Cage Requirements

Summary of the phase-in schedule for cage size standards; please refer to ORS 632.835 and OAR 603-018-0005 for definitions and further clarification. (Note: OAR 603-018-0005 will be amended in the near future to include the rest of the phase-in schedule from January 1, 2017, through January 1, 2026.):

1. As of January 1, 2012:

a. Small battery cages are immediately prohibited.

b. Any enclosures constructed or otherwise acquired before January 1, 2012, must meet standards equivalent to the requirements for certification established by the United Egg Producers' (UEP) Animal Husbandry Guidelines for U.S. Egg Laying Flocks, which include:

i. Any enclosure constructed or otherwise acquired prior to December 31, 2003 must provide a minimum "house average" space allowance of 67 square inches of floor space per hen for White Leghorns, and 76 square inches of floor space per hen for Brown Egg Layers;

ii. Any enclosures constructed or otherwise acquired after December 31, 2003, but prior to January 1, 2012, must provide a minimum of 67 square inches of floor space per hen for White Leghorns, and 76 square inches of floor space per hen for Brown Egg Layers;

c. Any enclosures constructed or acquired on or after January 1, 2012, must meet, or be convertible into enclosures that meet standards equivalent to requirements for certification of enriched colony facility systems established in the American Humane Association's (AHA) farm animal welfare certification program, which includes:

i. Enclosures must provide a minimum of 67 square inches of floor space per hen for White Leghorns, and 76 square inches of floor space per hen for Brown Egg Layers; and

ii. Must be convertible to an enclosure allows a minimum of 116.3 square inches of floor space per hen, including nest, and not less than 17.7 inches of height; or

iii. Must allow a minimum of 116.3 square inches of floor space per hen, including nest, and not less than17.7 inches of height.

2. As of January 1, 2017:

a. Any enclosures constructed or otherwise acquired before January 1, 2012, must

meet the same UEP equivalent standards listed above in 1.b.;

b. Any enclosures constructed or acquired on or after January 1, 2012, must meet standards equivalent to requirements for certification of enriched colony facility systems established in the American Humane Association's (AHA) farm animal welfare certification program, **with no enclosure providing less than 116.3 square inches of floor space per hen, including nest, and not less than 17.7 inches of height.**

3. As of January 1, 2020:

a. Any enclosures constructed or otherwise acquired before January 1, 2012, must meet the same UEP equivalent standards listed above in 1.b.;

b. Any enclosures constructed or acquired on or after January 1, 2012, must meet the standards listed above
in 2.b.;

c. No less that 25% of all enclosures on the farm must meet standards equivalent to requirements for certification of enriched colony facility systems established in the American Humane Association's (AHA) farm animal welfare certification program (116.3 square inches of floor space per hen, including nest, and not less than 17.7 inches of height.)

4. As of January 1, 2023:

a. For those enclosures constructed or otherwise acquired before January 1, 2012, the same standards listed above in 1.b., apply;
b. Any enclosures constructed or acquired on or after January 1, 2012, must meet the standards listed above
in 2.b.;

c. No less that 65% of all enclosures on the farm must meet standards equivalent to requirements for certification of enriched colony facility systems established in the American Humane Association's (AHA) farm animal welfare certification program (116.3 square inches of floor space per hen, including nest, and not less than 17.7 inches of height.)

5. As of January 1, 2026:

a. All enclosures on a commercial egg farm must meet AHA standards with no enclosure providing less than 116.3 square inches of floor space per hen, including nest, and not less than 17.7 inches of height.