

# Feedmaster

Your Quality Solution



## BROILER GUIDE

# Broiler production Introduction

Broilers are chickens that are specifically bred and raised for their meat. The goal for any broiler farmer is to successfully raise a day old chick to a market-ready chicken in the shortest amount of time. Within this period the birds will likely meet many challenges that will inhibit their growth and affect their production. This is why broiler production systems require management to have high levels of responsiveness and availability of information.

To be a successful broiler farmer at any level, one has to master the day-to-day management tasks of the broiler's life. The most significant management task would be FEED. Feed makes up 65-70% of the total cost of production. Therefore we cannot overemphasize the importance of good quality, well balanced formulated feed for the best possible production results.

This is why we at Feedmaster only use quality raw materials, formulated by qualified nutritionists to supply the poultry farmer with a quality solution in the feed.



## Housing

- Poultry houses should be built with the shortest closed sides in an east to west direction.
- The house should have side curtains opening from the top to the bottom. This improves ventilation and avoids direct airflow on broilers.
- Houses can be insulated, preventing big fluctuations in temperatures and conserve heat during the night and cool down during the day.
- Roof overhang should be extended to avoid the broilers from being exposed to rain.
- Concrete floors are ideal and most hygienic, however expensive. All floors need to be covered in bedding.
- Make use of metal and plastic when building. These materials are easy to clean.

## Placement of Chicks

- Stocking density should be adapted with temperature changes. In the summer the stocking rate (10 birds per m<sup>2</sup>) would be lower than in the winter (12 birds per m<sup>2</sup>).
- The chicken house must be cleaned and disinfected at least 10 days before the placement of the new chicks.
- Pre-heat the floor 24 hours before chick placement. (Floor temperature 32°C).
- Feed should be placed the day before to ensure that it would be room temperature and available when the chicks are placed. Water should be fresh and clean, placed 2 hours just before placement.
- Use paper to cover 50% of the brooding area and place feed on the paper to stimulate intake in the first 24 hours.
- Weigh some of the chicks to get a starting weight. 10 chicks or 1%.

### Post-placement chick checks

1. **Chick-check 1** 4/6 hours after placement: Test the temperature of the feet of the chicks against your cheek. If cold, the pre-heating was not done correctly and the farmer should re-evaluate his pre-heating procedures.

Results of cold floor temperature:

- Poor early feed intake
  - Poor growth
  - Poor uniformity
2. **Chick-check 2** 24 hours post-placement: This check is called a crop check. The reason for this check is to confirm that the chicks found the placement of feed and water.
    - By this time a minimum of 95% of the crops should feel soft and pliable, indicating chicks have successfully located feed and water.
    - Hard crop – chicks have not found adequate water. Check the water supply immediately.
    - Swollen and distended crop - chicks have located water but insufficient feed.
    - Check the feed supply immediately.

Daily checks should be made throughout the cycle:

- Check if there are cold spots and draughts in the house.
- Check if the ventilation is correct - no build-up of ammonia.
- Check if the drinkers and feeders are at the correct height and if there are enough of them for the number of birds.
- Check for wet bedding or too dry bedding.
- Keep notes of all dead birds removed.

# Brooding

Why brooding?

During the first 14 days, a chick cannot properly control its body temperature. This is why it is so important to manage their environmental temperature. The following would be improved by good brooding practices. The development of the following would be improved by good brooding practices.

1. Set up a brooding ring to reduce heating costs
2. 3 metres diameter per 500 chicks
3. Double the area after 1 week
4. Remove the ring after 3 weeks

All these improvements will help accelerate the rate of growth of the chicks.



INFRARED LIGHTS

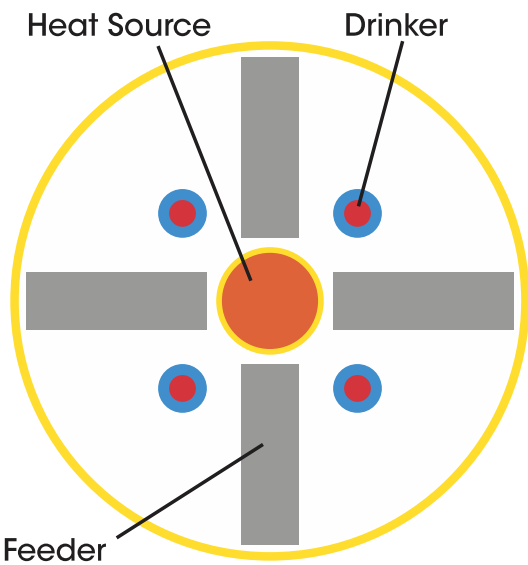


GAS BROODER



CHARCOAL

# Brooding Ring



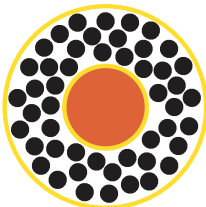
Too Hot



Too Cold



Draught



Comfortable

## Litter/Bedding

Important functions of litter include the ability

- To absorb moisture.
- To dilute excreta, thus minimizing bird to manure contact.
- To provide insulation from cold floor temperatures.

LitterType	Minimum depth or volume
Wood shavings	2.5cm - 5cm
Dry sawdust	2.5cm - 5cm
Chopped straw	1kg/m <sup>2</sup>

## Lighting program and its Advantages

- A period of darkness is a natural requirement for all animals.
- Better feed conversion because of energy conserved during resting.
- Reduce mortality rate and skeletal defects.
- Stimulates the production of melatonin. Melatonin is important in the development of the immune system.

Lighting program:

- Day 0-6: 1 hour dark, 23h light with high intensity 30-40 lux.
- From day 7 till the day of slaughter: 6 hours dark, 18 h light with at least 20lux.
- Better feed conversion.
- Fewer problems with sudden death syndrome and ascites



## Temperature Management

Temperature management is one of the most important tasks, especially during the brooding period. Because any stress chicks experience during this period, will affect the growth and development in other phases.

The optimal temperatures at placement are as follow:

- Environmental (Air) temperature 32-33 °C
- Floor temperature 32 °C
- Directly underneath brooders 40.5 °C

Temperatures as by the Ross

Aged (Days)	Relative Humidity %	Temperature °C for chicks
0	30-50	34
7	40-60	31
14	40-60	27
21	40-60	24
28	50-70	21
35	50-70	19
42	50-70	19

## Ventilation

The function of ventilation is not only to supply the chicks with an adequate supply of oxygen, but it also assists with the removal of waste gasses of growth and combustion from the environment such as:

- Moisture removal.
- The provision of oxygen to meet the bird's metabolic demand.
- The control of relative humidity.
- The maintenance of good litter conditions.

Always ensure that there is a supply of fresh air at all times, but be careful not to have a cold draft blowing into the house. This will reduce the temperature in the house.

Good maintenance of house curtains is crucial and curtains need to be opening from top to bottom to ensure no cold drafts are blowing directly onto the chicks.



## Bird Health

Prevention is by far the most economical and best method of disease control. Prevention is best achieved by the implementation of an effective biosecurity program in conjunction with an appropriate vaccination program. Bio-security is a practice designed to prevent the spread of disease into your farm. It is accomplished by maintaining the facility in such a way that there is minimal traffic of biological organisms (viruses, bacteria, rodents, etc.) across its borders. It is the most effective and cheapest means of disease control on the farm. Below are a few key points to a successful bio-security program:

- Farms should be fenced.
- Limit non-essential visitors to the farm.
- Farm supervisors should visit the youngest flocks at the beginning of the day and work by age to the oldest flock for the last visit on that day.
- Provide wheel dips or wheel spraying facilities at the farm entrance and allow only necessary vehicles on site.
- Absolutely no other birds should be kept on the same farm as your broiler unit. Workers who come in direct contact with the broilers should not have birds of their own.
- The area around the poultry house should be free from vegetation, debris, and unused equipment that could harbor rodents.
- Adequate downtime between flock placements is essential (10-14 days).
- Dispose of dead birds immediately.
- Footbaths should be placed at every poultry house entrance.
- Change clothes and boots before entering the chicken coop

## Vaccination/Health

A vaccination is the controlled exposure to a disease-causing agent (antigen) and is specific to the one disease. The antigen can be a virus, mycoplasma or bacteria and is so manipulated in the laboratory, that it cannot harm or kill the bird anymore. The vaccination process is preparing the body of the animal to combat the disease by itself through immunity when challenged with the real field organism.

Day old chicks should receive vaccines against following diseases at the hatchery for sufficient protection:

- Gomboro Disease
- New Castle Disease
- Infectious Bronchitis
- Mareks Disease

When keeping the birds for longer than 42d a booster vaccine is recommended on day 18 against Infectious Bronchitis and New Castle Disease.



Please discuss vaccinations with a veterinarian before purchase any vaccines. A basic monitoring program and regular visits by a poultry veterinarian should take place to diagnose other less prevalent diseases to advise adjustments and additions to the vaccination program when it is needed. Change clothes before entering the farm and shoes before entering the house.



## Nutrition

Broiler diets are formulated to provide the energy and nutrients essential for health and efficient broiler production. The basic nutritional components required by the birds are water, amino acids, energy, vitamins, and minerals.

Feedmaster provides the following:

- All our products are specifically formulated to achieve the desired product at a lower cost.
- All our products are produced in an ISO 22000 accredited plant.
- All our products are formulated with natural products such as maize and soya, sunflower oil cake, chop, and bran.
- We don't include any animal protein sources or animal-derived products into any of our product ranges.
- We adhere to strict bio-security rules at all times to reduce possible contamination.

The produced feed is put through a rigorous quality control process to confirm the quality before being distributed.

# Target Weights

It is important to weigh the chicks as they grow. The table below shows the target weights of the Ross 308.

Age (Days)	Live Weight for age (Grams)
0	40 - 45
7	208
14	519
21	985
28	1573
35	2235
42	2918



# Feedmaster Classic Broiler Range

Ideal for the smaller producer who sells live broilers to the market. It is a cost-effective range with a moderate growth rate.

## 35 Day Model

Number Of Chicks	Classic Broiler Starter		Classic Broiler Grower		Classic Broiler Finisher		Total Feed	
	Day-old- 13.5 Days 500 g		13.5 Days - 3 Days before slaughter		3 Days before slaughter			
	KG Need	Bag 50kg	KG Need	Bags 50kg	KG Need	Bags 50kg	KG Need	Bags 50kg
100	50	1	206	5	31	1	286	7
200	100	2	411	9	61	2	573	13
300	150	3	617	13	92	2	859	18
400	200	4	823	17	123	3	1146	24
500	250	5	1029	21	153	4	1432	30
600	300	6	1234	25	184	4	1718	35
700	350	7	1440	29	215	5	2005	41
800	400	8	1646	33	245	5	2291	46
900	450	9	1851	38	276	6	2577	53
1000	550	11	2057	42	307	7	2864	59

## 42 Day Model

Number Of Chicks	Classic Broiler Starter		Classic Broiler Grower		Classic Broiler Finisher		Total Feed	
	Day-old- 13.5 Days 500 g		13.5 Days - 3 Days before slaughter		3 Days before slaughter			
	KG Need	Bag 50kg	KG Need	Bags 50kg	KG Need	Bags 50kg	KG Need	Bags 50kg
100	50	1	352	8	45	1	447	10
200	100	2	705	15	89	2	894	19
300	150	3	1057	22	134	3	1341	28
400	200	4	1410	29	179	4	1788	37
500	250	5	1762	36	223	5	2235	46
600	300	6	2114	43	268	6	2682	55
700	350	7	2467	50	312	7	3129	64
800	400	8	2819	57	357	8	3576	73
900	450	9	3172	64	402	8	4023	81
1000	550	11	3574	72	496	10	4470	90

This calculation was based on Ross 308 breeding standards and Feedmaster information. The calculations were also made with a 2% mortality rate in the starter phase and a 5% mortality on 35 days and 7% mortality on 42 days respectively.



**All feeds are  
ready mixed feed.  
Do not mix feed.**



## **Remember**

- The amount of feed per bird is an indication, stick to the recommended feeding days indicated on the feeding table.
- For the first 10 days, feed should be on the pan feeders or paper.
- From day 2, feed should also be in feeding troughs so that the chicks can learn to eat from it.
- Do not place feed or water directly under the heat source as this may cause the chicks to eat or drink less than they should.



## Water Management

- To ensure optimum and overall health, the water supplied to the broilers should be of a good standard.
- Chicks which do not drink enough water will have an inadequate feed intake and bad growth.
- Do regular checks to ensure that drinkers are working properly and/or are full.
- Make sure drinkers are at crop level and the water pressure is correct.
- When temperatures are high or if birds have health problems, they consume more water to regulate body temperature.
- Add chlorine tablets to the water to sanitize water, but not during vaccination or treatment days.
- Under normal conditions, broilers drink between 250 ml -500 ml of water each day.
- Do not feed water directly out of a borehole or big tank. Divert water to a smaller catchment tank to help with medicating and vaccination of broilers. Check ph and treat accordingly.
- A 500-liter tank is ideal for a 100 broiler setup.



### 12 Liter Fountain Drinker

1 fountain per 100 birds

From 7 days to end of life cycle



### 10 Liter Fountain Drinker

1 fountain per 80 birds

Application from 7 days untill end of life cycle



### 8 Liter Fountain Drinker

1 fountain per 60 birds

From 7 days to end of life cycle



### Automatic Econo Drinker

100 birds per drinker

From 7 days to end of life cycle



### Automatic Broiler Drinker

100 birds per drinker

From 7 days to end of life cycle



### Nipple Drinker

10 broilers per nipple

3 layers or per nipple



# Record Keeping

The biggest function of accurate records is for the farmer to utilize the information in future decision making. Accurate record-keeping is essential to monitor the performance and profitability of a flock.

Daily records that should be taken:

- Mortality and culls
- Type of culls
- Feed consumption
- Water consumption
- Water treatments
- Minimum and maximum daily temperatures
- Minimum and maximum daily humidity
- Number of birds taken for processing
- Management changes



Flock records:

(are a summary at the end of the flock's cycle and include the following)

- Feed deliveries (supplier/amount/type/date of consumption)
- Feed sample from each feed delivery
- Live weight (daily/weekly/daily gain)
- Medication (type/batch/amount/date of administration/date of withdrawal)
- Lighting program followed
- Litter (type/date of delivery/amount delivered/visual inspection)
- Chick delivery (number/date/time/count in boxes/truck temperature and humidity)
- Stocking density
- Chick source
- Weights of each load at the processing plant
- Remove downgrades
- Date and time of feed withdrawn
- Date and time catching started and finished
- Clean out of cages
- Post-mortem results
- Repairs and maintenance
- Controlling sensors and thermostats (date calibrated)
- Technical visits

Annual records

- Water (Tested at source and the drinker)



## 100 X Chick Broiler Checklist

100 X Chicks		
1 X Feedmaster Classic Broiler Crumble (50kg)		
5 X Feedmaster Classic Broiler Grower Pellets (50kg)		
1 X Feedmaster Classic Broiler Finisher Pellets (50kg)		
2 X Infrared Red Light Bulbs		
2 X Lamp Bulb Holders and Electrical Wiring		
2 X Long Feed Trays		50cm 



2 X 12L Feeders		
1 X 12L Fountain Drinker		
2 X 8L Fountain Drinkers		
Wood Shavings (20kg)		
1 x Multivitamin & Mineral Supplement		
1 X Disinfectant for Cleaning		

[illegible]



# DAYOLD CHICKENS

**NAMIBIA**

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083 331 8175 | [chickorders@dayoldchickensnam.com](mailto:chickorders@dayoldchickensnam.com)  
[www.dayoldchickensnam.com](http://www.dayoldchickensnam.com)



### **Your chicks need:**

- Good ventilation
- 24-hour access to food and clean water
- Regulated temperatures
- A rearing pen the size of a single Garage, with reasonable security to keep all predators out.

### **Price per chicken N\$10.00.**

Chicks are NOW vaccinated against Newcastle disease, Ib4, Gumborro disease & ILT.

Order your day old chicks now from Dayold Chickens Namibia and make your dreams come true. Once your chicks are ordered and payment received, your day old chicks will be delivered to your doorstep.

Once you have received the chicks, you must release them into the brooding house as soon as possible to minimize stress and prevent mortalities.

All the feed for your chicks for all stages of growth will also be available. All the necessary drinkers/feeders, nesting material and infra lights to control body temperature will be stocked by us. These chicks won't be active and will only eat and grow. You need to feed and grow them for  $\pm$  36 days before they are ready to be sold.

### **ORDER YOUR DAY OLD CHICKENS NOW!**



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