

HOW WE PROTECT THE HEALTH AND WELFARE OF OUR HENS

We care about the health and welfare of our hens. We want them to be well-cared for, with plenty of nutritious food, clean water, fresh air, light, and room to stretch their wings, walk around, and lie down.

We also want to protect them from their natural predators like fox, hawks, coyotes, and even stray cats and dogs; and we want to make sure they are protected from the weather ... snow and ice in the winter, searing heat in the summer and thunderstorms and hail almost any time of the year.

To provide our hens that optimum protection, we have built modern, sanitary cage housing systems that the leading animal welfare and behavior scientists credit with reducing the diseases and mortality of hens, and nearly eliminating food borne diseases. This housing system allows for small groups of hens to be housed together, which is important because chickens tend to be social creatures. This housing system also allows us to inspect them daily and address any health or welfare issues that occur. The hens have continuous access to clean water and are fed several times a day.

But most importantly, this modern, sanitary cage housing system allows our hens to lay their eggs in a clean cage environment, so that their eggs quickly roll out of the cage and onto a conveyor belt that carries them to our sanitary processing room where the eggs are washed, inspected, and graded. Then the eggs are packed and loaded onto trucks to be delivered to your grocery stores and restaurants, often within hours of when they were freshly laid!

While our grandparents might have allowed chickens to roam free in their yard, leading animal welfare scientists now say that hens raised that way tend to be in poorer health, with more diseases, and in more danger from predators and weather than their counterparts raised in modern, sanitary cage housing systems like ours. And most importantly, eggs from our modern, sanitary cage housing systems also tend to be cleaner and disease-free.

Egg farmers who adhere to strict guidelines for animal welfare proudly display the UEP Certified logo on their egg cartons. More information about the UEP Certified guidelines can be found at www.uepcertified.com LOOK FOR THIS LOGO TO BE SURE IT'S CERTIFIED!

