Eggs go back to school



Publication: 29 November 2018
Categories: Media Releases
Reading time: 2 minutes



Australians eat more than six billion eggs a year and the story of their production and consumption is being brought to life in a new schools education program.

The revamped and expanded All About Eggs program goes beyond the farming of eggs by delving into related areas of nutrition, food technology, social science and sustainability.

Australian Eggs' Managing Director, Rowan McMonnies, says involvement in schools is a critical component of community engagement for all farming industries.

"The community is increasingly interested in where theire food comes from and there is a clear knowledge deficit," Mr McMonnies said.

"Australian Eggs is making an investment in providing the base knowledge so that students are in a better position to make informed food choices in their adult lives.

"Our vision is to give students from Kindergarten to Year 10 the ability to engage with the egg industry in a way that evolves and matures with them as they go through school.

"The new program still involves interactive elements like getting chicks into classrooms and letting high school children rear pullets as part of egg laying competitions in each state.

"More importantly though, it offers teachers a well-rounded program to engage students across multiple syllabuses, covering food technology, health and nutrition, recipe development and environmental sustainability.

"We will also be trialling digital 360° and virtual reality experiences in an effort to make the program highly engaging for students."

It was announced last week that the unit Agriculture and Food will be a mandatory part of the school curriculum in New South Wales from 2019. The unit will not be a subject in itself but will become a compulsory unit within the technology syllabus for Years 7 and 8.

All About Eggs will be available for teachers in Term 1 2019.

For consumer-friendly information about feeding eggs to babies and children click here.

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