



Why Do Egg Laying Hens Need Specific Laws to Protect their Welfare?

Laying hens are sentient beings. They have the capacity to feel pain and suffering, joy, and stress. They are intelligent beings with striking personalities and deserve to feel safe in the world-just as every other animal does. They need specific laws to protect.



1. **Their freedom of movement-** the cages have only six hundred square meters of usable space whilst for one bird to behave naturally they need two thousand five hundred square meters. Due to the limited space, they can get no respite from each other, flap their wings or turn comfortably.



2. **Freedom from stress-** whilst in their confinement they get stressed and aggressive with one another. Due to stress, they end up pecking each other and to stop this their beaks are often trimmed, putting them in a state of constant pain.



3. **Freedom to roam around-** in nature hens will spend about 50% of their time foraging and scratching at the ground and are also highly motivated to dustbathe. Due to the confinement in the cages they then fail to exercise their freedom as they are being fed from a feeder.



4. **Freedom of staying in a comfortable and harmless habitat-** caged hens have reduced bone strength, more fractures and bone deformities due to their suffocating lives behind bars. The wire floors cause pain they are filthy and are not sanitised sufficiently.