

Clarification to Lameness Evaluations in Turkeys - Standard 2.9.1

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Background

Given that some turkey operations thin¹ their turkey flocks during the grow out period, G.A.P. recognizes that Standard 2.9.1 could benefit from further clarification.

Standard 2.9.1 reads:

STANDARD	Step Level					
	1	2	3	4	5	5+
2.9 Lameness						
① See Appendix II for lameness evaluations. Note: the sum below is not prevalence but rather a calculation that accounts for both the frequency and severity of lameness.						
2.9.1 Ⓢ	Lameness evaluations must be conducted on 100 turkeys from each flock on the operation during the final week prior to slaughter.					•
① [2.9.1]: See Appendix II: Lameness Evaluation for scoring protocol and specification on calculating the flock's total lameness sum, and Standard 2.9.2 for records requirements.						

Clarification

For flocks that are thinned, lameness evaluations must be carried out on the oldest birds to be slaughtered during the final week prior to slaughter.

While lameness evaluations of birds that are thinned earlier are encouraged, the only requirement is for a lameness evaluation to be conducted on the oldest birds in the flock, during the final week prior to slaughter.

¹ i.e. removing a sub-group of the flock for processing