

District	EstNbr	EstName	MOINbr	Date	Task Code	TaskName	Status	MOI Agenda
80	M7345	Butterball, LLC	AGA11100 11628G	28JAN2019	04C05	Poultry Good Commercial Practices	Finalized	<p>On Thursday, January 24, 2019, three truck loads of lay one breeder hens, flock "PT", were scheduled to be run as the last birds of the day (day shift hours are 0946-1816). Each truck contained 1040 hens. The trucks arrived at 1053, 1141, and 1242, respectively. I observed them at approximately 1400 and did not note any abnormalities. According to establishment paperwork provided, the hens went off feed on January 23, although they were still looking into what time. Due to mechanical issues with the chiller, the establishment was unable to run the hens that day (January 24) and elected to carry them over to the following day (January 25). Normally, when birds are carried over, they are run first thing on night shift (b) (4); however, night shift does not run breeder hens, so the establishment decided they would be run first on day shift on January 25 (see email from (b) (6), communicating this to me). While making GCP observations at 1420 on January 25, I observed that these three truck loads of hens were still on the yard and had not been run yet. I also observed an increased number of DOAs from the previous day and numerous hens with large, exposed wounds that the hens surrounding them were pecking into. Fresh blood was visible on the beaks of these birds and splashed onto surrounding feathers. In two cases, the hens had managed to peck open a wound and pull out intestines and were pecking at the intestines splayed out in the cage of two separate hens. The birds were seen aggressively pecking at each other and at the feces/eggs in the cages. At this point, the hens had been off feed for approximately two days and on the yard for 26-28 hours, and had not had access to feed or water during that time. According to Butterball's "Animal Care and Well-Being Program", (b) (4)</p>

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								<p>(b) (4) [REDACTED] I immediately proceeded inside and found (b) (6) [REDACTED]. I expressed my concerns with the birds being held at the establishment for a greater length of time than normal and that it was communicated to me yesterday that these birds would be run first on day shift and still had not been run. He said there had been some miscommunication due to changes in management/staffing and that the decision was made to run the hens last on dayshift, with the new breeders that had come in today, based on ease of product flow through the establishment. I expressed my concerns to him that the birds were being held without access to food or water and bird welfare needed to be taken into consideration. The birds did not end up being run until starting at 1715, or 31 hours from their arrival at the establishment. According to paperwork submitted on January 28, there were 38 DOAs (1.2%). The "Animal Care and Well-Being Program" states (b) (4) [REDACTED].</p> <p>[REDACTED] A similar situation occurred in October 2016 following Hurricane Matthew where birds were off feed/water for 60 hours before being killed. It was documented at the time in a meeting MOI on October 27, 2016 that our recommendation was to look at different options if a similar situation arose and the establishment said that they would take each on a case-by-case basis.</p>