



The Modern Game Promotional Society Inc

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23/02/ 2018
Animal Welfare Standards Public Consultation
PO Box 5116
BRADDON ACT 2612

To Whom It May Concern,

RE the Public consultation for the draft Australian Animal Welfare Standards and Guidelines for Poultry

The Modern Game Promotional Society Inc is a group of Modern Game Breeders, Exhibitors and enthusiasts for the perseverance and continual breeding of this historical breed of game fowl. Modern Game Fanciers are passionate about their hobby and are genuinely dedicated to ensuring a high standard of welfare and care for the fowl they keep.

RE: SA9.9 A person must not perform desnooding or dubbing for cosmetic purposes on poultry..

SA9.10 A person must only perform desnooding, dubbing, despurring and web marking on day old hatchlings selected as potential breeders.

Dubbing is not routine for the female counterpart of the Modern Game Fowl due to the smaller sized comb unlike the Male Modern Game Fowl that has the characteristic larger male comb and wattles. The Modern Game fowl cannot be dubbed at day-old. It would be impossible to sex the chicks and there would be no way to avoid dubbing the females.

Modern Game chicks are hatched in incubators or under broody hens. To dub within 24 hours after the chick is recovering from the process of hatching from an egg is to place extra trauma on the chick, when it is using its natural resources to recover from hatching.

When chicks are hatched under broody hens, the broody hen must be left alone to tend to her chicks. If dubbed when 1 day old there could be repercussions of the hen rejecting the chick or attacking the chick.

All Modern Game Males are potential breeders and also potential exhibition poultry and many that are shown are also bred from.

Dubbing of Male Modern Game is recommended at ages of 10 to 12 weeks of age when the comb and wattle are still relatively small allowing for the removal to be done safely by a competent person, which ensures only male birds are dubbed.

Dubbing of the Modern Game Male fowl allows Breeder/Exhibitor males to be housed together and free ranged together without the males causing injury to other males thus allowing them to roost together and benefit from being in larger pens. Dubbing also helps protect the bird from extreme temperatures from suffering unnecessarily from damage to the combs from the weather.

The Modern Game Promotional Society Inc, thank you, for the opportunity to submit our comments to the Animal Welfare Standards Public Consultation.

Please take consideration to allow all Modern Game Males to be dubbed at 10 to 12 weeks.

Yours Sincerely

Rodney Laverty
President for: The Modern Game Promotional Society Inc.

Amanda Fulcher
Secretary/Treasurer for: The Modern Game Promotional Society Inc.