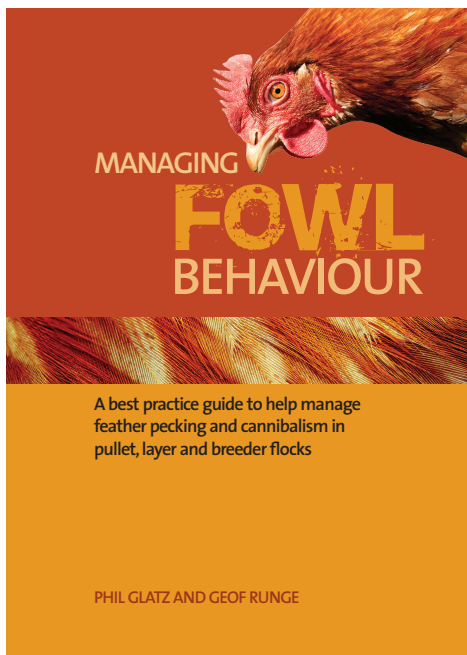


## Addendum of changes – Managing Fowl Behaviour (printed copy edition)

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The corrections detailed below are linked to beak trimming with a hot blade and are based on the recommendation that: Trimming removes no more than *one-half* of the upper beak and one-third of the lower beak using the hot blade technique early in life of birds. Applying this trim including adequate cauterisation time will ensure that regrowth of the beak and neuromas do not occur over the bird's life. A step between the top and bottom beak makes it more difficult for a bird to get a firm grip on feathers and soft tissues of other birds and reduces the risk of feather pecking and cannibalism.

A block trim without the step (often referred to as a straight cut) generally removes no more than one-third of both upper and lower beaks. With this lighter trim, the beak is likely to regrow and the bird will need 2 millimetres of the upper and lower beak retrimming at 8–12 weeks.

If more than one-half of the upper beak or one-third of the lower beak is trimmed there is an increased likelihood of neuromas forming.

### Inside cover

Replace the description of Trimming with:

'Trimming removes no more than *one-half* of the upper beak and one-third of the lower beak using the hot blade technique early in life of birds and *2 mm of the upper and lower beak* for the second trim at 8-12 weeks of age. Other cutting tools can be used but the cut beak must be cauterised.'

### Page 59

In table under the columns 'hot blade beak trimming/disadvantages' in the row 'Neuromas', at the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> sentence add the words 'at 18 weeks of age'.

### Page 70 / 6.8 second paragraph

Replace first sentence in 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph with

'The chicken is held in a pistol grip to beak trim and either a block cut or a step cut is applied removing no more than *one-half* of the upper and one-third of the lower beak.'

### Page 71 / 6.9 paragraph 1

Replace last sentence in first paragraph with:

'If IRBT is not available the chickens can be trimmed at four to six weeks of age using the block cut method of removing no more than *one-half* of the upper beak and *one-third* of the lower beak.'

### Page 73

*Review activities 1 and 2*

For questions 1 & 2 replace the first answer with:

'Block cut removing no more than *one-half* of upper beak and *one-third* of the lower beak'

### Page 79 / 7.5

Replace the first paragraph with:

'For all hot blade beak tipping regimes, the maximum amount of beak that should be removed is *one-half* of the upper beak length from the nares (nostril opening) to its tip with a 2-4 mm step to a lower beak. Removing one-half of the upper beak and one-third of the lower beak early in the bird's life plus

adequate cauterisation time will ensure that regrowth of the beak and neuromas do not occur over the bird's life. If the beak is given a lighter trim, the beak is likely to regrow and the bird will need 2 mm of the upper and lower beak retrimmed at 8-12 weeks. If more than *one-half* of the upper beak and *one-third* of the lower beak is trimmed there is an increased likelihood of neuromas forming. Properly trained and skilled operators can achieve 90 per cent accuracy when hot blade trimming.'

Replace paragraph 4 with:

'The residual length of a block trimmed beak should be *two-thirds* of the length of an untrimmed beak at 18 weeks of age. Where a step is requested between the upper and lower beak, the upper beak should be *two-thirds* of the length of an untrimmed beak at 18 weeks of age and the lower beak slightly longer as listed below.'

## **Page 80**

First paragraph

Replace with:

'Hens older than 30 weeks showing persistent cannibalism may need 2 mm of the upper and lower beak re-trimmed to maintain the correct trimmed or residual length of the upper beak (*two-thirds* of the untrimmed length at 18 weeks of age) and to maintain the correct beak step (2–4 millimetres depending on age). Trimming at this age should be done as a last resort to rescue birds from further cannibalism.'

## **Page 81**

*On the day of hot blade trimming*

Replace paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 with:

### **Ninety per cent (90%) or more beaks should show the following.**

1. Residual upper beak is either *one-half* (step) or *two-thirds* (block) of untrimmed length
2. Residual lower beak is *two-thirds* of untrimmed length
3. Type of trim requested by the farmer has been applied (block or beak step)
4. If a beak step was applied, the step is:
  - a. 1 millimetre if trimmed at 7–10 days
  - b. 2–3 millimetres if trimmed at 10–12 weeks
5. Beak is properly cauterised and there is no bleeding
6. No imperfections, tears, splitting, chapping or swelling of the beak.

### **Nine per cent (9%) or fewer beaks should show the following.**

1. Upper residual beak is either *one-half* (step) or *two-thirds* (block) or slightly more of the untrimmed beak length
2. Lower beak is slightly shorter or slightly longer than *two-thirds* of the untrimmed beak length
3. Beak has not been trimmed according to request (i.e. block or beak step)
4. If a beak step was applied, the step is:
  - a. slightly less or more than 1 millimetre if trimmed at 7–10 days
  - b. slightly less or more than 2–3 millimetres if trimmed at 10–12 weeks
5. Beak is not cauterised adequately and may be bleeding
6. Beak shows minor imperfections in appearance (tears, splitting, chapping or swelling).

### **One per cent (1%) or fewer beaks should show the following.**

1. Residual upper beak is much shorter or much longer than *half* (step) or much longer than *two-thirds* (block) of the untrimmed beak length
2. Lower beak is much shorter or much longer than *two-thirds* of the length of an untrimmed beak
3. Big difference in upper and lower beak length
4. Shape is unlike block (straight cut) or block with step
5. Beak shows major imperfections in appearance (splitting, chapping or swelling).

## Page 82

*At 10-14 days after trimming*

Replace paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 with:

### **Ninety per cent (90%) or more beaks should show the following.**

1. Residual upper beak is either *one-half* (step) or *two-thirds* (block) of the untrimmed length
2. Residual lower beak is two-thirds of untrimmed length
3. If a beak step was applied, the step is:
  - a. 1 millimetre if trimmed at 7–10 days
  - b. 2–3 millimetres if trimmed at 10–12 weeks
4. The wound has healed
5. There are no imperfections, tears, splitting, chapping or swelling of the beak
6. There is a good keratin layer on the beak.

### **Nine per cent (9%) or fewer beaks should show the following.**

1. Upper residual beak is either *one-half* (step) or *two thirds* (block) or slightly more of the untrimmed beak length
2. Lower beak is slightly shorter or slightly longer than *two-thirds* of the length of an untrimmed beak
3. Beak has not been trimmed according to request (i.e. block or beak step)
4. If a beak step was applied, the step is:
  - a. less or more than 1 millimetre if trimmed at 7–10 days
  - b. less or more than 2–3 millimetres if trimmed at 10–12 weeks
5. The wound has not healed and there is presence of dieback
6. Beak shows minor imperfections in appearance (tearing, splitting, chapping or swelling in keratin layer).

### **One per cent (1%) or fewer beaks should show the following.**

1. Residual upper beak is shorter or much longer than *one-half* (step) or much longer than *two-thirds* (block) of the length of the untrimmed length
2. Lower beak is much shorter or much longer than *two-thirds* of the length of an untrimmed beak
3. There is a big difference in upper and lower beak length
4. Shape is unlike block (straight cut) or block with step
5. Beak shows major imperfections in appearance (splitting, chapping or swelling in keratin layer).

## Page 83

*At more than 4 weeks after trimming*

Insert additional paragraph below - *At more than 4 weeks after trimming*

‘The aim is that the residual length of a block trimmed beak should be *two-thirds* of the length of an untrimmed beak at 18 weeks of age. Where a step is requested between the upper and lower beak, the upper beak should be *two-thirds* of the length of an untrimmed beak at 18 weeks of age and the lower beak slightly longer.’

*At more than four weeks after trimming*

Replace paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 with:

**Ninety per cent (90%) or more should show the following.**

1. Residual upper beak is between *one-half* and *two-thirds* (step) or slightly more than *two-thirds* (block) of the untrimmed beak length depending on time since trim
2. Residual lower beak is *two thirds* or slightly more of untrimmed length
3. If a beak step was applied, the step is:
  - a. less than 2 millimetres if birds are younger than 10–12 weeks old
  - b. 2–3 millimetres if birds are 12–30 weeks old
  - c. 2–4 millimetres if birds are older than 30 weeks
4. There are no imperfections (tears, splitting, chapping or swelling of the beak)
5. There is a good keratin layer on the beak.

**Nine per cent (9%) or fewer beaks should show the following.**

1. Upper beak is slightly shorter (step) or longer (block) than *two-thirds* of the untrimmed beak length depending on time since trim
2. Lower beak is slightly shorter or slightly longer than *two-thirds* of the untrimmed beak length
3. Beak has not been trimmed according to request (i.e. block with or without beak step)
4. If a beak step was applied, the step is:
  - a. slightly more than 2 millimetres if birds are younger than 10–12 weeks old
  - b. slightly outside the 2–3 millimetre range if birds are 12–30 weeks old
  - c. slightly outside the 2–4 millimetre range if birds are older than 30 weeks
5. Minor imperfections in the beak's keratin layer (i.e. minor cracks, tears, chapping, swelling of keratin layer or minor lack of keratin layer on upper beak tip).

**One per cent (1%) or fewer beaks should show the following.**

1. Upper beak is shorter than *one-half* (step) or much longer (step and block) than *two-thirds* of the untrimmed beak length
2. Lower beak is much shorter or longer than *two-thirds* of the length of an untrimmed beak
3. There is a big difference between upper and lower beak length
4. Shape is unlike block (straight cut) or block with step
5. Beak shows major imperfections (splitting, chapping, swelling, splitting or grooving of upper beak or no keratin layer on tip of upper beak).

**P87 Summary**

2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph

*For hot blade trimmed birds only*

Replace second dot point with

- 'Layers and breeders should have a residual upper beak length that is *two-thirds* of the length of an un-trimmed beak at 18 weeks. Where a beak step is required a 2–4 millimetre step to the bottom beak is recommended.'

**Page 95**

**Feather cover**

Replace paragraph with:

'Feather cover is better in both infrared treated and hot blade trimmed birds probably because of reduced feather pulling and pecking. Beak trimming that results in *two-thirds* of the upper beak remaining at 18 weeks of age will improve feather cover of adult hens. If feather pulling and pecking persists check to see if beak regrowth has occurred and re-trim birds so that *two-thirds* of the upper beak remains throughout the life of the birds. Floor-reared (litter and/or slats) and cage reared birds have better feather cover as a result of beak tipping.'

**p102/ 9.6**

Replace paragraph with:

'The beak is essential for birds to pick up feed particles, explore their environment, and to preen and defend themselves. The beak surface contains structures that play an important role in enabling birds to discriminate between various food sources. Hot blade trimming results in the removal of sensory receptors with a subsequent reduction in feed intake, pecking efficiency, drinking ability, loss of some temperature and touch responses and occasionally behaviors indicative of persistent pain. Birds can become passive when *two-thirds* of the upper beak and *one-half* of the lower beak is removed with a hot blade early in their life. In birds that have short residual beaks, dry mash tends to block their nostrils, and they are unable to clean out the food trough.'

**P103 /9.8**

Replace paragraph 3 with:

'The other major risk factor for hot blade trimming is the age at which it is performed. It is the only commercially available method for re-tipping birds at present. When older birds are beak trimmed there is a greater likelihood that neuromas will form and result in prolonged chronic pain. It is recommended that when hot blade trimming is necessary, it is carried out in poultry at a young age, preferably during the first week after hatching. A concerted effort should be made to trim no more than *one-half* of the upper beak and one-third of the lower beak and to ensure that operator error is kept to a minimum. Strictly adhering to this recommendation can eliminate extended periods of functional loss, scar tissue, neuromas and misshapen beaks.'

**P131 glossary**

Replace beak trimming definition with

'Removal of up to *one-half* of the upper beak and *one third* of the lower beak early in the life of bird and 2 mm of the upper and lower beak for the second trim at 8-12 weeks of age using the hot blade technique or other cutting tools at any age.'

**p122 Appendices G Part B**

*table – Criteria to be applied when scoring beaks after hot blade trimming*

On day of trim	10–14 days after trimming	At transfer or pecking event or more than four weeks after trimming
<b>Score 3 + 4 for block or score 4 for step</b>		<b>Score 3 + C</b>
<i>Ninety per cent (90%) or more.</i> Ideal beak shape. No imperfections. Correct trim applied.		
Upper beak is either <i>one-half</i> (step) or <i>two-thirds</i> (block) and lower beak is two-thirds of untrimmed length		Upper beak is between <i>one-half</i> and <i>two-thirds</i> (step) or slightly more than <i>two-thirds</i> (block) and lower beak is <i>two thirds</i> or slightly more of untrimmed length depending on time since trim
Correctly cauterised, no bleeding, imperfections, splitting, tears, chapping or swelling	Wound has healed, no dieback, imperfections, splitting, tears, chapping or swelling and good keratin layer on beak	No imperfections, splitting, tears, chapping or swelling or split or grooved beaks
Correct beak step (if applied) is no more than: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 mm at 7–10 days</li> <li>• 2–3 mm at 10–12 weeks</li> </ul>	Correct beak step (if applied) is no more than: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 mm at 7–10 days</li> <li>• 2–3 mm at 10–12 weeks</li> </ul>	Correct beak step (if applied) is: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• less than 2 mm at under 10– 12 weeks of age</li> <li>• 2–3 mm at 12–30 weeks of age</li> <li>• 2–4 mm at more than 30 weeks of age</li> </ul>
<b>Score 2 + 5 for block or score 2 + 3 + 5 for step</b>		<b>Score 2 + 4 + B</b>
<i>Nine per cent (9%) or less.</i> Incorrect trim applied. Minor incorrect beak step length if step applied.		
Upper beak is either <i>one-half</i> (step) or <i>two-thirds</i> (block) or slightly more of untrimmed length and lower beak is slightly shorter or longer than <i>two-thirds</i> of untrimmed length		Upper beak is slightly shorter (step) or longer (block) than <i>two-thirds</i> and lower beak is slightly shorter or slightly longer than <i>two-thirds</i> of the untrimmed beak depending on time since trim
Not cauterised adequately, bleeding	Wound has not healed, presence of dieback	
Minor imperfections — splitting, tears, chapping or swelling	Minor imperfections — tears, splitting, chapping or swelling in keratin layer	Minor imperfections such as splitting, tears, chapping or swelling in keratin layer. Minor lack of keratin layer on upper beak tip
<b>Score 1 + 6 for block or step</b>		<b>Score 1 + A</b>
<i>One per cent (1%) or less.</i> Unlike required shape. Big difference in upper and lower beak length.		
Upper beak is shorter or much longer than <i>one-half</i> (step) or much longer than <i>two-thirds</i> (block) and lower beak is much shorter or much longer than <i>two-thirds</i> of an untrimmed beak		Upper beak is shorter than <i>one-half</i> (step) or much longer (step and block) than <i>two-thirds</i> and lower beak is much shorter or longer than <i>two-thirds</i> of the untrimmed length
Major imperfections — tears, splitting, chapping or swelling	Major imperfections — tears, splitting, chapping or swelling in keratin layer	Major imperfections such as tears, splitting, chapping or swelling, splitting or grooving of upper beak or no keratin layer on tip of upper beak