

***Our mission: To continuously improve
the sanitation and quality of hops
used in the brewing and cellaring of great beers.***



Date	21 August, 2014
Location	Double R Ranch, Washington
Purpose	Pre-Harvest Quality Visit

Attendees:	Val Peacock – Hop Quality Group
Keith & Steven Riel	James Ottolini – Schlafly Beer
Kevin Madsen – S.S. Steiner	Jason Ponds – Firestone Walker
David Tobin – S.S. Steiner	Derek Stepanski – Bell’s Brewery
	Jeremy Moynier – Stone Brewing

Operations Description

This is one of two harvesting facilities run by Double R Ranches. This one is removed a bit from the main offices & road. We visited the other site last year.
Picker is open at the front end. Shatterproof lights. Nice, new building well organized, but some bird problems.
Drying area well kept up, but much bird evidence – suspect some nests in some areas.
Security cameras inside buildings in this site a bit removed from the offices. A good touch!

Areas of Concern

No bird netting in the front end of the picking building and other bird-proofing in the building needs updating.
Much evidence of bird activity in the drying area. This needs to be corrected.
Other than the bird problems, no real concerns.
Mildew & soil are building up on the ceiling of the drying area.

Recommendations

Enclose the front end of the picking building or install bird netting of some type.
Update & repair bird screening in the drying area. Block/screen conveyor and other openings during the off-season. Check buildings regularly during the off-season for bird activity.
Consider better ventilation in the drying area. Perhaps fans in the roof to remove moisture.

***The Hop Quality Group thanks you for the privilege of working together
on our commitment to quality hops for great beers.***