Working with Poultry

Can youth do this job safely?

Youth must be able to do/have all of the following to perform this job safely:

- Avoid loose clothing, clothes with strings, tie up long hair
- Comfortable around poultry
- Bend safely, using proper bending technique
- Lift object using proper lifting technique
- Attention span long enough to complete work
- Use farmstead equipment
- Easily push/maneuver a loaded feed cart and avoid collisions
- Understand and consistently repeat a 5 step process without written instructions
- Recognize a hazard, problem solve, and respond appropriately
- React quickly to hazards
- Safely demonstrate the job 4 to 5 times
- Maintain two-way communication link
- Change outer clothing and wash hands after job



Adult Responsibilities

- Verify ventilation system is working properly
- Ensure equipment is mechanically sound and safety features are in place
- Ensure work area is free from as many hazards as possible
- Educate youth on avoiding/addressing remaining hazards
- Provide appropriate training, including on animal behavior
- Confirm animals are free of visible disease and injuries
- Provide tools that fit youth's physical size
- Fit youth for a respirator and demonstrate proper use
- Provide appropriate training
- Demonstrate how to safely work with poultry

Supervision

10-11 yrs	Constant supervision (bucket feeding only, limit job to 20 minutes)
12-13 yrs	Constant supervision progressing to intermittent
14-15 yrs	Intermittent supervision progressing to periodic
16+ yrs	Periodic supervision

With conveyor system

14-15 yrs	Nearly constant supervision progressing to intermittent
16+ yrs	Intermittent supervision progressing to periodic

Hazards



Slippery/ uneven surface | Zoonotic disease / Animal contact | Chemicals | Dust, molds & ammonia | Weight

Protective Strategies



Steel toed non-skid shoes | Handwashing | Gloves | Respiratory protection | Eye protection (if needed)



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