



HenCare

EGG STANDARDS

ALL PRODUCTION SYSTEMS

1. The definition of production systems for each farm is as in the State Animal Welfare Regulations and Code.
2. Hens must have permanent access to adequate shade and protection, weather-proof buildings with ventilation, adequate dry litter, food, fresh water, nesting boxes and perches in accordance with the production system used and the current edition of the appropriate State Animal Welfare Code.
3. When artificial lighting is used, the combination of natural and artificial lighting must not exceed sixteen hours in any twenty-four hour period.
4. Natural foods only are permitted with the addition of vitamins and minerals as required for the birds' welfare.
5. Toe trimming, de-snooding and the use of 'poly peepers' is not permitted.
6. All eggs must be candled and handled in accordance with Food regulation in the State in which the farm resides.
7. All eggs to be sold in accordance with the appropriate Food regulations in the State in which the farm resides.
8. All farms shall have an audit system in place for their produce, which complies with HenCare.



9. All birds are to be transported in accordance with Land Transport regulations in the State in which the farm resides.
10. All birds are to be vaccinated in accordance with the appropriate livestock control act in the State in which the farm resides.
11. All farms to comply with the appropriate State Livestock Control Act in which the farm resides. For Biosecurity issues not included in such Acts, the National Farm Biosecurity Manual – Poultry Production and the Egg Industry Biosecurity Code apply as appropriate.
12. Beak trimming to be done in accordance with Egg Industry Accreditation Program.
13. The Committee may, at its discretion, allow a producer to deviate from the above standards, for an agreed time period, in the interest of research which is supervised by a reputable scientific organisation, and reported to the Committee at agreed dates.

Cage Hens

14. The stocking density in cages in a shed is a minimum of 550sqcm per bird as defined in the appropriate State Animal Welfare Regulations.

Barnlaid

15. The stocking density in a barnlaid shed shall be no more than 30kg/sqm bird as defined in the appropriate State Animal Welfare Regulations.

Free Range

16. The stocking density in a free range shed shall be no more than 30kg/sqm bird as defined in the appropriate State Animal Welfare Regulations
17. In accordance with the appropriate State Animal Welfare Code, birds must have easy access to an area on which to range during daylight hours.
18. The land where birds are permitted to range must have shade, shelter and palatable vegetation.
19. The range area must be capable of continued production of vegetation.
20. A reasonable attempt must be made to protect hens from predators at all times.