

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What are the standards for on-farm euthanasia?

A: Standards for on-farm euthanasia are set out in guidelines by the Australian Egg Corporation Limited. It is standard industry practice that spent hens are euthanised in a controlled purpose built gas-filled container to cause death by hypoxia using monitored levels of carbon dioxide.

Q: Why don't you give away the chickens instead of euthanising them?

A: We offer all of our spent hens for sale to the public for eggs and meat throughout the year. As we care for thousands of spent hens at a time, it is not possible to find enough homes for all of these hens every cycle.

Q: How long have you practiced on-farm euthanasia?

A: Previously our hens were sent to a processing plant, but the company we supplied to found the process was no longer economically viable. As a result, on-farm euthanasia has only been practiced on our property in recent years.

Q: Are you the only producer to use on-farm euthanasia practices in WA?

A: No, on-farm euthanasia is a common, cost-effective and compliant method of spent hen depopulation and as a result it is widely used by producers in WA in all methods of production including Cage, Barn and Free Range.

Q: What are you doing to improve your practices?

A: We're currently investigating advanced, custom-made technology to enhance our on-site facilities. We have also invited the RSPCA WA to inspect our new equipment ahead of future depopulation operations.

Q: How often are you audited?

A: Our farm facilities and products are audited every year and spot audits can be conducted at any time. On 2 June 2016 an independent auditor completed an inspection and confirmed our Quality Assurance Certification.

Q: How often do the RSPCA WA inspect your facilities?

A: We continue to work closely with the RSPCA WA to ensure our practices meet industry and animal welfare standards. We've also invited the RSPCA WA to inspect our new technologically advanced equipment prior to our next hen depopulation.