Global Laying Hen Certification Schemes Comparison Table

How various laving hen standards compare to the CIWF criteria for higher animal welfare: Laving Hens

now various layin	ig nen stand	uarus comp	rds compare to the CIWF criteria for higher animal welfare: Laying Hens Minimum requirements for higher welfare systems								Additional recommendations for higher welfare systems					
				William requirements for higher wenter systems							Additional recommendations for higher wenare systems					
Certification	Label / Initiative	Country	Are laying hens cage-free?	Are pullets cage- free? ¹	Are combi systems forbidden? ²	Do hens have enough space? ³	Do hens have sufficient nest boxes to lay their eggs on?	Do hens have access to perches?	Are hens provided with litter on the floor? ⁴	Do hens have additional opportunities for pecking, scratching & dustbathing? ⁵	Do hens have access to natural lighting?	Is beak trimming forbidden?	Do hens have access to an outdoor range?	Do hens have access to a wintergarden?	Is the elimitation of male chicks after hatching prohibited?	
LEGEND			YES	YES - pullets reared cage free and any initial confinement ≤ 2 weeks	YES	YES - Maximum 7 hens/m² of usable area and Maximum 15 hens/m² of floor area	YES - Colony : 1 m² of nest area/120 hens Individual : 5 hens/nest max	YES - at least 18 cm/hen of usable perching space ⁶	YES - Litter on at least 1/3 of the floor area and 250 cm ² of litter area/hen (meets EU legislation) ⁷ Litter present from day 0	VEC - 32 tunor of anrichment	YES - Daylight-permeable surfaces represents at least 3% of the floor surface	YES - Beak trimming is forbidden	YES - Covered range (eg trees, bushes, artificial shelters)	YES - Well-designed and enriched veranda or wintergarden, not included in the stocking density calculation	YES - Male chick culling prohibited. Any in-ovo sexing must be performed by ED 9	
LEGEND				YES - pullets reared cage free, length of initial confinement not specified or > 2 weeks		YES - Maximum 9 hens/m² of usable area And Maximum 18 hens/m² of floor area	YES - Colony : 1 m² of nest area/120 hens Individual : 7 hens/nest max (meets EU legislation)	YES - 15 cm/hen of usable perching space (meets EU legislation)	YES	YES - ≥1 type of enrichment in the barn (dustbathing, scratching, pecking) OR range access provided	YES		YES	YES - Veranda or wintergarden provided	YES - Male chick culling prohibited	
EU Organic Standards	1/1	EU	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	NO	NO	
EU Barn Standards	()	EU	YES	NO - no pullet	NO - not specified		YES	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	
EU Free-Range Standards	100	EU	YES	NO - no pullet	YES	MAYBE - Total usable area: 9 hens/m²	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO	
Hen's Ask ⁹	EUROGROUP EANIMALS	EU	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	MAYBE - for new sheds only	YES	
Certified Humane	CERTIFIED	Global	YES	MAYBE - on litter	YES	NO - up to 11 hens/m² of total usable	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	
Certified Humane (free-	RAISED & HANDLED	Global	YES	MAYBE - on litter	YES	area	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO	
Pemeter (Bio - Dynamic	demeter	Global	YES	YES	YES	YES	MAYBE (YES in EU) - quantity	MAYBE - perch length	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	
Research Institute) Australian Certified Organic		Australia	YES	YES	YES	YES	not specified YES	not specified YES	YES	YES	YES	MAYBE - not carried out	YES	NO	NO	
Egg Standards of Australia	- SALDO	Australia	YES	YES	NO - not specified	1.0	YES	MAYBE - 15 cm per hen	NO - only recommended <	NO	NO	routinely NO	NO	NO	NO	
(Barn) Egg Standards of Australia	(ESA)	Australia	YES	YES	YES	NO - up to 12 hens/m² of usable area	YES	but 7.5 cm/hen allowed in some circumstances		YES	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO NO	
(Free Range) Free Range Egg and Poultry	1			NO - no pullet	YES	NO - up to 10 hens/m² of total usable	YES		VES	YES	NO NO	NO NO				
Australia Ltd	MOREO.	Australia	YES	standards		area	· 	YES		1			YES	NO	NO	
Humane Choice	Humane Choice	Australia	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO	
Organic Food Chain		Australia	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	MAYBE - unclear	YES	YES	NO MAYBE - permitted, but	YES	NO	NO	
RSPCA Approved (Barn)		Australia	YES	YES	NO - not specified	MAYBE - total usable area: 9 hens/m² (But 7 hens/m² for floor-based	YES	YES	YES	YES	MAYBE - recommended	guidance to phase out beak trimming	NO	NO	NO	
RSPCA Approved (Free- Range)		Australia	YES	YES	YES	systems)	YES	YES	YES	YES	MAYBE - recommended	guidance to phase out beak trimming	YES	NO	NO	
Productor do Bem (Level 1, Indoor)		Brazil	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO	
Productor do Bem (Level 2, Indoor Plus)	Produtor do Bem	Brazil	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO	
Productor do Bem (Level 3, Free Range)		Brazil	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	NO	NO	
China Chain Store & Franchise Association ¹⁰	SIC 中間支債経管協会 XXXP、Cone Cone Porch Foreign Associates	China	YES	YES	YES	NO - up to 11 hens/m² of total usable area	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO	
Biocohérence	Bio	France	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	NO	MAYBE - national legislation in place	
Etiquette Bien-Etre Animal : Level D 11	Annu	France	YES	YES	YES		YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	
Etiquette Bien-Etre Animal : Level C 11		France	YES	YES	YES	MAYBE - Total usable area: 9 hens/m²	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO	YES	YES	
Etiquette Bien-Etre Animal:		France	YES	YES	YES		YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	
Level B 11 Etiquette Bien-Etre Animal :		France	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	
Level A 11 Label Rouge	ANNU POST ACADO	France	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	NO	MAYBE - national	
Nature et progrès	e	France	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	MAYBE - if range unavailable	legislation in place MAYBE - national	
KAT (barn, free-range)		Germany	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES		MAYBE - only for free-range	legislation in place YES	
KAT organic	KO T	Germany	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES YES	YES YES	YES	
		Germany	YES	MAYBE - on litter	YES	MAYBE - total usable area: 6 hens/m²,	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	
Neuland	FÜR MEHR				MAYBE - 1 week restriction	up to 4 tiers allowed										
Tierschutz (1 star)	FÜR MEHR	Germany	YES	YES	permitted	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES	
Tierschutz premium (2 star)	TITERSCHUTZ OUTGONNOOTSOOT O	Germany	YES	YES NO - no pullet	MAYBE - 1 week restriction permitted	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	
Agriqualita	A QUAL	Italy	YES	standards	NO - not specified	MAYBE - total usable area: 9 hens/m²	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	

	Minimum requirements for higher welfare systems Additional recommendations for higher								er welfare systems							
				T T		illillillilli requirements	ioi iligilei wellare	systems			Additional recommendations for higher wenate systems				113	
Certification	Label / Initiative	Country	Are laying hens cage-free?	Are pullets cage- free? ¹	Are combi systems forbidden? ²	Do hens have enough space? ³	Do hens have sufficient nest boxes to lay their eggs on?	Do hens have access to perches?	Are hens provided with litter on the floor? ⁴	Do hens have additional opportunities for pecking, scratching & dustbathing? ⁵	Do hens have access to natural lighting?	Is beak trimming forbidden?	Do hens have access to an outdoor range?	Do hens have access to a wintergarden?	Is the elimitation of male chicks after hatching prohibited?	
LEGEND			YES	YES - pullets reared cage free and any initial confinement ≤ 2 weeks	YES	YES - Maximum 7 hens/m² of usable area and Maximum 15 hens/m² of floor area	YES - Colony : 1 m² of nest area/120 hens Individual : 5 hens/nest max	YES - at least 18 cm/hen of usable perching space ⁶	YES - Litter on at least 1/3 of the floor area and 250 cm ² of litter area/hen (meets EU legislation) ⁷ Litter present from day 0	MEC >3 house of envishment	YES - Daylight-permeable surfaces represents at least 3% of the floor surface	YES - Beak trimming is forbidden	YES - Covered range (eg trees, bushes, artificial shelters)	YES - Well-designed and enriched veranda or wintergarden, not included in the stocking density calculation	YES - Male chick culling prohibited. Any in-ovo sexing must be performed by ED 9	
LEGEND				YES - pullets reared cage free, length of initial confinement not specified or > 2 weeks		YES - Maximum 9 hens/m² of usable area And Maximum 18 hens/m² of floor area	YES - Colony : 1 m² of nest area/120 hens Individual : 7 hens/nest max (meets EU legislation)	YES - 15 cm/hen of usable perching space (meets EU legislation)	YES	YES - ≥1 type of enrichment in the barn (dustbathing, scratching, pecking) OR range access provided	YES		YES	YES - Veranda or wintergarden provided	YES - Male chick culling prohibited	
Beter Leven: 1*	Beter Leven	Netherlands	YES	NO - no pullet standards	YES	MAYBE - total usable area: 9 hens/m²	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO	YES	NO	
Beter Leven: 2*	Beter Leven	Netherlands	YES	NO - no pullet standards	YES	MAYBE - total usable area: 9 hens/m ^a	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES	NO	
Beter Leven: 3*	Beter Leven	Netherlands	YES	NO - no pullet standards	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	
Philippine National Standard (cage-free)		Philippines	YES	NO - no pullet standards	NO - not specified	NO - up to 10 hens/m² of total usable area	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	
Welfair 12	6	Spain				Standard	ds not public				Standards not public					
South African Poultry Association (Barn) 13	~~	South Africa	YES	NO	NO - not specified		NO	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	
South African Poultry Association (Free-range)	\mathcal{P}	South Africa	YES	NO	YES	NO - floor area : up to 12 hens/m²	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO	
ANDA (Asociación Nacional para la Defensa de los Animales)	ANDA	Spain	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	MAYBE - not permitted except under veterinary prescription	YES	NO	NO	
KRAV	KRAV	Sweden	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	
EAST certified standards (Cage Free Alliance EAST)	1	Taiwan	YES	NO - no pullet standards	MAYBE - only for free range	MAYBE- total usable area: 9 hens/m²	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO	MAYBE - only for free range	NO	NO	
DLD Cage-Free Egg Farm Standards Certification	2	Thailand	YES	NO	NO - not specified	MAYBE - total usable area: 9 hens/m²	YES	MAYBE - length not specified	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	
<u>Lion Barn</u>	British	UK	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	
Lion Free-Range	Lion cost	UK	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO	
Organic farmers and growers	OF&G	UK	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO	
RSPCA Assured (Barn)		UK	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	
RSPCA Assured (Free-range)	RSPCA ASSURED	UK	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO	
Soil Association	Q.	UK	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO	
American humane certified (cage-free)		US	YES	MAYBE - on litter		NO - up to 11 hens/m² of total usable	YES	MAYBE - Over 15 cm/hen but edge of tier	YES	NO	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO	
American humane certified (free-range and pasture)	Same.	US	YES	MAYBE - on litter	NO - temporary confinement up to 4 weeks allowed at night	area	YES	may be counted as perch	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	NO	NO	
Animal Welfare Approved (AWA)	ANIMAL WILL FARE	US	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	MAYBE - dual-purpose breeds recommended	
Global Animal Partnership (level 1)	ANUMAL MULTIPLE CONTINUES	US	YES	NO - no pullet standards	YES	YES	YES	MAYBE - not sufficient (12.5 cm/hen)	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	
Global Animal Partnership (level 2)	ANIMA	US	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	MAYBE - not sufficient (12.5 cm/hen)	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	
Global Animal Partnership (level 3)	A Million A Line Control of the Cont	US	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	MAYBE - not sufficient (12.5 cm/hen)	YES	YES	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO	
Global Animal Partnership (level 4)	ANIDAL WILLIAM	US	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	MAYBE - not sufficient (12.5 cm/hen)	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES - under bad weather conditions	NO	
Global Animal Partnership (level 5)	ANIMAL WELFARE CRITIFIED	US	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	MAYBE - not sufficient (12.5 cm/hen)	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO	
Global Animal Partnership (level 5+)	AND	US	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	MAYBE - not sufficient (12.5 cm/hen)	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO	

V	0	te	2	5		

9 Hen's Ask

Association

1 Pullets If the standard is requiring a floor based system and/or an outdoor access for pullets, we assume that the system is cage-free and the standard is marked green.

If the standard clearly specifies that combi systems are prohibited OR requires free access to all tiers/the floor/the litter within an aviary system OR requires free-range access, the standard is marked green ² Combi systems

The Hen's Ask is not a certification scheme but a set of criteria defined by Eurogroup for Animals and its members to define higher welfare standards for laying hens in Europe.

If the standard allows a temporary confinement up to 1 week OR the standard allows confinement 1 week by the provides range access, the standard is marked for angel if the standard desen't specify any of the criteria above, the standard is marked red if multi-tier systems are limited to make 3 keek (floor + max. 2 tens) with a stocking density 5 7 hers/m³ of usable area, the standard is marked light green.

³ Density

If the standard indicates a maximum indoor stocking density 5 9 hens/m² of usable area, without specifying any limitation at floor level, the standard is marked orange. If the standard specifies the litter substrate (eg. straw, sawdust), we assume that adequate litter was provided from day 0

All systems with outdoor access automatically scored as yes. If the standard doesn't require any other dustbathing substrate than litter, we assume that there isn't additionnal area for dustbathing. ⁵ Enrichment

CIWF Best recommendation: At least 22 cm/bird usable perching space is provided. ⁶ Perches

CIWF Best recommendation: Litter is provided over the whole floor area, at least 560cm² per hen.

⁸ Enrichment CIWF Best recommendation: Minimum of 4 pecking substrates per 1000 hens and extra opportunies for dustbathing.

10 China Chain Store & A set of guidelines that provide best practices for cage-free egg production suited to China for small- and medium-sized egg producer enterprises.

The specifications will be available for free download from 29 October 2024 11 Etiquette Bien-Etre Animal

An outcomes-based certification scheme based on the Welfare Quality® and AWIN protocols 12 Welfair

13 South African Poultry Set of guidelines compiled by the Southern African Poultry Association as a guide for all poultry and poultry products produced in South Africa.

If the standard doesn't clearly address a criteria that is covered by EU regulation (barn, free-range or organic rules), we assumed compliance with the EU legislative requirements. For EU based standards: