

HALAL CHICKEN CONCERNS – V1.01 UPDATED 13th May 12, 2023

Salaam Alaykum, Dear community members,

As you are all aware there has been some confusion recently regarding halal chicken slaughter in Australia. We are trying to collect information to satisfy the Islamic requirements, which will take some time.

ISSUE

The issue at hand is the method of slaughter being either ELECTRICAL STUNNING or CAS (GAS) stunning. With regards to the method of electrical stunning the animal is still alive “*at the moment of slaughter*” as advised by various sources, as per FIQH requirements “**the animal must be alive at the point of slaughter**”.

With regards to the CAS (gas) method, the animals are gassed and not able to be revived, placed in a state of unconsciousness, however we have come to know that many of the animals who are gassed die prior to slaughter which does **NOT** meet the FIQH requirement.

We are investigating whether the dead animals are removed from slaughter line, but at this moment of time we do not have sufficient information other than the fact a significant number die prior to slaughter.

PROGRESS

On Thursday 11th May 2023 our scholars and community members spoke to the managing director of Cordina Chicken, which also operates as Summertime Chicken. Cordina has confirmed that they use the ELECTRICAL STUNNING METHOD.

Cordina under various brand names exclusively supplies WHOLE CHICKEN to COLES and in a nonexclusive arrangement supplies items like nuggets and other chicken products (**not all pre prepared items are halal due to the ingredients used**). *We will have a list of compliant products shortly and will provide them to you.*

Furthermore, although we have NOT spoken to some of the companies listed below, we are advised they use the ELECTRICAL STUNNING method, please note **we have not yet spoken to all the companies below.**

Cordina	EL-Amin (Coles Supermarket Halal brand)
La Ionica	Al Eman Poultry
Golden Farms	Fresh Poultry – HAND SLAUGHETR
Bannockburn	Summertime
Nerang Park Poultry	

TO BE DETERMINED – BAIADA (INCLUDES STEGGLES & LILYDALE)

We have been advised by sources that BAIADA uses the CAS (gas) method, the process of using the CAS method that has come to light needs further scrutiny and understanding from ourselves before we can make an informed decision. We ask you to act with extreme caution.

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NEXT STEPS:

- We have requested the opportunity to visit some of the major chicken slaughter facilities so that we can verify their processes in person.
- We have requested a meeting with the managing director of Baiada Chicken.
- We have spoken and requested DATA sheets from the supplier of the CAS system to BAIADA.
- We have requested a list of supermarkets and restaurants supplied by Cordina, as well as a list of processed chicken products that can be confidently traced to Cordina chicken slaughtering facilities.

FOR THE MOMENT

We will continue to update you as we collect more information. At this stage we ask you to be cautious in following your Islamic duties.

IMPORTANT FACTS TO CONSIDER WHEN READING THIS DOCUMENT

RULINGS AND ISSUES TO CONSIDER

1. The main issue in question is electric stunning versus CAS (gas) stunning. Electric stunning itself is not problematic, however, we don't know enough about the rest of the process at each facility (e.g., Qibla and Muslim slaughterman) to validate the entire process at any specific facility and therefore cannot certify the operation.
2. **CAS (GAS) stunning, we are in discussion with the equipment suppliers and have contacted the companies that use the CAS system. We are still investigating the process of gas stunning and trying to reach answers independently. For now, community members may choose to take precaution on this issue and those companies that use this method.**
3. Fresh Poultry in Padstow does hand slaughtering, and a reliable community member has spoken to them however not inspected the facility. Fresh poultry has offered us the opportunity to inspect their facility.

COMMUNITIES NSW

AHL ALBAIT ISLAMIC CENTRE AUBURN || AL JAAFARIYA ASSOCIATION KOGARAH || AL MAHDI MOSQUE CAMPBELTOWN || IMAM ALI CENTRE GUILDFORD || IMAM HASAN CENTRE ANNANGROVE || IMAM HUSAIN ISLAMIC CENTRE EARLWOOD || ERSHAD ISALMIC CENTRE (KATEB HAZARA ASSOCIATION) – LIDCOMBE || MASJID AL RIDA ST. MARYS || NABI AKRAM CENTRE GUILFORD ||

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FATIMA ZAHRA ISLAMIC SCHOOL – BRISBANE || ISLAMIC COUNCIL OF QUEENSLAND – BRISBANE || NORTHERN TERRITORY MOMINEEN – DARWIN || BAZM E AHLEBAIT OF WA INC PERTH