

March 2023

Animal Welfare Statement

Animal welfare is a fundamental commitment for us. We are committed to treating all poultry under our care in a safe and humane manner and to continuously improving our animal care practices as more scientific research and other evidence becomes available.

We work every day to build a culture of understanding toward the principles of animal care, ensuring that our birds are healthy, safe, and secure. Our success depends on the good care and attention that we provide to our birds.

Our poultry team members are trained in proper animal care practices as part of our standard training procedures. Our team members provide our birds with a safe, clean, and well-maintained environment, ensuring that feed and water are continuously available. The equipment in our poultry houses is made with materials that are safe and non-toxic. Poultry technicians monitor the birds daily by observing their behaviour and by providing additional care if necessary. Our commitment to caring for our birds continues through their entire life, including their end-of-life.

Our poultry management programs meet or exceed the requirements of the Egg Farmers of Canada Animal Care Program, which is based on the Code of Practice for the Care and Handling of Pullets and Laying Hens (2017). This Code of Practice applies to all housing systems for both pullets and laying hens. It was developed by a committee comprised of veterinarians, scientists, egg farmers, egg processors, and representatives of Humane Canada and the Canadian Food Inspection Agency. The new Animal Care Program based on the most recent Code will be in effect as of May 2023.

We have a zero-tolerance policy regarding the unacceptable treatment of our animals. In fact, we have written our zero-tolerance position into our policies and practices. Our poultry team members review our Animal Care Program annually.

It is the responsibility of every employee and visitor to take immediate corrective action if they observe employees or other persons engaging in animal cruelty, abuse, or neglect. All incidents of potential animal abuse, neglect, or cruelty encountered in our facilities must be reported to management immediately. Any form of cruelty, abuse, or neglect of any birds under our care will not be tolerated and may be grounds for immediate disciplinary action up to and including dismissal.

Animal welfare is a high priority for us, and it influences everything we do on the farm!

