



BTSF Better Training for Safer Food *Initiative*

BTSF

Animal welfare in poultry production – IV Session
Rome 22-24 November, 2023

BTSF

Unless otherwise noted, the reuse of this presentation is not authorised. For any use or reproduction of elements that are owned by the EU, permission may need to be sought directly from the respective right holders. All statements and references in this presentation come from the Training coordinator and tutors and do not represent the official position of the European Commission.

BTSF

Danish system for data collection in slaughterhouses

Birte Broberg

Senior Veterinary Officer
Danish Veterinary and Food Administration

© European Union 2020

Unless otherwise noted the reuse of this presentation is not authorised. For any use or reproduction of elements that are owned by the EU, permission may need to be sought directly from the respective right holders. All statements and references in this presentation come from the Training coordinator and tutors and do not represent the official position of the European Commission.

Mortality – Annex III, no 1

- In the case of stocking densities higher than 33 kg/m², the documentation accompanying the flock shall include the daily mortality rate and the cumulative daily mortality rate calculated by the owner or keeper
- The plausibility of these data shall be checked taking into account the number of broilers slaughtered* and the number of broilers dead on arrival at the slaughterhouse

* Check the correctness of the counter on the slaughter line



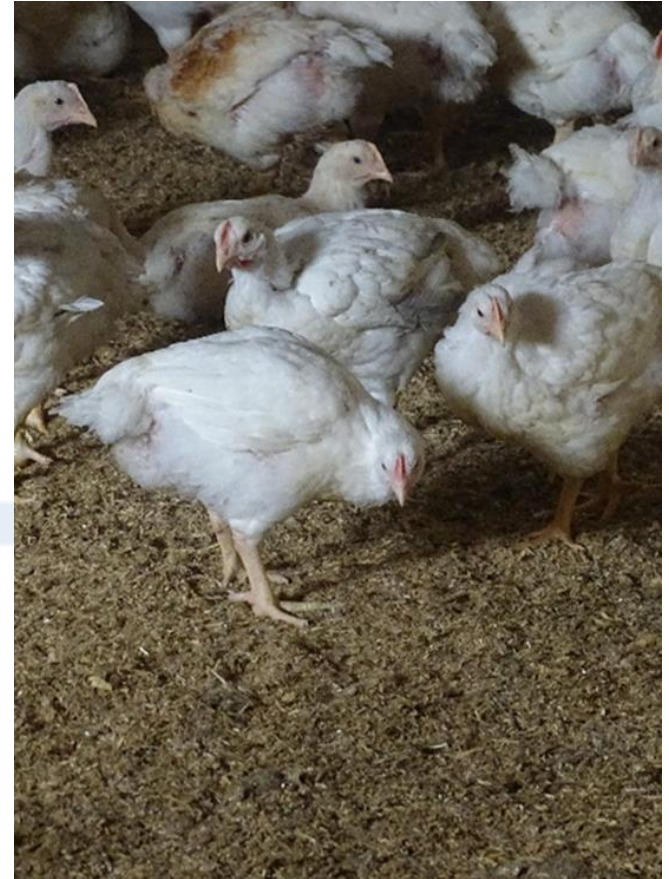
Mortality – the Danish system:

- ❖ According to Danish guidelines the plausibility of the mortality data should be questioned

When the difference between:

- the number of day-old chicks introduced into the house
- and
- the number of slaughtered birds + dead on farm + dead on arrival + the number culled before shackling

exceeds 1 % of the number of day-old chicks introduced into the house



Indications of poor welfare conditions – Annex III, no 2

- “ ... the official veterinarian shall evaluate the results of the post-mortem inspection to identify other possible indications of poor welfare conditions such as abnormal levels of contact dermatitis, parasitism, and systemic illness ...”

This raises some questions

- ❖ Contact dermatitis include hock burns, foot pad dermatitis and breast blisters – should all be evaluated or should one be in focus?
 - ✓ In DK it was decided to focus on foot pad dermatitis
- ❖ What is an abnormal level?
 - ✓ A threshold level should be included in legislation og guidelines
- ❖ Should other indicators included?
 - ✓ In DK also plumage condition is monitored



Foot pad dermatitis – Danish legislation:

- Data collection - after scalding
 - ✓ 100 feet from different birds in each flock – 50 feet from the first third and 50 feet from the last third
- Scoring system
 - ✓ No or slight lesions score 0
 - ✓ Less severe lesions score 0.5
 - ✓ Severe lesions score 2

Continued training, including calibration of staff within and between slaughterhouses is essential



Foot pad dermatitis – Danish legislation:

Reaction level:

A score of < 40 - no reaction

A score from 41 to 80 - The farmer is instructed to correct. If there is a score of 41 or more in the next flock delivered → report to the local Veterinary Control Unit for further investigation

A score of 81 or more - report to the local Veterinary Control Unit for further investigation

Initially a higher reaction level was applied, and gradually reduced to the above mentioned



Other indications of poor welfare conditions

- According to Danish legislation, indications of poor welfare must be evaluated during the post mortem inspection
- According to Danish guidelines these indications of poor welfare could be:
 - ✓ hock burns and breast blisters
 - ✓ parasitism
 - ✓ scratches and pecking injuries
 - ✓ dehydration
 - ✓ Poor body condition
 - ✓ uneven size
 - ✓ constipation of the crop
 - ✓ unusual level of disease or rejections



Other indications of poor welfare conditions

➤ Guidelines on data collection

- ✓ On the slaughter line after scalding
- ✓ 100 birds from the first and 100 birds from the last third of the flock should be inspected

➤ Guidelines on when to react:

- ✓ More than 5 % but max. 20 %: the farmer is recommended to correct, if there is no improvement in the next flock → report to the local Veterinary Control Unit for further investigation
- ✓ More than 20 %: report to the local Veterinary Control Unit for further investigation
- ✓ In case of disease and rejections the guideline for reaction is 3 % and 5 % respectively



BTSF

Thank you

European Commission
Health and Digital Executive Agency (HaDEA)
COV2 02/183
B-1049 Brussels/Belgium

Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale
dell'Abruzzo e del Molise – IZSAM
Campo Boario, Teramo, Italy
Phone: +39 0861 332723 – 332732
Email: 20169606aw@izs.it
Website: www.izs.it

© European Union 2020

Unless otherwise noted the reuse of this presentation is not authorised. For any use or reproduction of elements that are owned by the EU, permission may need to be sought directly from the respective right holders. All statements and references in this presentation come from of the Training coordinator and tutors and do not represent the official position of the European Commission.

Slide xx: **element concerned**, source: e.g. [Fotolia.com](https://www.fotolia.com); Slide xx: **element concerned**, source: e.g. [iStock.com](https://www.istock.com)