

Self-assessment checklist for poultry production

Supplementing Guidelines Agriculture Poultry Production and Agriculture Breeding Poultry

You can use this checklist to document your **self-assessment**. Self-assessment must be carried out **at least once per calendar year** and must consider all areas relevant to your company. This supporting document is based on the requirements defined in the guidelines Agriculture Poultry Production and Agriculture Breeding Poultry.

 **Additional explanations and interpretation aids** can also be found in the **Explanatory Notes** to the Guideline Agriculture Poultry Production/Breeding Poultry (related requirements).

Important to know: You can use the self-assessment in whole or in parts, as well as on one date or at different times throughout the year, depending on how you want to carry out the self-assessment. You can also have an external person (e.g. technician, consultant or veterinarian) assist you with the inspection.

This self-assessment checklist **does not replace the daily inspection** of all animals and all livestock buildings and facilities.

Note: The self-assessment checklist is divided into **Part A Control of documents** and **Part B Livestock inspection**. You can use the additional supporting document "Document overview" to check whether all documents are available that you will need for QS and in the audit. **Important:** The self-assessment checklist does not cover the complete QS Guidelines 1:1, but those points that should be checked once a year.

Business data

Name of the company

Street and house number
Postcode and town

QS location number (VVVO No.) and production scope

Contact, legal representative

Criterion/requirement	Yes	No	Not applicable	Remark/ corrective action	Dead line
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Part A Document control

2.1.1 [K.O.] General company data

<p>Is there an up-to date company overview with the following master data?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Address of the company and its locations (incl. location numbers) • Telephone and fax number, e-mail address • Legal representative, contact person • Capacities/operating units esp. number of animal places • Usable shed area per shed compartment • For on-farm mixers: type of feed used, number of animal places or amount of feed 					
<p>Has the coordinator been informed of all master data changes since the last self-assessment?</p>					
<p>Is there a company sketch or a location plan for operating resources (permanent storage facilities)/a location description for externally stored operating resources (e.g. feed, bedding and activity material)?</p>					
<p>Is the list of personnel (caring for the animals) up to date, including qualification and period of employment?</p>					
<p>Is there a current declaration of participation and power of attorney?</p>					

2.1.3 Fulfilment of measures of the self-assessment

<p>Are all corrective actions from the last self-assessment implemented and is the implementation documented?</p>					
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2.1.4 Incident and crisis management

<p>Can a paper of incident always be accessed on the farm?</p>					
<p>Is a responsible person named who can be contacted in the event of an incident?</p>					
<p>Is there a complete and up-to-date emergency plan at each location?</p>					

3.1.2 Verification of eligibility of delivery

<p>Has a procedure been established to check the QS eligibility of delivery of all relevant suppliers at the time of delivery (e.g. recipient and supplier list or check in the public scheme participant search)?</p>					
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Criterion/requirement	Yes	No	Not applicable	Remark/ corrective action	Dead line
3.2.2 [K.O.] General farming requirements					
Broiler (incl. breeding broiler): is there a detailed ventilation plan and information on alarm and security systems?					
3.2.3 [K.O.] Handling sick and injured animals					
In the case of increased losses in the first week of life, is a reference to the investigation findings noted on the shed card?					
Is there a company-specific work instruction for stunning and emergency killing?					
Are livestock carers instructed or trained in the appropriate stunning and culling?					
3.2.5 Shed climate, temperature, noise pollution, ventilation					
Are there comprehensible records of annual technic checks of ventilation systems for every shed compartment?					
Broiler (incl. breeding broiler)/turkey: Is there a ventilation check report (for every shed compartment)?					
3.2.6 Lighting					
Are the used lamps sources flicker-free (above 160 Hz) and can this be proven in writing (e.g. lamps' certificate)?					
Broiler (incl. breeding broiler)/turkey: Is there a written veterinary indication for a temporary darkening or change in light intensity?					
3.2.13 [K.O.] Handling livestock during loading					
Is the documentation of the involved catchers available for destocking?					
Is the training certificate of the crew leader available?					
Broiler: Are there records of a company-specific concept for implementing the instructions for pre-destocking?					
3.3.6 Feed production (on-farm mixer)					
Is there a list of used feed material and compound feed or a ration calculation showing the individual components (e.g. whole grains of wheat)?					

Criterion/requirement	Yes	No	Not applicable	Remark/ corrective action	Dead line
3.3.7 Feed production in cooperation					
Is the documentation for traceability available in case of a cooperation (name and address of the companies supplied as well as the type and quantity delivered)?					
Is there a contractual agreement on feed production or for purchasing groups?					
3.5.1 Care contract with farm veterinarian					
Is there a current care contract with all the necessary details?					
3.5.2 [K.O.] Implementation of the stock care					
<p>Are all* veterinary visit records and examination findings available (if no abnormalities: simplified documentation of findings, e.g. on invoice sufficient)?</p> <p>*Frequency of visits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Broiler (incl. breeding poultry), peking ducks and turkey breeding poultry at least once per cycle • Turkey at least once a month 					
If a need for action has been identified: Is there an action plan?					
3.5.3 [K.O.] Procurement and application of medicines and vaccines					
Is it ensured that the purchase and use of medicines and vaccines are documented to the day and in chronological order?					
3.6.5 Pest monitoring and control					
Are monitoring protocols available?					
Are locations for bait boxes and pest traps documented in a plan?					
In case of pest infestation: Is there verification for pest control measures?					
3.6.6 Cleaning and disinfection measures					
Are the cleaning and disinfection measures in between the removal of the stock and its replacement with another documented?					

Date

Signature

Criterion/requirement	Yes	No	Not applicable	Remark/ corrective action	Dead line
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Part B Livestock inspection

3.2.1 [K.O.] Monitoring and care of livestock

Broiler and turkey: Does the litter management ensure a permanently loose, dry and soft litter (footpad health)?

Does the livestock inspection ensure that dead animals are removed from the animal area as quickly as possible?

3.2.2 [K.O.] General farming requirements

Is it ensured that the husbandry does not lead to avoidable physical health and behavioural damage?

Are the animals not exposed to direct electricity at any point in the occupied zone?

Are the animals adequately protected from the weather?

Are all installations and equipment (in particular lighting, ventilation and supply equipment such as drinking troughs and feeding systems) in perfect condition?

Can the animals pick and paw in the bedding and can the bedding serve as an activity material?

Turkey: At the latest at the beginning of the second week of life, is there any modifiable activity material available in addition to the bedding?

Broiler and turkey incl. breeding poultry: Can the animals take dust-baths in subareas?

Peking duck: Is litter replenished daily?

3.2.3 [K.O.] Handling sick and injured animals

Are the devices for culling animals available and ready for use?

Turkey:

- Can compartments be set up for injured, sick or suffering animals?
- Is the maximum stocking density 45 kg LW per m²?
- Do separated turkeys have visual contact to other conspecifics?

Criterion/requirement	Yes	No	Not applicable	Remark/ corrective action	Dead line
3.2.4 [K.O.] Shed floor					
Are shed floors fixed in a way, that they can be effectively washed and disinfected?					
3.2.5 Shed climate, temperature, noise pollution, ventilation					
Are air circulation, dust levels, relative humidity, concentration of gas in the air (see guideline) and noise pollution kept at a level which is not harmful to the animals?					
<u>Broiler:</u>					
If ventilation and, if required, heating and cooling systems are installed and operated in such a way that the room temperature does not exceed the outside temperature by more than 3 °C when the outside temperature is over 30 °C in the shade?					
Is heat stress avoided and excess humidity extracted?					
If the outdoor temperature is below 10 °C, will the humidity not exceed 70 % within 48 hours?					
<u>Turkey:</u>					
Are the requirements for the shed temperature met (see guideline)?					
Is there sufficient air exchange in the animals' area (see guideline)?					
<u>Peking ducks:</u>					
Is the temperature arrangement dependent on the age of the poultry? • For chicks one to three days old: 30 °C					
Are the specific requirements for ventilation met (see guideline)?					
<u>Breeding poultry (broilers and turkey):</u>					
Is it possible to reduce the heat load at high air temperatures?					
Are ventilation systems in perfect condition?					
Are the specific requirements for ventilation for every species met (see guideline)?					
3.2.6 Lighting					
Does the light (duration and intensity) meet the needs of the respective species for animals kept in sheds?					

Criterion/requirement	Yes	No	Not applicable	Remark/ corrective action	Dead line
If artificial lighting is required, is the minimum lighting intensity 20 lux in the activity area of the animals?					
In new buildings, is the light incidence surface at least 3 % of the shed floor area?					
<u>Broiler/turkey:</u> Is at least a six-hour uninterrupted dark period offered within 24 hours (seven days after housing until three days before slaughter)?					
<u>Breeding broilers:</u> Is at least a six -hour uninterrupted dark period offered within 24 hours?					
<u>Peking ducks:</u> If artificial light sources are used, are eight uninterrupted (consecutive) dark hours observed from the 21st day of life on?					
3.2.7 [K.O.] Space allowances					
<p>Does the specific space allowance in kg/m² meet the specifications?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Broilers:</u> Max. 39 kg LW/m²; average weight < 1600 g: max. 35 kg LW/m² (average of three cycles) • <u>Turkey:</u> Max. 52 kg LW/m² for hens, max. 58 kg LW/m² for cocks • <u>Peking ducks:</u> Max. 20 kg LW/m² • <u>Breeding poultry:</u> Broilers max. 35 kg LW/m²; Turkey max. 52 (hens) or 58 (cocks) kg LW/m² 					
3.2.8 [K.O.] Alarm system					
If there is electrical ventilation, is there an alarm system that provides a breakdown of the ventilation system and operates independently of the power grid?					
Does the alarm system work?					
3.2.9 Emergency power supply					
Is an emergency power supply present if an adequate provision of fresh air, feed and water is not ensured in the event of a power failure?					
Have the technical requirements been met to ensure an emergency power supply?					
Does the emergency power supply work?					
Are emergency power generators checked weekly for functionality?					
Are emergency power generators tested under load at the following intervals?					

Criterion/requirement	Yes	No	Not applicable	Remark/ corrective action	Dead line
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For broilers and peking ducks at least every six weeks For turkeys at least every four weeks For breeding poultry (broilers/turkey) at least three times per cycle 					
Are back-up devices available to ensure adequate air exchange if the ventilation system fails?					
3.2.12 Requirements on loading and unloading equipment for livestock transport					
Are the loading and unloading facilities constructed in such a way that animals cannot get injured and can be loaded safely?					
Are the ramps suitable (side protection, lighting)?					
3.2.13 [K.O.] Handling livestock during loading					
Are the persons loading the animals trained or qualified?					
3.3.1 [K.O.] Feed supply					
Are the requirements for the feeding facilities met in every shed (for breeding poultry) or shed compartment (see guideline for details)?					
<u>Turkeys:</u> Is it ensured that feeding is stopped at least 12 hours before the expected slaughter date?					
3.3.2 Hygiene of feeding facilities					
Are all plants, facilities, containers and feeding lines, feed transport boxes, equipment (e.g. shovels) and vehicles clean and in proper condition?					
Are feeding systems cleaned after the use of veterinary drugs?					
3.3.3 Feed storage					
Are all feeds stored clean and dry?					
Are all feeds protected from contamination (separated from waste, liquid and solid manure, hazardous substances, seeds, medication, chemicals)?					
Are all feeds protected from the weather?					
Are all feeds protected from pests, rodents, birds, wild boar, other wild animals and pets?					
If necessary, are suitable measures taken to remedy defects and/or combat them?					

Criterion/requirement	Yes	No	Not applicable	Remark/ corrective action	Dead line
Is mixing avoided and are silo cells clearly marked and easy to identify?					
3.3.6 Feed production (on-farm mixer)					
Have the plants and equipment for feed production been inspected and, if necessary, maintained or repaired?					
3.4.1 [K.O.] Water supply					
Do all animals always have access to drinking water (ad libitum)?					
Are there enough drinkers according to the guidelines in every shed compartment or shed (for breeding poultry)?					
Is the used drinking water clean, clear and without extraneous odour?					
3.4.2 Hygiene of drinking facilities					
Are all drinking facilities clean and in proper condition?					
Are drinking facilities cleaned after the use of medicines?					
<u>Optional:</u> Was a drinking water check carried out?					
3.5.3 [K.O.] Procurement and application of medicines and vaccines					
Is it ensured that only flawless injection needles are used (replacement of bent, blunt, broken and otherwise unsuitable needles)?					
3.5.4 [K.O.] Storage of medicines and vaccines					
Is the medicine store clean and inaccessible to unauthorised persons?					
Are all medicines and vaccines stored in accordance with the instructions of the producer?					
Have all expired preparations been disposed of according to regulations? Have empty containers been disposed of?					
3.6.1 Buildings and equipment					
Are all buildings, adjoining rooms (including medication storage), outdoor facilities including loading equipment, all shed equipment and feeding systems clean and in proper condition?					

Criterion/requirement	Yes	No	Not applicable	Remark/ corrective action	Dead line
Are there solid facilities (e.g. asphalt, concrete, pavement) for loading animals?					
Is effective pest control possible for all buildings and facilities including containers and troughs, feed transport boxes, equipment (e.g. shovels), and vehicles used for feeding animals?					
3.6.2 Hygiene on the farm					
Are all sheds marked with a sign stating “Livestock – Access prohibited for unauthorised persons” or a similar text?					
Do gates, doors and other entrances effectively prevent the entry of unauthorised persons and animals?					
Is protective clothing for external persons provided?					
Are the following requirements implemented for each age group of a farm? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clean working clothes • functional hand-wash basin, hand cleaning agent, disposable wipes or clean towels • Regularly wet cleaned and disinfected hygiene sluices • Proper waste disposal 					
<u>Hygiene during loading</u>					
Are the special hygiene measures (wearing clean working clothes, cleaning and disinfection of hands and shoes, access only via hygiene sluices, cleaning and disinfection of loading facilities and transport containers used in the shed) complied with when animals are housed and loaded for slaughter or transferred?					
3.6.3 Handling litter, dung and feed leftovers					
Are litter and organic manipulable material stored clean and protected from pests?					
Does biosecurity management include precautions to prevent contamination (e.g. by wild birds) of mobile bedding devices?					
<u>If bark mulch or compost is used:</u> has it been proven by proper analyses that the materials used do not represent any high risk?					
3.6.4 Carcass storage and pick-up					
Are dead animals stored refrigerated?					

Criterion/requirement	Yes	No	Not applicable	Remark/ corrective action	Dead line
Is the carcass storage large enough?					
Is it protected from unauthorised access?					
Is it easy to clean and disinfect?					
Is it protected against leakage of fluids?					
3.6.5 Pest monitoring and control					
Is the infestation checked regularly by means of pest monitoring?					
3.6.6 Cleaning and disinfection measures					
Are all cleaning agents and disinfectants stored properly?					

Date

Signature