



**Animal
Welfare for
the poultry
business
Policy**



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Objective

This policy defines commitments and offers guidelines for the production and commercialization of products from the egg/poultry sector, for national brand and own brand, following sustainability standards according to the national poultry sector.

Introduction

The egg is a protein food that provides about 6 grams of protein per unit, the one needed in the body for the production of different kind of hormones and enzymes, and for tissue generation and regeneration. The egg is one of the animal origin foods with the best fat composition, it contains 4.8 grams of fat in the yolk, of which 35% is saturated and 65% is unsaturated. This content is important for its energy and fat-soluble vitamins input such as vitamin A and D, which are needed to maintain the skin, different kind of tissues and the eye (they help to maintain a good vision). Furthermore, the egg contains minerals such as phosphorus that is necessary to maintain the health and integrity of bones and teeth. Grupo Éxito is aware of its responsibility in nutrition, and it offers a broad portfolio to its customers, including the egg for being one of the most natural and economical proteins in the market that plays a fundamental role in the nutrition for the Colombian population.

Due to the importance of the egg in daily diet, it is necessary to give sustainability guidelines including animal welfare and the five freedoms given and defined by the Farm Animal Welfare Education Center (FAWEC), so that the growing demand for products that harmonize values and expectations about the farm animals' welfare at different stages of the respective production process is addressed. The consumption of animal protein is directly associated with productive practices, thereby Grupo Éxito promotes with its allies and suppliers the set of actions and procedures that guarantee the proper functioning of animal's body, their emotional state and the possibility of expressing their natural behaviors

Grupo Éxito represents 3% of the national sales market for the egg category, and despite not being directly involved in the breeding, handling, transportation or transformation processes, it promotes the deepening and continuous improvement of the processes included in the poultry sector, always demonstrating a commitment on animal welfare, quality, safety, the environment, labor rights and the applicable regulations enacted by the National Government and its affiliated organizations.

Grupo Éxito promotes the practices framed in sustainability criteria in its operation and in its supply chain, for which reason it obeys the Corporate interest of favoring those suppliers that implement actions with guidelines in their sustainable productive practices, which will be defined in this policy on animal welfare in egg production and the conditions of laying hens.



The commitments acquired in this policy have as a precedent the work that has been carried out with the National Federation of Aviculturists of Colombia FENAVI, who have the scope and technical capacity for the definition with the different stakeholders, the generation of certifications or sustainability seals for their affiliates and producers.

Scope

This policy applies to the commercialization of own brand and national brand eggs.

Declaration

Grupo Éxito, being the retail leader in Colombia, follows the guidelines mentioned below:

- 🍳 All the commercialization of own brand eggs category corresponds 100% to a production of hen free from cage confinement.
- 🍳 Since 2019, it's been worked jointly with the FENAVI poultry guild, where it has been sought to create a seal with sustainability criteria for the sector. As soon as this project is concretized with interest groups and approved by the National Government, Grupo Éxito is committed to promote this certification for 100% of its suppliers three years after its enactment.
- 🍳 The growth and development of suppliers towards production practices with animal welfare attributes are encouraged and promoted, giving preference to those who demonstrate their commitment through national and international animal welfare certifications (Certified Humane®, Facta Welfare Assurance, Certification & Training, FENAVI *Sostenible*, among others) and from supplier farms with an animal welfare denomination in productive practice, based on compliance with legal requirements, including Law 1774 of 2016 (against animal abuse in Colombia), Decree 2113 of 2017 (animal welfare for production species in the agricultural sector) and Resolution No. 3651 of the Colombian Agricultural Institute (bio-safe poultry farms of posture and / or lifting).
- 🍳 The consumer is informed through a positive differentiation of sustainability practices in the poultry sector at the points of sale of our innovative formats, as well as through labeling, advertising and sustainability reports; in order to sensitize customers and encourage the purchase of certified or sustainable denomination products.

Definitions

Animal welfare: The concept of animal welfare includes three elements, the proper functioning of the organism (which among other things assumes that the animals are healthy and well fed), and the emotional state of the animal (including the absence of negative emotions such as pain and chronic fear) and the possibility of expressing some normal behaviors typical of the species. (FAWEC, s.f.)

Animal welfare is guaranteed when the five freedoms are maintained (FAWEC, s.f.):

- ✓ Does not suffer from hunger or thirst: supply of water and adequate food according to its needs
- ✓ Does not suffer discomfort: proportion of adequate environment, shelter and rest areas.

- ✓ Does not suffer from pain, wounds or diseases: adequate prevention, diagnosis and quick treatments.
- ✓ Expresses natural behavior or normal patterns of behavior: it is provided with the necessary space, adequate facilities and the company of more animals its species.
- ✓ Does not be afraid or anguish: the necessary conditions are guaranteed to avoid mental suffering.

Related documents

Letter sent to Grupo Éxito by the National Federation of Poultry Farmers of Colombia - FENAVI National Poultry Fund on May 14, 2019, on the commitment to generate sustainability seals for the poultry sector.

References

FAWEC. (s.f.). Farm Animal Welfare Education Centre. Obtenido de ¿Qué es el bienestar animal?



**comercio
sostenible**