



Organic Food Federation

Information Sheet for Producers

Issue 001

004

Issue Date: 21/03/2022

Avian Flu Compulsory Housing Order

This guidance refers to labelling of eggs.

Additional new housing measures came into force 29th November 2021. The measures were introduced in response to the increased risk from avian flu, an Avian Influenza Protection Zone (AIPZ) has been in place in the England. Scotland and Wales. The order required that all outdoor flocks are to be housed.

it is a legal requirement for all bird keepers to follow biosecurity measures and keep their birds indoors to reduce and eradicate the prevalence of the flu until further government guidelines are issued.

The housing measures do not impact the ability of producers to label eggs as organic if they continue to meet all aspects of our organic Standard. Eggs can continue to be marketed as organic regardless of the duration of housing.

However, the 16-week "grace period" to maintain free-range status under the housing measures ended today, Monday 21 March 2022. Eggs can no longer be labelled and marketed as free-range.

References to 'free-range' should not appear on eggs and packaging.

For more information, please visit <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/avian-influenza-bird-flu#advice-for-the-public>