

Minimising Waste

Raw materials are selected to meet the requirements of the end market, with competitive drivers determining in some cases the specific materials consumed. All the raw materials used in the process are approved for use under the DEFRA approved list of cleaning chemicals and Red Tractor Farm Assurance Poultry Scheme. Other raw materials consumed are frequently reviewed, with the aims of these reviews being to improve process performance and to minimise potential environmental impact.

The installation is part of a large volume low margin industry where waste minimisation is fundamental for productivity and profitability, consequently the management of the process is designed to minimise process losses and waste generation.

Inorganic waste generated by the farm will mainly consist of paper, plastic and glass. Paper waste will be commonly generated from chick box liners upon delivery of day old chicks. Plastic waste will normally be in two forms, wrapping from bales of wood shavings and bottles from used disinfectants and detergents. The latter form of plastic waste is returned to the Company for disposal after use, as are used light bulbs.

The amount of plastic waste can be minimised through good managerial techniques. By good management of the litter quality, fewer bales of wood shavings will be needed, thus lowering the amount of plastic wrapping discarded. Large, empty, plastic bottles from detergents can be 'recycled' and used for foot dip containers or smaller rubbish bins for the storerooms. Poultry carcasses are, under normal circumstances, collected and stored in sealed containers awaiting regular collection under the fallen stock scheme by a licensed collection agent. As a contingency plan or if an outbreak of high mortality should arise, carcasses will be placed in sealed containers and removed, as detailed in the emergency plan.

In the event of high mortality caused by disease, the operator will follow the guidance of the allocated veterinarian dealing with the outbreak. The mortality would be disposed of at an approved landfill site under the advice of that veterinarian, after consideration of weather conditions and geographical haulage parameters.

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