclear if every producer is 3rd-party audited annually | NO | NO | NO | NO |
| Canada Organic Regime |  | Canada | YES | NO | YES | NO | YES | MAYBE - Daytime light intensity must allow the auditor to read a newspaper without difficulty | MAYBE - Poultry must be given vegetative matter, and also grain during finishing. | MAYBE - No set environmental thresholds, except for ammonia | MAYBE - A minimum litter depth and full floor coverage is not specified | NO | YES | NO | NO | NO | YES |
| Bedre Dyrevelfærd "Danish Hearts Label" |  | Denmark | MAYBE - Only level 3 at 28.5 kg/m ² (5.8 lb/ft ²) | YES | MAYBE - Not specified, but unlikely due to other criteria | MAYBE - Only breeds that grow 25% less than the ADG of the Ross 308 are permitted | NO | NO | MAYBE - Only roughage is required at levels 2 & 3 | MAYBE - No set environmental thresholds unless stocked at 39kg/m ² | MAYBE - A minimum litter depth and full floor coverage is not specified | NO | YES | NO | NO | MAYBE - Recommended at level 2 | MAYBE - Only required at level 3 |
| AEBEA: Level C |  | France | YES | YES | MAYBE - Not specified, but unlikely due to other criteria | YES | YES | MAYBE - Daytime light intensity must allow the auditor to read a newspaper without difficulty | YES | YES | MAYBE - No minimum litter depth is specified | MAYBE - Not compulsory until 2026 | YES | MAYBE | MAYBE | NO | NO |
| AEBEA: Level B |  | France | YES | YES | MAYBE - Not specified, but unlikely due to other criteria | YES | YES | MAYBE - Daytime light intensity must allow the auditor to read a newspaper without difficulty | MAYBE - Only 1 type of enrichment required | YES | MAYBE - No minimum litter depth is specified | MAYBE - Not compulsory until 2026 | YES | MAYBE | MAYBE | NO | YES |
| AEBEA: Level A |  | France | YES | YES | MAYBE - Not specified, but unlikely due to other criteria | YES | YES | MAYBE - Daytime light intensity must allow the auditor to read a newspaper without difficulty | YES | YES | MAYBE - No minimum litter depth is specified | MAYBE - Not compulsory until 2026 | YES | MAYBE | MAYBE | NO | YES |
| Label Rouge |  | France | YES | MAYBE - Unclear, but unlikely due to the min slaughter age and stocking density limitations | YES | YES | YES | MAYBE - Indoor natural light requirement may meet minimum daytime intensity | NO | MAYBE - No set environmental thresholds | MAYBE - A minimum litter depth and full floor coverage is not specified | NO | YES | MAYBE | MAYBE | NO | YES |
| Neuland |  | Germany | YES | NO | YES | MAYBE - Only breeds that grow <45 g/day are allowed | YES | MAYBE - Inlets for natural light must equal 3% of the barn floor area. However, no minimum daylight level is specified | YES | MAYBE - No set environmental thresholds | MAYBE - No minimum litter depth is specified | NO | YES | MAYBE | MAYBE | YES | YES |

| Certification (or Legislation) | Label | Country | Stocking Density ¹ Indoor stocking density ≤30 kg/m ² (6 lb/ft ²) | Thinning ² No more than 1 thin per flock | No Cages or Multi-Tier Systems ³ | Higher Welfare Breeds ⁴ Adopt breeds approved by the RSPCA Broiler Breed Welfare Assessment. For the U.S. & Canada BCC, breeds that pass the G.A.P. Broiler Chicken Assessment Protocol are also permitted | Source of natural light ⁵ | Daytime light intensity ≥50 lux ⁶ | Enrichment ⁷ ≥2m of usable perch space & ≥2 pecking substrates, per 1,000 birds | Air Quality ⁸ Ammonia (<20 ppm), CO ₂ (<3000 ppm), temperature (<3°C hotter when outside >30°C), & humidity (<70% indoors when <10°C outside), regardless of stocking density | Litter ⁹ ≥3 inches of dry, friable litter covering the whole floor, without caked or wet areas (U.S. & Canada BCC ONLY) | Controlled Atmosphere Stunning (CAS) ¹⁰ Adopt CAS using inert gas or multi-phase systems, or effective electrical stunning without live inversion | Third-Party Auditing ¹¹ Demonstrate compliance with all standards via third-party auditing | Meets ECC Criteria? | Meets U.S. & Canada BCC? | Additional to the ECC/BCC: Veranda/Wintergarden Access? ¹² | Additional to the ECC/BCC: Outdoor Access? ¹³ |
|-----------------------------------|---|--------------------|---|--|---|--|--|---|---|--|--|---|---|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|---|
| Für Mehr Tierschutz: 1 Star |  | Germany | YES | NO | YES | MAYBE - Only breeds that grow <45 g/day are allowed | YES | MAYBE - Inlets for natural light must equal 3% of the barn floor area. However, the minimum daylight level is 20 lux | YES | YES | MAYBE - No minimum litter depth is specified | NO | MAYBE - Producer self- check every 12 months. Unannounced 3rd-party audits at irregular intervals, which may not be annual | MAYBE | MAYBE | YES | NO |
| Für Mehr Tierschutz: 2 Stars |  | Germany | YES | NO | YES | MAYBE - Only breeds that grow <45 g/day are allowed | YES | MAYBE - Inlets for natural light must equal 3% of the barn floor area. However, the minimum daylight level is 20 lux | YES | YES | MAYBE - No minimum litter depth is specified | NO | MAYBE - Producer self- check every 12 months. Unannounced 3rd-party audits at irregular intervals, which may not be annual | MAYBE | MAYBE | YES | YES |
| Haltungsform 1: Stall |  | Germany | NO - Up to 39 kg/m ² | NO | MAYBE - Not specified, but unlikely due to other criteria | NO | MAYBE - Only in barns built after Oct 2009 | MAYBE - Dependent on underlying program | NO | YES | MAYBE - Dry and friable litter is required, but no minimum litter depth | NO | MAYBE - Independent audits required, but the auditing frequency is not specified | NO | NO | NO | NO |
| Haltungsform 2: Stall + Platz |  | Germany | NO - Up to 35 kg/m ² | NO | MAYBE - Not specified, but unlikely due to other criteria | NO | MAYBE - Only in barns built after Oct 2009 | MAYBE - Dependent on underlying program | NO | YES | MAYBE - Dry and friable litter is required, but no minimum litter depth | NO | MAYBE - Independent audits required, but annual comprehensive audits not required | NO | NO | NO | NO |
| Haltungsform 3: Frischlufstall |  | Germany | YES | NO | YES | MAYBE - Slower-growing breeds or conventional breeds if grown a minimum of 81 days | MAYBE - Dependent on underlying program | MAYBE - Dependent on underlying program | MAYBE - Dependent on underlying program | MAYBE - Dependent on underlying program | MAYBE - Dry and friable litter is required, but no minimum litter depth | MAYBE - Dependent on underlying program | YES | MAYBE | MAYBE | YES | MAYBE - Dependent on underlying program |
| Haltungsform 4: Auslauf/Weide |  | Germany | YES | NO | YES | MAYBE - Slower-growing breeds or conventional breeds if grown a minimum of 81 days | YES | MAYBE - Inlets for natural light must equal 3% of the barn floor area. However, the minimum daylight level is 20 lux | YES | YES | MAYBE - No minimum litter depth is specified | NO | YES | MAYBE | MAYBE | YES | YES |
| Haltungsform 5: Bio |  | Germany | YES | NO | YES | MAYBE - Slower-growing breeds or conventional breeds if grown a minimum of 81 days | YES | MAYBE - Daytime light intensity must allow the auditor to read a newspaper without difficulty | YES | MAYBE - No set environmental limits | MAYBE - A minimum litter depth and full floor coverage is not specified | NO | YES | MAYBE | MAYBE | NO | YES |
| SPCA Animal Welfare Certified |  | New Zealand | NO - up to 34kg/m ² (7 lb/ft ²) | NO - Up to 2 thins allowed | MAYBE - Not specified, but unlikely due to other criteria | NO | NO | NO | MAYBE - Platforms and pecking objects required, but plastic chains, etc. are permitted pecking enrichments | MAYBE - No set environmental thresholds, except for ammonia | MAYBE - Full floor coverage is required, but only 2 inches (5 cm) of litter ¹⁶ | NO | YES | NO | NO | NO | MAYBE - Only for Free Range operations |
| KRAV |  | Sweden | YES | MAYBE - Thinning prohibited starting January 2024 | YES | MAYBE - Slow-growing breeds (<45 g/day) are recommended and slaughtered at 70 days of age. If non-slower-growing breeds are used, the minimum slaughter age is 81 days | YES | MAYBE - Inlets for natural light must equal 3% of the barn floor area. However, no minimum daylight level is specified | MAYBE - Perches and pecking objects are required, but hay bales can qualify as a perching material | MAYBE - No set environmental thresholds | MAYBE - No minimum litter depth is specified | NO | YES | MAYBE | MAYBE | MAYBE - Required for barns > 20 m long and all new buildings | YES |
| Beter Leven: 1* |  | The Netherlands | YES | MAYBE - Thinning does not appear to be permitted, but it is unclear | YES | YES | YES | MAYBE - Inlets for natural light must equal 3% of the barn floor area. However, the minimum daylight level is 20 lux | MAYBE - Scattering of grain and straw bales are required | MAYBE - No set environmental thresholds | MAYBE - No minimum litter depth is specified | YES | YES | MAYBE | MAYBE | YES | NO |
| Beter Leven: 2*- Free Range |  | The Netherlands | YES | MAYBE - Thinning does not appear to be permitted, but it is unclear | YES | YES | YES | MAYBE - Inlets for natural light must equal 3% of the barn floor area. However, the minimum daylight level is 20 lux | MAYBE - Scattering of grain and straw bales are required | MAYBE - No set environmental thresholds | MAYBE - No minimum litter depth is specified | YES | YES | MAYBE | MAYBE | NO | YES |

| Certification (or Legislation) | Label | Country | Stocking Density ² Indoor stocking density ≤30 kg/m ² (6 lb/ft ²) | Thinning ² No more than 1 thin per flock | No Cages or Multi-Tier Systems ³ | Higher Welfare Breeds ⁴ Adopt breeds approved by the RSPCA Broiler Breed Welfare Assessment. For the U.S. & Canada BCC, breeds that pass the G.A.P. Broiler Chicken Assessment Protocol are also permitted | Source of natural light ⁵ | Daytime light intensity ≥50 lux ⁶ | Enrichment ⁷ ≥2m of usable perch space & ≥2 pecking substrates, per 1,000 birds | Air Quality ⁸ Ammonia (<20 ppm), CO ₂ (<3000 ppm), temperature (<3°C hotter when outside >30°C), & humidity (<70% indoors when <10°C outside), regardless of stocking density | Litter ⁹ ≥3 inches of dry, friable litter covering the whole floor, without caked or wet areas (U.S. & Canada BCC ONLY) | Controlled Atmosphere Stunning (CAS) ¹⁰ Adopt CAS using inert gas or multi-phase systems, or effective electrical stunning without live inversion | Third-Party Auditing ¹¹ Demonstrate compliance with all standards via 3rd- party auditing | Meets ECC Criteria? | Meets U.S. & Canada BCC? | Additional to the ECC/BCC: Veranda/Wintergarden Access? ¹² | Additional to the ECC/BCC: Outdoor Access? ¹³ |
|-------------------------------------|---|-----------------|---|---|---|--|---|--|--|--|--|---|---|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|---|
| Beter Leven: 3* / SKAL |  | The Netherlands | YES | MAYBE - Thinning does not appear to be permitted, but it is unclear | YES | YES | YES | MAYBE - Inlets for natural light must equal 3% of the barn floor area. However, the minimum daylight level is 20 lux | MAYBE - Scattering of grain and straw bales are required | MAYBE - No set environmental thresholds | MAYBE - No minimum litter depth is specified | YES | YES | MAYBE | MAYBE | YES | YES |
| Agriqualita ¹⁵ |  | Tuscany, Italy | YES | NO | YES | MAYBE - Slower-growing breeds are recommended, but conventional breeds allowed if grown a minimum of 81 days | YES | MAYBE - Indoor natural light requirement may meet minimum daytime intensity | NO | NO | NO | NO | MAYBE - Only a proportion of producers are 3rd-party audited each year | NO | NO | NO | YES |
| Welfare (IRTA) |  | Spain | NO - 33 - 42 kg/m ² (6.8 - 7.8 lb/ft ²) | NO | MAYBE - Multi-tiered systems with litter may be permitted | NO | NO | NO | NO | MAYBE - No set environmental thresholds | MAYBE - A minimum litter depth and full floor coverage is not specified | NO | MAYBE - Only a proportion of producers are third-party audited each year | NO | NO | NO | NO |
| RSPCA Assured: Indoor |  | UK | YES | YES | YES | YES | YES | MAYBE - Inlets for natural light must equal 3% of the barn floor area. However, the minimum daylight level is 20 lux | YES | YES | MAYBE - Full floor coverage is required, but only 2 inches (5 cm) of litter | YES | YES | YES | MAYBE | NO | NO |
| RSPCA Assured: Free-Range |  | UK | YES | YES | YES | YES | YES | MAYBE - Inlets for natural light must equal 3% of the barn floor area. However, the minimum daylight level is 20 lux | YES | YES | MAYBE - Full floor coverage is required, but only 2 inches (5 cm) of litter | YES | YES | YES | MAYBE | MAYBE - Verandas are recommended | YES |
| RSPCA Organic |  | UK | YES | YES | YES | YES | YES | MAYBE - Inlets for natural light must equal 3% of the barn floor area. However, the minimum daylight level is 20 lux | YES | YES | MAYBE - Full floor coverage is required, but only 2 inches (5 cm) of litter | YES | YES | YES | MAYBE | MAYBE - Verandas are recommended | YES |
| Red Tractor: Certified Standards |  | UK | NO - Up to 38 kg/m ² (7.8 lb/ft ²) | NO | YES | NO | YES | MAYBE - Windows equal to a min. 3% of the floor area in all houses. However, the minimum daylight level is 20 lux | YES | YES | MAYBE - Litter depth minimum is 0.79 inches (2 cm) and full floor coverage is not required | NO | YES | NO | NO | NO | NO |
| Red Tractor: Enhanced Welfare |  | UK | YES | YES | YES | YES | YES | YES | YES | YES | MAYBE - Litter depth minimum is 0.79 inches (2 cm) and full floor coverage is not required | YES | YES | YES | MAYBE | NO | NO |
| Red Tractor: Free Range |  | UK | YES | NO | YES | YES | YES | MAYBE - Windows equal to a min. 3% of the floor area in all houses. However, the minimum daylight level is 20 lux | YES | YES | MAYBE - Litter depth minimum is 0.79 inches (2 cm) and full floor coverage is not required | NO | YES | MAYBE | MAYBE | NO | YES |
| Soil Association |  | UK | YES | NO | YES | MAYBE - Breeds must be RSPCA Approved or grow <45 g/day | YES | MAYBE - Indoor natural light requirement may meet minimum daytime intensity | NO | MAYBE - No set environmental thresholds | MAYBE - A minimum litter depth and full floor coverage is not specified | NO | YES | MAYBE | MAYBE | NO | YES |
| Organic Farmers and Growers |  | UK | YES | YES | YES | MAYBE - Slower-growing breeds are recommended, but conventional breeds are allowed if grown a min. of 81 days | YES | YES | NO | MAYBE - No set environmental thresholds | MAYBE - Primarily outdoor rearing, but only 1/3 of floor covered with litter in housing | NO | YES | MAYBE | MAYBE | NO | YES |

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|--|---|-------------|---|---|---|--|---|---|--|--|--|---|---|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|---|
| Animal Welfare Approved by A Greener World |  | US & Canada | YES | NO | YES | YES | YES | MAYBE - Indoor natural light requirement may meet minimum daytime intensity | YES | YES | MAYBE - A minimum litter depth and full floor coverage is not specified | MAYBE - On-farm slaughter is recommended and CAS is the preferred method | YES | MAYBE | MAYBE | MAYBE - Covered verandas are only required when birds are excluded from pasture due to extreme weather or serious predatory risks | YES |
| One Health Certified |  | US | NO - 32 - 44 kg/m ² (6.5 - 9 lb/ft ²) | NO | NO | NO | NO | NO | NO | MAYBE - No set environmental thresholds, except for ammonia | MAYBE - No minimum litter depth, or minimum 1 inch (2.5 cm) if American Humane. Full floor coverage not specified | NO | YES | NO | NO | NO | NO |
| American Humane |  | US | NO - 34 -40 kg/m ² (7-8.2 lb/ft ²) | NO | NO | NO | NO | NO | NO | MAYBE - No set environmental thresholds, except for ammonia | MAYBE - Litter depth minimum is 2 inches (5 cm) and full floor coverage is not required | NO | YES | NO | NO | NO | NO |
| USDA Organic |  | US | MAYBE - 24.4 kg/m ² (5 lb/ft ²) by Jan 5, 2029 | NO | YES | NO | YES | MAYBE - Indoor natural light requirement may meet minimum daytime intensity | NO | MAYBE - No set environmental thresholds, except for ammonia | MAYBE - A minimum litter depth is not specified and full floor coverage is not required | NO | YES | NO | NO | NO | YES |
| National Chicken Council |  | US | NO - 32 - 44 kg/m ² (6.5 - 9 lb/ft ²) | NO | NO | NO | NO | NO | NO | MAYBE - No set environmental thresholds, except for ammonia | MAYBE - A minimum litter depth and full floor coverage is not specified | NO | MAYBE - 3rd-party audited, but no specifications around auditing frequency | NO | NO | NO | NO |

Footnotes

- Stocking Density** If the standard explicitly notes the maximum indoor stocking density is ≤30 kg/m² (~6 lbs/sq ft), the standard is considered compliant and marked green. If the standard currently allows for a maximum indoor stocking density above 30 kg/m² (~6 lbs/sq ft), but there is a clear set deadline for the standards to change to a maximum stocking density of ≤30 kg/m² (~6 lbs/sq ft), the standard is considered partially compliant and marked orange. If the standard allows for a maximum stocking density greater than 30 kg/m² (~6 lbs/sq ft) with no apparent plans to lower the maximum stocking density to ≤30 kg/m² (~6 lbs/sq ft), the standard is considered non-compliant and marked red.
- Thinning** If the standard explicitly states that thinning is not allowed, or no more than one thin is permitted per flock, the standard is considered compliant and marked green. If the standard currently allows thinning, or more than one thin per flock, but there is a clear set deadline to disallow thinning (or more than one thing per flock) moving forward, OR the standard states roughly the same number of birds must be present from day one at a later date close to slaughter, the standard is considered partially compliant and marked orange. If the standard does not address thinning, or allow for more than one thin per flock, with no plans to phase out this practice, the standard is considered non-compliant and marked red.
- No Cages or Multi-Tier Systems** If the standard clearly states that any type of cages or caged systems, including multi-tier systems, is not permitted, the standard is considered compliant and marked green. If the standard states that cages are not permitted but it may allow for multi-tiered systems, or the standard does not explicitly address cages but state animals must be free of permanent confinement or must be able to turn around without touching another bird, the standard is considered partially compliant and marked orange. If the standard does not state that the animals are free of permanent confinement or must be able to turn around without touching another bird, the standard is considered non-compliant and marked red.
- Higher Welfare Breeds** If the standard clearly states that only broiler breeds approved by the RSPCA AND/OR Global Animal Partnership are permitted OR if the standards require the use of slow-growing breeds that grow up to 40 g/day, the standard is considered fully compliant with the ECC and/or BCC requirements and marked green. If the standard requires slower-growing breeds that grow up to 45 g/day, the standard is considered partially compliant with both the ECC and BCC requirements and marked orange. If the standard does not require the use of approved higher welfare or slow-growing breeds, the standard is considered non-compliant and marked red.
- Natural Light** If the standard clearly states that natural light is required indoors, the standard is considered compliant with this ECC requirement and marked green. If the standard only requires natural light indoors at certain program levels or only in newly built barns, the standard is considered partially compliant and marked orange. If the standard does not require a source of natural light indoors, the standard is considered non-compliant with this ECC requirement and marked red.
- 50 Lux Lighting** If the standard clearly states that the minimum light intensity is ≥50 lux during daylight hours, the standard is considered compliant and marked green. If the standard states that the light intensity during daylight hours must be sufficient to allow an auditor of normal eyesight to read newsprint without difficulty while in the barn, the standard is considered partially compliant and marked orange. If the standard does not require a specific minimum daytime light intensity OR the minimum light intensity is less than 50 lux during daylight hours, the standard is considered non-compliant and marked red.
- Enrichment** If the standard explicitly states that chickens are provided ≥2m of usable perch space (elevated perches or platforms) AND ≥2 pecking substrates (e.g., straw bales, roughage/forage, suspended vegetative matter, edible pecking blocks) per 1,000 birds indoors in broiler barns, the standard is considered fully compliant with both the ECC and BCC standards and marked green. If the standard only requires 1 perching and 1 pecking substrate enrichment item per 1000 birds (or 1000 sq ft), the standard is considered partially compliant with the ECC standards and marked orange. If the standard only requires an enrichment item which could be a perching space, pecking object, or another functional enrichment item per 1000 birds (or 1000 sq ft), the standard is only considered compliant with the BCC enrichment criterion and not the ECC enrichment criterion, so is marked orange. If the standard does not require perching space, pecking substrate, or another functional enrichment item for broilers housed indoors, or only one enrichment item is required, but is only sparsely available indoors (>1000 birds (>1000 sq ft)), the standard is considered non-compliant and marked red.
- Air Quality** If the standard explicitly states thresholds or ranges for temperature, ammonia, carbon dioxide, and humidity, the standard is considered compliant and marked green. If the standard only requires temperature and air quality to be monitored without specifying thresholds for all of the air quality parameters, the standard is considered partially compliant and marked orange. If the standard does not address air quality monitoring or the need to maintain good air quality, the standard is considered non-compliant and marked red.
- Litter** If the standard explicitly requires full floor litter coverage and a minimum litter depth ≥3 inches, the standard is considered fully compliant with the North American BCC and marked green. If the standards state solid floors must be covered with litter and the litter must remain dry and friable, but no specific minimum litter depth is provided and full floor coverage is not required, the standard is considered partially compliant with the North American BCC and marked orange. If the standard does not mention any litter requirements OR make no reference to compliance with the EU broiler directive (2007/43/EC), the standard is considered non-compliant with the North American BCC and marked red.
- CAS** If the standard explicitly states that CAS is the required slaughter method for broiler chickens, the standard is considered compliant and marked green. If the standard will require CAS as the slaughter method by a clear future deadline, but it is not currently required, the standard is considered partially compliant and marked orange. If the standard does not require CAS as the method of slaughter, the standard is considered non-compliant and marked red.
- Third-Party Auditing** If the standard explicitly notes that 100% of producers or farms are audited by independent auditors each year (no more than 15 months apart), the standard is considered fully compliant and marked green. If the standard only notes that a certain percentage of producers or farms are audited by independent auditors OR the third-party audits do not occur annually (meaning more than 15 months between audits), the standard is considered partially compliant and marked orange. If the standard does not require third-party auditing on an annual basis (≤15 months), the standard is considered non-compliant and marked red.
- Veranda/Wintergarden Access** If the standard explicitly states that all birds have regular access to a covered veranda/wintergarden during part of their lives, the standard is considered compliant and marked green. If the standard states that a covered veranda/wintergarden is recommended for all birds, but not required, OR only required for some levels of the program (e.g., organic) OR depending on the region's climate, OR only during certain times of the year, and therefore may not be provided to all birds reared under the program standards, the standard is considered partially compliant and marked orange. If the standard does not require the birds to have access to a veranda/wintergarden, the standard is considered non-compliant and marked red.
- Outdoor Access** If the standard explicitly states that all birds have regular access to the outdoors during part of their lives, the standard is considered compliant and marked green. If the standard states that outdoor access is recommended for all birds but not required, OR required only for some levels of the program (e.g., free-range, organic) and therefore may not be provided to all birds, the standard is considered partially compliant and marked orange. If the standard does not require the birds to have outdoor access, the standard is considered non-compliant and marked red.
- Regenerative Organic Certification** In addition to the program's own animal welfare requirements, Regenerative Organic Certification requires an additional third-party animal welfare certification under one of the following programs: Global Animal Partnership Step 4 or above, Certified Humane, or Animal Welfare Approved by AWG.
- Agriqualità** This certification requires chickens produced for the European market to meet all applicable EU Organic legislation. However, producers outside this region may be marketing chicken for other markets, and therefore, may only meet the animal welfare standards of other applicable organic programs, such as the US National Organic Program (USDA Organic), Japanese Agricultural Standards (JAS), or Canadian Organic Regime (COR).
- Australia-New Zealand Better Chicken Commitment** The litter standard for the Australia-New Zealand BCC (AUNZ BCC) differs slightly from the U.S. & Canada BCC as it only requires a floor depth of 5 cm (2 inches) vs. 7.5 cm (3 inches). This superscript appears in the table where a certification is compliant with the AUNZ BCC, but not the U.S. & Canada BCC.