



Health & Consumers Directorate General

Member States Reports on the welfare of laying hens

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Legal basis

■ Council Directive 98/58/EC

- Article 6 Member States shall submit reports to the Commission on the inspections carried out to check compliance with the welfare of farm animals

■ Council Directive 1999/74/EC

- Article 8

■ Commission Decision 2006/778/EC

- Sets precise requirements

Decision 2006/778/EC

- Reporting of animal welfare inspections in farms
- Analysis of the most serious findings of non-compliances and a national action plan to prevent or decrease their occurrence for the forthcoming years
- Annual report no later than 30 June since 2009
- Format: Table 1 of Annex IV of the Decision

Table I Annex IV CD 2006/778/EC

| Animal category | Laying hens | | | |
|--|-------------|------|---------------|-----------------|
| Farming method | Free range | Barn | Enriched cage | Unenriched cage |
| Number of production sites subject to inspection | | | | |

Data received (1)

■ Data missing

- 2009: 7 MS out of 27 after one reminder
- 2008: 1 MS out of 27 after one reminder

■ Data incomplete

- Total number of laying hen holdings without details
- Total number of laying hen in cages without differences between unenriched and enriched cages

Data received(2)

■ Data inconsistent

- Organic farms/ barn / free range
- Backyard farms

■ Data sometimes not consistent with data provided to DG AGRI

■ Data not representative to do statistics for the 27 MS and assess the situation

Conclusion

- Complete data from all Member States needed in order for Member States and the Commission:
 - To assess the situation
 - To ensure the implementation of the ban of unenriched cages by 1 January 2012