

Posters spread word on codes

Two separate livestock industry organisations have taken the initiative to ensure the codes of welfare affecting producers are effectively communicated to people working in their industries. The Egg Producers' Federation and Pork Industry Board have each developed posters which outline the key requirements of the relevant codes. In support of the code of welfare for pigs, the Pork Industry Board has also undertaken initiatives involving compliance audits and research.

Animal Welfare (Layer Hens) Code of Welfare

The layer hen code of welfare came into force on 1 January 2005 and sets out the minimum standards that must be met by the owner or person in charge of layer hens on any property.

The 50-page code has been distributed to Egg Producers' Federation (EPF) members and made available online.

The code is relevant to farmers engaged in any one of the three egg production systems: barn, cage or free range.

Accompanying the code, and also available online, was a document comparing the new and old welfare guidelines.

In response to feedback from members, a laminated poster has been distributed which describes to farm staff 'at a glance' the legal requirements set out in the code of welfare. Designed to be displayed where staff will see it every day, the poster assists with implementing the code and ensuring compliance.

A similar laminated poster detailing avian influenza symptoms and the appropriate contact details was distributed at the same time.

The EPF welcomes any additional feedback that may assist communication of these important welfare and safety issues.

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For a copy of the layer hen code of welfare and comparison document:



■ [www.eggfarmers.org.nz/
industryissues.htm](http://www.eggfarmers.org.nz/industryissues.htm)