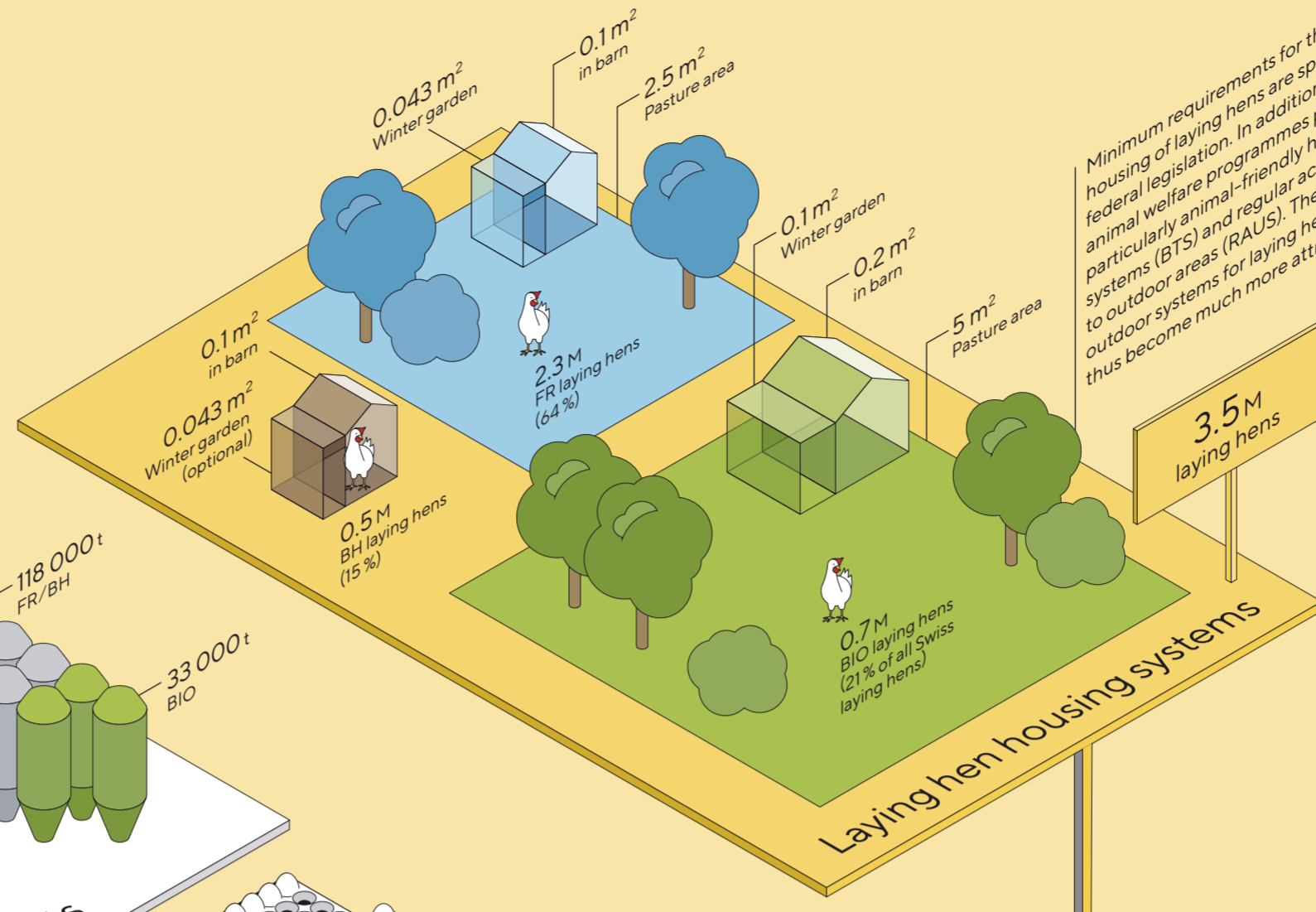
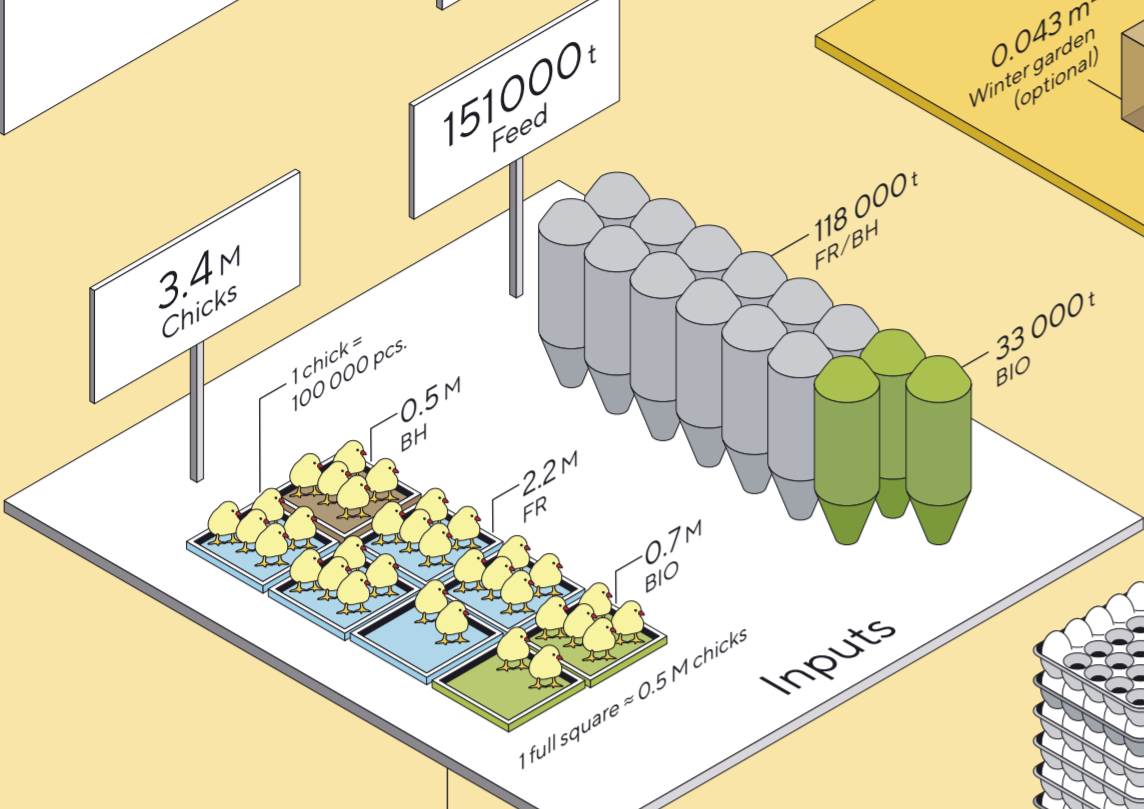


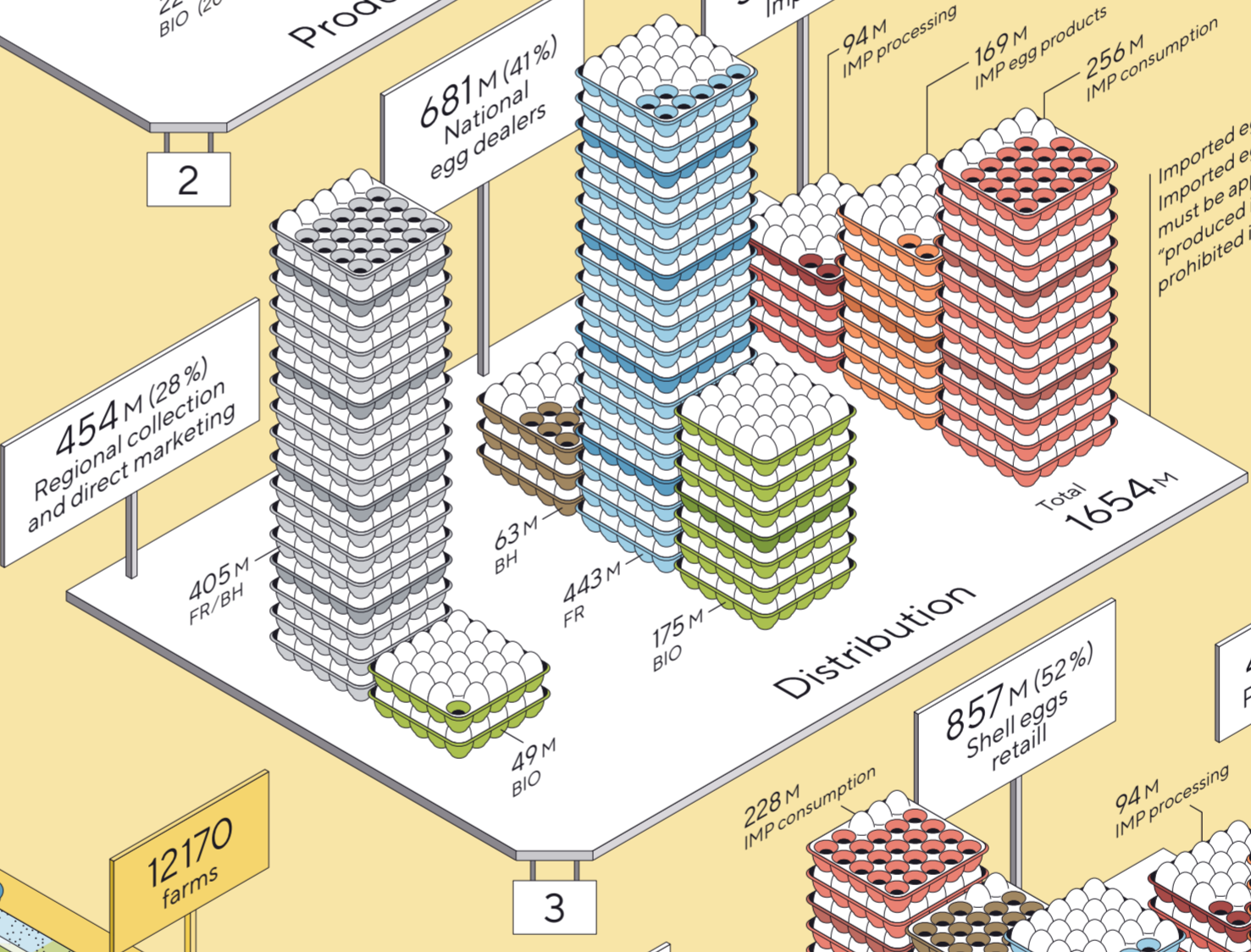
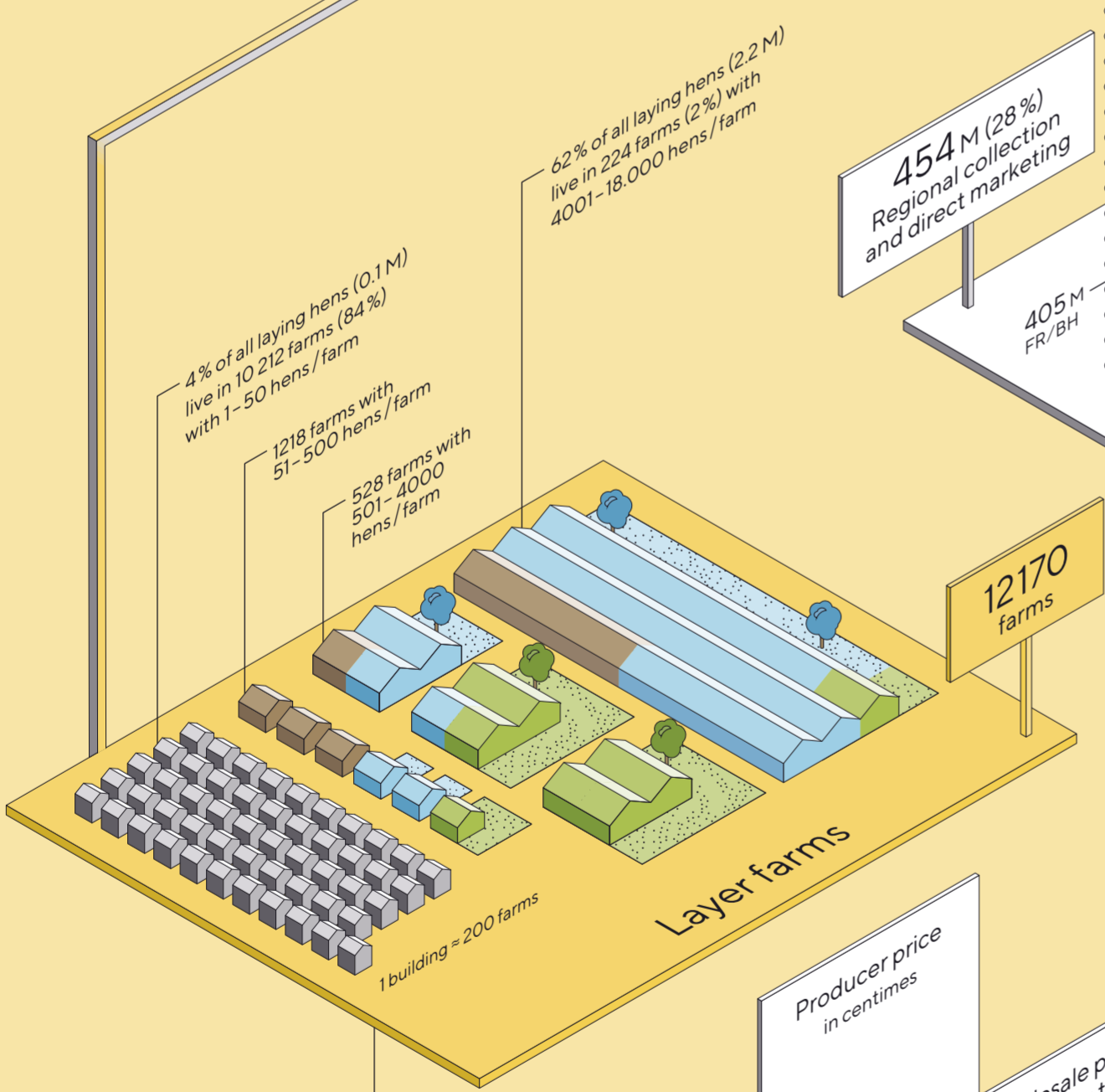
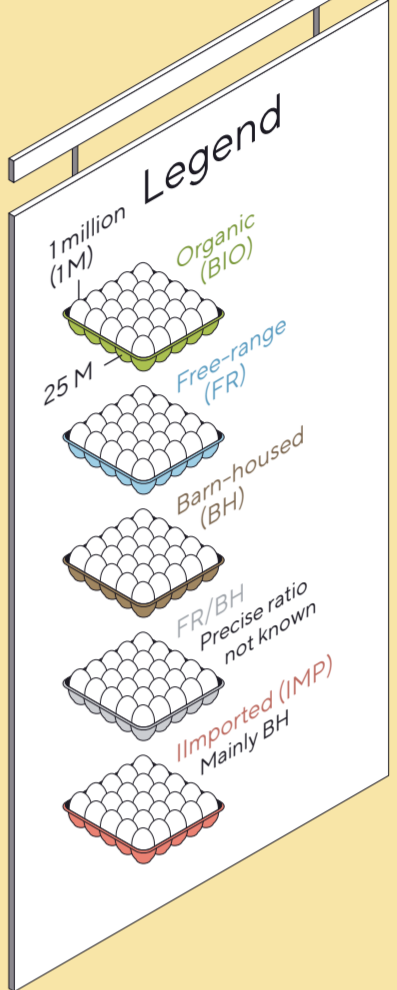
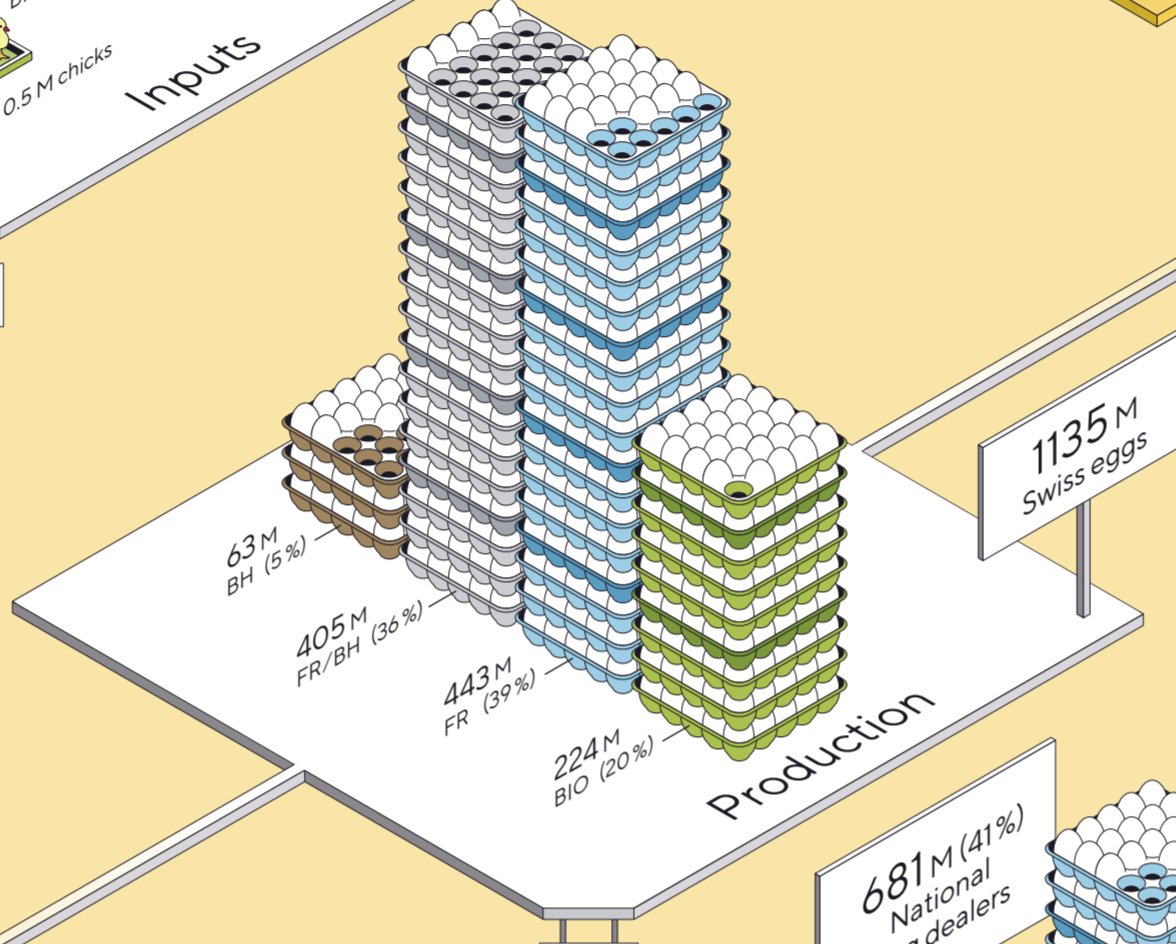
THE SWISS EGG MARKET

2022

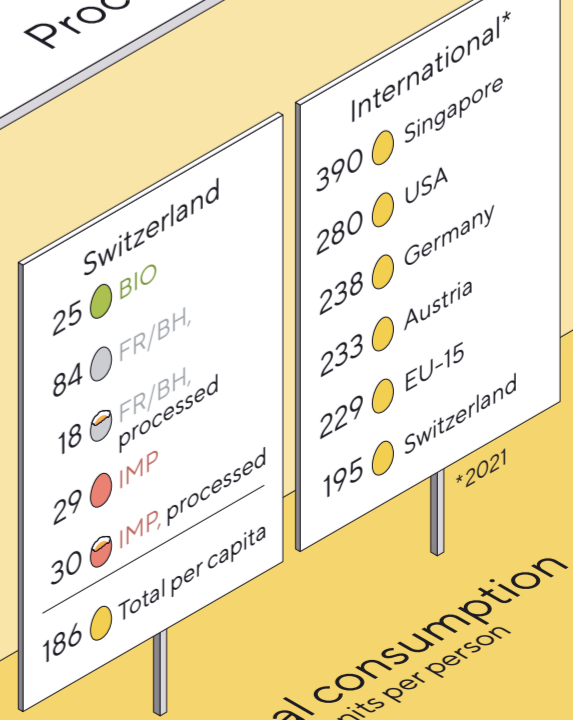
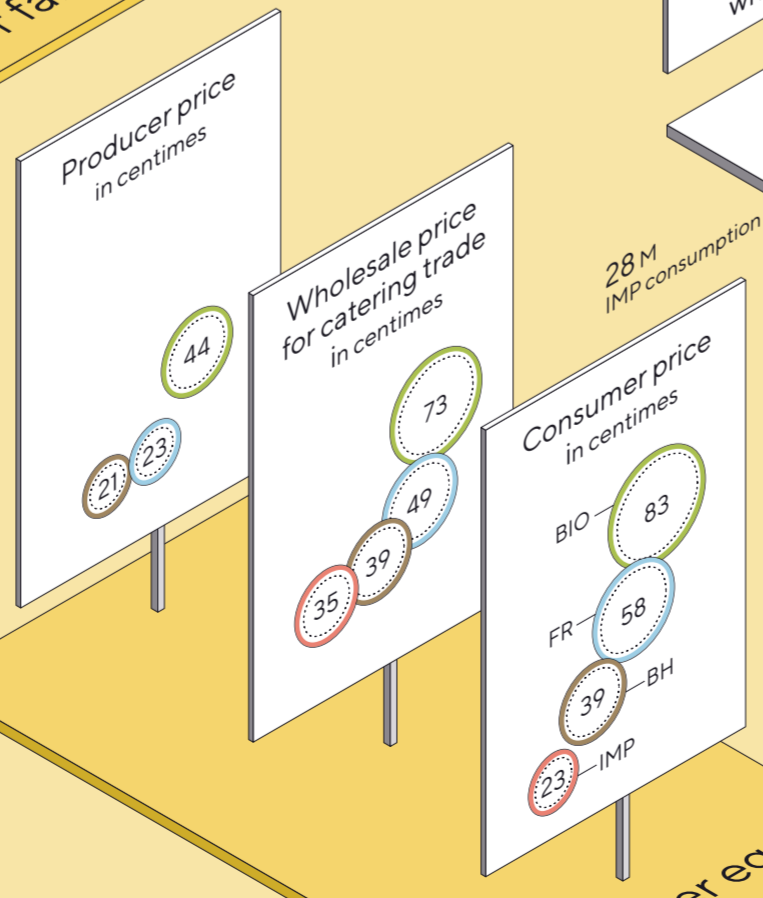
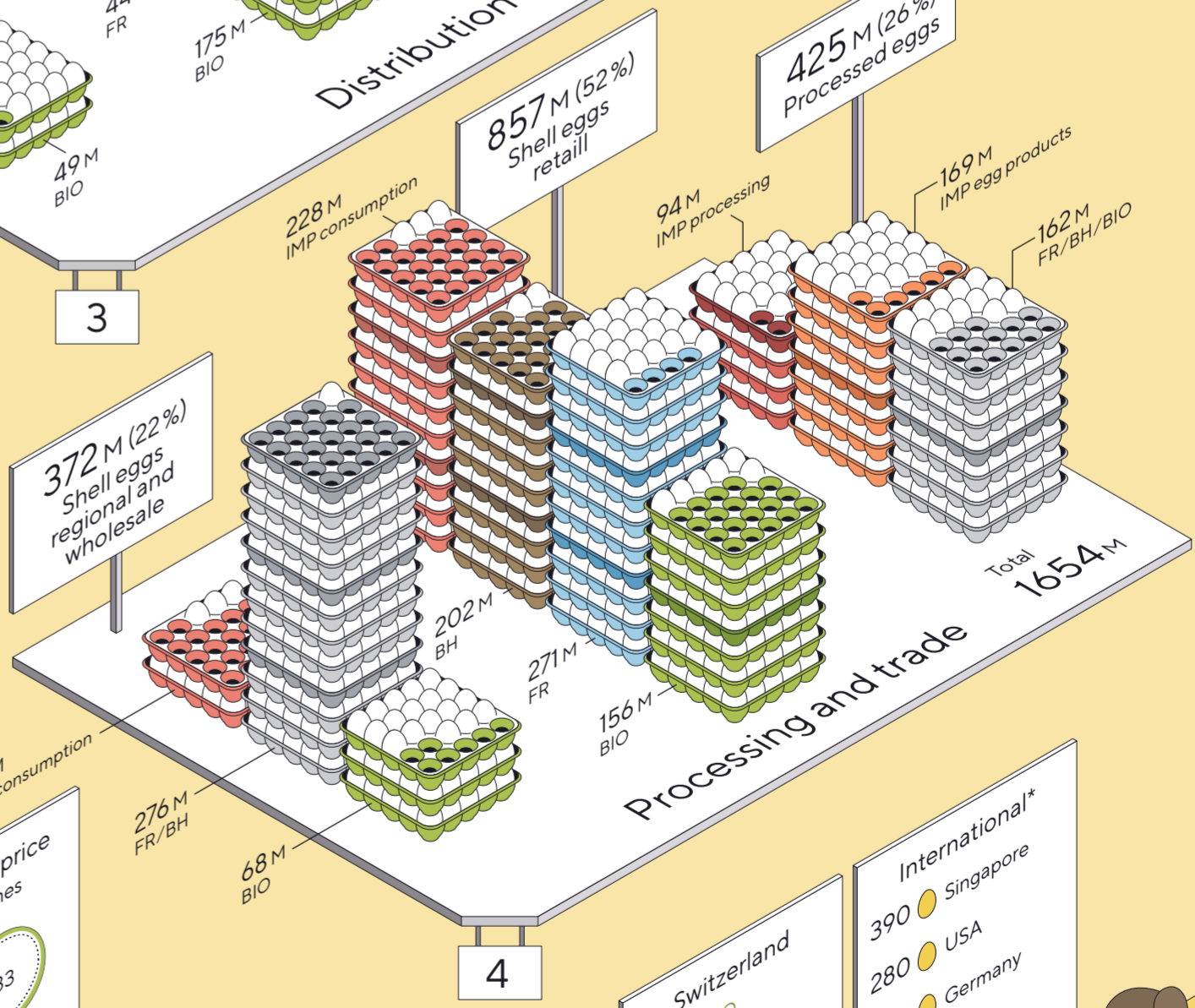


Minimum requirements for the housing of laying hens are specified in federal legislation. In addition, federal animal welfare programmes promote particularly animal-friendly housing systems (BTS) and regular access to outdoor areas for laying hens has thus become much more attractive.

Chicks develop into pullets at growing sheds. Because they require constant warmth, they have no or limited access to outdoor areas. After 18 weeks, the animals are housed in laying hen barns. Feeding is adapted to age-specific requirements. Of the laying hens in Switzerland, around two thirds are white egg layers and one third brown egg layers.



Imported eggs are mostly barn-laid. Imported eggs from caged systems must be appropriately labelled: "produced in caged systems prohibited in Switzerland".



In Switzerland, the maximum permissible number of laying hens in free-range and barn farms is 18,000 (Maximum Herd Size Ordinance, SR 916.344). The maximum number permitted in organic farms is 4,000 laying hens (Bio Suisse Guidelines).

