Pastured Eggs vs. Conventionally Produced Eggs: A Nutritional Showdown

Eggs are a breakfast staple, but not all eggs are created equal. Let's crack open the differences between pastured eggs and conventionally produced eggs, examining their nutritional profiles and how they impact our health.

1. What Are Pastured Eggs and Conventional Eggs?

Conventional Eggs:

- **Origin**: These are the standard supermarket eggs. Hens that lay these eggs are typically fed grain-based diets supplemented with vitamins and minerals.
- **Nutrition**: While they provide essential nutrients, conventional eggs may not offer any standout health benefits.

Pastured Eggs:

- **Free-Roaming Hens**: Chickens that produce pastured eggs roam freely, feasting on plants, insects, and their natural diet. They also receive some commercial feed.
- **Nutrient-Rich**: Pastured eggs are more nutritious than their conventional counterparts. Let's dive into the specifics.

Nutritional Showdown: Pastured Eggs vs. Conventional Eggs

Vitamins and Minerals:

Vitamin A: Pastured eggs contain 50% more vitamin A than conventional eggs.

Vitamin E: Pastured eggs are 200% richer in vitamin E.

Omega-3 Fatty Acids: Pastured eggs boast 100% more omega-3s, essential for heart health.

Beta-Carotene: They provide 300% more beta-carotene, a powerful antioxidant.

Vitamin D: Pastured eggs deliver 400% more vitamin D.

Conjugated Linoleic Acid (CLA): These eggs are **700% higher in CLA**, which has potential health benefits.

Cholesterol and Saturated Fat:

Lower Levels: Pastured eggs have lower cholesterol and saturated fat compared to conventional eggs.

Lutein and Zeaxanthin:

Eye Health: Pastured eggs contain **100% more lutein and zeaxanthin**, crucial for maintaining healthy vision.

Why Choose Pastured Eggs?

Health Boost: Pastured eggs provide a nutrient-packed punch, supporting overall wellbeing.

Animal Welfare: By choosing pastured eggs, you support humane farming practices.

Environmental Impact: Pastured systems promote soil health and biodiversity.

Sunny-Side Up for Pastured Eggs

When it comes to your morning scramble or omelet, consider reaching for pastured eggs. They're not only better for you but also contribute to a more sustainable food system. So crack open a pastured egg and savor the golden goodness!

Sources:

- 1. <u>Healthline: Pastured vs Omega-3 vs Conventional Eggs</u>
- 2. <u>Pineshine Farms: Pastured vs Conventional Eggs</u>
- 3. <u>Wetlab: Pastured vs Omega-3 vs Conventional Eggs</u>