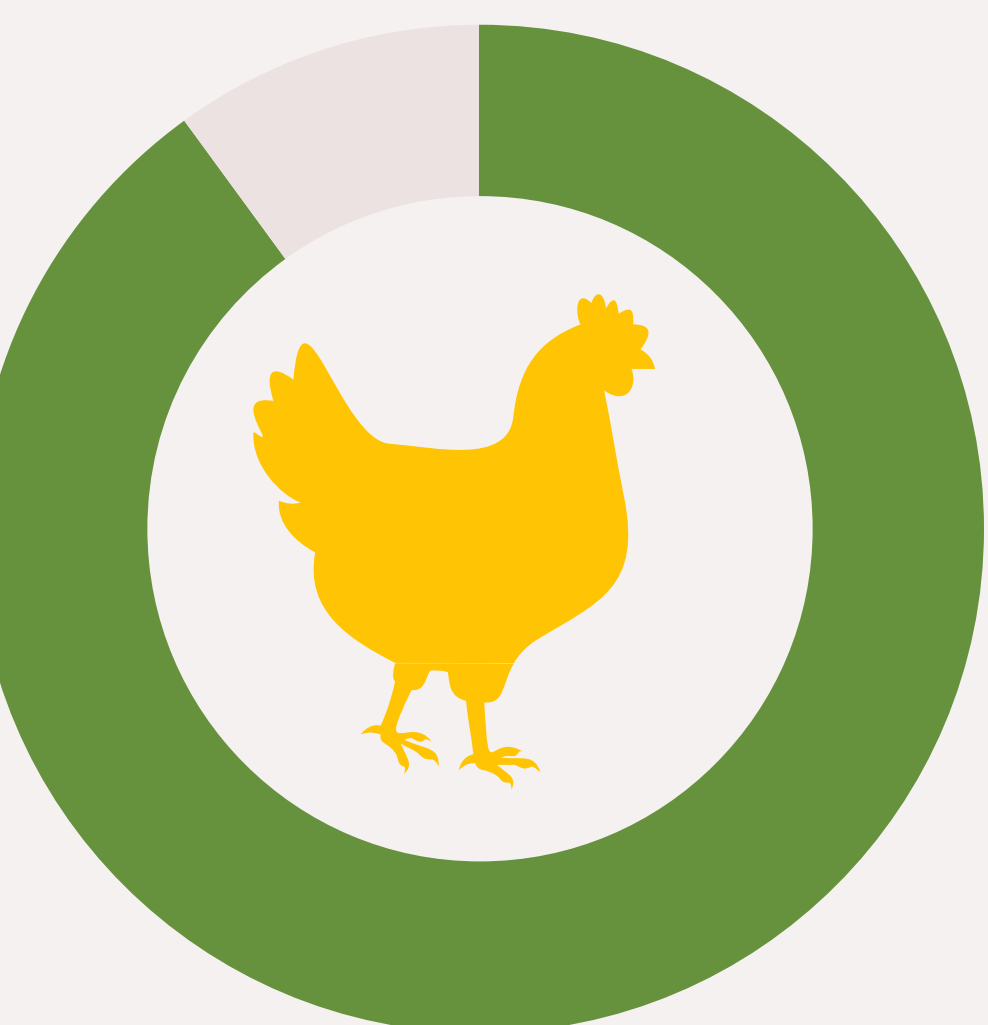
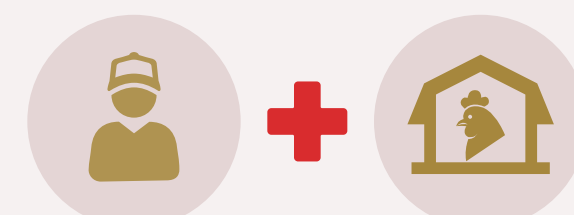


# A Bird's Eye View of How Chicken Farmers Are Paid



**>90%** of all chickens raised for meat (broiler chickens) in the U.S. are raised by **contract growers** (farmers).

A **contract grower** is an independent farmer who works under contract with a chicken company to raise chickens.



All farmers are guaranteed a **BASE PAY** from the chicken company per their contract.

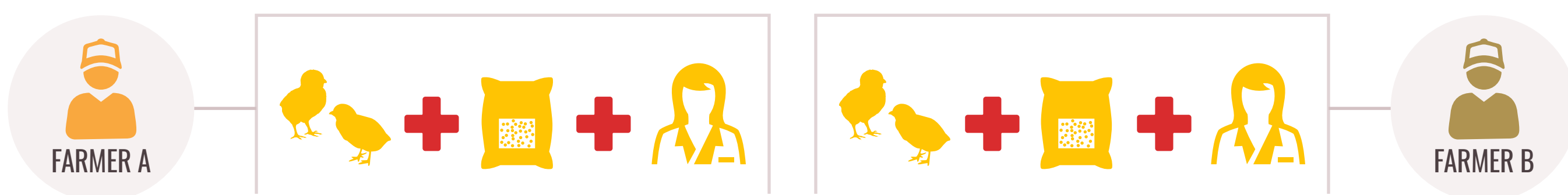


**BONUSES** are given to farmers who raise healthy flocks and invest in their farm. This is referred to as the **tournament system**.

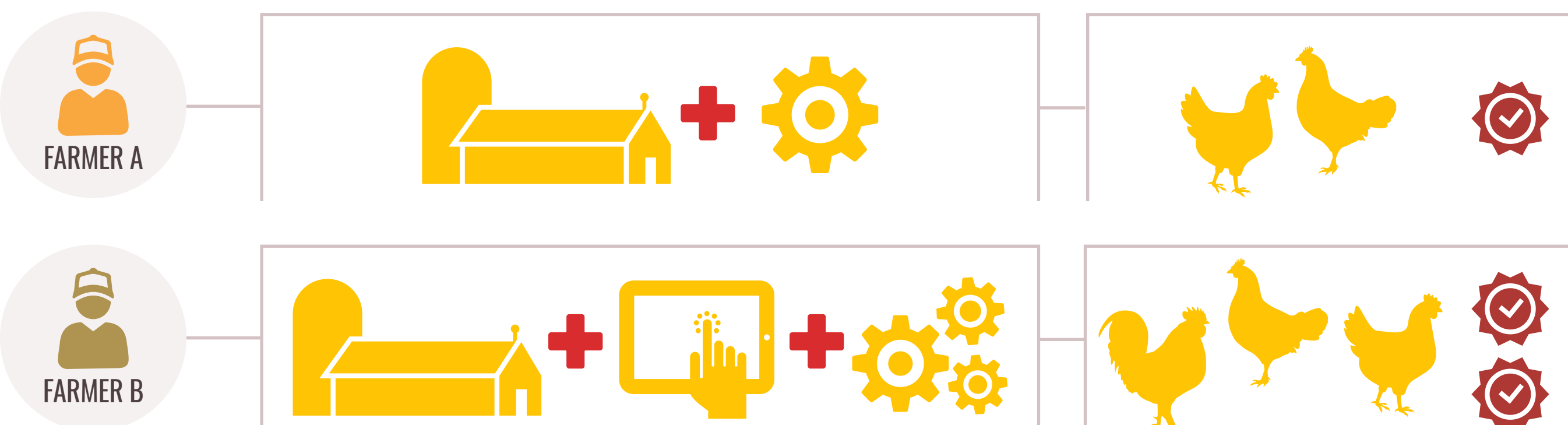
No matter what, farmers get paid.

## How the Tournament System Works:

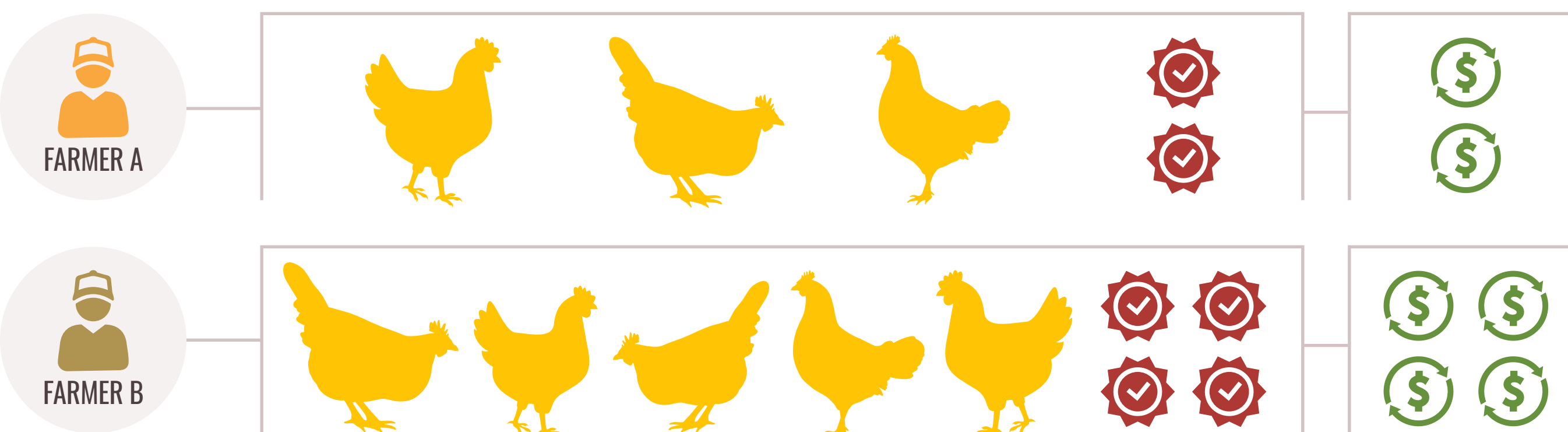
**1** All farmers are provided the same quality of chicks, the same feed, and access to veterinary care.



**2** Farmers who invest in more advanced facilities, as well as use the best management practices will likely produce higher quality chickens more efficiently.



**3** Farmers receive a **base pay** (per their contract) and potentially a **bonus**, based on the health and quantity of the flock (tournament system).



Some call this the **tournament system**, but it really is a performance-based system that provides farmers with added incentive to raise healthy chickens. The healthier the flock, the more farmers are compensated. Not only is raising healthy chickens the **right thing to do** — but it **makes good business sense!**



The chicken company and the farmer depend on each other for success.

Chicken companies are responsible for about **80%** of the **total cost** of raising a flock.



Farmers take on about **20%** of the cost of raising a flock.

### The Chicken Company Provides ...



CHICKENS



SHIPPING



VETERINARY CARE



PROCESSING



FEED

### The Farmer Provides...



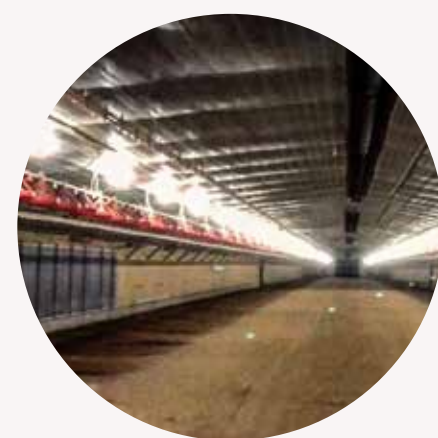
DAY-TO-DAY CARE



GROWOUT HOUSES



UTILITIES



HOUSING MAINTENANCE

About **65%** of the cost of raising a flock is spent on **chicken feed**.



By taking on some of the costs associated with raising a flock, chicken companies help reduce the economic risks farmers face. The **biggest risks removed** from the farmer include:



Learn more about contract growing, the **tournament system** and how broiler chickens are raised in the United States at [ChickenCheck.In](http://ChickenCheck.In)