



**Regulation (EU)  
2017/2168  
amending  
marketing  
standards for free  
range eggs where  
hens' access to  
open air runs is  
restricted**

COMMISSION DELEGATED REGULATION (EU) 2017/2168

of 20 September 2017

amending Regulation (EC) No 589/2008 as regards marketing standards for free range eggs where  
hens' access to open air runs is restricted

***OJ L 306, 22.11.2017, p. 6–8***

# Minimum requirements for systems of production for the various egg farming methods



*1. 'Free-range eggs' must be produced in systems of production which satisfy at least the conditions specified in Article 4 of Council Directive 1999/74/EC*

*In particular, the following conditions must be satisfied:*

*(a) hens must have continuous daytime access to open-air runs. However, this requirement does not prevent a producer from restricting access for a limited period of time in the morning hours in accordance with usual good farming practice, including good animal husbandry practice. **Should measures adopted under Union law require access of hens to open-air runs to be restricted in order to protect public or animal health, eggs may be marketed as 'free-range' notwithstanding that restriction, provided that the laying hens have not had their access to open air runs restricted for a continuous period of more than **16 weeks**. That maximum period shall start from the date on which the group of hens in question, put in place at the same time, actually had their access to open air runs restricted.***

## What's new ?

*1. the already existing derogation under which eggs from hens without access to open air runs can be marketed as "free range" has been extended from previously 12 to now 16 weeks.*

*2. it is clarified that the derogation applies at flock level.*



**Thanks for your attention.**

***Any question?***