

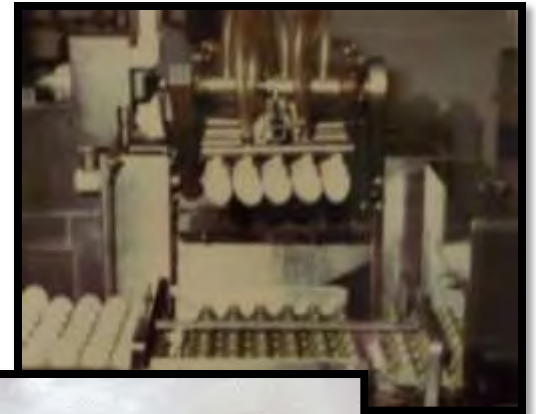


HICKMAN'S

family farms









Arlington South, AZ



Arlington Facilities, AZ



Grand Junction, CO



Valley Center, CA



Arlington North, AZ



Maricopa, AZ







HICKMAN'S
family farms

Our Family and Employees are fully committed to providing the best care for our flocks.
 Upon entrance of these barns and throughout your work day, please keep these five principles in your thoughts at all times.

As an employee of Hickman's Family Farms, you agree to provide the flock with:

- 1. Freedom from Hunger and Thirst**
By ready access to fresh water and feed to maintain full health and vigor.
- 2. Freedom from Discomfort**
By providing an appropriate environment including shelter and a comfortable resting area.
- 3. Freedom from Pain, Injury and Disease**
By prompt use of rapid diagnosis and treatment.
- 4. Freedom to express normal behavior**
By providing sufficient space, proper facilities and knowledge of the outside world.
- 5. Freedom from Fear and Distress**
By avoiding conditions and treatment which do not present a need for killing.

Any persons involved in actions that counter these principles will face IMMEDIATE TERMINATION and potential criminal charges.
 Witnesses of such actions who choose not to notify their direct supervisor will face the same repercussions.

Nuestra familia y empleados están completamente comprometidos a proveer el mejor cuidado para nuestras aves.
 Al entrar a estos granjes, y durante su turno de trabajo, por favor siempre mantenga estos cinco principios en mente.

Cada empleado de Hickman's Family Farms, está en el momento de aceptar que nosotros somos quienes care:

- 1. Libertad de hambre y sed**
Al proveer acceso libre a agua fresca y alimento para mantener una salud completa libre de riesgo.
- 2. Libertad de incomodidad**
Al proveer un ambiente apropiado que incluye protección y un área cómoda para descansar.
- 3. Libertad de dolor, lesiones y enfermedad**
Al operar la prevención o tratamiento ser diagnóstico y tratamiento rápido.
- 4. Libertad de expresar comportamiento normal**
Al proveer espacio suficiente, las facilidades adecuadas y conocimiento sobre las actividades.
- 5. Libertad de miedo y estrés**
Al asegurar condiciones y tratamientos que no presenten un riesgo de muerte.

Cualquier persona involucrada en acciones que violen estos principios enfrentarán una TERMINACIÓN INMEDIATA y potencialmente cargos criminales.
 Trabajos de otros acciones que opten de no notificar a su supervisor directo enfrentará las mismas repercusiones.

TUV SUD America Inc.
10 Centennial Drive
Peabody, MA 01963 USA

Certificate of Registration

This is to certify that the Quality Management System of

Hickman's Family Farms
32425 W. Salome Highway
Arlington, AZ 85522

is registered in meeting the requirements of the
SQF 3000M CODE
Level 2 - Hazardous HACCP Food Safety Plans.

REGISTRATION SCHEDULE	78100
12. Egg Processing	Fresh Shell

Valid from: August 25, 2010
 Valid until: August 25, 2010
 Issued by: [Signature]
 License Code: [Signature]

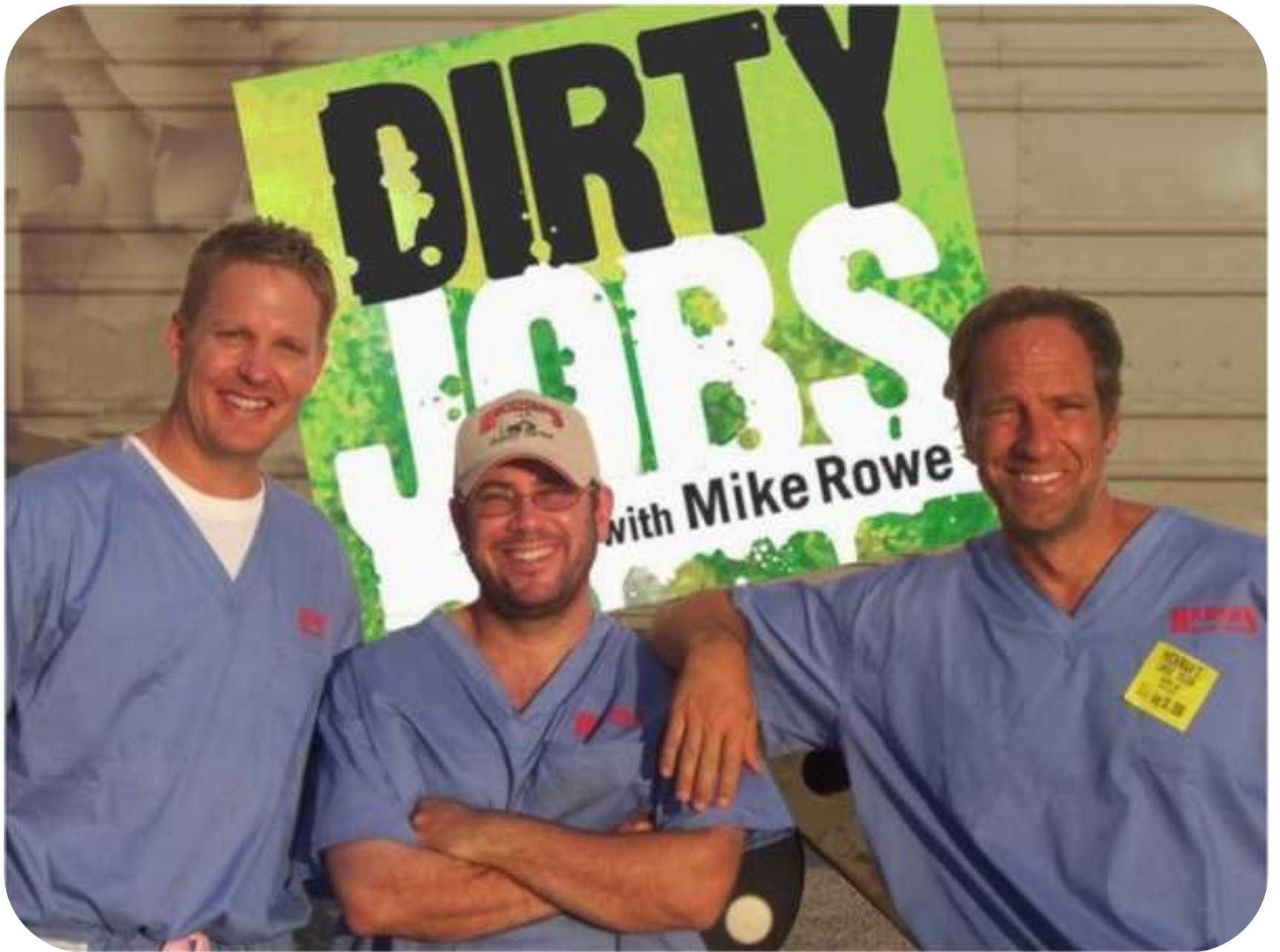
Condition Number: 101532

United States Department of Agriculture

USDA

This Certificate Awarded to
Hickman Egg Ranch
 a.k.a.
 USDA-AMS
PLANT SYSTEMS AUDIT PROGRAM 200





IT'S A DIRTY JOB

Click to play Dirty Jobs Video
at Hickman's Family Farms



Home About Proposition 2 Our Coalition Jack The Cashmere Action Center Newsroom Contact Us

Californians for SAFE Food

NO on Prop 2

According to the **WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION**, transmission of bird flu from poultry to humans results in "very severe disease" and "could mark the start of a global outbreak (a pandemic)."

Donate Frequently Asked Questions Resources

Vote NO on California Proposition 2

NO on Prop. 2 - Breaking News

August 24, 2009 **AVMA** issues statement on California Proposition 2

BOULDER, CO - The largest and most respected veterinary association in the United States is cautioning that the California ballot initiative, Proposition 2, while admirable in its attempt to address the behavioral needs of animals, contains important public health standards that may hurt the animals they are intended to help.

The American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) issued a statement today, which, in part, reads: "The AVMA believes Proposition 2, 'Standards for Confined Farm Animals,' is admirable in its goal to improve the welfare of production farm animals; however, it ignores critical aspects of animal welfare that ultimately would threaten the well-being of the very animals it strives to protect." [Read More](#)

Read more

Receive NO on Prop. 2 News Updates

Enter your e-mail address and name to receive NO on Prop. 2 news updates.

First Name

Last Name

I'm a Registered Farm

WHY OPPOSE PROPOSITION 2?

Undermines animal welfare and food safety in California

Threatens food safety and increases Salmonella risk

Jeopardizes public health

Eliminates fresh, safe and local eggs, forces a dependence on eggs from Mexico and other foreign

Threats our consumption areas and rates

Breaks coalition of public health and food safety experts, farm animal consumers, family farmers and veterinarians opposed

JOIN UP TO JOIN THE COALITION

Proposition 2 is a risky, dangerous and costly measure forcing almost all in-state egg production in California:

Vote NO on Prop. 2. It's the UP-SAFE Food Initiative.

Organizations: [Donorship/Debitive Form](#)

Individuals: [Donorship/Debitive Form](#)

NEWS UPDATES

Start tracking NO on Prop. 2 news updates! [Sign-up here.](#)

SUBSCRIBE TO OUR E-NEWS

CDC PANDEMIC INFLUENZA STORYBOOK

Check out the CDC Pandemic Influenza Storybook.



Californians for SAFE Food

NO on Prop 2.com

Californians for SAFE Food. Supported by Moock, LLC and Foster Poultry Farms. NO on Proposition 2.

Californians for SAFE Food

NO on Prop 2.com

Keep our food SAFE

VOTE NO!



AZ VETERINARIANS SAY NO on 204

It's
HOGWASH



NO to PETA

Why is Prop 204 HOGWASH?

- ➔ Prop 204 is supported by out-of-state animal rights activists, like PETA, with a national political agenda.
- ➔ Prop 204 will create more useless bureaucracy that will force farmers out, causing the meat for our dinner tables to come from foreign countries.
- ➔ Prop 204 will add unnecessary regulation, driving up food costs for all of us.

NO on 204

NO on 204 - It's HOGWASH

What is Prop 204?
Prop 204 is a voter initiative that will force farmers to raise their animals in cages that are not safe for the animals. This will force farmers to raise their animals in cages that are not safe for the animals. This will force farmers to raise their animals in cages that are not safe for the animals.

PETA Supports Prop 204

Just how much will Prop 204 cost? \$

Why is Prop 204 hogwash?

- ➔ They say their campaign is an Arizona initiative, but the same initiative can be found in California, New York, and Washington, D.C.
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NO on 204 - It's HOGWASH

Why is Prop 204 Hogwash and why vote 'NO'?

- ➔ They say their campaign is an Arizona initiative, but the same initiative can be found in California, New York, and Washington, D.C.
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Tell the animal rights activists they can go back to update New York and Washington D.C. where they came from!



Vote NO on 204

www.Prop204.com

Vote YES on 204

Paid for by Campaign for Arizona Farmers & Ranchers with major funding by AZ Cattle Feeders Assn., AZ Pork Council, American Farm Bureau, EquineHealth.com, AZ State Assoc. of Public Protection, Commodity Council, AZ Cattlemen Assn., AZ Dairy Producers Assn., AZ Horse Breeders Assn., AZ Livestock & Horse Assn., and Animal Dominion in AZ. P.O. Box 1343, Wickenburg, AZ 85626. 602-622-2860. www.azfarmersandchickens.com

Opponent's Strategy

#1



- Grassroots
- "Just turn around"
- Animal cruelty theme
- Compassion/guilt
- Appeal to conservatives
- Sheriff Joe Arpaio/Cheryl Naumann/Paul Harvey
- \$1 million media buy in final three weeks
- Outspend

(click to view TV ads)

#2



#3



#4



#5



CAMPAIGN FOR ARIZONA FARMERS & RANCHERS





Jan Brewer



Janet Napolitano



Gabrielle Giffords



Cory and Beth



Chad Campbell



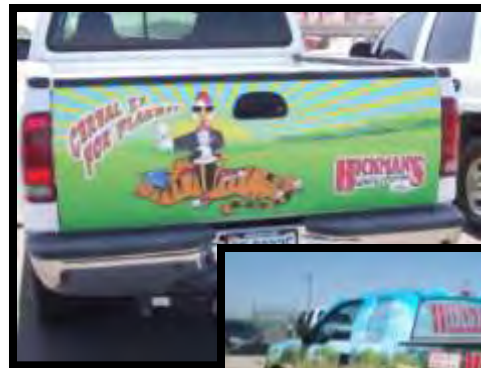
Ken Bennett



Sheriff Joe



Farm to Fork Tour





PILOT PROJECT

STEP 1: MOW LAWN

STEP 2: PUT LAWN CLIPPINGS IN HICKMAN'S BIN

STEP 3: PROCESS CLIPPINGS FOR USE IN HICKMAN'S FERTILIZER

STEP 4: FERTILIZE LAWN WITH RECYCLED FERTILIZER FROM HICKMAN'S

STEP 5: SEE STEP 1





eggs donated this year [pledge now](#)

Eat good. Do good every day. From Farm to Table | [Meet Our Farmers](#) | [Farmers Feeding the Hungry](#)

- Episode 1**
Welcome To Our Family Farm
- Episode 2**
See how eggs go from our farm to your store
- Episode 3**
Take a look at our innovative operation
- Episode 4**
Take a look at our community involvement



[Home](#) | [About](#) | [Arizona Produce In Season](#)

A Day for Chicks to Shine! Mom Bloggers Flock to Hickman's Family Farms

APRIL 19, 2010

by [@lilyrojo](#)

tags: [farmers](#), [researchers](#), [social food](#), [food production](#)

Join to nine popular Farm to Table Mom Blog supported by American

feature myriad topics following from all among all the bloggers, and preparation. want that agriculture How Many Pounds Lost?



Mom Bloggers go hands on at Hickman Egg Farm





EGG ON TOP

Supporting 65 years of Eggs on Top.
 The American Egg Board (AEB) is proud to present the "Egg on Top" campaign.

The AEB is the world's largest international association of the major egg-producing nations and has been working to increase egg consumption in all kinds of dishes. Why not start by adding eggs to your pizza? Eggs on Top is a delicious and healthy way to get your daily protein. Visit www.eggsontop.com for more information.

Introducing 65 years of delicious and egg-ceptional. Hubsch's Family Farms has joined the AEB's campaign to encourage their fans "Egg on Top" this year.

Order our "Egg on Top" pizza from November 23, and we'll donate \$1 to St. Joseph's Food Bank. Hubsch's Family Farms will donate that amount.

Join your whole pizza for \$10 and support a worthwhile cause. Visit www.eggsontop.com for more information.






WEST VALLEY LIVING | COMMUNITY & BUSINESS

Proceeds from hike to assist the homeless

St. Joseph the Worker helps needy find jobs

By Lisa Miller
 Contributing Writer

As the community celebrates the success of a group of people who raised money for the St. Joseph the Worker Food Bank, the group is also celebrating the success of a group of people who raised money for the St. Joseph the Worker Food Bank.

The hike, which was held on Saturday, was a great success. The group raised over \$1,000 for the St. Joseph the Worker Food Bank. The group also had a great time and enjoyed the hike.

The St. Joseph the Worker Food Bank is a great organization that helps people in need. The bank provides food, clothing, and other necessities to people who are homeless or in need. The bank is a great resource for people who are in need.

The group that raised the money for the St. Joseph the Worker Food Bank is a great group. They are a group of people who are dedicated to helping people in need. They are a group of people who are making a difference in the community.

The St. Joseph the Worker Food Bank is a great organization that helps people in need. The bank provides food, clothing, and other necessities to people who are homeless or in need. The bank is a great resource for people who are in need.





Benefits of factory farms just illusions

If they updated the movie, Dorothy wouldn't live on Uncle Henry and Auntie Em's farm. The tornado would blow her away from a corporately owned concentrated animal feeding operation. I'm guessing she'd settle down in Oz instead of going back.

Unlike the old American family farm, there is nothing particularly cozy about the way most meat, dairy products and eggs are produced these days.

Farmers used to be decentralized and independent. There were lots of them and they all produced a variety of agricultural products. Now, a few big players use concentrated, factory-inspired techniques to produce a single product measured in animal units.

Linda Valdez

Republic columnist



Calling them animal units instead of animals sounds efficient and modern. Treating them like units instead of sentient creatures raises moral questions.

Presented with photos of pitiful baby calves that are immobilized during short, grim lives for the sake of producing tender veal, a lot of people cringe. In Arizona, voters banned crates to confine calves and pregnant sows.

But the system goes on.

To paraphrase Uncle Henry: "We can't go against the law of free enterprise, Dorothy."

Or so we are told.

Modern farming methods are more efficient. That, we are told, is what matters.

Yet evidence has been mounting for years about the problems that result from factory farming. There's the evolution of drug-resistant strains of bacteria as the result of overusing antibiotics on animals that are prone to disease when kept in close confinement. There is the vast amount of animal waste produced in these huge operations.

Most people didn't know about the nauseating practice of using cattle brains and spinal tissue in feed for other cows until the practice was banned in an effort to curb the spread of mad cow disease.

It raised nagging questions about the philosophical underpinnings of factory farming that went beyond mad-cow disease. Cows were never meant to be cannibals. Animals were never meant to be units on a production line. At what point does this quest for efficiency undermine our moral authority as stewards of the planet?

Food is something sacred. We gather over it during family celebrations. We pray before we eat it.

An animal raised with respect for its needs and inherent qualities, and then humanely slaughtered, fits the image of food we bless for the health it gives our body.

But what about animals treated with contempt? Earlier this year, an undercover operation by the Human Society of the United States resulted in footage of downer cows being prodded, beaten or hauled by forklift to slaughter in apparent violation of the law.

A downer cow, one that falls and can't get up, is more likely to have mad-cow disease. But it wasn't just the risk of disease that made this so troubling. Forget sentimentality. The lack of respect and compassion for these living creatures suggested a spiritual deficit. If we are what we eat, what does this make us?

Efficient? Cost-effective? Modern?

A new report suggests even that is an illusion. A team of researchers from the Pew Commission on Industrial Farm Animal Production, funded by the Pew Charitable Trusts, did a 2½-year study that found factory farming is only an economic success story if you fail to consider the full costs to public health, the environment and rural communities.

"Farmers relinquished their onerous, autonomous, animal husbandry decision-making authority in exchange for contracts that provide assured payment, but require substantial capital investment," they wrote. "Such contracts make it nearly impossible for there to be open and competitive markets for most hog and poultry producers."

They wrote that "while we are raising approximately the same number of swine as we did in 1950, for example, we are doing so on significantly fewer, far larger farms, with dramatically fewer farm workers." Corporate ownership draws investment and wealth away from rural communities where the farms are located, they said.

Other things stay in those communities.

Like huge amounts of waste.

The researchers found that more than a million people use groundwater that shows moderate or severe contamination caused, in part, by this animal waste. Runoff from these operations carries antibiotics and hormones, pesticides and heavy metals.

Air pollution from ammonia, hydrogen sulfide and methane gases can cause respiratory problems for nearby residents, and increased higher rates of neurobehavioral and neuropsychiatric abnormalities have also been documented, researchers say.

The list of problems goes on (find the report, "Putting Meat on the Table: Industrial Farm Animal Production in America," at www.ncifap.org).

The costs of factory farming are high.

If we can't go back to Uncle Henry's farm, maybe we can move forward to a new system of smaller farms that are based on sustainability and diversity. Like Dorothy's quest to go home to Kansas, the difficulties might be more a matter of perception than reality.

And the wizards who insist we have to continue elevating efficiency above all else may just be men blowing smoke.

Cage-free egg farms peck away at consumer reality

I toured a couple of egg farms and changed my buying habits.

It started with a column I wrote a while back about factory farming. I questioned the morality of treating food animals like cogs in an industrial machine. Some farmers took issue.

Clint Hickman of Hickman's Family Farms took me on a tour of the egg farm his family runs near Buckley.

I saw some of the 4 million hens Hickman's has in so-called battery cages. Animal-rights advocates find these cages so offensive they are trying to get voters in California to outlaw them.

Stacked one upon another, these cages rose high above me and stretched in long rows.

A group of chickens lays eggs in those cages for about two years. Then the birds are euthanized, and new chickens are brought in.

As I walked down one row, the birds at my level went nuts. They flapped and cackled wildly, filling the air with dust and feathers. The daylight at the far end of the building grew dimmer. Alfred Hitchcock came to mind.

It is efficient, though. The cages are at a slight tilt so that the eggs roll onto a conveyor that collects them. Under each row of wire-bottomed cages is another conveyor belt onto which the chickens' manure falls and is periodically carried away. It gets composted and sold.

The chickens calmed down after I walked by. The dust and feathers settled quickly, too. The barn was clean. The birds looked healthy.

This wasn't Birdie Paradise, but it wasn't Avian Hell, either.

It wasn't nearly as bad as I expected. Yet, these weren't the hens I like to imagine when I crack an egg into a pan.

I wanted to see happier chickens. The next stop on my chicken tour was another family-owned egg operation. This one, Armstrong Egg Farms of Valley Center, Calif., supplies the cage-free eggs Hickman's sells in Arizona.

Here I saw hens, thousands of them, milling around freely in large sections of long barns. Layers of chicken excrement build up on the floor during the chickens' lives. After the flock is euthanized, the barn is cleaned and a new flock is brought in. Nest boxes are available, but some hens lay eggs on the floor, where they rest on the chicken poop until workers collect them.

Neither Hickman nor Ryan Armstrong, vice president of his family's farm, likes to eat the eggs produced in cage-free chicken houses. He says they take home eggs from the flocks of caged birds the farm also raises. "Those eggs roll out so much cleaner," he says.

Other things made me uncomfortable about cage-free chickens, too.

The older birds didn't have many feathers around their necks because they peck each



MARK HENLE/THE ARIZONA REPUBLIC

Eggs roll along during a wash cycle at Hickman's Family Farms near Buckley.

other in a constant struggle to establish status in a huge flock. By contrast, a small group of caged chickens soon establishes a pecking order and squabbles are fewer, Hickman says.

The cage-free flock has twice the mortality rate of his caged flock, Armstrong says. Broken bones are more common among the cage-free birds. If the flock gets spooked, they pile up on one another, crushing those at the bottom.

"People think by spending more money on cage-free eggs they are creating a better life for that chicken," Armstrong says.

I was one of those people. I've changed my mind.

After the second tour, Hickman asked what type of eggs I'd be buying in the future.

"I'll go to the farmers market," I said.

Aha, he replied, but those eggs are produced in completely unregulated conditions from chickens that may or may not be healthy. He said some farmers-market eggs were found to have been washed in detergent, which can permeate the shell.

OK. So I buy eggs from caged hens now. And I buy Hickman's eggs. They are locally produced, and I've seen the chickens.

I believe farm animals deserve a quality of life that reflects their status as sentient creatures. Although they are healthy and well cared for, I'm not sure the caged chickens I saw fully meet that standard. I am quite sure the cage-free birds didn't.

Consumer demand for cage-free eggs created something this consumer didn't really want. It happened, in part, because of the secrecy surrounding production of food animals. Hickman and Armstrong showed the courage to let me in, but few people get the chance to really look at what's going on and make a reasoned judgment. That has to change.

If more people looked inside today's barns, there would be a demand — based on reality — for changes that would ultimately result in better lives for farm animals and a better public image for farmers.

Roach the writer at Linda.Valdez@ArizonaRepublic.com.



THE ARIZONA REPUBLIC

\$1.00

azcentral.com

Farmers, activists at odds over ANIMAL RIGHTS



JACK KURTZ/THE ARIZONA REPUBLIC

Brandon Gilman, barn supervisor at Hickman's Family Farms in Tonopah, checks on chickens that are housed in "battery cages." The Humane Society of the United States is seeking to ban the cages, which are designed to maximize egg production.

Opposing sides ramp up campaigns over factory-farming conditions

By Edythe Jensen THE ARIZONA REPUBLIC

state for speeches. Humane Society President Wayne Pacelle said the fight

THE ACTIVISTS
"Animal protection needs a powerful national voice so we can prevent cruelty before it

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Society at odds over animal rights factory-farming conditions

68 comments

recommend this.

Tweet 16

raised for human food has Arizona livestock and at they say are increasingly aggressive United States.

itches.

ociety is intensifying anti-factory farming

ide™ It opened an Arizona office in 2007 and, in November, flew its national-campaign coordinator to the state for speeches.

or nax. Humane Society President Wayne Pacelle said the fight against factory



Jack Kurtz/The Arizona Republic

Brandon Gilman, barn supervisor at Hickman's Family Farms in Tonopah, checks on chickens that are housed in "battery cages." The Humane Society of the United States is seeking to ban the cages, which are designed to maximize egg production.

MORE ON THIS TOPIC

Humane Society's farm campaigns

- Promoted successful ballot measures in Florida, Arizona, Oregon, Colorado, California, Maine and Michigan that were passed since 2002 and ban the use of gestation crates for swine. Confined animals must not be prevented from lying down, standing up, and fully extending limbs.