



The culling of day-old poultry

Position Paper
September 2023



Our asks

We ask the European Commission, the Council of the European Union, and the European Parliament to enact the following:

- The prohibition on the killing of day-old chicks and ducklings;
- No derogation to such a prohibition, including chicks kept for breeding purposes or used for animal feed. No derogation for export to third countries;
- A two-year transition period for both white and brown eggs;
- If in-ovo sexing methods are used, they must be applied as early in the incubation period as possible, preferably before day seven, according to the latest available science. If not possible to perform in-ovo sexing before the seventh day of incubation, doing so is permitted up till the ninth day of incubation**;
- Support the development, improvement and use of dual-purpose breeds. The use of dual purpose breeds shall replace specialisation in poultry breeding and is the most preferred solution to the issue of male chick culling.

** This section will be amended or deleted (thus permitting in-ovo sexing only before day 7) when more scientific information is available.

EUROGROUP FOR ANIMALS

© Eurogroup for Animals, September 2023

Eurogroup for Animals
Rue Ducale 29 – 1000 Brussels
Tel: +32 (0)2 740 08 20

info@eurogroupforanimals.org
eurogroupforanimals.org