

Non-technical Summary

Barn Farm is situated in a rural area approximately 800 metres to the west-north-west of the village of Lenwade, Norwich. The installation is approximately centred on National Grid Reference TM 08740 18766.

The installation was erected in 2016 and 2017 and owned and operated by Cobb Europe Ltd. It comprises 8 poultry houses of steel portal frame construction, with concrete walls at the base and insulated walls and roof covered with plastic coated steel sheet. Houses were designed and purpose-built for housing great grandparent breeder chickens and providing approximately 8,500 places in each house with an aggregated capacity for 51,000 places. A vehicle transfer building, feed bins, weighing rooms, administration and egg stores, service crew building, package sewage treatment plant and package standby generator and storing diesel and LPG are directly associated activities.

Great grandparent breeder chickens are producing fertilised eggs for grandparent breeder chicken flocks elsewhere. Cockerels and point-of lay pullets arrive on the farm at about 16-18 weeks old and remain for 52-54 weeks until 68-70 weeks old. Chickens are mixed ages with 2 houses being restocked every 13 weeks in a rota.

Poultry houses are vented via side inlets and air taken out through high velocity roof fans. Droppings are collected under the slatted areas inside the houses and the droppings and used litter removed at the end of each cycle. All manure is exported from the installation for spreading on land owned by third parties or to a power station as fuel. Dirty water from washing out the houses is conveyed to an underground storage tank and exported off-site. Roof water from the poultry houses is conveyed to swales via filter drains and roof water from the other buildings and hard standing is conveyed to the swales via conventional drains. The swales are under-drained and attenuate the flow into an off-site ditch. Domestic sewage from the administration and service crew buildings is treated in a package secondary treatment plant and discharged into an off-site ditch. The plant is de-sludged in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions and exported off site.

Feedstuffs are stored in silos and weighing rooms. Mortalities are removed daily and stored in secure containers for removal under the Fallen Stock Scheme. At the end of each 13 week cycle two houses are depopulated, washed, disinfected and left empty for 13 weeks before being restocked.

The surrounding topography is falling gently towards the River Wensum valley to the south. There are 2 Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) within 10km of the installation, 5 areas of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) within 5km and 1 Ancient Woodland within 2km. There are no designated sites or Priority Habitats within the installation.