

Checklist A: Brooding, chick arrival

House Preparation

- The house has been cleaned and disinfected
- All necessary repairs have been made to the house
- Feeders have been cleaned and disinfected
- Waterers have been cleaned and disinfected
- Fresh bedding has been placed on the floor
- Lights are working
- Heating source is in place (if needed)

Brooding Chamber

- The chamber is large enough to accommodate the number of DOCs ordered
- Rounded corners have been installed (to keep chicks out of corners/smothering each other)
- My brooding chamber is at the correct temperature (25C / 77F)

Feed

- Feed is scattered on paper on the floor
- Feed is located in the Zone of Comfort

Water

- Waterers have been filled and water is at room temperature

Biosecurity

- Hands are washed before handling chicks
- Hands are washed after handling chicks
- Poultry house is locked

Notes:

Checklist B: Weighing Your Chicks

- Washed hands before handling chicks
- Assure your bucket clean and has bedding in the bottom
- Write down the weight of your bucket, including the bedding
- Washed hands after handling chicks

Week 1 –Day of Delivery

- Weigh 10 chicks and record average weight of each chick (see example below)
- Weigh additional 10 chicks (from different sectors of the brooding chamber)
- Weigh additional 10 chicks (from different sectors of the brooding chamber)
- Record the average weight

Week 2 (Day 7)

- Weigh 10 chicks and record average weight of each chick (see example below)
- Weigh additional 10 chicks (from different sectors of the brooding chamber)
- Weigh additional 10 chicks (from different sectors of the brooding chamber)
- Record the average weight

Week 3 (Day 14)

- Weigh 10 chicks and record average weight of each chick (see example below)
- Weigh additional 10 chicks (from different sectors of the brooding chamber)
- Weigh additional 10 chicks (from different sectors of the brooding chamber)
- Record the average weight

Week 4 (Day 21)

- Weigh 10 chicks and record average weight of each chick (see example below)
- Weigh additional 10 chicks (from different sectors of the brooding chamber)
- Weigh additional 10 chicks (from different sectors of the brooding chamber)
- Record the average weight

Week 5 (Day 28)

- Weigh 10 chicks and record average weight of each chick (see example below)
- Weigh additional 10 chicks (from different sectors of the brooding chamber)
- Weigh additional 10 chicks (from different sectors of the brooding chamber)
- Record the average weight

Notes:

Checklist C: FLAWS, Morning Checklist

Food

- Check to assure food is in the Zone of Comfort
- Clean feeders (remove any feathers, waste, other materials)
- Top-off feed

Lighting

- Replace any broken lights
- Turn off any lights from last evening

Air

- Check and record temperature inside the house (at chick level)
- Is there a strong odor of ammonia, mold or wet litter?
- Are the chicks behaving properly in the Zone of Comfort (not huddled under or away from the heat source)
- Adjust temperature if necessary
- Adjust curtain height if necessary

Water

- Check to assure water is in the Zone of Comfort
- Clean waterers / water fonts
- Add clean, room temperature water

Sanitation and Security

- Boots have been cleaned before entering house
- Hands are washed before handling chicks
- Remove any chicks which have died
- Record number of dead chicks
- Remove any caked litter and replaced with dry bedding
- Hands are washed after handling chicks
- House is locked when done

Notes:

Checklist D: FLAWS, Evening Checklist

Food

- Check to assure food is in the Zone of Comfort
- Clean feeders (remove any feathers, waste, other materials)
- Top-off feed

Lighting

- Replace any broken lights
- Turn on any lights (if necessary)

Air

- Check and record temperature inside the house (at chick level)
- Is there a strong odor of ammonia, mold or wet litter?
- Are the chicks behaving properly in the Zone of Comfort (not huddled under or away from the heat source)
- Adjust temperature if necessary
- Adjust curtain height if necessary

Water

- Check to assure water is in the Zone of Comfort
- Clean waterers / water fonts
- Add clean, room temperature water

Sanitation and Security

- Boots have been cleaned before entering house
- Hands are washed before handling chicks
- Remove any chicks which have died
- Record number of dead chicks
- Remove any caked litter and replaced with dry bedding
- Hands are washed after handling chicks
- Locked house when done

Notes:

Checklist E: Feed

Prior to and day of DOC Delivery

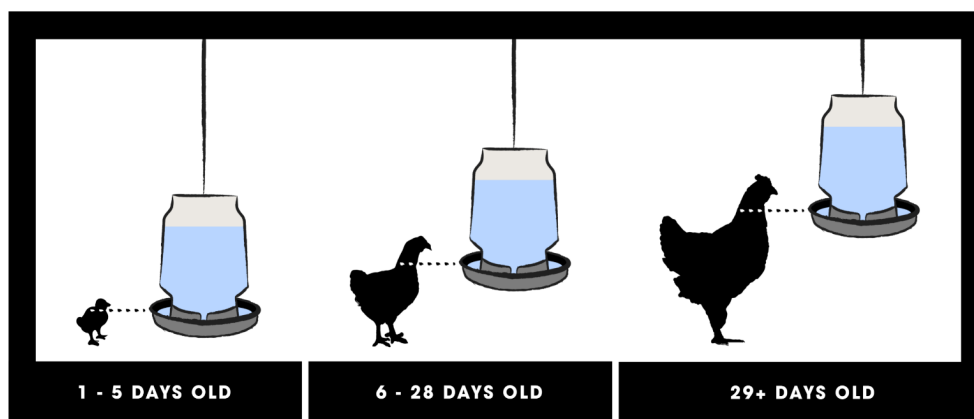
- The feed for the DOCs 2mm – 3 mm in particle size
- Placement of feeder trays and paper
- Number of feeder trays is sufficient for number of chicks (one feeder tray for every 50 chicks)
- Feeder trays are full and some feed on paper
- Volume of feed is sufficient (approximately 40-50 grams of feed per chick for first feeding)

After first feeding

- Paper removed and only feeder trays utilized
- Supplemental feeder trays in place (for the first 7 days)
- Minimum of one feeder tray for every 50 chicks
- Trays not overfilled with feed (chicks will play in the feed)
- Checked the crop fill of chicks after 12 hours ([see Worksheet C: Crop Fill](#))
- Removed all caked litter and any moldy feed
- Feed is stored properly

After first seven days

- Transitioned to the larger feeders
- Have 1 hanging tube feeder for every 70 chicks
- The top of the feeder lip is $\frac{1}{2}$ way up the wing of the smallest birds
- Assure height of feeders (and waterers) is appropriate (see illustration below)
- Removed all caked litter and any moldy feed
- Clean and disinfect trays every three days
- Feed is stored properly



Proper height of feed and water as birds grow

Checklist F: Vaccinations

Purchasing and preparing to vaccinate

- Chicks are healthy (to assure vaccine can be utilized)
- Vaccine was purchased from a reputable dealer
- Was vaccine held at the correct temperature of between 2 and 8 degrees Centigrade (35-45F)
- Read the label on the vaccine to assure it is the correct vaccine
- Check expiration date
- Assured water is clean and **without chlorine**
- Cleaned hands, **without soap**, prior to administering vaccine

Administering the vaccine

- Chicks have been denied water for 1 to 2 hours
- Water and vaccine mixed according to label instructions, assure proper dosage
- Fill the drinkers with the vaccine-water mixture (drinkers should be about half full of daily water intake)
- Wash hands after administering the vaccine
- Assure **ALL** chicks receive a drink of the vaccine
- Remove any remaining water within 2 hours and dispose of properly

Immediately after vaccination

- Proper disposal of any remaining water used for the vaccine
- Proper disposal of vaccine vial
- Washed hands thoroughly

Final steps

- Clean waterers after vaccine disposal
- Keep a record of date, disease vaccinated for, cost of vaccine, doses administered
- Two to three days after the vaccination check to make certain there was no negative reaction to the vaccine. (You want to hear a uniform "sneeze" in your flock that indicates a successful vaccination).

Notes:

Checklist G: Biosecurity

Poultry House

- The area around the poultry house has grass cut short and overhanging tree branches removed
- The area around the poultry house is free of trash
- During cleanout, the floor was inspected, and all necessary repairs were made
- The roof of the house is looked at daily and all needed repairs have been made
- The side walls and wire mesh of the house are looked at daily and all needed repairs have been made
- The side curtains of the house are looked at daily and all needed repairs have been made
- Lights are working
- Poultry house locked at night

Equipment and Feed

- Clean set of plastic boots outside the poultry house door to wear when entering the house
- Plastic boots cleaned daily
- Feed bags are kept off the floor to prevent rodents

People and Pets

- Limit all visitors to the farm
- Do not allow young children to handle or hug the chicks
- Everyone has washed hands before handling chickens
- Everyone has washed hands after handling chickens
- No dogs or other pets allowed into the poultry house

Notes: