Hatcheries and individual birds

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Hatcheries and Individual Birds

• Systems for use in hatcheries
• Emergency hatchery clearance

• Killing individual birds
Hatchery Systems

Immediate mechanical destruction (IMD)
• Must be correctly set and maintained
• Proven to be effective
• Slow and steady throughput
• Not suitable for emergency use
• workers find it distasteful

Hatchery Gassing Systems

Rising conveyor belt system

Lift System
Simple Chamber systems

- Important to make a plan on how to depopulate a hatchery
- Dealing with live chicks and embryonated eggs
- Work from both ends
- Eggs in store can be smashed
- Hatching chicks to be gassed
- Early set eggs can be smashed (7 days?)
- Switching off hatchers does not guarantee death of hatching eggs

Emergency Hatchery Clearance
**Individual birds**

- EU Regulation restricted cervical dislocation
- Probably most widely used emergency method
- Based on limited studies and a guess about fatigue
- Alternative methods for Turkeys
- Desire to find a quick, reliable and effective method of other poultry
Captive Bolt

Pliers

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### Project to compare methods

- Manual cervical dislocation and captive bolt we by far the most successful methods
- Captive bolt resulted in shortest time to loss of reflexes
- In repeated use (100 birds) both methods were reliable
- Higher dislocation associated with quicker loss of reflexes

### Novel mechanical cervical dislocation device

- Device to assist MCD
- Improves accuracy and repeatability
- Novices more adaptable than skilled stock people

Dr Jess Martin
University of Edinburgh
New mechanical cervical dislocation device

- Plastic & silicone composite material
- Held between 1st and 2nd finger
- Assists user in achieving a C0-C1 dislocation

Thank you