



For your information:

For those that are interested in getting into turkey production, the Turkey Farmers of Canada (TFC) has introduced the On-Farm Food Safety & Flock Care Programs.

These programs deal with biosecurity, and recording of medication use both administered and included in feed when needed. The program involves record keeping and using best management practices. In brief the program wants you to say what you do, do what you say and prove it.

The purpose of the program is to deliver what the consumer demands, "Safe Food". Producers are to produce turkeys for processing plants that are raised as pathogen-free as possible.

All federally inspected turkey processing plants in Canada are under a Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point Program (HACCP) Processors are required to monitor and check that at every critical point of the process they are delivering the safest food possible. The next logical step is to take the HACCP principles on farm.

The TFC Flock Care Program provides commercial turkey farmers with the most current measures to ensure the proper handling and care of turkeys, based on auditable elements taken from the Recommended Codes of Practice and from other international programs and standards. It complements the animal care related measures already covered by the TFC On-Farm Food Safety Program. It is organized in the same manner as the TFC On-Farm Food Safety Program with program and record keeping sections and, where relevant, refers to complimentary TFC On-Farm Food Safety Program sections (eg. Pest control measures, biosecurity measures, barn preparation). In addition, a self-audit checklist is included as a tool for evaluating whether the TFC Flock Care Program requirements are implemented on-farm.

The Turkey Farmers of Ontario has decided that both of these programs will be mandatory for all registered Turkey producers in Ontario. For more information, please contact Greg Morrison, Senior Field Inspector at the Turkey Farmers of Ontario Office.

Office: (519) 748-9636 Cell: (519) 571-4185 E-mail: greg@turkeyfarmers.on.ca

Performance Goals Converter Commercial Females



IMPERIAL (LBS)				
AGE (WEEKS)	LIVE WEIGHT	FEED CONSUMPTION		FEED CONVERSION
		WEEKLY	CUMULATIVE	
1	0.37	0.37	0.37	1.00
2	0.79	0.54	0.92	1.16
3	1.52	0.98	1.90	1.25
4	2.54	1.48	3.38	1.33
5	3.75	1.93	5.31	1.42
6	5.45	2.69	8.00	1.47
7	7.35	3.22	11.22	1.53
8	9.42	3.72	14.93	1.59
9	11.58	4.15	19.08	1.65
10	13.82	4.63	23.71	1.72
11	16.00	4.97	28.69	1.79
12	18.14	5.25	33.93	1.87
13	20.14	5.42	39.36	1.95
14	21.98	5.53	44.89	2.04
15	23.63	5.67	50.56	2.14
16	25.17	5.82	56.38	2.24
17	26.51	5.93	62.31	2.35
18	27.70	6.06	68.37	2.47

These goals are based upon results achieved with minimal allowance for mortality and using Hybrid's feed specifications. Results will be affected by feeding program, water quality, environment, flock health and growing density.

Performance Goals XL Commercial Females



METRIC (KGS)				
AGE (WEEKS)	LIVE WEIGHT	FEED CONSUMPTION		FEED CONVERSION
		WEEKLY	CUMULATIVE	
1	0.15	0.17	0.17	1.16
2	0.39	0.29	0.46	1.18
3	0.73	0.46	0.92	1.26
4	1.22	0.69	1.61	1.32
5	1.82	0.90	2.51	1.38
6	2.53	1.15	3.66	1.45
7	3.34	1.41	5.07	1.52
8	4.23	1.70	6.77	1.60
9	5.21	2.00	8.77	1.69
10	6.22	2.20	10.98	1.76
11	7.21	2.34	13.32	1.85
12	8.16	2.41	15.72	1.93
13	9.06	2.49	18.22	2.01
14	9.92	2.55	20.77	2.09
15	10.69	2.60	23.36	2.19
16	11.40	2.63	25.99	2.28
17	12.01	2.68	28.68	2.39
18	12.56	2.74	31.42	2.50
19	13.06	2.82	34.24	2.62
20	13.50	2.89	37.14	2.75

These goals are based upon results achieved with minimal allowance for mortality and using Hybrid's feed specifications. Results will be affected by feeding program, water quality, environment, flock health and growing density.

Performance Goals Converter Commercial Males



IMPERIAL (LBS)				
AGE (WEEKS)	LIVE WEIGHT	FEED CONSUMPTION		FEED CONVERSION
		WEEKLY	CUMULATIVE	
1	0.37	0.37	0.37	1.00
2	0.84	0.57	0.95	1.13
3	1.61	0.99	1.94	1.20
4	2.95	1.68	3.61	1.22
5	4.54	2.15	5.76	1.27
6	6.49	2.77	8.53	1.32
7	8.80	3.46	11.99	1.36
8	11.24	3.99	15.98	1.42
9	13.82	4.65	20.63	1.49
10	16.74	5.60	26.23	1.57
11	19.87	6.28	32.52	1.64
12	22.98	6.75	39.26	1.71
13	26.23	7.37	46.64	1.78
14	29.63	8.21	54.85	1.85
15	32.94	8.72	63.56	1.93
16	36.31	9.42	72.98	2.01
17	39.51	9.99	82.97	2.10
18	42.46	10.64	93.61	2.20
19	45.21	11.12	104.74	2.32
20	47.84	11.50	116.24	2.43
21	50.37	12.07	128.31	2.55
22	52.77	12.39	140.69	2.67

These goals are based upon results achieved with minimal allowance for mortality and using Hybrid's feed specifications. Results will be affected by feeding program, water quality, environment, flock health and growing density.

Performance Goals XL Commercial Males



METRIC (KGS)				
AGE (WEEKS)	LIVE WEIGHT	FEED CONSUMPTION		FEED CONVERSION
		WEEKLY	CUMULATIVE	
1	0.16	0.17	0.17	1.09
2	0.39	0.27	0.45	1.15
3	0.75	0.47	0.91	1.22
4	1.35	0.81	1.72	1.28
5	2.04	1.00	2.73	1.34
6	2.95	1.39	4.12	1.40
7	4.00	1.70	5.82	1.46
8	5.30	2.22	8.04	1.52
9	6.63	2.50	10.54	1.58
10	8.05	2.85	13.39	1.65
11	9.54	3.13	16.52	1.71
12	11.03	3.39	19.91	1.78
13	12.52	3.71	23.62	1.87
14	14.01	3.90	27.52	1.94
15	15.46	4.04	31.56	2.02
16	16.90	4.24	35.80	2.10
17	18.30	4.44	40.24	2.18
18	19.65	4.67	44.91	2.27
19	20.95	4.80	49.71	2.36
20	22.17	4.90	54.61	2.45
21	23.34	5.00	59.61	2.52
22	24.48	5.10	64.71	2.61

These goals are based upon results achieved with minimal allowance for mortality and using Hybrid's feed specifications. Results will be affected by feeding program, water quality, environment, flock health and growing density.

Estimated Water Consumption of Turkeys (in Litres)

Age (weeks)	Litres per 1,000 Turkeys			
	50-70 °F 10-21 °C	70-80 °F 21-27 °C	80-95 °F 27-35 °C	Over 95 °F Over 35 °C
1	38	38	38	38
2	85	102	102	102
3	123	141	158	176
4	170	204	221	238
5	208	243	312	381
6	270	321	388	489
7	327	379	448	500
8	403	490	508	630
9	499	586	654	741
10	538	625	747	920
11	597	737	842	1018
12	689	792	947	1067
13	708	915	1002	1157
14	737	943	1063	1235
15	747	955	1077	1251
16	752	962	1084	1259
17	757	968	1091	1267
18	767	981	1106	1284
19	774	990	1117	1297
20	782	1000	1127	1309
21	795	1011	1139	1332

Water consumption can be affected by a variety of factors including but not limited to; temperature, diet, health and sex.

WATER METER CHART (L)



Farm: _____ Barn: _____

Month: _____ Flock: _____

1 cubic metre = 1000 litres

DATE	DAILY READING		TIME		DAILY USE	COMMENTS	OUTSIDE TEMP (°C)
	m ³	Litres	AM	PM	Litres		
1							
2							
3							
4							
5							
6							
7							
8							
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29							
30							
31							

Estimated Water Consumption per 1000 turkeys in litres.

AGE (WEEKS)	50-70 °F 10-21 °C	70-80 °F 21-27 °C	80-95 °F 27-35 °C	> 95 °F > 35 °C	AGE (WEEKS)	50-70 °F 10-21 °C	70-80 °F 21-27 °C	80-95 °F 27-35 °C	> 95 °F > 35 °C	AGE (WEEKS)	50-70 °F 10-21 °C	70-80 °F 21-27 °C	80-95 °F 27-35 °C	> 95 °F > 35 °C
1	38	38	38	38	8	403	490	508	630	15	747	955	1077	1251
2	85	102	102	102	9	499	586	654	741	16	752	962	1084	1259
3	123	141	158	176	10	538	625	747	920	17	757	968	1091	1267
4	170	204	221	238	11	597	737	842	1018	18	767	981	1106	1284
5	208	243	312	381	12	689	792	947	1067	19	774	990	1117	1297
6	270	321	388	489	13	708	915	1002	1157	20	782	1000	1127	1309
7	327	379	448	500	14	737	943	1063	1235	21	795	1011	1139	1332

Water consumption can be affected by a variety of factors including but not limited to; temperature, diet, health and sex.

FARM MANAGEMENT AND DOWNGRADING

Henry Kanters

There are many factors which influence downgrades in turkeys. Many people believe that downgrading occurs only in the last two weeks before marketing. I believe downgrades begin the day you receive your poults from the hatchery or maybe even earlier. We must assume that the hatchery is supplying is with a healthy bacteria-free poult, that has not been stressed too severely at the hatchery or during transportation to your farm.

Birds are sexed at the hatchery, debeaked, toe-clipped and vaccinated. Any one of these procedures could influence your grade when the birds get processed. The debeaking is now done with a laser which leaves less chance for infection, and the toe-clipping is done with a microwave which does not leave an open wound for infection to set in. If the debeaking is not done uniformly, some birds could become more aggressive, picking on other birds.

Arriving at the farm, the brooder ring should have only quality inputs:

- **Clean dry shavings**
- **Clean fresh feed**
- **Clean fresh water**
- **Proper temperature and fresh air**
-

Caked litter needs to be removed from rings. This will help keep the foot pads in good condition.

Turkeys do not respond well to stress. We all know that they will be stressed from time to time as they are growing. The key to reducing stress is to make adjustments in moderation and only one stress per day. For example, if you reduce the temperature, adjust by only 1-2° then readjust three or four days later.

- **If you reduce or increase light do not adjust temperature on those days.**
- **If you till or work litter, do not do any other adjustments.**

Other factors which influence grade:

- 1. Stocking density birds/sq.ft. or lbs./sq.ft.**
 - Too tight causes bruising and scratching when competing for space.
 - Too loose – birds are flying and bumping into equipment.
- 2. Litter Type and Condition**
 - Clean, free of molds which cause respiratory problems and unevenness when birds are shipped.
 - Dry litter reducing foot and leg related problems.
- 3. Type and adjustment of equipment**
 - Reducing bumps and bruises and scratching.
- 4. Air quality and light intensity**
 - Related to activity.

Culling should be done early and continuously. Leaving culls in only increases feed conversion and makes it more difficult for other birds to move around taking up space. Possibly harbours health problems that keep reinfecting the rest of the flock.

The last two weeks before marketing are important. Keep your birds calm. You should not have to rebed or till litter. Your culling should have already been addressed. The person checking birds should walk through calmly trying not to over-excite birds. This should result in less fresh scratches and bruising.

The last area is the day you ship the birds for processing. Proper feed and water withdrawal results in less contamination at the plant. Keep light intensity the same. If using a loader or panels for catching or corralling, these should be placed in as soon as possible, even two weeks before so that birds are accustomed to them. When chasing or catching they will be less hesitant. When shipping birds, use people who know what they are doing.

You, the farmer, have put in 10-18 weeks of hard work trying to grow a quality product only to have it downgraded by someone who does not understand in the last 10 minutes before the bird is loaded.



Turkey Farmers of Canada

Farming Info Sheet®

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BARN CLEANING

Barn cleaning is an essential part of maintaining an environment for turkey production that promotes good flock health and reduces the risk of pathogens that are a human food safety hazard. Scientific research has shown that if reasonable biosecurity measures are followed, the benefits of a proper barn dry-clean will last approximately one year. A complete cleaning of the grow-out barn at least once per year helps to ensure that pathogen growth will not exceed an expected, acceptable level. It is essential to start every flock in a thoroughly clean and dry barn to minimize pathogen contamination (e.g. the brooding area is to be completely cleaned out and re-bedded after every flock). Based on this information, the TFC On-Farm Food Safety Program® requires that all grow-out barns receive a dry-cleaning at least once per year and that all brooder barns (and combined brooder and grow-out barns) be dry-cleaned prior to every poult placement (after every flock).

While not a mandatory requirement of the TFC On-Farm Food Safety Program®, it is highly recommended that farmers also thoroughly wash and disinfect a barn after it is cleaned out. All disinfectants work best on a clean surface. Care must be taken to remove any remaining dirt while washing the barn because most disinfectants are less effective if used in the presence of organic material. Dust, dirt, and fecal material tie up the disinfectants that kill disease-causing pathogens. To further increase the effectiveness of a barn clean-out, it is recommended that a downtime should occur at least once a year as a minimum. This is because many pathogens cannot survive without a host and it allows the barn to completely dry. Many pathogens cannot live in a dry environment.

Proper barn cleaning results in measurable flock health improvements like improved feed conversion, increased weight gain, and decreased condemnations. This is because used litter can harbour many infectious agents that may be shed by poultry and this, in turn, means that the litter acts as a vehicle for pathogen spread. Poultry litter is one of the most favourable media for the growth and transmission of *Salmonella* and *Campylobacter*, and is linked to both human food safety concerns when contaminated birds enter processing plants, and environmental concerns when used as fertilizer.

According to Payne *et al.*, 2005, poultry house sanitation plays a crucial role in the control and prevention of pathogenic infectious diseases. A good barn clean-out routine can benefit a farmer by optimizing bird performance while lowering the incidence of contaminated flocks and any number of best management practices, treatments, or disinfectants can comprise an effective sanitation program.

If you have a particular disease problem in a flock, it may be advantageous to clean and disinfect more frequently, or at least after the removal of the affected flock.

Bird Health Risks Associated with the Re-use of Litter

- Avian influenza
- Botulism
- Newcastle Disease
- Haemorrhagic Enteritis
- Colibacillosis
- Round worms
- Tape worms
- Coccidiosis
- Histomoniasis (Blackhead)
- Aspergillosis

Human Pathogens Associated with the Re-use of Litter

- *Campylobacter coli/jejuni*
- *Salmonella ssp.*
- *Clostridium botulinum*
- Antimicrobial resistant pathogens

References

Allen V.M. and Newell, D.G., 2005. Evidence for the effectiveness of biosecurity to exclude *Campylobacter* from poultry flocks. Food Standards Agency Report, Commissioned project MS0004.

Kelley, T.R., Pancorbo, O.C., Merka, W.C., Barnhart, H.M., 1998. Antibiotic resistance of bacterial litter isolates. *Poultry Science*. 77:243-24.

Lacy, M. P. and French, J.D., 1989. Effective broiler house clean out and disinfection techniques. University of Georgia Cooperative Extension Service Circular 815. 6 pages. Nicholas Turkey Breeding Farms. 2000. Brooding. *Nicholas Turkey News*. 42(6):1-4.

Newell D. G. and Fearnley, C., 2003. Sources of *Campylobacter* Colonization in Broiler Chickens. *Applied and Environmental Microbiology*. 69(8):4343-4351.

Payne, J.B., Kroger, E.C. Watkins, S.E., 2005. Evaluation of Disinfectant Efficacy When Applied to the Floor of Poultry Grow-Out Facilities. *Journal of Applied Poultry Research*. 14:322–329.

Runge, G.A., Blackhall, P.J., Casey, K.D., 2007. Chicken litter – Issues associated with sourcing and use. A report by the Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation (Australian Government).

Soliman E.S., Taha, E.G., Sobieh, M.A.A, Reddy, P.G., 2009. The influence of ambient environmental conditions on the survival of *Salmonella* enteric serovar *typhimurium* in poultry litter. *International Journal of Poultry Science*. 8(9): 848-852.

Turkey Farmers of Ontario Supplier List:

1. **Belwood Poultry Ltd.** (Federally Inspected)
4272 Concession 4 Road
Amherstburg, ON N9V 2Y9
Phone: (519) 736-2236
Fax: (519) 736-0531
Attn: Tyler Schlegel
2. **Sofina Foods Inc.** (Federally Inspected)
100 Commerce Valley Drive West
Markham, ON L3T 0A1
Phone: 1-855-763-4621
Attn: Customer Service
Additional Info:
 - No direct to consumer orders
 - Retail, foodservice, wholesale or industrial
3. **Exceldor Foods (Butterball)** (Federally Inspected)
478 14th Street
Hanover, ON N4N 3C6
Phone: (905) 542-2203 x227
Attn: Jeff Noble
jeffn@butterball.ca
4. **Maple Leaf Foods** (Federally Inspected)
Mississauga, ON
Phone: (905)-285-1413
Attn: Jamie Falcao
www.mapleleaf.com
Jamie.falcao@mapleleaf.ca
5. **Hayter's Turkey Products Inc.** (Federally Inspected)
RR #2
Dashwood, ON N0M 1N0
Phone: (519) 237-3561
Fax: (519) 237-3460
Attn: Elaine Hayter or Joanne Maguire
www.haytersfarm.com
info@haytersfarm.com
Additional Info:
 - Brand name is Hayter's Farm
 - Whole bird, parts, further processed
 - Retail ready product
 - In business since 1948
 - 60 years of family tradition, now third generation farming

6. **Shady Grove Maple Co Ltd.**
GUELPH AREA
Phone: (519) 651-1206
goetzhd@megawire.ca
www.shadygrovemaple.ca
Attn: Dan & Heather Goetz
Additional Info:
- Drug Free, Grain Fed
 - 13-28 lbs.
 - Fresh turkeys available for Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas
 - Frozen available year round
7. **B&B Farms Ltd.**
Scotch Line Turkey Co.
ELMIRA AREA
Phone: (519) 664-3932
bandbfarms@rogers.ca
Additional Info:
- Whole fresh and frozen
 - Some parts and further processed
 - Farm fresh
 - Antibiotic Free (ABF)
8. **Lakeview Turkey Farm Limited**
PORT COLBORNE AREA (DUNNVILLE)
Phone: (905) 774-4479
Attn: Andrew & Elizabeth Schilstra
Additional Info:
- Frozen Grade A turkeys, parts, further processed, etc.
 - Turkey roast, all sizes, turkey peameal bacon, sausages, burgers
 - Family farm
 - Store Hours: Tuesday – Friday 9:00 – 4:30, Saturday 9:00 – 3:00
9. **Elmcreek Farms**
ELORA AREA (ALMA)
Phone: (519) 638-5885
emilynieuwland@hotmail.com
Attn: Emily Nieuwland
Additional Info:
- Whole bird sales
 - All natural, grain, fed, no animal bi-products, no drugs, free run
 - Family farm
 - Any size order
 - Produce for Thanksgiving and Christmas

10. The Turkey Shoppe

Ogegema Turkey Farms Inc.
ST. THOMAS AREA (TALBOTVILLE)

Phone: (519) 633-0527

info@turkeyshoppe.com

www.turkeyshoppe.com

Attn: Annie Ogegema

Additional Info:

- Third Generation Family Farm, all raw products are made on the premises
- Fresh and frozen whole turkeys, parts, sausage, schnitzel, burgers, ground, pies, soup, chill and more
- Retail Store Hours, Monday – Friday 9:00 – 5:30 Saturday 9:00 – 4:00
- Also available at Brantford Farmers Market, London Farmer's & Artisan's Market at Western Fair, and Horton Farmers Market in St. Thomas
- Wholesale turkeys and roasts to companies, churches, restaurants, caterers, etc.

11. Yorkshire Valley Farms

TORONTO AREA (ETOBICOKE)

Phone: (416) 577-6711

www.yorkshirevalley.com

Attn: Ryan Lemire

Additional info:

- Whole turkeys, parts, ground
- Organic
- GAP Certified
- Ontario based farms

**All information has been submitted by the suppliers listed above and has not been verified by the Turkey Farmers of Ontario for product availability or accuracy. Please contact the supplier for further information.*

FIELD PERSONNEL

**CUDDY FARMS
STRATHROY, ON**

MIKE MCFARLANE

**OFFICE: 519-245-1592 ext. 285
CELL: 519-319-5824
E-MAIL: mikem@cuddy.com**

**EXCELDOR
HANOVER, ON**

BRENT TINNING

**CELL: 519-272-7903
E-MAIL: tinning@cvg.net**

**SHUR GAIN
BURFORD, ON**

BRIAN TERPSTRA

**CELL: 519-670-1567
E-MAIL: brianterpstra@rogers.com**

**WALLENSTEIN FEEDS
WALLENSTEIN, ON**

**TOM WEST
TIM WEST**

**CELL: 519-570-6749
CELL: 519-588-7873**

**NEW-LIFE MILLS LIMITED
HANOVER, ON**

**STEVE WIEBE
BOB SWAYZE**

**CELL: 905-975-1942
CELL: 905-975-4130
E-MAIL: bswayze@newlifemills.com**

**JACK HAMILTON
NATHAN PELISSERO**

**CELL: 519-277-2585
E-MAIL: npelissero@newlifemills.com**

FLORADALE FEED MILL LIMITED

DAVE SHANTZ

**OFFICE: 519-502-7989
E-MAIL: dave@ffmltd.com
WEBSITE: www.ffmltd.com**

MAPLE LEAF FOODS

MILES SCHWINDT

**CELL: 519-240-0573
E-MAIL: miles.schwindt@mapleleaf.com**

MASTERFEEDS

NEILL VROOM

**OFFICE: 519-273-1810
CELL: 519-531-1140
E-MAIL: nvroom@masterfeeds.com**