

**Question for written answer E-001145/2022
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Aurélia Beigneux (ID)

Subject: Identifying the origin of eggs in food products

There are over 350 million laying hens in the European Union. These hens produce around 6.7 million tonnes of eggs per year.

While consumers can choose the origin of eggs in the shell, the origin of eggs used in food products (sold in shops or cooked) is more difficult to control: often imported from third countries, they come from caged farms (15 to 60 hens have to share a space so small that it is difficult for them to spread their wings; the floor is made of wire-mesh and causes leg injuries). European legislation is too weak, and advertising is too often deceptive (consumers do not even know where the eggs in food products come from).

In accordance with Directive 2002/4/EC, each egg is marked with the producer code and a first number indicating the farming method and the country of origin.

1. Will the Commission consider labelling the origin of eggs used in food products containing eggs?
2. How can the Commission provide us with information on the methods used to import these eggs?
3. Does the Commission know whether hygiene rules are being respected in third countries?