



## Ohio Administrative Code Rule 901:12-9-01 Definitions.

Effective: February 13, 2025

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The administrative rules in Chapter 901:12-9 of the Administrative Code apply exclusively to poultry layers as defined in section 904.01 of the Revised Code and Chapter 901:12-3-01 of the Administrative Code.

(A) "Cage Housing Systems" means one of the following layer housing systems:

(1) "Conventional battery cage system" is a housing system in an enclosed or open-sided building where the layer is maintained in a cage, and which does not meet the definition of an enriched cage system in paragraph (A)(2) of this rule; and

(2) "Enriched cage system" is a housing system that provides features in addition to feed and water, such as areas for nesting, scratching, perching, and/or dust bathing.

(B) "Cage-free Housing System" is a housing system where the layers are not exclusively housed in a cage. This includes, but is not limited to free-range pasture, aviaries, fixed houses, portable houses, pasture pens, and integrated systems.

(C) "Existing Farm" for purposes of this chapter, means all land that houses pullets, layers, or breeders utilizing any housing system as of the effective date of this rule, and any land contiguous to such "existing farm" acquired by the owner or operator of the "existing farm" before or after the effective date of this rule. The sale, transfer and/or partition of an "existing farm" after the effective date of this rule does not void its status as an "existing farm."

(D) "Conditioning" is the trimming of the beak or the partial/complete removal of the comb, toenail, and dewclaw for the purpose of prevention of injury during the growth or maturity of poultry.

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