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Clarification to Pullet Space Allowance Calculation – Section P4.3

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The informational note for Section P4.3 of G.A.P.'s Animal Welfare Pilot Standards for Pullets v1.1 states: *"Space allowance is calculated by taking the square footage of house and dividing it by the number of birds placed."*

Given that:

1. on occasion when hatch rates are better than expected, hatcheries may deliver more chicks to the pullet rearing operation than was ordered, and
2. the space allowance calculation does not account for pullet mortality/morbidity, which will impact the number of birds later transferred to the laying hen operation,

G.A.P. will allow up to a maximum of 4% variation to calculate the maximum number of pullets to be placed within a given barn/house.

Example Calculation:

A pullet rearer has a 1,000 ft² house (93 m²) house. Per Standard P4.3.2, the minimum space allowance during the first four weeks of life is 0.45ft² (0.04m²) per chick.

The maximum number of pullets that can be placed in the first four weeks of age is:

$1,000 \text{ ft}^2 / 0.45\text{ft}^2 = 2,222 \text{ birds} + 4\% \text{ variance (89 birds)} = 2,311 \text{ pullets maximum}$