

The Better Chicken Commitment (BCC) is the leading set of standards for broiler welfare driving the food industry towards higher welfare practices. The BCC is a sustainable and science-based policy that addresses key chicken welfare protections missing from other standards.





## **Better Chicken Commitment (BCC)**

**American Humane Certified** 

American Humane Certified does not meet BCC standards for stocking density, enrichments, litter, breed, lighting, or slaughter. Please see below for more details.

Maximum Stocking Density	• 6 lbs/sq ft	• 7 lbs/sq ft
Litter	At least 3 inches of friable litter covering the whole floor of the house, managed to maintain dry, friable condition and prevent caked or wet areas	The broilers must have access to well-maintained litter at all times. The litter must be of a suitable, absorbent material of an appropriate particle size (less than 1 inch); be a sufficient depth (no less than 2 inches) for dilution of feces; and be clean and of good quality.
Lighting	<ul> <li>Minimum 8 hours of continuous light (≥50 lux) and 6 hours of continuous darkness daily (&lt;1 lux)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Minimum continuous period of 8 hours of daytime light (≥ 10 lux) and 4 hours of continuous darkness (≤ 1 lux) in every 24</li> </ul>
Enrichments	• For every 1,000 sq ft (93 sq m), or part 1000 sq ft (93 sq m) of indoor space there must be a minimum of 1 enrichment	No environmental enrichments required
Slaughter	<ul> <li>Process chickens in a manner that avoids pre-stun handling and instead utilizes a multi-step controlled- atmosphere processing system that induces an irreversible stun</li> </ul>	Electrical water bath stunning, controlled atmosphere stunning (CAS), low atmospheric pressure stunning (LAPS), or hand-operated stunning are acceptable methods of stunning
Breed	<ul> <li>Adopt breeds that demonstrate higher welfare outcomes, either: Hubbard Norfolk Black, JA757, JACY57, JA787, JA957, JA987, JACY87, REDBRO, or Redbro M; Aviagen Rambler Ranger, Ranger Classic, Ranger Gold, Ranger Premium, or Rowan Ranger; Cobb-Sasso 200 (CS200); Cooks Venture Pioneer, or others that meet the criteria of the RSPCA Broiler Breed Welfare Assessment Protocol or Global Animal Partnership (GAP).</li> </ul>	No requirements for higher welfare breeds
Auditing	Demonstrate 100% compliance with all standards via third-party auditing	If a producer receives an Audit Score of less than 100%, producer must submit a Corrective Action Plan detailing steps that will be implemented to reach 100% compliance to all relevant Animal Welfare Standards.

## REFERENCES

**Please note**: This document is not intended to be used for official purposes such as auditing. It is a general summary of the key components of the *Better Chicken Commitment* and *American Humane Certified standards*. For the complete standards, please reference the resources below: