



Early Bird Farmers Cooperative is a farmer-owned enterprise that was established in 2017 by and for farmers to market certified organic and specialty eggs from pasture-raised hens that live in humane conditions.

Early Bird farmers-members uphold an unparalleled standard of ethics and integrity, acting as good stewards of the land and animals. Member farms are

certified organic which means they use organic non-GMO feed. The co-op will eventually ensure animal welfare standards met through American Humane certification of all farms.

The members of Early Bird Farmers Cooperative started meeting to identify shared-solutions for common challenges faced by organic and sustainable family farms raising hens for egg production. The Co-op bears the promise of bringing organic agriculture back to its roots to live and farm with integrity and do business in a manner that is self-sustaining and respectful to consumers, farmers, animals, and the Earth. Farmers identified the co-op business model as a mechanism to cooperatively and ethically vertically integrate their production while diversifying and expanding their markets. This model will ensure that farmers get a sustainable rate of return for their eggs and that their rural communities will be supported, invested in, and nurtured. Members see investing in the co-op as building a legacy for their children and future generations.

Early Bird Farmers Co-op, labels and directly markets eggs to distributors, wholesalers, retailers, restaurants, and other outlets. Given an increasingly mechanized industry, the co-op, which has a majority Amish membership, contracts with locally or regionally owned egg processing and logistics providers who sort, pack, and deliver Early Bird eggs with state-of-the art equipment.

The result is a WIN-WIN for rural communities. The co-op empowers farmers, who through unity gain greater control over the processing and marketing of their eggs, support other local businesses, and contribute to the greater good of agricultural families and communities.



Producer Co-op		est. 2017
Industry:	Agricultural Marketing, Eggs	
Member-Owners:	19	
Jobs:	1	
Revenues, Annual:	\$10 Million (estimated)	
KDC's Role		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Incorporation Filing 2017 • Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws, Membership Agreement, Contracts 2017 • Producer Survey 2017 • Branding and Logo Development 2017 • Marketing and Feasibility Analysis (planned) 		



"Lori Burge and Keystone Development Center have been absolutely tremendous in helping to set up and working with our organization Early Bird Farmers Cooperative Inc. She helped turn chaos into order and was able to give us a vision for tomorrow. She set practically everything up to make us a viable entity. She is always helping us solve problems and is working to help make our dream a reality. We always look forward to getting her perspective on things."

EBFC Board

KDC
Cooperative Solutions
www.kdc.coop

Mission Fostering a culture of personal and community empowerment through democratic leadership of cooperatively owned enterprises that successfully leverage economies of scale.

Work Consulting, technical assistance, and research support for new and established co-ops (producer, consumer, worker, shared-services) in rural and urban communities in the multi-state area of PA, NJ, DE, MD, & DC.

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