

# On-farm animal welfare: Review of EU laws

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## On-farm animal welfare for certain animals: modernisation of EU legislation

### What is changing and why?

The European Commission is reviewing its on-farm animal welfare rules, including the use of cages in breeding, and the killing of male day-old chicks in the laying hens sector. The on-farm animal welfare rules of the European Union (EU) currently do not apply to imports of animals and animal products. **The EU will review to what extent these animal welfare rules should apply to imports, in particular for poultry, pigs, calves, and rabbits, and their products.**

### Actions

The consultation via the European Commission's [Have Your Say](#) webpage closed on 16 July 2025.

### Timeline

The European Commission aims to carry out consultations in 2025 and present a proposal for new rules in 2026.

For more information see the [full record](#) on the AGRINFO website – where you can also view the latest [AGRINFO Update](#) newsletters and [search](#) the database.

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