



**Fluffetts Farm Ltd,
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Monday 21st March 2022

Dear Fluffetts customer

I hope this finds you well.

Following the latest veterinary advice from DEFRA all Free Range Egg producers in the UK are instructed to continue with the housing order that has been in place since 29.11.21 as a guard against the risk of Avian Flu. Under current rules birds are permitted to be housed for 16 weeks before having to be reclassified from Free Range to Barn eggs. This point will have been reached for eggs laid Monday 21.03.22 and we will be complying by changing the code on our eggs from 1UK to 2UK. Based on experience from previous years we both hope and expect this to be a short term measure as the Avian Flu risk typically declines in line with migratory bird movements and change in the seasons.

Our four flocks are still free to move within their houses with access to feed, water, scratch areas for dust bathing and plenty of fresh air thanks to good ventilation. We have already taken steps throughout this winter and previous high risk AI years to enrich the environment for our hens with peck blocks, grit and perches to stimulate natural behaviour and work to maintain high welfare standards. We are constantly monitoring our birds and take all possible steps to minimise stress and ensure they have the best possible life under the circumstances.

We will be providing our customers with DEFRA approved notices to display at point of sale, amending our printer to 2-UK Barn Egg coding, and applying consumer notification stickers to all our labels and retail packs. There will be a short period of overlap in classification between eggs produced up to the 21st of March and those laid after that date, and then again when the housing order is lifted. All UK free range egg producers are in the same boat in respect to this disruptive issue, kindly please bear with us as we adapt to the new legal requirements placed upon us.

We will be sending this letter by email to all our customers and a sending copy with every order despatched over the course of the next fortnight. Attached to the email will be copies of official notices from DEFRA and point of sale signage, stickers will also be sent out from 21.03.22 to retail customers who buy loose tray eggs for sale in their own packs.

Thank you for your understanding in what is proving to be a challenging period for chicken farmers. We very much hope to see our girls return to their free roaming habits in the very near future.

Please contact me directly by phone or email if you need any further advice on how this impacts your business.

Kind regards

Thank you

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