

Australia's Inghams Invests \$50Mn in AI-Enabled Poultry Breeding Farms

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Inghams Group Limited announced a significant expansion in its Victorian poultry breeding operations.

In partnership with ProTen, Australia's largest corporate meat chicken grower, Inghams is investing in two new, state-of-the-art poultry breeder production farms in Charlton, Victoria. The collaboration capitalises on ProTen's proven expertise in poultry farm development and operations, ensuring the delivery of world-class production facilities.

The project represents an investment of approximately \$50 million and will see the construction of 16 highly automated production sheds across the two farms, with construction commencing in August 2026 and operations expected to begin in the first half of 2029. The new facilities will be managed by Inghams following completion.

Once completed, the breeder farms will incorporate the latest technology in egg grading and sorting, utilising artificial intelligence-based systems to assess each egg produced. The scale of the investment and advanced automation will enhance Inghams's operational efficiency and contribute to reduced transport costs.

This project represents a major commitment to regional Victoria and is expected to create employment opportunities within the local Charlton community during both the construction and operational phases.

Inghams's General Manager, Farming & Milling, Sheridan Alfirevich said: "This development represents an important investment in our Victorian farming operations and the Charlton community. Building on our long-standing presence in the region, these new state-of-the-art breeder farms will meaningfully expand our national breeding capacity and deliver world-class animal welfare and biosecurity outcomes. We are excited about the project and look forward to continuing to grow alongside the Charlton community for many years to come."

ProTen Chief Executive Officer, James Wentworth said: “We are pleased to partner with Inghams in creating this state-of-the-art facility that will help feed Victoria into the future. We are also very grateful for the support Buloke Council has provided for the project.”•