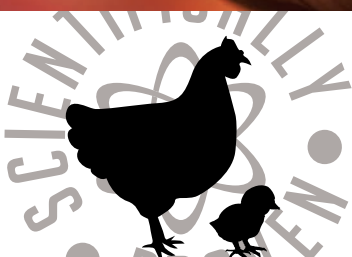




BROILER



GET IN TOUCH

 www.epol.co.za
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FOLLOW US



GETTING READY

- Everything must be ready in the broiler house before the day old chicks arrive.
- Make sure you have planned your vaccination programme.

KEY FEEDING TIPS

- Starter feed must be in crumble form.
- Feed for the subsequent phases should be in pellet form.
- Birds should never be without feed. Recommended intakes in this brochure are just a guideline.
- Ensure there is feed in the feeding troughs from day two, so that the chicks learn to eat from them.
- Do not place feed or water directly under the heat source as this may cause the chicks to eat or drink less than they should.
- Select the most appropriate **Epol** broiler feed to suit your requirements from page 4, or speak to an **Epol** Technical Advisor.

HOUSING CONDITIONS

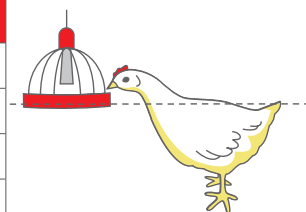
- The house should be clean and thoroughly sanitised using appropriate disinfectants.
- Prior to placing chicks, put the bedding material in as follows:

LITTER TYPE	MIN. DEPTH OR VOLUME
Wood Shavings	2.5 cm
Dry Sawdust	2.5 cm
Chopped Straw	1 kg/m ²
Sunflower Hulls	5 cm

CHECK FEEDING EQUIPMENT

- Make sure there are enough drinkers & feeders for the number of chicks.
- See below table for guidelines:

	TYPE	QUANTITY
DRINKER	Bell	1 per 100 birds
	Nipple	12 birds per nipple
FEEDER	Pan	45 birds per pan
	Tube	70 birds per 40 cm tube feeder

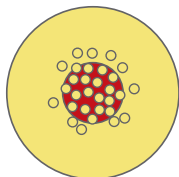


CHECK HEATING EQUIPMENT

- Make sure that heaters or brooders are in good working condition and at the correct height.
- Temperature management is essential for the successful rearing of chickens. Measure and record minimum and maximum temperatures in the chicken house.
- Start heating the house two days before the chicks arrive.
- Put feed and water out a day before the chicks are placed so that they are at room temperature when the chicks arrive.
- The floor temperature must be 32 °C at placement.
- Carefully regulate the temperature of the rearing house especially for the first 14 days.

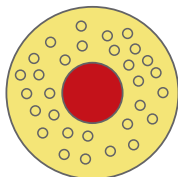
CHECK ON YOUR CHICKS

- The first chick check should be done 4 to 6 hours after placement.
 - Young chicks should be eating, drinking and running around – if not, investigate the conditions that might result in a decline of these activities, such as floor temperature etc.
 - Chick behaviour is the best indicator of correct temperature so observe how the chicks spread out in the brooding area.



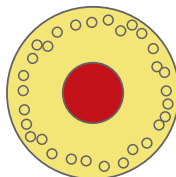
Too cold

- Chicks crowd towards brooder.
- Chicks noisy, distress-calling.



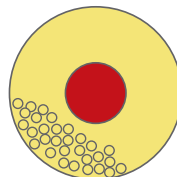
Correct temperature

- Chicks evenly spread.
- Noise level indicates contentment.



Too hot

- Chicks make no noise.
- Chicks pant, head and wings droop.
- Chicks stay away from brooder.



Requires investigation

- Check for a draught, uneven light distribution or external noise.

- The second chick check should be performed the day after placement.
 - Check chick crops (crop scoring) to ensure the birds have located feed and water.
 - At least 95% of the chicks crops should feel soft and elastic. This is an indication that the chicks have successfully consumed feed and water.
 - Hard crops suggest that chicks have not consumed enough water, and water availability should be checked immediately.
 - Swollen crops indicate chicks have consumed enough water but have not fed sufficiently. In this case, the availability and quality (smell, taste) of the feed should be evaluated immediately.

- 7 day chick check
 - The weight of the chicks should be more than four times their starting weight.
 - If chicks have not grown to this extent investigate the cause. Review the process to date, including temperature, feed intake, water intake and other environmental conditions.
 - If you need help in this regard contact your **Epol** technical advisor.
- Everyday chick checks
 - Enter the house as quietly as possible so as not to disturb the birds whilst using all of your senses to evaluate if something is not ideal. Look, smell, feel and listen.
 - Make sure that the temperature in the house is correct using the table below as a guideline.
 - Check if there are cold spots and/or draughts in the house.
 - Check if the ventilation is correct.
 - Check if the drinkers and feeders are at the correct height and if there are enough of them for the number of birds.
 - Check the bedding, it shouldn't be too wet or too dry.
 - Remove all the dead birds and record on the house card.

AGE (Days)	RELATIVE HUMIDITY (%)	TEMPERATURE (°C)
0	30 – 50	32 – 38
7	40 – 60	29 – 30
14	50 – 60	27 – 28
21	50 – 60	24 – 26
28	50 – 65	21 – 23
35	50 – 70	19 – 21
42	50 – 70	18

LIGHT PROGRAMME

- Lighting is an important factor to get good performance from the broilers.

AGE (days/ weight)	0	1	100 - 160 g	22	23	24	Days before slaughter				
							5	4	3	2	1
HOURS (Dark)	0	1	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1

KEY MEASUREMENTS TO RECORD THROUGHOUT THE CYCLE

- Chick weights at placement, at day 7, 14, 21, 28 and 35.
- Daily bird mortality and culls.
- Feed consumed daily.
- Water consumed daily.
- Daily minimum and maximum temperatures.
- Any treatment or medication given to the chickens.

EPOL BROILER FEED RANGES

- **Epol** offers a wide selection of broiler feeds to suit the specific needs of different broiler farmers.
- The below feeds are available in bags. Should your requirements differ, please contact your nearest Mill and discuss your needs with the regional sales manager.

SUREGRO					
Ideal for the emerging chicken farmer. Feed to maximise profit from live bird sales.					
FEEDING OPTIONS	PRE STARTER	STARTER (V30821)	GROWER (V30820)	FINISHER (V30819)	MAINTENANCE (V30818)
3 PHASE	*	600 g (0 – 15 days)	*	2.3 kg (16 – 32 days)	Minimum of 600 g before slaughter
4 PHASE	*	600 g (0 – 15 days)	1 kg (16 – 24 days)	1.3 kg (25 – 32 days)	Minimum of 600 g before slaughter
ECONOGRO					
Ideal for the smaller commercial farmer who wants to optimise broiler production.					
FEEDING OPTIONS	PRE STARTER	STARTER (V30822)	GROWER (V30826)	FINISHER (V30828)	POST FINISHER (V30831)
3 PHASE	*	600 g (0 – 15 days)	*	2.3 kg (16 – 32 days)	Minimum of 600 g before slaughter
4 PHASE	*	600 g (0 – 15 days)	1 kg (16 – 24 days)	1.3 kg (25 – 32 days)	Minimum of 600 g before slaughter
OPTIGRO					
Designed for the broiler producer aiming for optimum performance.					
FEEDING OPTIONS	PRE STARTER (V30832)	STARTER (V30823)	GROWER (V30825)	FINISHER (V30827)	POST FINISHER (V30830)
3 PHASE	*	600 g (0 – 15 days)	*	2.3 kg (16 – 32 days)	Minimum of 600 g before slaughter
4 PHASE	*	600 g (0 – 15 days)	1 kg (16 – 24 days)	1.3 kg (25 – 32 days)	Minimum of 600 g before slaughter
5 PHASE	200 g (0 – 9 days)	400 g (10 – 15 days)	1 kg (16 – 24 days)	1.3 kg (25 – 32 days)	Minimum of 600 g before slaughter



CONTACT INFORMATION

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Pretoria West	(012) 386 0469
Rustenburg	(087) 365 0564
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