

To whom it may concern:

As a consumer of eggs, I try to make purchases that are ethical. However, the current system of labelling offers me no assurances that what is labelled “free-range” is any better than a cage environment.

I think one possibility is to offer producers and consumers 4 tiers:

1. Cage eggs
2. Barn-laid eggs or “limited space” eggs that offers between 1 and 2 square metres of space per chicken.
3. Free-Range eggs offers 2+ square metres of space per chicken.
4. Organic eggs = Free-Range + a suitably appropriate diet for the chickens (eg. free of hormones)

The category that the eggs belong to should be clearly labelled on the box of eggs in a font that occupies no less than 10% of the space on the lid of the egg carton. Furthermore, next to this label, there should be a website address that directs interested consumers to a website that clearly outlines what are the parameters of each of the categories.