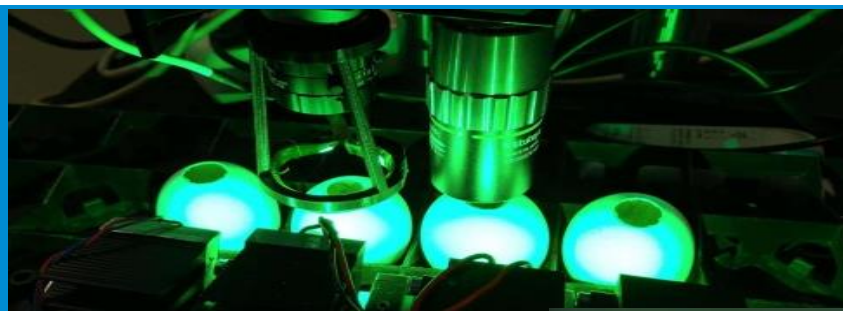


Country report Germany

Actual development

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Agenda

- 1. Introduction/short update**
- 2. Ban of killing male chicks from laying strains**
- 3. Animal husbandry label**
- 4. Market turbulences - Impact on consumption**

Ban of killing male chicks from laying strains

- It came in Germany into force on 1 January 2022
- From 2024 draft legislation for a ban on culling before the seventh day of incubation, review/interim review in 2023
- This makes Germany a global pioneer in this field.
- The legal ban was necessary to uniformly prevent the killing of hen chicks and to be able to effectively sanction violations (BMEL, 2022)
- The industry practices and works on the further development of the alternatives
- First effects:
 - Hatchery survival? and reduced hatching
 - Strong increase in feed prices, relative cost advantage of sex determination in the egg

Ban of killing male chicks from laying strains

- Rearing/fattening male chicks from laying strains (5,05-5,50/male bird; + 6 €/ female chick) Gaio, Jan. 2021; Preisinger, Graz, 2022
- Back to dual-purpose chicken in ecological animal husbandry (.... /.....) Gaio, Jan. 2022



First week



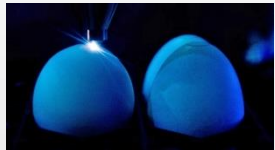
Two weeks old



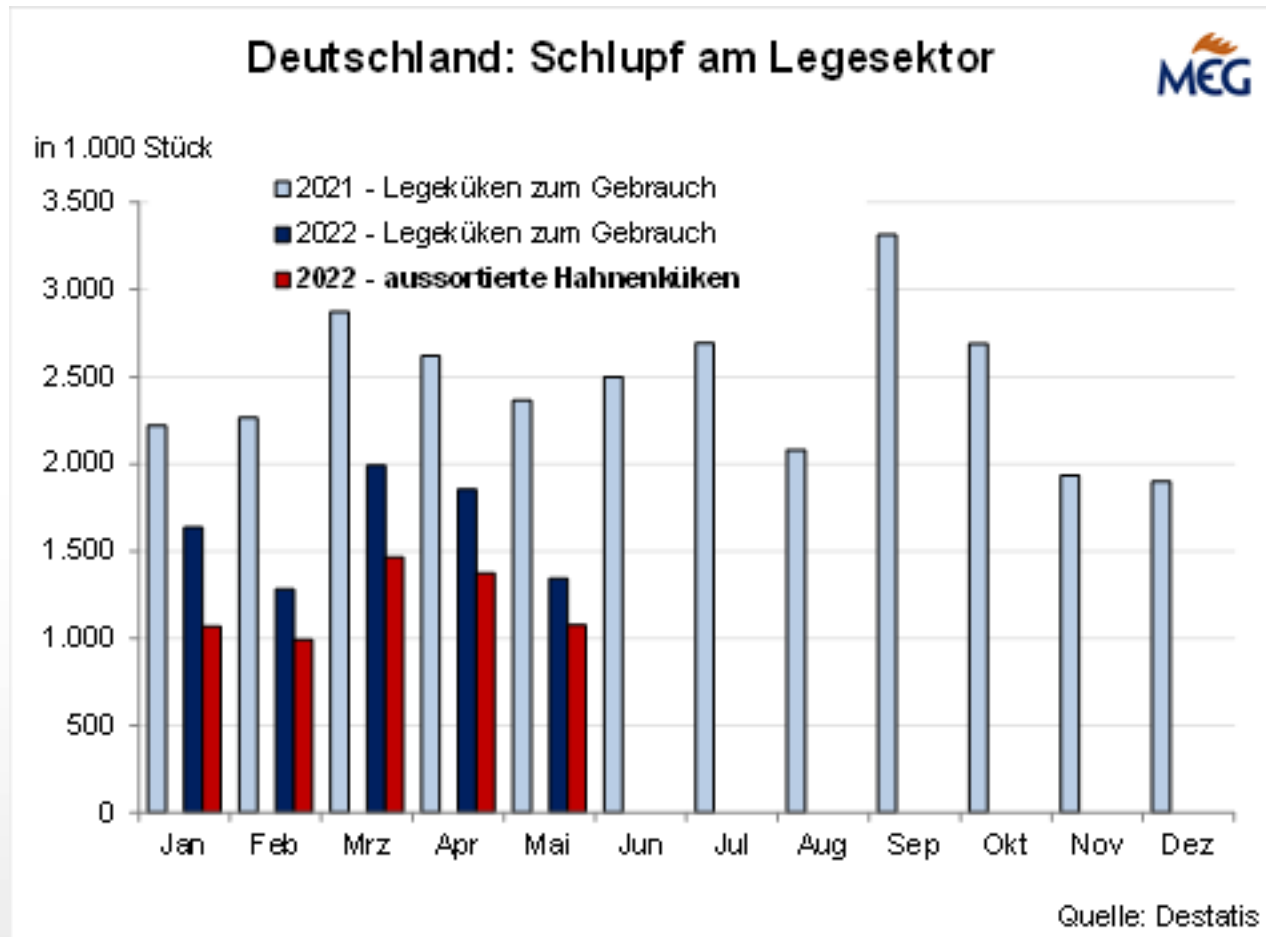
Six weeks old

Chick from laying strains (on the left), dual-purpose chicken (in the middle) and broiler chicken (on the right)

- Sex determination in hatching eggs (+1,50 – 4,00 €/female chick) Preisinger, Graz, 2022



Ban of killing male chicks from laying strains – Hatching of brother cocks



- 2022: More than 70 % of hatching eggs carrying male embryos will hatch and are fattened
- < 2022: Brother cock rearing only used for less than five per cent of the total 45 million male laying hybrids discarded each year (Destatis, 2020)
- 2022: 30 % of hatching eggs will be sexed
- Dual-purpose chickens are reported separately
- January to May 2022: just under 6 million chicks fall under the position “discarded cock chicks”
- 8 million female laying chicks for use
- Assumed sex ratio: 50:50

Husbandry labelling

Stepwise approach

- Husbandry labelling for fattening pigs and fresh meat announced (BMEL, 2022)
- Poultry: until now only from the part of the food retail
- Overall, the turbulence on the markets and the resulting structural changes are so high that it will be difficult to intervene with regard to a fundamental transformation of the livestock sector

Animal welfare

Turkeys – intact beaks

- To prevent amputations and pecking injuries
- Unsolved problem, not foreseeable whether turkeys follow the self-commitment to intact beaks
- As well a labour rights issue
- High cannibalism losses with intact beaks, especially in males
- In Germany mainly male turkeys are fattened for economic reasons
- Trials with female turkeys under experimental conditions show less problems but needs a lot of time for observation, early intervention, animal care, behavioral material, etc.

Market turbulences - Impact on consumption

- Decreasing consumption of organic and free-range eggs
- Special situation of Germany - expenditure on food prox. 11 % from total income

Thank you for your attention!

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