

Basic Transfer Rules to Achieve Better Breeder Performance

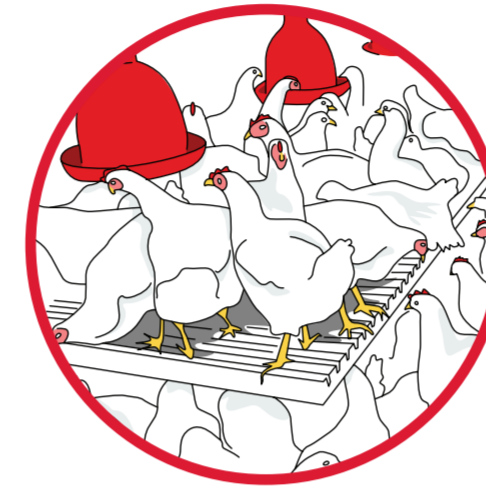
Transfer is one of the most critical moments in the life of our breeders. The success of transfer depends on rearing farm management, the transfer process, and the preparation of the production farm.

Before Transfer Rearing Farm



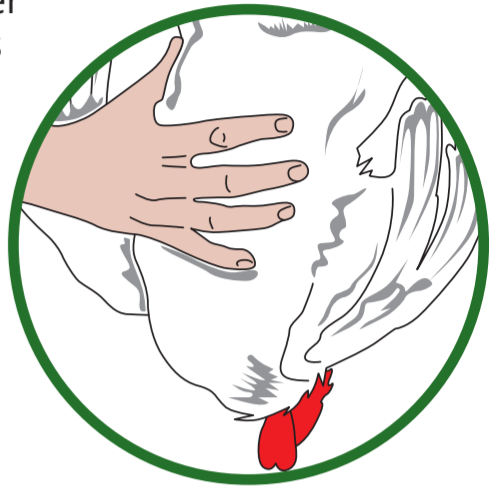
Equipment

- Use the same type of feeders and drinkers in rearing and production
- If there is a different feeding system in production, introduce some production feeders for training purposes beginning at week 4 or 5
- Place jumping slats in rearing beginning at week 4 or 5
- Ideally have one full line of drinkers placed over the slats, otherwise place some training slats all around the house (1 m²/500 birds – 45 cm high)

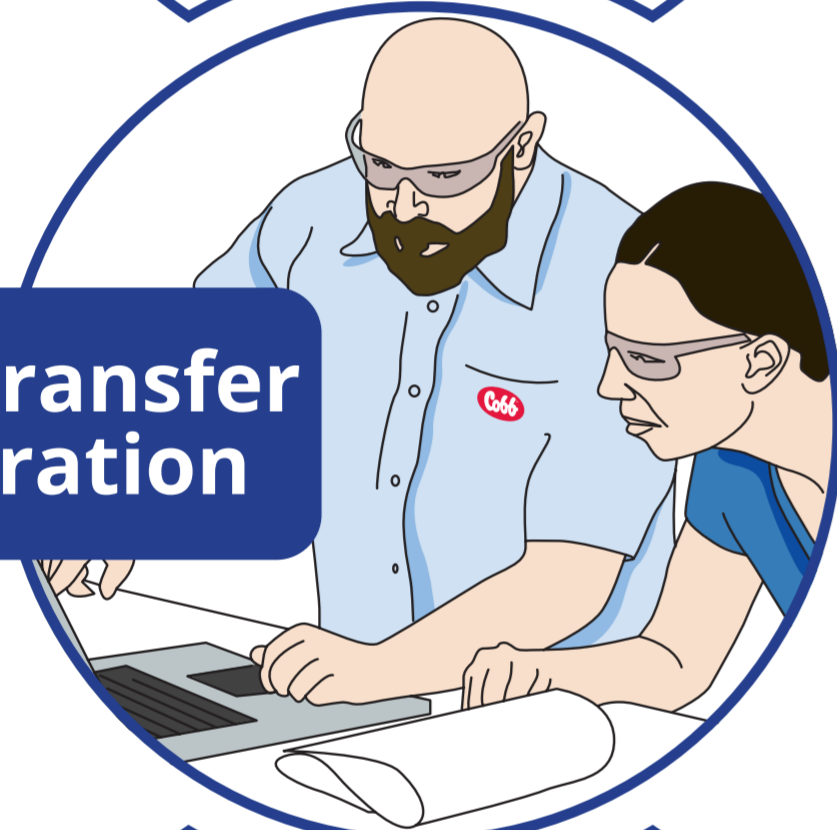


Body conformation

- Ensure pullets and cockerels reach the standard weights and body conformation for their age. Refer to our newest Breeder Management Supplements to learn how to achieve the age standards.



The Transfer Operation



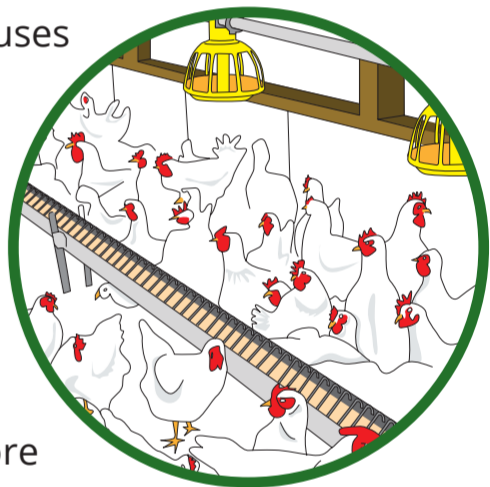
Transfer plan

- Ensure there is a detailed and precise plan including the correct number of crates, trucks, and well-trained personnel
- Trucks and containers used for transfer must be cleaned and disinfected thoroughly
- Crates/containers must be undamaged
- Trucks, crates, and crews should be dedicated to the transfer of pullets. Otherwise ensure 72 hours have passed since equipment and crews have been exposed to other birds.



Moment of transfer

- Ideal age for transfer is between 20 and 22 weeks
- The ratio of males should be 8 to 9% in slatted houses and 9 to 10% in 100% deep litter houses
- Don't transfer birds to open sided houses before 21 weeks in summer to ensure the birds aren't exposed to light too early
- Move birds at night or early morning in hot weather conditions to prevent heat stress
- Move males 2-3 days before the females to acquaint them with their feeder system
- Feed the birds after arrival in production, not before



Preparing production house

- Cleaning and disinfection in the production farm must be completed at least one week before transfer
- All equipment including feeders, drinkers and lighting must be tested and fully operational
- Production farms in cold areas should be equipped with heating systems



Unloading birds

- Carefully remove birds from the crates and release them directly onto the slats
- Ensure you allocate the right number of birds in each pen/house



After transfer

- Give extra feed (150% of standard) the first day to encourage eating and prevent body condition loss
- In dark-out production houses, make sure the light intensity is slightly higher than in rearing
- Walk frequently through the houses encouraging birds to move around and find feed and water
- The day after transfer, check crop fill in both females and males to evaluate feed and water intake
- Place birds with dirty beaks, clear veins on legs, pale combs, hard crops or those with no feed and water in the crop on the slats close to the drinkers



After Transfer Production Farm



BIRDS WITH GOOD FLESHING AND FAT RESERVES WILL RAPIDLY LOSE CONDITION IF THEY DO NOT FIND WATER AND FEED BECAUSE THEY WILL BURN THEIR FAT STORES FOR ENERGY AND LOSE WEIGHT.

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