



July 25, 2003

Mr. Gene Gregory
Sr. Vice President
United Egg Producers
1720 Windward Concourse
Suite 230
Alpharetta, GA 30005

Dear Gene,

I am writing to register my complaint about the UEP's animal welfare program's logo, and what is, I believe, the UEP's attempt to mislead our consumers. As a cage free egg producer, it is obvious that my standards and the UEP's are not in alignment. Calling your program "Animal Care Certified" is an attempt to look like an animal welfare organization without actually being one, thereby robbing markets and profits from those of us who actually "walk the walk" of animal welfare.

While I commend the UEP on codifying the battery caged industry's standards in an attempt to reign in the most egregious offenders, thereby improving the lives of some hens, I feel you do not go far enough in your regulations. What the UEP suggests in its "Animal Care Certified" logo, and what the consumer assumes you mean by it, is not what is being asked of the battery caged producers. In fact, if it is so easy for nearly 90 percent of the farmers to qualify for the logo, isn't it just codifying what takes place already? While your U.S. scientists support the status quo for economic reasons, other scientists in the European Union disagree with you wholeheartedly.

As a UEP member, I am dismayed that your press releases, the "Animal Care Certified" logo and your selling of this program is false advertising and a blatant attempt to mislead egg buyers and consumers that this program delivers something that it does not: humane animal care. That is what the consumer is expecting. Giving them anything less damages the credibility of the UEP and the egg industry as a whole.

Sincerely,

Cynthia (Cyd) Osborne Szymanski
CEO

Colorado Natural Eggs

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