

## Chickens in your backyard

Many people purchase chickens as pets and to have a few hens. It is important to understand the management of hens.

- Check your local council laws.
- Poultry housing hygiene is critical. Nesting, roosting areas and enclosures should be sanitised regularly
- Safeguard and understand diseases such as Avian Influenza, Salmonella Enteritidis and Infectious bronchitis which can affect both humans and poultry
- Check when you purchase chickens, which vaccinations the birds have had to safeguard against diseases.
- Understand biosecurity protocols. You should not visit places with other birds if you have your own hens. This could cause the movement of diseases between flocks.
- Re-using old egg cartons is a disease risk –
  - You can contact any cardboard/egg carton packaging company usually found in a capital city.
  - There is also a risk of legal breaches using corporate branded packaging without permission
  - Or sometimes commercial egg farmers are happy to on-sell you a few new blank egg cartons from their supply stock.

Information is available from a range of sources.

- QLD Government - <https://www.business.qld.gov.au/industries/farms-fishing-forestry/agriculture/livestock/poultry/poultry-farming-queensland/egg-production/producing-safe-eggs>
- NSW Government <https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/animals-and-livestock/poultry-and-birds/poultry-planning-and-keeping>
  - **New South Wales is under a control order for Salmonella Enteritidis (SE)**

From the 30 June 2020, a control order was put in place in NSW to minimise and manage the biosecurity risk of Salmonella Enteritidis (SE). It is important for egg producers are aware of this order, covering issues such as the restrictions on movement of machinery. The order is in place for 2 years from the date of introduction.

[https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0019/1149400/Biosecurity-Salmonella-Enteritidis-Control-Order-30-June-2020.pdf](https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0019/1149400/Biosecurity-Salmonella-Enteritidis-Control-Order-30-June-2020.pdf)
- Victorian Government - <https://agriculture.vic.gov.au/biosecurity/animal-diseases/poultry-diseases/keeping-backyard-poultry>
- WA Government - <https://dpird.wa.gov.au>
- PIRSA - [https://www.pir.sa.gov.au/biosecurity/food\\_safety/eggs](https://www.pir.sa.gov.au/biosecurity/food_safety/eggs)
- TAS Government - <https://dpiw.tas.gov.au/biosecurity-tasmania/animal-biosecurity/animal-health/poultry-and-pigeons/biosecurity-poultry-and-pet-birds>



- ⇒ ACT Government – [https://www.actsmart.act.gov.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0010/1066906/Actsmart-Chickens-WEB.pdf](https://www.actsmart.act.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0010/1066906/Actsmart-Chickens-WEB.pdf)
- ⇒ NT Government - <https://nt.gov.au/industry/agriculture/livestock/keeping-poultry-and-pigeons>
- ⇒ Australian Eggs website – [www.australianeggs.org.au](http://www.australianeggs.org.au)
- ⇒ Egg Farmers of Australia - [www.eggfarmersaustralia.org](http://www.eggfarmersaustralia.org)

**Australian Eggs Ltd** is the research and marketing representative body for the egg industry.

**Egg Farmers of Australia** is the advocacy representative body for the egg industry.

***Do you wish to sell your eggs? – You will require Accreditation***

Check on the accreditation you need to sell eggs from your farm or at the local markets.

\*Note that wholesalers selling eggs from an accredited producer do not need an additional licence.

