

# Animal Welfare Rating Program Audit Prep Tool

## Pullet-Rearers Supplying Step 2 - 5 Laying Hen Operations and Pullets Reared by Step 5+ Laying Hen Operations

### When Should I Use the Audit Prep Tool?

Laying hen operations that plans to become GAP certified to Steps 2 - 5 must source from a pullet-rearer that is also GAP certified. Step 5+ laying hen operations must rear their own pullets and be certified to both the pullet standards and the laying hen standards. Step 1 laying hen operation may source birds from non-GAP certified pullet-rearers, and thus this audit prep tool need not apply to Step 1 laying hen/pullet operations.

The purpose of this tool is to provide Step 2 - 5+ pullet-rearers with a simple checklist to help identify where they may have issues with compliance to the GAP Animal Welfare Program for Pullets. While this Audit Prep Tool covers many of the key requirements in our Pullet Standards, it does not cover every standard. Using this tool does not guarantee that you will pass an audit, but should help you prepare for one. This tool can be used if you are preparing for a new audit or if you are getting ready for a renewal audit. Being prepared for the audit helps to identify and resolve issues before the auditor visits your operation, which in turn, helps the certification process go more smoothly.

### Who Should Complete It?

Since this Audit Prep Tool was designed to help you get organized for your audit, it would be most beneficial if it were completed by the person(s) responsible for managing the operation and/or an animal caretaker.

#### How Do I Use this Document?

This tool has been divided into sections so that you only need to focus on the sections relevant to your operation. The first section covers the core requirements for pullets going to ANY Step 2 – 5+ laying hen operation. From there, the document is divided up by which particular Step level laying operation the pullets will be sent to – this allows you to skip to the section(s) that is relevant to you. As well, if you're looking to move up the Steps, this tool can be used to help identify what your operation would need to do. Finally, we have provided a checklist for written records and documents that you'll need to have. The auditor will be looking for these documents during the audit, so if you're missing any, please check the Laying Hen/Pullet area of our website for templates to get you started.

### How Do I Know if My Operation Might Have Issues with Compliance?

If you tick the shaded green boxes, then there is a good chance that you are in compliance with the Standard. In certain circumstances, a specific standard may not apply to your system, in which case you will also have the option to tick the 'NA' box. If you tick any non-shaded boxes, or are uncertain about any of the questions, we recommend reviewing our resources in the Laying Hen/Pullet area of the GAP website or checking in with your certifier for additional help before scheduling the audit.

### Where Can I Get More Help?

You can find additional information, including additional resources and templates, on the Laying Hen/Pullet area of the GAP website. If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to your certifier or the Farm Animal Welfare team (standards@globalanimalpartnership.org) at GAP.

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## Requirements for ALL GAP-Certified Pullet Operations

All operations, no matter which Step level laying hen operation the pullets will be transported to, should complete this section.

		Yes	No	NA
P1 ANII	MAL SOURCE AND HEALTH			
P1.1	Source/Breed/Lines/Strains			
P1.1.1	Do you ever use genetically modified or cloned birds?	0	0	
P1.2	Medication			
P1.2.1	If you give pullets beta agonists, and/or arsenic-based drugs*, do you market them as non-GAP?	0	0	
	*e.g., 3-Nitro®, Roxarsone, Nitarsone, Arsanilic Acid, and Carbarsone.			
P1.2.2	Do you give pullets antibiotics, ionophores, and/or sulpha drugs when they are not sick or in low doses over an extended time?	0	0	
P1.2.4	Do you check your medication cabinet regularly and make sure expired medication is disposed of?	0	0	
P1.3	Treatment			
P1.3.7	Do you apply products (e.g. sprays for external parasites) that contain organophosphates directly onto pullets?	0	0	
P1.4	On-Farm Euthanasia			
P1.4.1	Are the people who perform euthanasia trained?	0	0	
P1.4.2	When you find a pullet that needs to be euthanized, do you do it immediately when it is found?	0	0	
P1.4.4	Does the person euthanizing pullets remain with them until they are sure the bird is dead?	0	0	
P1.4.5	Do you euthanize using:  a. Manual cervical dislocation  b. Penetrating captive bolt  c. Non-penetrating captive bolt pistol  d. Electrical stunning knife  e. Gas stunning  f. Anesthetic overdose	000000	0000000	000000
	<ul> <li>g. Mechanical cervical dislocation</li> <li>h. Blunt force trauma to the head</li> <li>i. Decapitation</li> <li>j. Bleeding/slitting the throat without pre-stunning</li> <li>k. De-braining (inserting a sharp implement through the roof of the pullet's mouth</li> <li>l. into its brain)</li> <li>m. Gunshot to the head</li> <li>n. Gas stunning and killing systems using carbon monoxide</li> </ul>	0000 0 00	0000000	
P1.4.7	Once you've euthanized a pullet, do you take it out of the pen right away?	0	0	

		Yes	No	NA
P2 ANIN	AL CARE AND MANAGEMENT			
P2.1	Daily Flock Management			
P2.1.1	Do you walk through to check each flock at least twice a day?	0	0	

		Yes	No	NA
P2.5	Thermal Comfort			
P2.6.4	Do you give pullets supplemental heat / cooling when they need it?	0	0	
P2.6	Feather Condition			
P2.6.1	If you see any signs of feather pecking (either for one bird or many), do you address it?	0	0	
P2.6.2	Do you use goggles, blinkers, contact lenses, or other devices to control feather pecking?	0	0	
P2.7	Lameness			
P2.7.1	If you see any signs of lameness (either for one bird or many), do you address it?	0	0	
P2.8	Mortality (does not include pullets that are missing or predated)			
P2.8.2	In the first 7 days after placement, does flock mortality exceed 1.5%?	0	0	
P2.8.3	From day 8 after placement until transfer to the laying hen operation, does flock mortality exceed 2%?	0	0	
P2.9	Pullet Development			
P2.9.1	Do your weigh your pullets on a regular basis to make sure they are growing evenly?	0	0	

		Yes	No	NA
P3 FEED	AND WATER			
P3.1	Water Availability			
P3.1.1	Do all birds have continuous access to water?	0	0	
P3.1.2	Are waterers checked/cleaned daily?	0	0	
P3.2	Feeding Requirements			
P3.2.1	Do all pullets have access to feed during the day?	0	0	
P3.4	Additives and Ingredients in Feed and Water			
P3.4.1,	Does feed contain mammalian, avian, or egg by-products? (check feed labels)	0	0	
P3.4.2	If you use pecking blocks or other supplements, do they contain mammalian, avian, or egg by-products? (check labels)	0	0	0

		Yes	No	NA
P4 HOU	SING			
P4.1	Housing Systems			
P4.1.1	Do you use cages?	0	0	
P4.1.2	Do you rear pullets in a similar type of housing to that of the operation where they will lay*?	0	0	
	*e.g., if the layer house is multi-tier or has nest boxes on raised slats do you provide platforms to encourage birds to learn to move to different levels during rear?			
P4.3	Space Allowances in Housing			
P4.3.2	During the first 4 weeks of life, do you provide at least 0.45 ft <sup>2</sup> (0.04 m <sup>2</sup> )* per chick?	0	0	
	*this is the equivalent to 2.2 chicks/ft² or 24 chicks/m²			
P4.3.3	After birds are 4 weeks old, do you provide at least 1 ft <sup>2</sup> (0.09 m <sup>2</sup> )* per bird?	0	0	
	*this is the equivalent to 1 bird/ft² or 11 birds/m²			
P4.4	Flooring			
P4.4.1	Are birds brooded on solid floors?	0	0	

		Yes	No	NA
P4.4.2	If after 4 weeks old, you use slatted or wire floors in stationary housing, is there at least 0.4 ft² (0.04 m²) of solid flooring per bird?	0	0	0
P4.5	Litter			
P4.5.1, P4.5.5	Are solid floors covered with litter at all times?	0	0	
P4.5.3	Is more than 10% of the litter area wet or caked?	0	0	
P4.6	Air Quality			
P4.6.1	Do you assess air quality daily?	0	0	
P4.7	Lighting			
P4.7.1	Are light levels in housing at least 20 lux during the day?	0	0	
P4.7.2	During the first 2 days after placement, do you give chicks at least 2 hours of continuous darkness each night?	0	0	
P4.7.3	From day 3 after placement and onward, do you give chicks at least 6 hours of continuous darkness each night?	0	0	
P4.8	Perches			
P4.8.1,	Do you provide perches that let pullets to wrap their claws around?	0	0	
P4.8.2,	During the first 4 weeks of life, do you provide enough perches so that there is at least 1	0	C	
P4.8.3	inch (2.5 cm) of perch space per chick?	O	)	
	After birds are 4 weeks old, do you have perches in your housing that:			
	a. Provide enough perches so that there is at least 3 inches (7.5 cm) of perch space per chick?	0	0	
	b. Are at least 4 inches (10 cm) off of the floor or base of platform	0	0	

	Yes	No	NA
P5 PASTURE CONDITIONS – STEP 5+ OPERATIONS ONLY			
These questions will be covered later in the Additional Requirements for Pullets Reared by Step 5+ La	ying H	en	
Operations section			

		Yes	No	NA
P6 ROD	ENT, WILD BIRD, AND PREDATOR CONTROL			
P6.1	Rodent Control			
	☐ If you do not consider rodents a problem on your operation, check this box and move t	o the	Section	n 6.3
P6.1.2	Does your rodent control program include:			
	a. Methods that only target rodents	0	0	0
	b. An assessment of different methods of lethal control	0	0	0
	c. Traps that are species specific, appropriately located, and designed to cause rapid	0	0	0
	death (if used)			
	d. Licensed rodenticides used only in areas where traps will be ineffective	0	0	0
P6.1.3	If you use multiple catch traps (tin cats), do you bait them with rodenticide?	0	0	0
P6.2	Wild Bird Control			
P6.2.1	Are you able to keep wild birds out of housing?	0	0	
P6.3	Predator Control			
	☐ If you do not consider predators a problem on your operation, check this box and move	e to th	e Sect	ion 7
P6.3.1	If predators are a problem, is there a control program in place?	0	0	0
P6.3.2	Is non-lethal exclusion your first level of predator control?	0	0	0

		Yes	No	NA
P6.3.3	If you must use lethal methods to control predators, is it completed:			
	a. With a fire arm	0	0	0
	b. By a skilled shooter	0	0	0
	c. And the shot kills immediately	0	0	0
P6.3.4	Do you use poisons, drowning, snares, or any trap besides a live trap?	0	0	
P6.3.5	If you use live traps, do you check them twice daily and release captures within 24 hours?	0	0	0

		Yes	No	NA
P7 TRAI	NSPORT, DEPOPULATION & SLAUGHTER			
P7.1	7.1 Transport of Chicks to the Pullet Rearing Operation			
P7.1.2	Is transport mortality (DOAs) from the hatchery higher than 0.2% per shipment?	0	0	
P7.1.3	Are chicks given supplemental heat/cooling during transport, unloading, and placement		С	
	to your operation?		)	
P7.2	Transport of Pullets to the Laying Hen Operation OR within the Operation (Step 5+ Only)			
P7.2.3	If necessary to maintain thermal comfort, are pullets given supplemental heat/cooling		C	
	during transport to and unloading at the laying hen operation/facility?		)	

		Yes	No	NA
P8 PLAI	S, PROTOCOLS, PROCEDURES, TRAINING, RECORDS AND DOCUMENTS			
P8.3	Alternative Power Supply			
P8.3.1	If your operation requires power for heating, cooling, ventilation, watering, or feeding			
	systems, do you have:			
	a. An alternative power supply	0	0	0
	b. A way to be notified if there is power failure	0	0	0
P8.4	Training			
P8.4.1	Do you have a training program for all pullet care-givers that:			
	a. Is written and/or hands-on	0	0	
	b. Is in care-givers' language	0	0	
	c. Describes normal and abnormal pullet behavior	0	0	
	d. Covers individual's responsibilities	0	0	
	e. Covers emergency procedures	0	0	
	f. Is provided before the individual handles birds	0	0	
	g. Covers the GAP pullet standards	0	0	
	h. Is on-going	0	0	
P8.5	General Records Requirements			
P8.5.1,	Are all records and documents listed in the "Records and Documents" section of this Audit	0	0	
P8.5.2	Prep Tool organized and ready for the auditor to review?	)	)	
P8.5.3	Do you keep all records, reports, and GAP certificates for at least 15 months?	0	0	

## Additional Requirements for Pullets Going to Steps 2 and 3 Laying Hen Operations

Only operations supplying pullets to Step 2 and 3 laying hen operations should fill out this section. If you plan to supply pullets to a different Step-rated laying hen operation, you can jump to the Requirements section for the associated Step level.

		Yes	No	NA
P2 ANIN	MAL CARE AND MANAGEMENT			
P2.4	Physical Alterations			
P2.4.1	Do your pullets have any of the following removed:			
	a. Combs	0	0	
	b. Wattles	0	0	
	c. Spurs	0	0	
	d. Any part of the toe	0	0	
P2.4.3,	If pullets have been beak trimmed / beak conditioned, was it done:			
P2.4.4	a. Using infra-red treatment	0	0	
	b. When no more than one third of the beak is removed	0	0	
	c. At day-old (0-48 hours old)	0	0	
	d. Only once in the bird's life	0	0	

## Additional Requirements for Pullets Going to Steps 4 and 5 Laying Hen Operations

Only operations supplying pullets to Step 4 and 5 laying hen operations should fill out this section. If you plan to supply pullets to a different Step-rated laying hen operation, you can jump to the Requirements section for the associated Step level.

		Yes	No	NA
P2 ANIN	IAL CARE AND MANAGEMENT			
P2.4	Physical Alterations			
P2.4.1,	Do your pullets or roosters have any of the following removed:			
P2.4.2	a. Combs	0	0	
	b. Wattles	0	0	
	c. Spurs	0	0	
	d. Any part of the toe	0	0	
	e. Any part of the beak	0	0	

## Additional Requirements for Pullets Reared by Step 5+ Laying Hen Operations

Only operations rearing pullets on Step 5+ laying hen operations should fill out this section. If you plan to supply pullets to a different Step-rated laying hen operation, you can jump to the Requirements section for the associated Step level.

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS  5. Operations with Both Pullets and Laying Hens  Do you raise your own pullets from day-old and keep your own laying hens?  Will you get the laying hen side of your operation audited and GAP 5-Step® certified*?  *If you have pullets and laying hens on farm at the same time, then you can schedule your pullet audit at the same time as your laying hen audit (you will need 1 audit and 2 separate			
Do you raise your own pullets from day-old and keep your own laying hens?  Will you get the laying hen side of your operation audited and GAP 5-Step® certified*?  *If you have pullets and laying hens on farm at the same time, then you can schedule your pullet audit at the same time as your laying hen audit (you will need 1 audit and 2 separate	5. Oper		
*If you have pullets and laying hens on farm at the same time, then you can schedule your pullet audit at the same time as your laying hen audit (you will need 1 audit and 2 separate			
*If you have pullets and laying hens on farm at the same time, then you can schedule your pullet audit at the same time as your laying hen audit (you will need 1 audit and 2 separate		0	
*If you do not have pullets and laying hens on farm at the same time, then you must have a pullet audit while pullets are on site and a laying hen audit once hens are on site (you will		0	

		Yes	No	NA
P2 ANIN	IAL CARE AND MANAGEMENT			
P2.4	Physical Alterations			
P2.4.1,	Do your pullets or roosters have any of the following removed:			
P2.4.2	a. Combs	0	0	
	b. Wattles	0	0	
	c. Spurs	0	0	
	d. Any part of the toe	0	0	
	e. Any part of the beak	0	0	

		Yes	No	NA	
P5 PAST	URE & WINTER FORAGING AREAS				
P5.1	Access to Pasture				
P5.1.1,	Do you give your pullets access to pasture:				
P5.1.3,	a. By the time they are 12 weeks old	0	0		
	b. For at least 6 daylight hours a day	0	0		
P5.3	Vegetative Cover and Space Requirement on Pasture				
P5.3.1	Within the first 200 ft (61 m) of the house:				
	a. Is at least 75% of the pasture area covered with vegetation?	0	0		
	b. When pullets are standing on the ground, can they reach the vegetation? (e.g.,	0	0		
	grass or low bushes)				
P5.2	Popholes/Openings from the House				
P5.2.1	Are popholes/opening from the house at least 12.0 inches (30 cm) high and 18.0 inches (45 cm) wide?	0	0		
25.2.2	•				
P5.2.2	Is the distance between the bottom of the pophole/opening and the floor of the house	0	0		
	more than 12 inches (30 cm)?				

		Yes	No	NA
P5.2.3	If you have popholes/openings on one side of the house, is the total width* of the popholes/openings at least 8 inches (20 cm) for every 100 pullets?  *You can check this by using the following calculation:  Total width of the openings / the total number birds in the house / 100 = opening width per 100 birds.	0	0	
P5.2.4	If you have popholes/openings on two or more sides of the house, is the total width* of the popholes/openings at least 5 inches (12.5 cm) for every 100 pullets?  *You can check this by using the following calculation:  Total width of the openings / the total number birds in the house / 100 = opening width per 100 birds.	0	0	
P5.2.5	Do you manage areas immediately outside of popholes to prevent them from getting muddy or accumulating puddles?	0	0	
P5.4	Provisions to Encourage Pullets to Use Pasture			
P5.4.2	Does your pasture have provisions* that encourage pullets to go outside?  *e.g., tree cover, artificial cover such as A-frames, tall plant cover.	0	0	
P5.4.1	Is there at least one provision within 15 ft of the house?	0	0	
	Are provisions placed in a way that birds can easily move from one to another in order to use the pasture?	0	0	
P5.4.3	Does the total covered area under the provisions equal at least 8 ft <sup>2</sup> (0.75 m <sup>2</sup> ) for every 100 pullets?	0	0	

		Yes	No	NA
P6 ROD	ENT, WILD BIRD, AND PREDATOR CONTROL			
P6.4	Guardian Animals			
P6.4.1	If you use a guardian animal (dogs, llamas, donkeys, etc.), have they effectively deterred predators in your area?	0	0	0
	If you use a guardian animal (dogs, llamas, donkeys, etc.), have they ever harmed the pullets they are guarding?	0	0	0

### **Records and Documents**

All operations, no matter which Step level laying hen operation the pullets will be transported to, should complete this section.

Records and documents should be written and organized. Acceptable formats include, but are not limited to, record sheets and cards, calendars, notebooks, and computer documents. If you do not have any records or documents listed here, please check the Laying Hen/Pullet area of the GAP website for templates to get you started.

Std #	Documen	t needed for auditor to review	Yes	No	NA
P1.3.3	Do you ke	ep treatment records?	0	0	
	If Yes	Do your records include:			
		a. The substance/product administered	0	0	
		b. Date and method of administration	0	0	
		c. Flock/bird ID	0	0	
P2.1.1	Do you ke	ep records of your daily flock observations?	0	0	
P2.4.3	If your pu	llets are beak trimmed / beak conditioned, do you have a record of it?	0	0	0
	If Yes	Do your records include:			
		a. Age birds were beak trimmed / beak conditioned	0	0	0
		b. Method used	0	0	0
P2.6.3	If you see	signs of feather pecking, do you keep a record?	0	0	0
	If Yes	Do your records include:			
		a. Date of the incident	0	0	0
		b. Percentage of affected pullets	0	0	0
		c. Actions taken to address it	0	0	0
		d. Outcomes of those actions	0	0	0
P2.10.1	Do you ke	ep mortality records?	0	0	
	If Yes	Do you note the cause of death (i.e., died, culled, predated, missing)?	0	0	
P3.4.3	Do you ke	ep copies of all feed tags/ingredient lists, including vitamin and mineral mixes?	0	0	
P4.6.1	Do you ke	ep records of daily air quality assessments?	0	0	
P7.1.1,	Do you ke	ep a record for each flock received from the hatchery?	0	0	
P7.1.2	If Yes	Do your records include:			
		a. The total number of chicks received	0	0	
		b. DOAs	0	0	
P5.1.2	For Step 5	+: Do you keep records of when you give birds outdoor access?	0	0	0
	If Yes	Do your records include:			
		a. Date birds are first given outdoor access	0	0	0
		b. Daily times that they are let out and shut in	0	0	0
		c. Any day that they are not allowed outdoors	0	0	0
		d. Reasons why birds are not allowed outdoors	0	0	0
P7.1.2	If you do	not keep your own laying hens, do you keep a record of how many pullets you	0	0	0
		ne laying hen operation?	O		
	•	p your own laying hens, do you keep a record of how many pullets you move	0	0	0
		oullet facility to the laying hen facility?	Ŭ		)
P8.1.1		ve a written farm plan?	0	0	
	If Yes	Does your plan that include:			
		a. An overview of the operation	0	0	
		b. Emergency procedures	0	0	

		<ul><li>c. Nutrition/feeding details</li><li>d. Health programs</li><li>e. Routine husbandry practices</li></ul>	0 0 0	0 0 0	
		<ul><li>f. Protocols for sick and injured pullets</li><li>g. For Step 5+: Pasture management</li><li>h. Brooding</li></ul>	0 0 0	0 0 0	0
		i. Rodent and predator control practices	0	0	
P8.2.1	Do you bo	j. Management during adverse weather	0	0	
P8.2.1	If Yes	ve a biosecurity plan?  Does your plan that include:	0		
	11 163	a. Procedures for bringing any new or returning birds on-site	0	0	
		b. Procedures and policies for care-givers	0	0	
		c. Procedures and policies for visitors	0	0	
		d. Procedures for feed trucks and equipment delivery	0	O	
		e. Policy for shared borders with neighboring operations	0	0	0
		f. Clean-out procedures of housing between flocks	0	0	
P8.4.2	Do you ke	ep care-giver training records?	0	0	0
	If Yes	Do your records include:			
		a. Date of training	0	0	0
		b. Topics covered	0	0	0
P8.6.1	If you mov	ye pullets, whether on or off your farm, do you keep a record?	0	0	0
	If Yes	Do you keep records:			
		a. For each flock	0	0	0
		b. That can trace all birds back to the hatchery	0	0	0
		c. That can trace subsequent movement of all birds to next destination	0	0	0
D0.6.2	Danis	(i.e., laying hen operation/facility)			
P8.6.2, P8.6.3	operation		0	0	0
	If Yes	Do your records include:			
		a. Number of birds transported	0	0	0
		b. Date	0	0	0
		c. Certificate number	0	0	0
		d. Certificate expiry date	0	0	0