

ECONOMIC IMPACT OF THE NIAGARA POULTRY ...

Over the past 100 years, Ontario's poultry and egg industry has changed and evolved from a backyard flock operation to a highly specialized, automated and regulated industry. Internationally, Ontario is known for its high standards within the poultry industry. Some of these include: technical and innovative improvements in housing, lighting and ventilation; growth of its breeding stock; and health and safety of its flocks and eggs.

Codes of Practice and on-farm quality assurance programs outline best management practices for the care and handling of poultry. Farmers also recognize their role in protecting the environment. Many have implemented best management plans designed to benefit the land and water.

POULTRY PRODUCERS:



- * Poultry raised for meat are not kept in cages and do not lay eggs.
- * Birds are kept in climate-controlled barns to protect them against hot summers, cold winters, predators and disease.
- * Birds are free to roam and have free access to clean water and nutritious feed 24 hours a day.
- * Poultry are not given hormones (banned since the early 1970's in North America).
- * After each flock is harvested, poultry farmers thoroughly clean and disinfect their barns giving them the distinction of having one of the highest cleanliness standards in the world.
- * Clean bedding of soft straw or wood shavings is put on the barn floor before the new, day-old chicks arrive from the hatchery.

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NIAGARA REGION:

* Niagara is the largest chicken-producing region in Ontario.

* Niagara produces over 49 million kilograms of chicken and over 3 million kilograms of turkey per year with gross farm receipts in excess of 90 million.

* In recent years the number of chicken producers in Niagara has been increasing steadily: from 195 producers in 1986 to 338 producers in 2001.

Source:
Regional Municipality of Niagara (existing information and mapping is considered by the Region to be pre-published), 2002.
Snapshot of the Canadian Egg Industry, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, Market and Industry Services Branch
Canadian Egg Marketing Agency (CEMA) www.ofac.org/factsheets/fact10.html
Chicken Farmers of Canada www.chicken.ca
Chicken Farmers of Ontario www.cfo.on.ca
Ontario Turkey Producers Marketing Board www.ont-turkey.on.ca



NOTE:
This map is for general illustration purposes only. For boundary interpretations, please contact the Regional Niagara Planning and Development Department.

4000 0 4000 8000 Metres



Figure 4.38
- REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA -
Profile of the Niagara Poultry Industry
REGIONAL AGRICULTURAL
ECONOMIC IMPACT STUDY

