

FARM NEWS

Check out our Facebook page to follow along for news & updates. You can also contact me through Facebook messenger.

FARMSTAND HOURS

CURRENTLY:
10AM-7PM

HOURS WILL UPDATE IN
SPRING 😊

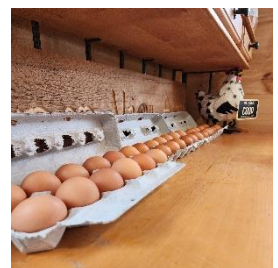


THANK YOU FOR CHOOSING LOCAL!

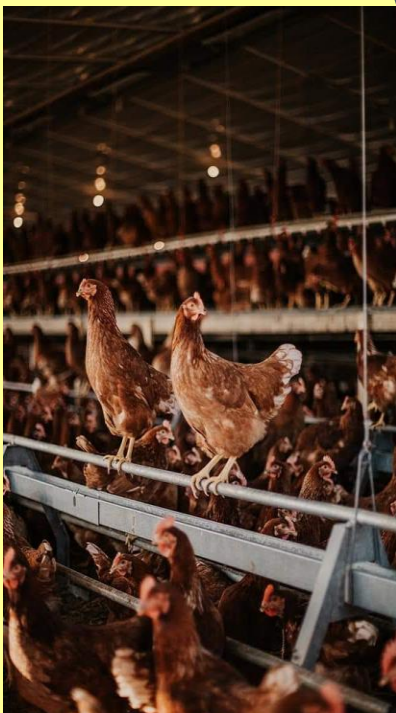
We would like to express our heartfelt thanks to our customers who have chosen to visit our farm for their seasonal fresh produce and farm fresh eggs. Your support means the world to us and helps keep our farm thriving in the community.

We are always looking for more products to bring to the farmstand, if you have something in mind you are looking for, or even have an idea, we want to know! Let us know how we can better serve you at the farm 😊

LOCALS SUPPORTING LOCALS
Jess Halabura



CHECK OUT OUR BARNs



BARN TALK

Open communication and transparency is key to a trustworthy partnership with our great customers, and we want to educate what type of housing we have on our farm.

There are so many ways to raise egg laying hens and there is not just one correct way, it all depends on each individual farm. Did you know Pennsylvania is ranked in the top five for egg laying states? If you have been following along on our journey at the farm, you know we constructed two new barns in 2025. Each of those barns holding 15,000 hens each, bringing a total on our farm, with existing barns, to 40,000 hens.

Lets start out with understanding poultry facility lingo and we will start with our type of facility

Cage-Free & Free Range:

Our barns are considered cage-free & free range, what does this all mean? Cage-free means our birds are housed without cages in an open concept barn, where they can roam throughout the barn to get to their feed, water, nests, and scratch area. Our new barns have the newest style of equipment which are called aviaries. Aviaries I like to describe look like a tree and if anyone ever had chickens, you know the natural behavior of chickens is to go up, up, up. This style of cage-free is able to provide that for our hens, enabling them to fly, hop, perch way at the top of the ceiling of our barns.

Free Range adds on to cage-free meaning. It is the same idea inside the barn with added access to outdoor area during given times. Our barns are equipped with pop holes, which we have the capability to open after egg laying is complete to give the birds access to the outdoor area for the rest of the day. When nighttime arrives, natural behavior draws the birds back into the safety of the barn and all pop holes are closed for the night to protect from predators.

What factors do we take in consideration before opening the pop hole doors after laying?

- Bird health risk—Disease, predatory, ect.
- Inclement weather—is it scorching HOT, FREEZING cold, Snow amount?

We also take in consideration the PA State Veterinarians guidelines which are released monthly. These guidelines help us know what is going on in the industry, so we can better protect our hens.

Visiting the farmstand at the Farm

When visiting the farmstand, this is why you cannot see our hens or go walking aimlessly around the farm. Many harmful diseases are transported unknowingly by wild animals (most commonly waterfowl) and surprisingly on human footwear. Crazy right?

To minimize exposure to our hens, our hens outdoor access area is located in between our barns, which cannot be seen from the parking area at the shed. For the safety of our hens, we disinfect all our footwear before entering the NON-customer side of the buildings. This helps us eliminate the possibility of carrying anything harmful further into our buildings and as an added precaution we use little plastic booties before entering in with the birds.

As I mentioned, above waterfowl and migratory wild fowl are the most common carrier of disease for the poultry industry. We monitor this situation very closely and adhere to all current recommended guidelines from the state veterinarian as well as our **own common sense** for the safety of our hens. We use our judgement daily about when we should contain our birds to the barn or allow them outdoor access.

So, to answer your questions
Do our Hen's go outside--yes, Do they go out
everyday--no

BIOSECURITY-

What does this mean?

Biosecurity sounds like a scary word, but all it means is protection. We follow strict guidelines that we developed to keep our hens healthy and safe on our farm. Avian influenza along with many other diseases can be devastating to our hens and our business.



**Protecting our flocks from the weather elements, disease, and predators are all factors we take in consideration everyday for the safety of our hens.*

POULTRY FACILITY TYPES:

Cage-Free: Cage free hens are raised inside a barn and are protected from outdoor elements and predators. This style house enables the hens to have free roam of the entire building which has bedding, perching, nests, feed, and water. This style housing provides shelter from weather & predators, while also allowing the hens to continue roam freely.

Free-Range: Free-range hens have everything mentioned above like a cage-free barn, with addition of outdoor access. This access usually starts after egg laying is complete and goes until dark. This style housing has an enclosed fence area just outside of the barn which provides vegetation for the hens to explore for the remainder of the day.

Other Facility Types:

Pasture raised: Pasture raised hens and Free Range hens are not the same. There is also a misconception that pasture raised eggs are pasteurized, this is not true. Pasture raised means those hens are raised on the open range with grass(pasture) and the shelter is moved daily to provide fresh new pasture. Ample enough of acreage is necessary for these operations.

Conventional: The last type of housing facility is conventional style, which the hens are housed indoors and within cages. This style of housing produces your most standard type of eggs.

As I mentioned above, there are so many different poultry facilities and there is no one correct way. Each method of poultry rearing has its Pro's and Con's and ultimately it is what works best for you and your operation.

We are very
proud here at
Open View Acres
to provide both a
**Cage-Free & Free
Range** facility for our
hens.

Cage-Free allows our hens a safe area during times that Free-Range is just not safe for the health of our flock.

Thank you from my family to
yours for the continuing
support of our family farm and
enabling us to provide
nutritious food to your tables!

Travis, Jess, Lyla, Teyla Halabura

Feed

What do our Hens eat?

Our hens are fed an all-natural formulated feed made from different grains, vitamins/minerals, and has no animal byproducts.

We work closely with the Feed Mill and their nutritionist to make sure our hens are getting what they need to stay happy healthy hens. Our feed is **NOT** non-GMO or Organic.

