SOP No: ATT 068

SUBJECT: Weigh birds of commercial poultry breeds

DATE ISSUED: 16.07.2014

POLICY: 
Demonstrator: experience in this procedure
Students: competence in handling birds.

PRECAUTIONS: Wear sturdy footwear, and use sun protection if required
Birds should be handled quietly before, during and after the procedure
Understand the flight zone of birds
Wash hands and exposed body parts thoroughly with soap and water after handling birds

EQUIPMENT: Weighing scales, box or other container for confining birds during weighing, sturdy gloves, dust mask if necessary.

PROCEDURE:
1. Set up the weighing scales so that they sit evenly on a secure base. Tare the scales, using the box or other container so that the scales read zero when the empty box is weighed.
2. Enter the pen slowly and quietly, being careful to avoid disturbing the birds. Approach the bird from the rear, gently place your hands around its wings and lift it off the ground. Take the bird out of the pen and place it in the box or other container.
3. When the bird is quiet, read the scale display and record the weight.
4. Carry the bird in the container to a holding pen, carefully remove the bird from the container.
5. When all birds have been weighed, return them to their original pen.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

REVISED: [Signature]

CHAIR OF AEC

REFERENCES