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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 Wellness 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 - Up to 34 kg/m ² (7 lb/ft ²)	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	MAYBE - No set environmental thresholds, except for ammonia	MAYBE - Litter depth minimum is 1 inch (2.5 cm) and full floor coverage is not required	NO	YES	NO	NO	NO	MAYBE - Only for free-range operations
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 (or >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.