

| Standard | Aspect | Criterion | Interpretation | Measurement method | Sanction |
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The specific standards for the mark and the required inspection insofar as IKB does not provide for this, are also included.

Not for publication. No rights can be derived from these criteria. Subject to inaccuracies and amendments.

| Exclusion criteria | | | | | |
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| UIT01 | Other activities | No other activities that are inconsistent with the Animal Protection Society's policy are carried out on the farm. | Activities that are inconsistent with the Animal Protection Society's policy include but are not limited to: - keeping fur animals for production purposes - keeping laying hens in enriched cages (permitted in the Netherlands until 2021) and colony systems (successor of the enriched cage and the only permitted form of 'battery hen farming' in the Netherlands as of 2021). The identification code stamped on the egg starts with the number 3. - keeping wild animals for production purposes - keeping geese or ducks for the production of geese or duck liver - the breeding of endangered species, such as eel - other activities that are contrary (or may be) to the policy of the Animal Protection Society | Check whether the farm carries out any other activities that are inconsistent with the Animal Protection Society's policy. | Exclusion |
| UIT03 | Genetically modified animals | There are no genetically modified animals on the farm. | A genetically modified animal is adapted with gene technology. Genetic or gene technology is a form of biotechnology by which the DNA of an organism is directly adapted by extra genes to introduce the desired characteristics in an animal. The classic methods by which the DNA of an organism is indirectly adapted, such as the crossing, selecting and breeding of certain breeds is permitted. | Check whether there are any genetically modified animals on the farm. | Exclusion |
| UIT04 | Pre-stunned slaughter | All animals that are sold under the Beter Leven trademark are slaughtered in a location where all animals (Beter Leven and non-Beter Leven) are stunned before they are slaughtered. | Meat and meat products from non-stunned slaughtered animals or animals that are slaughtered in a location where animals (that are worthy or not worthy of the trademark) are slaughtered without being stunned first, are not sold under the Beter Leven trademark. | Check whether there are any animals or meat or meat products from animals that are slaughtered in a location where non-stunned slaughtering takes place. | Exclusion |
| UIT05 | Mega farm standard | The laying hens are not held in a mega farm. | A mega-enclosure refers to a single location of business (not one UBN or one roof) that contains 120,000 or more laying hens. Not applicable to existing enclosures that already participated in the Beter Leven trademark before 1/1/2015. These enclosures are allowed to maintain the number of animals they held as of 1/1/2015. For new or renovated facilities, the number of animals must not further increase. | Make sure that the farm does not exceed the limit for the maximum working size. | Exclusion |
| UIT06 | Tiered enclosure | The animals are kept in an enclosure with no more than one storey/floor/tier. | Enclosures with several storeys/floors/tiers are excluded from participation in the Beter Leven trademark. With the exception of aviary and free-range enclosures for laying hens where a maximum of two levels may be used. This criterion takes effect on 1/9/2016. New companies with a tiered enclosure that register for the Beter Leven trademark after this date are not eligible for the Beter Leven trademark. Not applicable to existing enclosures that already participated in the Beter Leven trademark before 1/9/2016. However, these enclosures may not build or add any new tiers after 1/9/2016. | Check whether the farm has any tiered enclosure, check in case of a tiered enclosure whether the farm participated in the Beter Leven trademark before 1/9/2016 and/or whether any new construction/renovations took place after this date. | Exclusion |

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| UIT07 | Supply chain manager | The livestock farm is registered with a supply chain manager that is approved by the Stichting Beter Leven (Better Life Foundation) trademark. | A supply chain manager is an egg packaging plant or intermediary, for example, that joins the different links within the chain with each other, from the primary producer to the seller, as well as all interim links that may exist. | Check whether the livestock farm is registered with a supply chain manager that is approved by the Stichting Beter Leven (Better Life Foundation) trademark. Make a note of the supply chain manager. | Exclusion |
| UIT08 | Cooperation | The participant is obliged to grant BL trademark inspectors who perform inspections on behalf of the Certification Institute or the Better Life Foundation trademark access to the farm and to give full cooperation. | If the inspectors are refused access to the business and/or cooperation is not forthcoming, the business will be excluded from participation unless it can rely on force majeure. | | Exclusion |
| New concepts | | | | | |
| NC02 | Welfare Quality audit | New concepts must undergo a standard behaviour study (including a Welfare Quality audit) after 52 weeks and the farm assumes the costs for this. | The study is carried out by an institution for behavioural research and Welfare Quality audits as recognised by the Animal Protection Society. The cost for this are to be borne by the company itself. The outcome of the behavioural study (including the Welfare Quality audit) should indicate that the housing system at least achieves the welfare level of a normal Beter Leven 3-star or organic farm for laying hens. | Check in the accounting records whether the farm has had a WQ audit performed. | RI |
| General | | | | | |
| A05 | Welfare legislation | The farm complies with Dutch Legislation: "Besluit Houders van Dieren en de Wet Dieren" or the EU welfare regulations for broilers (Council Directive 2007/43/EC). | Foreign companies must comply with the EU welfare regulations for laying hens (Council Directive 1999/74/EC). | Check whether the farm complies with the Animal Keepers Decree of the Animals Act and/or the EU welfare regulation for laying hens (Council Directive 1999/74/EC). | Exclusion |
| A06 | Marketing standards | The farm complies with the marketing standards for eggs. (Commission Regulation [EC] No. 589/2008) | | Check whether the farm complies with the marketing standards for eggs. | Exclusion |
| A08 | Enclosure measurement | There must be an enclosure measurement certificate present that follows the NCAE, KAT or IKB EI framework. | | Verify that there is a certificate for the enclosure measurements. | RI |
| A01 | Chain quality system | The farm has a valid certificate issued by a chain quality system approved by the Animal Protection Society. | For example, IKB EI or KAT | Check the existence of a valid certificate issued by a chain quality system approved by the Animal Protection Society. | Exclusion |
| A02a | Stamping | On the farm, Beter Leven eggs should always be stamped with non-washable ink in an easily readable way. | The code on the egg indicates from which farm, farming system, and enclosure the egg originates. | Check by sampling whether all the farm's eggs contain a non-washable stamp and that this stamp is easy to read. Make a note of any discrepancies. | Suspension |
| A02b | Traceability | Unstamped eggs will still be stamped at the packaging plant but cannot be sold under the Beter Leven trademark. | This also applies in the case of failure of the stamping device. These eggs must be sold through another channel. | Verify whether unstamped eggs are demonstrably being sold in another channel apart from the Beter Leven trademark. Make a note of any discrepancies. | Suspension |

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| A03 | Channelling | If the farm produces various types of eggs (such as Beter Leven (BL) trademark eggs and non-BL trademark eggs, or BL 1 star eggs or BL 2 star eggs), the poultry breeder works according to an established system for channelling on the basis of stamp codes, with a comprehensive registration of egg production per enclosure and: a. different egg colour or b. different feather/leg colour | The channelling system is established in the farm administration. | Check whether the farm has a channelling system on the basis of stamp codes and has established a comprehensive registration of the egg production per enclosure and: a. egg colour or b. different feather/leg colour for the different types of eggs. Verify that the farm is operating according to the established channelling system. N/A if the farm doesn't have different types of eggs. | Exclusion |
| A7A | Emergency facilities | If mechanical ventilation is used, there is a functioning alarm system in case the ventilation fails. | This is not compulsory for naturally ventilated enclosures. | Check whether there is an alarm and whether this is tested at least every two months. N/A for naturally ventilated enclosures. | RI |
| A7B | Emergency facilities | If mechanical ventilation is used, the alarm system is tested at least every two months. | The two-monthly tests of the alarm must be recorded. This is not compulsory for naturally ventilated enclosures. | Make a note of the last three test dates. N/A for naturally ventilated enclosures. | AR |
| A7C | Emergency facilities | If mechanical ventilation is used, there is a functioning emergency power unit that can keep the ventilation operational during power outages or the ventilation valves open automatically in the case of a power outage. | This is not compulsory for naturally ventilated enclosures. | Check whether there is a functioning emergency power unit (test the unit) and whether the valves open automatically during a power outage, if the enclosures are not naturally ventilated. | RI |
| A7D | Emergency facilities | If an emergency power unit is used, the correct functioning of this emergency power unit must be inspected every two months. | The two-monthly tests of the emergency power unit must be recorded. This is not compulsory for naturally ventilated enclosures. | Make a note of the last three test dates. N/A for naturally ventilated enclosures. | AR |
| Management | | | | | |
| M01 | Moulting | Forced moulting is not carried out. | Forced moulting means withdrawing the food supply and maintaining a shorter lighting period than the length of the day, which forces the chickens to stop laying eggs and to lose their feathers. Make a note of the age of the laying hens in days. | Check whether forced moulting was practiced on the farm during the past year. | Suspension |
| M02 | Preventing feather pecking | Feather pecking and cannibalism are prevented. | Feather pecking and cannibalism can be prevented through the use of calm breeds, good breeding, undamaged plumage, enrichment material, proper handling of the chickens and proper management, among other things. | Enter the enclosure and check the plumage condition. In general, does the hens' plumage look good and intact? And are the chickens calm when someone enters the enclosure? (see the Health section). Make a note of any findings on entering the enclosure and check the farm health and farm treatment plan for the applicable points on preventing feather pecking. | AR |
| M03 | Fire safety | With a view to fire safety, an Agro Electrical Inspection must take place in accordance with NEN1010 at least once every five years or (HD) IEC 60364 Low voltage electrical installations. | The first inspection must take place before 1/1/2022. See the website of your insurer for a list of firms that can perform the inspection. | Check whether there is a certificate from the last inspection and note the date. | Warning |

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| M04 | Keeping a run calendar | The run calendar keeps a separate daily record for each of the quarters with respect to the access times to the run in connection with legal/sectoral compulsory indoor confinement or weather conditions. | | Check the details on access to the covered run, the planted edge, planted edge covering, and, if present, the open-air run. | AR |
| Nutrition and enrichment | | | | | |
| V01 | Enrichment material | Each day, at least 2 grams of grain/feed are distributed per laying hen as enrichment material. | | Calculate: number of laying hens x 2 grams per day. Check on the basis of purchase receipts whether sufficient grain/feed is being distributed daily. Make a note of the name of the supplier. | Suspension if an inadequate quantity has been provided. Exclusion if no grain/feed has been provided |
| V01a | Enrichment material | At least once a day, the poultry breeder or the attendant walks from the night quarters to the day quarters, scattering a portion of the enrichment material (grain/feed). | By walking through the entire animal quarters scattering grain/feed every day, the laying hens will receive enrichment and form a positive association with people walking through the enclosure. The other enrichment material (grain/feed) may be distributed using an automatic feed system (such as spin feeders). | The poultry breeder must scatter grain under the supervision of the inspector. Pay attention while the poultry breeder scatters the grain to check whether the hens are accustomed to grain provision. | Suspension |
| V01b | Enrichment material | The grain/feed is scattered on the ground surface. | The laying hens should have direct access to the scattered grain/feed. In addition, the grain/feed needs to be sufficiently distributed. | While the poultry breeder is scattering the grain, pay attention to the floor and any spent grain from previously-scattered grain and whether the hens are accustomed to grain provision. | Suspension |
| V02 | Enrichment material | The scattered enrichment material is of sufficient grain size. | On average, the grain size should be larger than or equal to 1 mm. | Check the size of the grain/feed. | AR |
| V03a | Stomach grit | At least once a month, 1 gram of stomach grit per laying hen is scattered over the litter in the enclosure and in the day quarters. | | Calculate: number of laying hens x 1 gram per month. On the basis of the receipts in the accounting records, verify whether enough stomach grit is being distributed each month. Check the quantity of stomach grit that still remains in the night quarters and covered run. | RI if an inadequate quantity has been provided. Suspension if no stomach grit has been provided. |
| V04 | Stomach grit | The particle size of the stomach grit is adequate. | The particle size is 4 to 6.5 mm | Check the particle size of the stomach grit. | AR |
| V05 | Straw/alfalfa/hay bales | Every month, at least 1 straw, hay, or alfalfa bale weighing 20 kg is provided for every 1000 chickens. | | Verify the existence of the receipts for the straw/alfalfa/hay bales in the accounting records. | Suspension if an inadequate quantity has been provided. Exclusion if no straw/alfalfa/hay bales have been provided. |
| V05A | Straw/alfalfa/hay bales | At least one straw/alfalfa/hay bale is provided in both the night quarters and day quarters each month. | | Check for straw/alfalfa/hay bales in both the night quarters and day quarters. | Suspension |
| V05B | Straw/alfalfa/hay bales | Straw/alfalfa/hay bales are replaced as soon as they are down to the level of the floor. | | Check for straw/alfalfa/hay bales and/or the remains of the bales in both the night quarters and day quarters. | Suspension |
| V07 | Beak and nail filing | At least one pecking block per 1000 chickens is provided for each round of laying/flock. | Pecking blocks cannot be made of material containing dioxins. | Verify the existence of the receipts for pecking blocks in the accounting records. | Suspension |
| V08 | Beak and nail filing | At least one pecking block is provided in both the enclosure and the covered run. | | Check for pecking blocks in both the night and day quarters. | Suspension |

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| V07C | Beak and nail filing | The pecking block is placed in such a way that the chickens can easily peck and scratch at it. | | Verify that pecking blocks are present in both the day and night quarters. | Suspension |
| V07D | Beak and nail filing | The pecking block is replaced as soon as it is down to the level of the floor. | | Check whether the pecking blocks in the day and night quarters are down to floor level. | Suspension |
| Housing in general (applies to scenarios 1 and 2) | | | | | |
| H01 | Housing system | There are no more than three housing levels (including the floor of the night quarters). | Housing levels are levels above the enclosure floor, with a usable surface that is permanently available for the animals. This surface is at least 30 cm wide with a slope of no more than 8 degrees. Above the entire surface, there is free space at least 45 cm high. | Check the housing levels and measure the usable surface. | Suspension |
| H02 | System requirements | The hens have permanent access to the litter area/enclosure floor. | Enclosure systems in which access to the litter area/enclosure floor can be closed off are not permitted. | Check whether access to the litter area/enclosure floor can be closed off. Make a note of discrepancies. | Exclusion |
| H03 | Crossovers | In the case of multiple system rows, crossing points are made across the system rows that are 2 metres wide per 3000 laying hens to facilitate the accessibility of the entire enclosure and covered run. | Crossing points are not necessary when the animals can freely traverse the system rows in the following three ways: 1. Underneath the system row 2. Across the system row, and 3. Over the first manure belt (under the nests) | In the case of multiple system rows, check whether sufficient crossing points have been created. N/A if there is only one system row. | RI |
| H04 | General stocking | Housing is limited to 100% stocking capacity. | Crossing points are not necessary when the animals can freely traverse the system rows in the following three ways: 1. Underneath the system row 2. Across the system row 3. Over the first manure belt (under the nests) | Compare the NCAE, IKB or KAT enclosure measurement with the housing information from the farm administration. Make a note of the number of hens permitted according to the certificate and the number of hens actually housed. | Suspension until the next round is housed. Exclusion: at the 2nd incident of more than 100% of permitted number of hens being housed. |
| H05a | Stocking of usable surface in the night quarters and day quarters/covered run | Stocking in the day and night quarters is never more than 6.7 hens per m2 of usable surface all together. | The day quarters and/or covered run may be counted as part of the usable surface, provided that they are permanently accessible during the prescribed period. The nests, planted edge, and potential open-air run in the open air cannot be counted as part of the usable surface. | On the basis of information from the entry control, check whether there are more than 6.7 hens present per m2 of usable surface in the enclosure. Make a note of the numbers of hens permitted according to the entry control and the number of hens housed. | Suspension until the next round is housed. Exclusion at the 2nd incident of more than 100% of permitted number of hens being housed. |
| H05b | Stocking in night quarters | The stocking in the night quarters is a maximum of 12 hens/m2 of usable surface of the night quarters. | The available ground surface of the night quarters is equivalent to the ground surface of the night quarters plus the system surface area in the night quarters. | On the basis of the information from the entry control, verify that the stocking in the night quarters does not exceed 12 hens per m2 of usable surface in the night quarters (=ground surface in the night quarters + system surface area in the night quarters). | Suspension until the next round is housed. Exclusion: at the 2nd incident of more than 100% of permitted number of hens being housed. |
| H06 | Group size | The maximum group size (enclosure or compartment in the enclosure) is 6000 animals. | | Check whether more than 6000 animals are kept in each group (enclosure or compartment in the enclosure) based on the records showing how many animals have been purchased. | RI |
| H07 | Litter in the night quarters | Laying hens all at least have access to a litter-covered surface of 250 cm2 per hen. | | Measure the litter-covered area and calculate whether this meets the requirement of 250 cm2/hen. Make a note of the calculation. | Suspension |

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| H08a | Litter in the night quarters | 100% of the ground surface in the night quarters must be covered with litter. | | Measure the littered-covered area and calculate whether this meets the requirement of 75% ground surface coverage in the night quarters. Make a note of the calculation. | RI if < 95% of the area is covered with litter Suspension if litter is lacking. |
| H09 | Accessibility to the litter area | Litter areas in the day and night quarters may not be raised. | | Check the litter areas. | RI |
| H10 | Litter area | The litter area (ground covered by litter) is covered with a layer of litter that is at least 2 cm thick. | This layer of litter should be constantly present from the start of the laying period. | In a number of place in the enclosure, measure the thickness of the litter layer to see if it is adequate. | RI |
| H11 | Litter material and quality | Litter in the enclosure consists of material with a loose structure that allows the laying chickens to meet their behavioural needs (dust baths, roaming, and pecking) and is of adequate quality. | For example, wood shavings, straw, chopped straw, peat, sand or other material. Litter quality: the litter should be able to easily slip between one's fingers; it should not contain any mould spots and/or encrusted bits (except for limited parts that are adjacent to the run openings or the outside of the enclosure). | Check at three places in the enclosure and three places in the covered run whether the floors are visible or if the litter contains mould spots or matted clumps. Determine the litter quality at a number of places throughout the enclosure and covered run. Check if the litter layer easily falls through one's fingers and note the type of litter. | RI if litter is of insufficient quality. Exclusion if litter is lacking. |
| H12 | Perches | The laying hens have access to 15 cm of perch per hen, of which at least 50% is raised. | Max. 5 cm of the required 15 cm of perch per laying hen may be an integrated perch and this integrated perch should be 2 cm high. | Randomly measure five perches, noting the height and length of the perches and record the calculation of the number of cm of perch room per hen. | Suspension in the case of 10% deviation Exclusion if > 10% deviation |
| H12a | New perches | New perches are rounded on top and truncated (oval/mushroom shape) | New perches are: perches that are renovated or replaced after 1 January 2017. | Check the perches. Perches that are renovated or replaced after 1 January must be truncated and rounded (oval/mushroom shape). | RI |
| H13 | Height of raised edge between compartments | The height of a raised edge between compartments is no more than 25 cm, measured from the floor. | The raised edge must be calculated excluding the litter. The laying hens must be able to look over the raised edge and see other animal quarters. | Measure the raised edge. | RI |
| H14 | Daylight | At least 20 lux of daylight is available in the entire enclosure. | For example: - In enclosures that have a daylight-permeable surface or a completely retractable wall as part of one side wall, the daylight intensity on the opposite wall is also at least 20 lux. - In enclosures that are longer than 12 metres (excluding the covered run), the daylight intensity in the middle of the enclosure must also be at least 20 lux. | Check whether there is adequate daylight in the enclosure. Measure the light intensity with the lux meter and the artificial light switched off in at least two places in the enclosure and note whether this is at least 20 lux at animal height. | Suspension |
| H14a. | Daylight | There must be natural daylight in the enclosure through daylight-permeable surfaces, which are at least 3% of the ground surface of the enclosure. | Daylight-permeable surfaces consist of things like skylights, side windows, the retractable access wall between the night quarters and covered run and/or light wells. The total daylight-permeable surface excludes the covered run. If there are light wells, the daylight-permeable surface may be one-quarter, thus 0.75% of the ground surface of the enclosure. The 3% rules applies to daylight that enters via the roof or side wall. | Check whether the area of the daylight-permeable surfaces amounts to at least 3% of the ground surface of the enclosure. Or 0.75% of the ground surface if there are light wells. Make a note of the type of light opening. | Suspension if < 3% of ground surface is daylight permeable Exclusion if no daylight can enter the enclosure |
| H14c. | Daylight | The daylight-permeable surfaces ensure equal distribution of light in the activities area of the enclosure. | | Check whether the daylight-permeable surfaces ensure equal distribution of daylight across the entire enclosure. | Suspension |

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| H14d. | Daylight intensity for enclosures longer than 12 metres that only have side windows. | In enclosures that are longer than 12 metres (excluding the covered run) and use daylight-permeable surfaces in the side walls, daylight-permeable surfaces are installed in both side walls of the enclosure. | N/A if there is only a daylight-permeable roof surface. | In enclosures that are longer than 12 metres and use daylight permeable surfaces in the side walls, check that daylight-permeable surfaces have been installed in both side walls of the enclosure.. | Suspension |
| H14e. | Daylight | Light openings must be able to be fully covered. | | Note whether the light openings can be completely covered and in what way. | RI |
| H14f. | Daylight | Direct sunlight in the enclosure is avoided. | For example, through open roof or side windows. | Check that no direct sunlight enters the enclosure, for example through open roof or side windows. | RI |
| H15 | Artificial light | If the artificial light originates from fluorescent lighting, only high-frequency fluorescent lighting is used. | High-frequency fluorescent lighting is fluorescent lighting that has a frequency of at least 100 Hertz, or at least 100 flickers per second. | Check whether the fluorescent lighting is at least 100 Hertz. N/A if there is no fluorescent lighting. | Unannounced RI Suspension if < 10 Lux. |
| H16 | Lighting rhythm | The total light period does not exceed 16 hours a day. | | Make a note of the lighting schedule. | Unannounced RI Suspension in the case of > 16 hours of light |
| H17 | Period of darkness | The animals have at least 8 consecutive hours of darkness every 24 hours. | An 8-hour period of artificial light cannot be applied between sunset and sunrise. | Make a note of the lighting schedule. | Suspension in the case of < 8 hours of darkness |
| H18 | Climate | The climate in the enclosure needs to be stable. | It cannot be too dusty in the enclosure, and there should not be a strong smell of ammonia. During the inspection round, the inspector should not experience any irritation to his/her respiratory tract or eyes. | Note whether there is an abnormal climate in the enclosure. | Warning |
| H19 | Live wires | Live wires sending electrical pulses in the areas available to the animals in the enclosure are not permitted. | The use of live wires, regardless of whether there is a current running, is not permitted. | Check whether there are any live wires in the building. | RI |
| H21 | Minimum height of all animal quarters (enclosure, day quarters, covered run) | All animal quarters (enclosure, day quarters, covered run) are entirely accessible for people. | Wherever possible, the animal quarters should be 2 m high; on the edges of the quarters, a height of 1.5 m is sufficient. | Measure the animal quarters and note any discrepancies. | Suspension |
| Day quarters: an area with a roof that allows daylight in over the entire ground surface of the day quarters. | | | | | |
| O01b | Day quarters | There are day quarters that have a surface area equal to or greater than that of the enclosure. | The day quarters are a cold, covered roaming area, directly connected to the enclosure via a fully-retractable wall. All animals have easy and unrestricted access to the day quarters. The day quarters must be clearly lighter than the interior of the enclosure, must have an outdoor climate, and be protected against weather influences in such a way that they can also be used during bad weather (e.g. by installing windbreak/ventilation mesh). The day quarters may be taken into account for the usable area when calculating the stocking density. If the cold roaming area is taken into account as usable area, this space is also taken into account for calculating the width of the enclosure. A deviation of up to 5% is permitted only in the case of construction purposes. | Check whether the ground surface of the day quarters meets the requirements. | Suspension |

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| O02 | Covering | The roof over the day quarters should be light permeable, but should not let in any droppings from birds flying overhead and should be weather and wind resistant. | The portion of the roof that is counted toward the admission of daylight across the surface area of the day quarters should meet the following specifications: 1. Material: minimum 70% light-permeable tarpaulin or sheeting, but not completely transparent (no direct sunlight). 2. It should not let in any droppings from birds flying overhead. 3. It is weather and wind resistant. Thin plastic doesn't meet the requirements, but well-secured sheeting or tarpaulin that won't rip in strong winds do. 4. It can be open to allow sunlight and fresh air to enter the day quarters. 5. The material works with the climate control in such a way that temperatures do not get too high in the summer, and that no condensation forms during the winter. 6. Other roofing is insulated. | Check whether the day quarters meet the requirements. | RI |
| O02a | Position of day quarters compared to enclosure | The day quarters are located along the entire length of the long side(s) of the enclosure. | If the day quarters cannot be installed along the entire length of the long side of the enclosure (because of the presence of silos, for example), the maximum distance to the closest run opening is 15 m. | Make a note of whether a run for the day quarters is present along the entire length of the enclosure. | Suspension |
| O07 | Construction of covered run | The construction of the covered run, including the roof, prevents condensation formation and excessively high temperatures. | Possibilities include: 1. an insulated roof (including insulated daylight-permeable surfaces) or 2. a (round) roof that enables condensation to drip off and be collected in gutters, in combination with sufficient ventilation to keep the temperatures down. | Make of note of whether the day quarters are adequate and, if applicable, describe any discrepancies. | RI |
| O10 | Access times to the day quarters | By 10 am, the hens have access to the day quarters for an uninterrupted period of at least 8 hours. | Only in the case of temperatures in the day quarters dipping below 0 degrees Celsius, and poor climatic conditions (lots of wind, drafts, moisture), can the poultry breeder take appropriate measures by lowering part of the access wall or closing the run openings so the climate remains optimal in the day and night quarters. This is tracked daily/registered on the run calendar. | On the basis of the run calendar, check whether the hens have access to the day quarters for at least 8 hours per day and if the day quarters are used daily. | AR if the run calendar is not filled in daily. Suspension if there is doubt about use. (Unannounced RI) Exclusion if there are no day quarters or if it's clear that these are not used daily. |
| O13a | Extra roaming facility in the day quarters | There is an extra roaming facility set up in the day quarters of at least 20.9 m ² per housing group (max. 6000 animals). This is equipped with peat dust or sandy soil of sufficient quality. | The peat dust or the sand must be able to slip easily through one's fingers, and should be loose and dry. If sandy soil is used, this should only be sand from a sandpit (animal health). If sandy soil is used, this should only be sand from a sandpit. | Check whether there is an extra roaming facility in the day quarters and if the peat dust or sand is loose and dry. If sand is used, it must be sandpit-quality sand. Make a note of any discrepancies. | Exclusion |
| O13b | Ground covering in day quarters | The day quarters have a ground cover with a loose structure that allows the laying chickens to meet their behavioural needs (dust baths, roaming, and pecking) and this is of adequate quality. | For example, grass, artificial turf, peat dust, sandy soil, loose litter or a similar material. The litter must be able to easily slip through one's fingers and contain no mould spots. In the case of artificial turf, this should not be clumped with manure and/or soil cover. Artificial grass blades should be visible. | Check the ground covering. | RI if litter is of insufficient quality. Exclusion if litter is lacking. |
| O14 | Poultry drinkers in the covered run | There are at least two permanent working poultry drinkers per group (max. 6000 hens). | These poultry drinkers should be in permanent operation, so they should always be filled with drinking water. | Check the presence of two working poultry drinkers. | RI |
| O15 | Equipping the day quarters | There is sufficient shelter available in the day quarters. | There are at least three trees or artificial trees (in pots) and/or tree stumps and/or other forms of shelter such as coverings to hide under (min. 45 cm high) per group (max. 6000 hens). | Check the amount of shelter in the setup of the day quarters. | RI |

Scenarios

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| O17 | Different scenarios: run openings in general | One of the two following scenarios is utilised: Scenario 1: the hens do not have access to an open-air run Scenario 2: the hens have access to an open-air run | Scenario 1: Requirements O18a to O18J apply to this scenario Scenario 2: Requirements O19a to O19 apply to this scenario | Make a note of the applicable scenario. | Exclusion |
| Scenario 1: the hens do not have access to an open-air run | | | | | |
| O18a | Run scenario 1 | The night quarters provide access to a covered run and a planted edge. | | Check if the laying hens have access to a covered run and a planted edge and whether these meet the applicable requirements. | Suspension if the requirements are not being met |
| O18b | Number of system rows scenario 2 | The night quarters contain only one system row. | | Verify that there is no more than one system row in the night quarters. | Suspension if the requirements are not being met |
| H20 | Access wall | The access wall between the night quarters and day quarters is retracted to be open at least 2 m during the access times. | Deviations from this may occur in extreme weather. In the case of extreme weather, the access wall should be rolled up by at least 50 cm. | Measure the opening at the access walls. | RI |
| H20a | Access wall | The access wall between the night and day quarters can be completely rolled/folded up. | The access walls between the night and day quarters should be completely retractable (rollable/foldable). | Check whether the access walls between the night and day quarters are completely retractable (rollable/foldable). | RI |
| H20b | Access wall | The retractable wall is always on the side of the adjacent day quarters. | | Check the animal quarters. | Suspension |
| H20c | Access wall | At least 50% of the total length of the wall between the night quarters and day quarters can be retracted (rolled/folded up). | | Measure the walls and the retractable part. | RI, alterations must be made at the time of housing during the next round |
| O15 | Visibility from the outermost animal quarters | The hens are able to look outside from the outermost part of the quarters (planted edge and/or covered run). | If an opaque, raised edge is used in the covered run, this is no higher than 25 cm off the floor (excluding litter). The distance between the outside of the animal quarters and any adjoining structure is at least 10 metres. | Check whether the chickens can look outside from the day quarters. If there is an opaque, raised edge, measure this. Check and measure the distance to any adjacent structure. | RI |
| Scenario 2: the hens have access to an open-air run | | | | | |
| O19a | Runs scenario 2 | The night quarters offer access to an open-air run (possibly through a covered run). | | Check if the laying hens have access to an open-air run and whether this meets the criteria. | Suspension |
| O19b | Run openings scenario 2 | The run openings to a covered run and the open-air run must: 1. be spread equally across the length of the wall 2. The total length of the openings must equal more than half the length of the wall. 3. Each opening must be at least 40 cm high and 1 m wide. 4. The openings must amount to at least 2 m per 1000 hens. | | Check the run openings. 5 cm of deviation is permitted with regard to the height of the openings. | RI |
| O20 | Number of system rows scenario 2 | If the laying hens have access to an open-air run, a maximum of three system rows can be present in the night quarters. | | Check the number of system rows. | Suspension |

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| H03 | Crossovers | In the case of multiple system rows, crossing points are made that are 2 metres wide per 3000 laying hens to facilitate the accessibility of the entire enclosure and covered run. | Crossing points are not necessary when the animals can freely traverse the system rows in the following three ways: 1. Underneath the system row 2. Across the system row, and 3. Over the first manure belt (under the nests) | In the case of multiple system rows, check whether sufficient crossing points have been created. N/A if there is only one system row. | RI |
| Planted edge, if applicable | | | | | |
| O18c | Access wall to the planted edge | The day quarters' access wall to the planted edge can be rolled/folded up. | | Check the access wall and its specifications. | RI |
| O18d | Width of access wall to the planted edge | The width of the wall that provides access to the planted edge is at least 175 cm per 1000 chickens. | | Measure the width of the access wall. | RI |
| O18d1 | Walls of the planted edge | The walls of the planted edge are daylight and air permeable. | Daylight and air-permeable material that breaks 50% of the wind at most and has a 50% shade effect at most (e.g. windbreak/ventilation mesh). The access wall does not need to be daylight permeable and air permeable. | Check the daylight and air permeability of the walls and the planted edge. | Suspension |
| O18e | Area of the planted edge | The surface area of the planted edge is at least 216 m ² per group of 6000 animals (min. 360 cm ² per hen). | | Calculate the area of planted edge that is available per hen. | Exclusion |
| O18f | Setup of the planted edge | The planted edge must offer adequate shelter. | For each group (max. 6000 chickens), there should be three trees or artificial trees (in pots) or three tree stumps and/or other forms of shelter such as coverings to hide under (min. 45 cm high). | Check whether the planted edge offers shelter against poor weather and predators. Make a note of how this shelter is offered. | RI |
| O18g | Ground cover of the planted edge | The base must be (primarily) wood chips and/or soil. | | Check the ground covering. | RI |
| O18h | Planted edge covering | The planted edge is in the open air and should only be permanently covered with mesh to ward off birds/predatory birds. | The roof can only be temporarily closed with daylight-permeable tarpaulin if it rains or during a period of compulsory indoor confinement. Rain sensors are used to automatically close the tarpaulin. This is tracked on the run calendar. | Check specifications. | AR |
| O18j | Planted edge access times | Access starts no later than half an hour after the beginning of the morning twilight and runs for an uninterrupted period of at least eight hours. | Only during periods with a legal/sectoral compulsory indoor confinement or with temperatures at the planted edge dipping below 0 degrees Celsius, can the poultry breeder take appropriate measures by lowering part of the access wall or closing the run openings so the climate remains optimal in the day and night quarters. This is tracked daily/registered on the run calendar. | On the basis of the run calendar, check whether the hens have access to the planted edge for at least 8 hours per day and if the hens use this space daily. | AR |
| Open-air run, if applicable | | | | | |
| VU1 | Open-air run | The chickens have access to the open-air run from 10 am each morning. | | Check whether the hens have access to the open-air run for at least 8 hours a day. | Suspension |
| VU2 | Open-air run | The chickens have access to the open-air run for at least 8 hours a day. | | Check whether the hens have access to the open-air run from no later than 10 am. | Suspension |

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| VU3 | Planting in the open-air run | The outdoor run is mainly planted/equipped. | The planting/equipping is designed in such a way that the behaviour and needs of the chickens are taken into account. The planting/equipping is done in such a way that the chickens can cross open areas. A type of shelter can be reached within 30 meters of any place in the run. A run does not have to be fully planted/equipped, strips along which the chickens can walk can also be created. Planting/equipping may consist of trees, shrubs, corn, wooded bank, uprooted trees, sewage pipes, etc. The planting/equipping also serves as shelter during the winter. | Check whether the run is planted/equipped. | RI if < 50% of the open-air run lacks shelter Suspension if > 50% of the open-air run lacks shelter |
| VU5a | Run opening to the open-air run | For every 1000 laying hens, there are 2 m of run openings available. | At each run opening, there is a run space available that is at least as long as the total length of the corresponding run opening, no matter if there is another building in front of this wall. | Measure the width of the enclosure exits, as well as the length of the run area. Compare the sum of the width of the enclosure exits with the length of the run openings. Make a note of these figures and compare them. | RI if deviation amounts to < 80% Suspension if this doesn't comply with prescribed length |
| VU5b | Run opening underpass | The underpass should be at least 35 cm high in all places. | | Measure the underpass at a number of spots. | RI |
| VU6 | Stocking in the open-air run | No more than 2500 hens per hectare are kept in the open-air run. | This is equivalent to 1 hen per 4m ² . In the application of the rotation system, at least 2.5 m ² of open-air run space needs to be available for each hen. | Measure the surface area of the open-air run and calculate on the basis of the number of permitted hens whether or not the maximum of 2500 hens per ha is exceeded. Note the calculation. | Exclusion |
| VU7a | Other purposes of the open-air run | The open-air run that the hens have access to is not used for any other purposes. | Trees and fruit trees, extensive grazing and mowing are exceptions. | Check that the outdoor portion of the accessible run is largely planted with shrubs and grass and is not used for other purposes. | RI |
| VU8 | Shelter in the open-air run | The open-air run must offer shelter against poor weather, predators, and wild ducks and geese. | | Check whether the open-air run offers shelter against poor weather and predators. Make a note of how this shelter is offered. | RI |
| VU9 | Shelter in the open-air run | There is at least 16 m ² of shelter available per hectare (at 2500 chickens/ha) in the form of trees, shrubs and/or shelter plateaus. This is evenly spread across the run. | No more than 50% of the shelter may consist of shelter plateaus. | Calculate and record the number of m ² of shelter with respect to the total number of ha. | RI if 12-16 m ² per ha of shelter is present or if > 50% of the shelter consists of shelter plateaus. Suspension if < 12 m ² per ha of shelter is present |
| VU10 | Initial few metres of the run openings | To ensure that the run is fully used, the first 5 m after the run opening should be made unattractive to the hens, such as by placing stones or grilles on the ground. | | Check the initial 5 m after the run openings for unattractiveness. | RI |
| VU11 | Equipping the open-air run | The first 30 m from the enclosure, leading out into the run, contain guiding strips, some shelter plateaus and trees or shrubs. | | Check whether the initial 30 m leading out of the enclosure contains guiding strips and hiding places for the hens. | RI |
| VU12 | Distance from the open-air run to the enclosure | The open-air run may not extend further than 150 m from the nearest enclosure exit. | | Measure the distance and make a note of this. | RI |

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| VU13 | Open-air run | The run may extend up to 350 m from the nearest enclosure exit when a drinking facility and shelter is present, and these are evenly spread across the run area. | | Make a note of the largest distance between the end of the run and the nearest building exit. Note whether the run complies with the conditions regarding shelter and water. | RI |
| VU14 | Bodies of water bordering on the open-air run | If there is a body of water in which waterfowl can be found adjacent to the open-air run, this must be equipped with a partition. | | Check whether any bodies of water where waterfowl can be found are partitioned off from the open-air run. | RI |
| Health | | | | | |
| G01A | Sick bay | Sick and injured animals are separated and treated. | | Check whether there is a separate sick bay. Describe the farm situation | RI |
| G01B | Euthanising untreatable animals | If an animal cannot be treated, it must be euthanised in a humane way as prescribed by the veterinarian. | An approved humane method of killing leads to immediate death without additional suffering, discomfort or stress for the animal. The veterinarian describes in the farm health plan, for example, how untreatable animals can be euthanised humanely on the farm as soon as possible. | Make a note of how sick animals are euthanised. | RI |
| G01C | Euthanising of untreatable animals in emergency situations | Arrangements have been made with the veterinarian in order for him/her to visit the farm, if necessary, to euthanise untreatable animals in emergency situations. | These arrangements are recorded in the agreement with the veterinarian. | Check if the agreement with the veterinarian contains arrangements for him/her to visit the farm, if necessary, to euthanise untreatable animals (e.g. in emergency situations). | RI |
| G03 | Treating beaks | Treating and/or palpating beaks is forbidden. | | Verify that the hens' beaks have not been treated. | Exclusion |
| G04 | Certified veterinarian | The health monitoring of the flock is performed by a registered, certified poultry veterinarian with whom the poultry breeder has entered into a one-to-one agreement for each KIP number. | The veterinarian may bring in other specialists/veterinarians to provide full coverage, for example as a replacement when he/she is ill or on holiday. Registration occurs in the Stichting Geborgde Dierenarts (foundation for certified veterinarians) register, see: www.geborgdedierenarts.nl The Regeling van de Geborgde Pluimvee Dierenarts (regulations for certified poultry veterinarians) contains a sample one-to-one agreement that should be used. Although foreign participants have to enter into an agreement with a veterinarian, this veterinarian does not have to be registered as a certified poultry veterinarian. | Check if there is a one-to-one agreement with a registered, certified poultry veterinarian. Record the name of the veterinarian. | AR |
| G05 | Farm health plan | The poultry breeder draws up a current farm health plan (BGP) with the registered, certified poultry veterinarian with whom the poultry breeder has formed an agreement. | The poultry breeder, in collaboration with the veterinarian and any business advisors, create a plan, which, in addition to the farm treatment plan, also describes the other measures the farm is taking to limit the use of antibiotics. The plan will be evaluated with the vet annually, and adjusted if necessary. | Check whether there is a farm health plan that meets or exceeds the criteria in the IKB Kip-model farm health plan. | IKB H06 |
| G06 | Salmonella | The animals are vaccinated against Salmonella. | | Check the vaccination schedule and make a note of the vaccination dates of the last two flocks. | AR |
| Transport | | | | | |

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| T01 | Catching | Animals are caught using a team of catchers accredited by IKB-PSB. | Foreign companies do not need to use the IKB-PSB approved team of catchers but should otherwise be able to demonstrate that they use teams of catchers with trained, experienced members, and that someone is responsible for monitoring animal welfare during the capture and loading periods. | The team of catchers must be accredited by IKB PSB. Check the list of accredited firms to see if the team of catchers is accredited. Foreign companies should otherwise be able to demonstrate that teams of catchers with trained, experienced members are used, and that someone is responsible for monitoring animal welfare during the capture and loading periods. Make a note of the name of and date on which the last team of catchers was hired. | RI |
| T01a | Transport containers | The animals are loaded into containers with large openings. | | Check this with the poultry breeder. | RI |
| T02 | Transport time | Transport can take up to a maximum of three hours. | Measured from the time the lorry leaves the farm. | Make a note of the address of the slaughterhouse in order to get an indication of the transport duration. | Suspension |
| T03 | Catching | Animals are caught very carefully under dim light or green/blue light. | | Check the report of the number of chickens that are dead upon arrival at the slaughterhouse (DOA) and the number of injured (feedback from the slaughterhouse). | AR |
| Additional | | | | | |
| ELBLA00 | Number of animal places | The number of animal places is: | | Make a note of the number of animal places. | |
| ELBLA00A | Number of animals present | The number of animals present is: | | Make a note of the number of animals present. | |