

1. Non Technical Summary

The Farm

Broiler chickens will be kept at Aviagen Ltd.'s poultry unit located at Garpit Poultry Farm, Tayport, Fife. The site contains three poultry sheds housing a total of 48,420 birds in three separate flocks. The site is located at Ordnance Survey grid reference NO 4597 2702.

Chickens are kept in three sheds each of which will house 16,140 birds.

The buildings are of steel construction clad with profiled steel insulated roof panels and insulated wall panels. Ventilation is by means of high efflux velocity roof-mounted fans that draw air into the sheds via openings in the side walls and blow the exhaust air out above the roof ridge. The sheds are heated during the early part of the production cycle using LPG fuelled heaters. Maximum and minimum temperatures and relative humidity are monitored and recorded daily and adjustments made as necessary to ensure that birds are in the optimum environment for their age and weight. Target levels for relative humidity are 50% - 70%. Nipple drinkers are used to reduce wastage of water and to maintain dry litter. Water consumption is monitored and recorded daily.

The three poultry sheds, amenity building and associated storage buildings are all interconnected via enclosed walkways.

At the start of the cycle wood shavings are spread on the floor to a depth of around 2 cm and the sheds are pre-warmed to 31°C using LPG powered space heaters. As birds grow, temperature is reduced and ventilation is increased. Feed from a UFAS accredited mill is delivered and stored on-site in sealed bins. A range of diets are fed over the growing cycle with the protein content being reduced as the birds get older. Some de-stocking may occur throughout the production cycle. The farm is operated on an all-in all-out basis for the purposes of cleaning. Once all the birds have been cleared litter is removed in covered trailers for land spreading. The buildings are then washed down and disinfected ready for the next flock. On average there are 4.5 crops per annum with a turn around of 21 days between crops. Mortalities are collected and incinerated on site in Defra approved incinerators.

These measures are intended to reduce the production and emission of ammonia, odours and dust from the sheds, and prevent liquid washings escaping to the environment. This in turn should reduce the environmental impact of the farming activities.

Responsibility

Primary responsibility for running the site rests with the Operators.