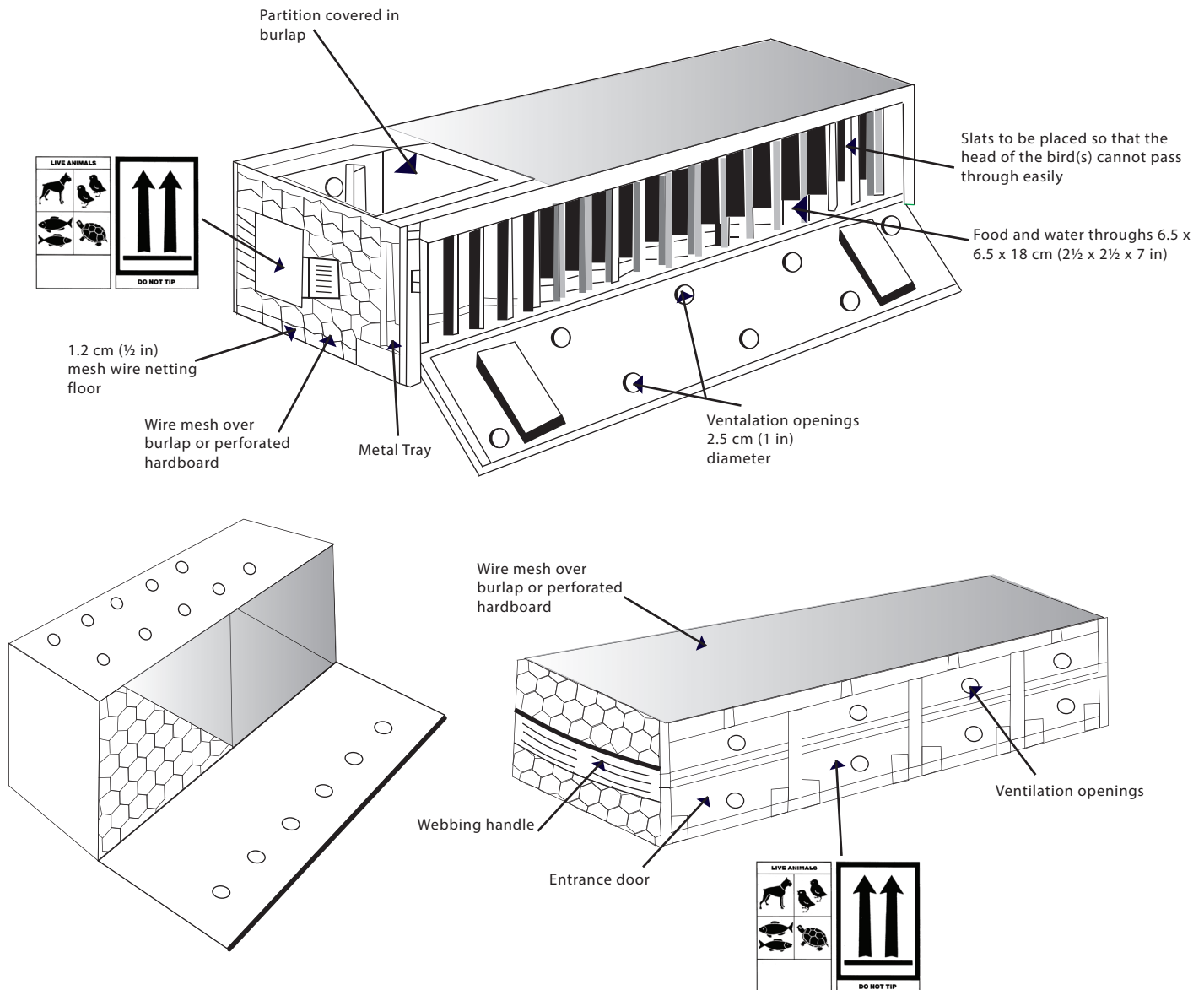


REQUIREMENTS FOR CHICKENS, DUCKS & GEESE



Kindly note: Only the above crates will be accepted. We may not accept any modified or incorrect crates.

MATERIALS

Wood, water-resistant perforated hardboard (pegboard), non-toxic plastic, fiberglass, synthetics and burlap.

SIZE

The normal habits and necessary freedom of movement of the bird species involved will determine the size.

FRAME

A solid wood frame either screwed or nailed and glued with a non-toxic glue.

SIDES

May be either made of perforated hardboard or welded wire mesh over burlap or similar material.

- The welded wire mesh must be no greater than 19mm (3/4 in x 3/4 in) and at least 1.5mm (0.06 in) or thicker.
- The front is barred by slats, spaced at a close distance so that the birds cannot pass their heads through the gaps.
- This must be covered by a hinged flap with 2.5cm (1 in) ventilation openings top and bottom.
- The exception is when domestic poultry or geese and swans are transported in this type of container, in which case the slats must be wide enough for them to pass their heads through in order to feed and drink.
- The interior of the container must not have sharp edges or protuberances on which the birds can injure themselves.

HANDLING SPACER BARS/HANDLES

- Must be provided as shown in the illustration.

FLOOR

- The floor must be solid and leak-proof made of either metal or wood with a false floor of wire mesh fixed 2.5cm (1 in) above the bottom of the container.

PERCHES:

- No perches required.

STOCKING DENSITY

- Ducks must not be packed more than 8-10 per compartment, provided the box size is increased in accordance with the construction guideline principles.
- Large ducks must be packed singly.
- Geese packed singly travel well in proportionally larger containers of this design but the slats in front must be wide enough for them to pass their heads in order to feed and drink.
- Geese may be packed in compatible pairs.

ROOF

- Perforated pegboard or wire mesh over burlap.

DOOR

- There must be a door, sliding or hinged, to each container or compartment of a container.
- There must be a secure means of fastening each door.

VENTILATION

- Meshed ventilation openings, approximately 2.5cm (1 in) in diameter must be provided at approximately 5cm (2 in) distance apart along the front and rear of the container.
- Whenever openings are covered by mesh care must be taken that there are no sharp edges present within the container, all edges must be covered with a smooth material.

FOOD & WATER CONTAINERS

- Separate food and water containers must be provided inside the container and they must be accessible for refilling.
- The water containers for ducks must be flanged to prevent spillage. They must not be able to immerse their heads.
- For domestic poultry, swans and geese the troughs can be placed outside the slats which must be wide enough for them to pass their heads through easily.
- Soldered tin must never be used.

RIGID PLASTIC CONTAINERS

For small numbers or individual birds modified rigid plastic pet containers are suitable for use. The following modifications must be made:

- Non-slip floor matting or similar material must be fixed to the floor of the container
- The door and ventilation openings must be covered with a fine mesh to prevent any part of the bird(s) protruding
- Food and suitable water containers must be fixed inside the container with an outside means of refilling. The water container for ducks must be flanged so that they cannot immerse their heads.
- Labelling must conform to IATA standards for Live Animals
- If a container has wheels, they must be removed or rendered inoperable

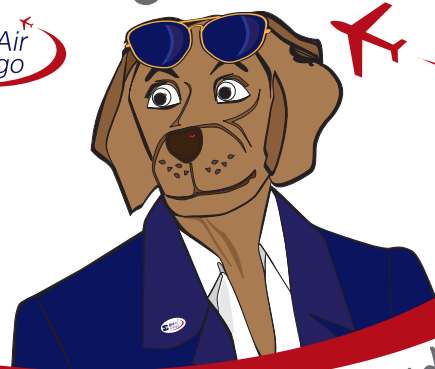
PREPARATIONS BEFORE DISPATCH

- Bedding, such as wood shavings or other suitable material for the species, must be provided.
- It is advisable that shippers must ensure that wild birds have been held after capture for approximately thirty days before dispatch to overcome the stress of capture and allow them to become accustomed to confinement and their new diet.
- It is of the utmost importance that all birds be given, under close supervision, an opportunity to drink ample supply of water before departure.
- Overcrowding must be avoided. Birds must be able to move around freely. On no account must excess birds be loaded to ensure against mortality.

FEEDING AND WATERING GUIDE

- Birds do not usually require additional feeding or watering during 24 hours following the time of dispatch, other than seed provided in troughs.
- If feeding is required due to an unforeseen delay, commercial poultry diets, grain and green food must be provided but care must be taken not to overfeed.

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HEALTH REQUIREMENTS & PERMITS REQUIRED

Since the Avian Influenza (AI) outbreak, the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries made it a requirement for all poultry farmers and live/cull chicken buyers and sellers to register their operations as a form of traceability for AI and other notifiable diseases.

PROCESS

Firstly, complete the Commercial Producer Farm Form (available online www.poultrydiseases.co.za). Read the information form – Protocol/Procedural Manual to understand what is required.

Secondly, Cull buyers have to register on-line at the Poultry Disease Management Agency website www.poultrydiseases.co.za under the cull trader registration and monthly recon button. Once successfully registered a unique registration number will be provided for their operation.

Farmers can also register on the website.

Thirdly, at point of selling/depleting your chickens, you have to ensure that you have a signed health declaration from your private vet/state vet/animal technician and issue a copy to your cull traders in order to start selling. This health declaration is applicable for every batch you will be selling as live chickens.

Lastly, if selling/sending and receiving live chickens across provincial borders, you have to notify your provincial Agriculture Department and obtain a provincial movement permit.

When making a booking for poultry our reservations department will contact the SA Poultry Association to confirm that the sender is registered before sending any poultry via air transportation.

For enquiries contact:

Malesedi Mokgoatheng

South African Poultry Association: Poultry Disease Management Agency

012-529 8298

malesedi@sapoultry.co.za

www.sapoultry.co.za

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