

A Future Without Cages: Dr. Schär now uses 100% Cage-Free Eggs worldwide

Warrington, 13th November 2025



Since 2016, Dr. Schär has pursued a rigorous process of supplier assessments and on-site audits to enhance quality and animal welfare standards throughout its entire supply chain. Today, the company has achieved a key milestone: all eggs used across its production sites worldwide now come exclusively from barn-raised hens. This result confirms Dr. Schär's long-standing commitment to responsible sourcing, often anticipating local regulations and market trends.

Eggs from cage-free farms allow hens to roam and live more as nature intended, improving welfare¹ and supporting more responsible management of resources and the environment². This approach is increasingly valued by consumers across Europe, nearly 90% of whom support stricter animal welfare laws, according to a BEUC survey³.

However, progress remains uneven across the continent. While countries like United Kingdom perform particularly well, 38.1% of hens in Europe are still raised in enriched cages⁴ permitted under Directive 1999/74/EC. To drive further improvement, the European Commission is considering a legislative update - expected by the end of 2026 - that could introduce a complete ban on all cage systems.

¹ Hannah Ritchie (2023) - "Do better cages or cage-free environments really improve the lives of hens?" Published online at OurWorldinData.org. Retrieved from: '<https://ourworldindata.org/do-better-cages-or-cage-free-environments-really-improve-the-lives-of-hens>' [Online Resource]

² Peng, M.; Tavaniello, S.; Banaszak, M.; Właźlak, S.; Palazzo, M.; Grassi, G.; Maiorano, G. Comparison of Fatty Acid Profile in Egg Yolk from Late-Age Hens Housed in Enriched Cages and in a Free Range System. *Animals* 2024, 14, 1099. <https://doi.org/10.3390/ani14071099>

³ 2024 - Farm animal welfare: what consumers want – A survey of Europeans' understanding and expectations- BEUC The European Consumer Organisation

⁴ 2025 - CE- EGGS - MARKET SITUATION - DASHBOARD

Anticipating these developments, in 2016 Dr. Schär began extending the transition to cage-free eggs to countries where such systems are not yet the standard. Through years of gradual implementation, supplier collaboration and continuous audits, this vision has now been fully realised: **by the end of November 2025, all eggs used in the company's production sites to make gluten-free and special nutrition products will come exclusively from barn-raised hens. This ensures high standards of quality, animal welfare and sustainability throughout the supply chain.**

*"Achieving the exclusive use of cage-free eggs in all our sites represents a key milestone in Dr. Schär's vision - says **Hannes Berger, CEO of Dr. Schär** - This is not just a production milestone, but a concrete commitment to a more sustainable future, combining quality, animal welfare and responsibility toward our consumers. We will continue to innovate and guide the value chain, demonstrating that sustainability and quality can go hand in hand."*

With this milestone, Dr. Schär further strengthens its sustainability journey, promoting responsible practices across every stage of the supply chain. From sourcing cage-free eggs to supporting sustainable farming and reducing packaging impact, every decision contributes to a better world, where positive impacts on the environment and animal welfare translate into tangible, measurable actions.

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About Dr. Schär:

Our story began in 1922 in South Tyrol, the heart of the Alps, with a vision to improve the lives of people with special nutritional needs. Ever since the company was founded, proximity to the consumer has been our guiding commitment. Our core competence combines the specific, complex requirements placed on nutrition with joy and pleasure of life. Responsibility, progress and proximity are the values that give us our stability and reliability. We are a family-run company with a global reach, with 18 sites in 11 countries and 1,800 employees worldwide. Our products are available in over 100 countries. www.drschaer.com