



A Tradition of Stewardship
A Commitment to Service

Planning, Building & Environmental Services

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Hillary Gitelman
Director

MEMORANDUM

To:	Napa County Board Of Supervisor's	From:	Hillary Gitelman, Director Dave Whitmer, Agricultural Commissioner
Date:	February 14, 2013	Re:	Rooster Husbandry Best Management Practices.

EXHIBIT A

NAPA COUNTY AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER'S ROOSTER KEEPING GUIDELINES FOR COUNTY CODE CHAPTER 18.126

Housing

- Enclosures must be provided to allow free movement of birds.
- At no time are birds allowed to be tethered.
- Enclosures must protect birds from predators.
- Enclosures must provide protection from extreme temperatures and inclement weather.
- Enclosures must be easy to clean.
- Must have a manure removal management plan in place.
- Enclosures shall not have sharp or exposed objects or surfaces that may cause injury to the animals.
- Wire or mesh floors, which permit the feet of the animals to pass through, shall not be used.

Feed

- Chickens must have free access to nutritious feed each day or a demonstrated feeding regimen must be in place.
- Feed containers must be clean.
- Feed must not be allowed to remain in a contaminated or stale condition.

Water

- Chickens must have continuous access to an adequate supply of clean water.
- In order to reduce water spillage and prevent consequent problems with litter management, drinkers must:
 - Be placed at optimum height for the size and age of the birds; and
 - Be of an appropriate design, and
 - Be checked and maintained regularly.
- Drinkers must be cleaned daily.

- Provisions must be made for supplying water when temperatures are below freezing.
- A method for providing clean, fresh water for a period of at least 24 hours during a shut off of the main water supply must be available on-site.

Waste Disposal

- The facility shall have a system for removal and disposal of manure, used bedding, dead animals, and debris.
- Disposal facilities shall be constructed and operated to eliminate vermin infestation, offensive odors, and disease.

Drainage

- The facility shall be equipped with suitable drainage or drainage procedures to rapidly eliminate excess water.
- Water runoff should not drain into environmentally sensitive areas.
- If a closed drainage system is used, the system shall be equipped with traps.
- Drainage systems shall be examined and cleaned regularly.

Flock Health Management

- Limit disease vectors.
 - Remove debris piles to reduce rodent and vermin infestation.
 - Limit flock exposure from other poultry\bird operators.
- Care of Sick and Injured animals
 - Must have access to poultry husbandry resources.
 - Sick chickens and any chickens suffering from injury such as open wounds or fractures must be:
 - Segregated; and
 - Treated without delay; or
 - If necessary, humanely euthanized.

Carcass disposal

- Following a euthanasia procedure, birds must be carefully examined to ensure that they are dead.
- All carcasses must be disposed of through outlets or in accordance with state and local laws.
- Off-farm carcass disposal:
- Carcasses must be disposed of through approved outlets.
- A record must be kept of the name of the outlet through which all such carcasses are disposed of.
- On farm carcass disposal: if carcasses are disposed of on farm, a record of the method of disposal must be maintained.

Poultry husbandry guideline resources:

University of California Division of Agriculture and Natural resources Publication 8280

Biosecurity for Poultry at Community Farms

University of Maryland Extension MEP-300

Raising Your Home Chicken Flock

University of California Cooperative Extension PFS No. 36

Poultry Fact Sheet

Storey's Guide to Raising Chickens