

MODERN FARMING



Nowadays hens are usually kept on battery farms. Thousands of hens are put into small cages, pens. They cannot run around and so they just eat. Their food arrives on conveyor belts and never stops. The lights are kept on all day and night. The hens never sleep because it never gets dark. These hens each produce about 300 eggs a year.

Free-range hens can move freely around the farm. They look for their own food and, at night, they sleep in their hen houses. They do not produce as many eggs but free-range farming isn't as cruel as battery farming.

Vocabularies:

Cage- a jail where animals are kept locked inside

Conveyors- a machine use to transfer material or goods

Produce- to make or create goods or services

Free-range – a raising animals like poultry

Battery farming- a cruel way of raising chickens

Cruel- to put pain or suffering

QUESTIONS:

1. Where do we usually keep the hens nowadays?
2. Why don't battery hens have to find their own food?
3. Why can't the hens in the battery farms sleep?
4. Why free-range farming isn't cruel?
5. Which is the more efficient form of farming?
6. Do you think it's better to have cheap eggs or happy hens?