

Dear Kevin

Please find comments and feedback regarding the code of transport of ratites.

SB6.1 There is no scientific data on this however 36 hours for adults and 24 for young birds.

What is your definition of a chick as chicks from day old to 4 days do not feed and drink as they survive off their yolk sac.

Suggest refer to day old chicks day 1-4 and chicks as day 5-90

SB6.3 Day old chicks day 1-4 do not require feed and water. You probably need something added to your recommendation regarding not putting feed and water in with stock during transit as they will spill it and tip containers over and generally this can cause major problems.

SB6.8 - Humane destruction for "adult birds is by firearm or sedation followed by captive bolt or decapitation". Sedation is a difficult thing to achieve without injection so if you can get close enough to get a needle into the bird then you could euthanase the bird by any means. Ratite chicks recommended as "decapitation with a sharp instrument, such as a machete" - this seems not only dangerous but probably ineffective in some cases - I would suggest that stunning with a blunt instrument would be best followed by decapitation or exsanguination through cutting the carotid arteries.

Re Note at bottom.

"Generally ratites are watered on transport vehicles". This is regarding misting of birds to reduce the risk of heat stress. They are not watered for drinking.

GB6.5

For processing they are only watered as feed causes problems in processing.

GB6.11 Space allowance - happy to go with Jeff's figures.

GB 6.9 numbers increased to 30

GB 6.10 Numbers increased to 17

GB 6.11

	Emu
Up to 2 mths	.10-.21
2-4 mths	.21
4-6mths	.23
6-9 mths	.26
9-12mths	.32
12-18mths	.38
over 18mths	.41
	Ostrich guidelines
day old	.10
35kg	.19
95kg	.41

GB6.14."Shade to prevent sunburn and skin damage"... Shade really is to reduce heat stress - sunburn and skin damage is not an issue to a normal emu or ostrich.

Feeding and watering facilities should not be on the ground of any yards being used to handle or grade stock.

6.15 I would suggest removing time lines. The key is conditioned as the birds if conditioned to yards when young will remain conditioned.

6.18 Please check as I think this should be 450 (the same as cattle) most ratites are loaded on cattle ramps which works well.

GB6.19 "Transport vehicles should have non-slip, MOISTURE-ABSORBING floor covering i.e. sand, sawdust or wood shavings..."This is totally impractical and not compatible with biosecurity".

Suggest "Transport vehicles should have nonslip floors or grates to ensure birds maintain footing during transport.

Regards

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