



Vaccination programme of the broilers (please consult with your local state veterinarian for prevalent diseases that you have to vaccinate against)

Age	Disease	Vaccine	Method of application
Day old	Newcastle disease Infectious bronchitis	Hitchner B1 H120	Spray Eye-drop or spay
Day 10-12	Newcastle disease	La Sota	Spray/drinking water
Day 14	Gumboro	Mild strain	Drinking water
Day 18	Newcastle disease	La Sota	Spray/drinking water
Day 21	Gumboro	Mild strain	Drinking water

Protect your flock! Protect your industry!

- Always follow good biosecurity measures, ask your veterinarian for advice if you suspect disease and report any suspect cases to your State Veterinary Office without delay.
- Review and assess the risk of disease to your birds with your Veterinarian or Animal Health Technician.



For further information contact your nearest Animal Health Technician or State/Private Veterinarian

or

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2013
published by:
Department of Agriculture, Forestry and fisheries



Poultry biosecurity measures



**agriculture,
forestry & fisheries**

Department:
Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

What are the benefits?

Good biosecurity:

- Helps to prevent diseases not occurring on your farm from entering your farm and those on your farm from spreading to other farms, e.g. diseases such as avian influenza and Newcastle disease, etc.;
- Reduces the risk of zoonotic diseases such as salmonella becoming established; limits the occurrence and spread of diseases and helps to protect your neighbours, public health and the rural areas;
- Improves overall flock health, cuts costs of disease treatment and reduces losses, which could improve the profitability of the farm.

How to prevent poultry diseases?

- What you can do to prevent your birds from becoming sick with diseases like avian influenza, Newcastle disease, ect.
- Plan how you will manage any free ranging and/or wild birds if there is a need to isolate these from broilers.
- Feed and water should be provided indoors, where possible, to reduce contact between your chickens/birds and wild birds.

How does diseases spread?

Diseases are spread through:

- Movement of poultry, people, vehicles and equipment between and within farms;
- The introduction of birds of low or unknown health status;
- Contact with the neighbour's flocks;
- Using/sharing farm equipment and vehicles, which have not been effectively cleansed and disinfected;
- Contact with vermin and wild birds;
- Birds drinking from contaminated water sources;
- Birds eating contaminated feed; and unsatisfactory cleansing and disinfection of vehicles, sheds, feeding troughs and other equipment.

Current and future action Even if you already implement good biosecurity measures, you are encouraged to take the following steps:

- If you farm free-range birds you should plan how you will manage them if there is a need to isolate them from wild birds.
- Water and feed should be provided indoors for free-range birds where possible to reduce contact between your birds and wild birds.
- Look out for the guidance on local risk assessment, available from your local State Veterinary Office.

How to stop disease and keep your farm clean?

Do not bring infection into your farm, or spread it around your farm, on your clothes, footwear or hands

- Strictly limit and control access to poultry flocks.
- Have pressure washers, brushes, water and an approved disinfectant available.
- Clean and disinfect all vehicles thoroughly after each journey.
- Regularly clean and disinfect all crates, containers and other equipment before and after use.
- Keep farm access routes, parking areas, yards, areas around buildings and storage areas clean and tidy and well maintained.

Taking care of your chickens

- The welfare of your birds is always an important concern, and particularly so in the case of a disease outbreak.
- Movement restrictions can have a negative impact on poultry, with confinement potentially leading to health and behavioural problems.
- Allow for appropriate stocking density and avoid overcrowding. Stocking density will be determined by the type of housing and the weather conditions where your farm is situated.

- Having a contingency plan in place will make sure that the welfare of your flock remains a priority at a critical time.

Housing

- The house should face east direction.
- It should be designed to protect the chickens against rodents, wild birds and adverse weather (rain).
- It should contain the relevant equipments.
- Corrugated iron sheets are used for roofing.
- It is advisable to place between 15-20 birds per square metre in the mechanically controlled houses and between 10-14 birds per square metre in naturally ventilated/open-sided houses to avoid overcrowding and spread of infections.
- The broilers should not be mixed with other domestic birds.
- The poultry houses should be secured to prevent stock theft.

Record keeping

- Record keeping helps with the indication of the economic progress.
- Helps to monitor health, growth and management practices;
- The simpler the records are the better;
- Manual records are often easier and simpler than computerised records.

There are five vaccination methods of broilers:

- Eye-drop method;
- Spray method;
- Drinking water method;
- Needle through the wing-web method;
- Injection method.