

# FootPad Dermatitis scoring in practice

**score 0** **NO LESION**  
 No or very small superficial lesions, slight discolouration on limited area of the foot pad, mild hyperkeratosis or healed skin.



**score 1** **MILD LESION**  
 Substantial discolouration of the foot pad, superficial lesion, dark papillae.



**score 2** **SEVERE LESION**  
 Ulcers or scabs of significant size, signs of haemorrhages or severely swollen food pad.



## Footpad Dermatitis in broiler chickens

- Footpad Dermatitis (FPD) has become an increasingly important factor in bird welfare and productivity.
- The footpad lesion score card can be used as a management tool to minimize footpad dermatitis on broiler farms.
- Wet litter increases the prevalence of FPD so optimal litter quality should be maintained throughout the year.

## Interpretation of results

The interaction of two following areas is considered when assessing Footpad Dermatitis (FPD).

- Prevalance = % of feet that show presence of FPD
- Severity = seriousness of FPD foot lesions

The Swedish system sets the score at 40 as a pass, whilst other European countries use 80 as a pass. Also 20% or more feet scoring 2 is also a trigger point.

Example calculation of Footpad Dermatitis Score using the Swedish system

| Integrator A<br>Farmer Brown<br>Shed 1 | Footpad<br>Dermatitis Score<br>(using scale 0,1,2) |           |           | Total     |
|--|--|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| broiler chicken<br>feet scored         | 50   | 40        | 10        | 100       |
| Multiplier                             | 0  | 0.5       | 2         | n/a       |
| <b>Adjusted FPD<br/>score</b>          | <b>0</b>   | <b>20</b> | <b>20</b> | <b>40</b> |

**More reference material:** Contact PIANZ phone 09 520 4300 or [www.pianz.org.nz](http://www.pianz.org.nz)  
<http://archive.defra.gov.uk/foodfarm/farminimal/welfare/onfarm/documents/fpd-key-card.pdf>  
<http://animalwelfareapproved.org/wp-content/uploads/2009/10/TAFS7.pdf>

