



Wild Animal, Rodent & Predator Control Policy

Predator protection

The perimeter of the farm is fenced to help keep out predators such as foxes. The fencing is checked on a weekly basis.

If predators are found within the range then these will be removed humanely and the fencing will be checked.

All hens are locked in the poultry house at all times, with the exception of free range during daylight hours.

Wild Birds

The poultry houses are constructed in such a way as to prevent the intrusion of wild birds (with the exception of the pop-holes). Further bird proofing of top vents, side vents and manure elevators is completed as an ongoing maintenance program.

Domestic Pets

All domestic pests such as dogs and cats are not permitted in the poultry houses or egg rooms.

Rodent Control

Buildings are designed to be as rodent proof as possible, and areas around the farm that could provide harbourage for rodents will be kept clean and tidy, removing unnecessary materials and keeping weeds and vegetation under control. All feed spillages will be cleaned up immediately to avoid attracting rodents and wild birds.

All rodent control is carried out to BPCA standards using approved poisons which are dispensed into appropriate rodent bait boxes. The location of the bait boxes is marked on a farm plan. Poisons will be used responsibly to prevent risks to wildlife and farm livestock. Baiting shall follow CRRU guidelines and routine long term baiting must not be undertaken. A log of all baiting and bait used must be kept, including a log of no activity.

A copy of the DEFRA booklet PB13233 "Code of practice for the prevention of rodent infestation on poultry farms" is available, and the appropriate members of the farm staff are aware of its contents and the recommendations within the booklet are followed.

Method of Kill

All predators are to be killed as humanely as possible and snaring and gassing of animals, along with the use of vertebrate glue traps, is strictly forbidden. The CRRU hierarchy of risks and bait shall be followed at all times.