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Board of Directors Update

Your Egg Farmers of Alberta (EFA) Board of Directors recently completed our annual strategic planning session with the EFA staff, to help set the organization's direction for 2015, and into the future. The Board also worked on creating new vision and mission statements for EFA, which we hope will resonate more profoundly with producers, staff and the public. We have a passion for egg farming and many positive stories to tell!

One of the ways that the Board is able to measure overall satisfaction of Alberta egg producers, in terms of the work EFA is doing, is our Customer Service Survey. The survey was completed during the June regional meetings and, by all accounts, we continue to meet the mark. Of course, we are always happy to receive any feedback that producers have for us, which would help both the EFA Board and staff serve them better!

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PURPOSE OF THE EFA

EFA exists so there will be an environment in which Alberta egg producers can thrive within the Canadian industry, at a cost that demonstrates good stewardship of resources.

EFA OFFICE HOURS

The EFA office will be **closed on Monday, October 13th for Thanksgiving**. We hope this will not cause any inconvenience. EFA wishes you and your families a happy, healthy Thanksgiving!

EGG PRICE UPDATE

Effective from **October 5th, 2014**

Grade A

X Large	\$2.080 ---
Large	\$2.080 ---
Medium	\$1.850 ↓
Small	\$1.480 ---
Nest Run	\$1.959 ↓
Pee Wee	\$0.270 ---

Grade B \$0.750 ---

Grade C \$0.150 ---

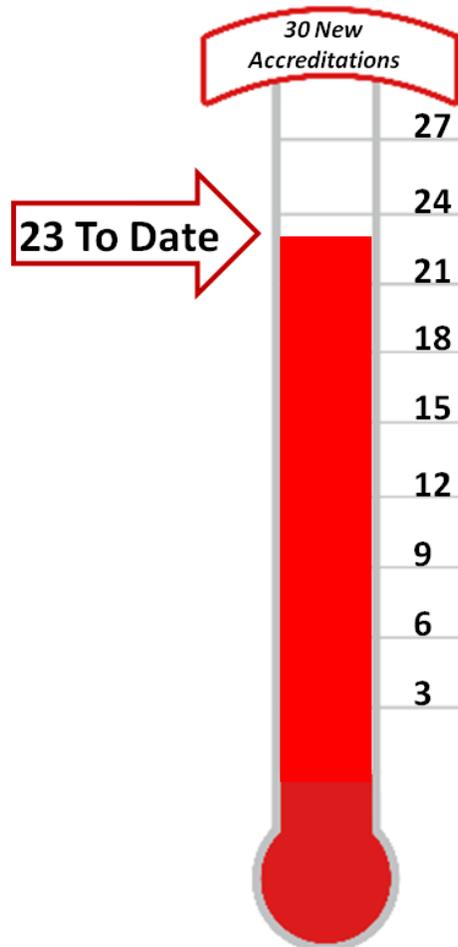
From the minimum paying price, processors can only deduct charges as authorized by the EFA Board. Farm-gate pickup rates were set in August 2010 and no increase in individual freight rates have been approved since that time.

Field Statistics Update

Here's an update on how our farmers are doing with their Start Clean – Stay Clean (SC-SC) and Animal Care Program (ACP) evaluations, so far in 2014:

- 120 SC-SC layer evaluations have been completed so far in 2014
 - ✓ Alberta's average score: 98.7%
 - ✓ 38 Alberta farmers scored a perfect 100% rating
- 120 ACP evaluations have been completed so far in 2014
 - ✓ Alberta's average score: 98.3%
 - ✓ 73 facilities have scored a perfect 100% rating
- 87 SC-SC pullet evaluations have been completed so far in 2014
 - ✓ Alberta's average score: 97.9%
 - ✓ 35 Alberta farmers have scored a perfect 100% rating
 - ✓ 23 pullet growers are newly accredited in the program

Thank you to all our farmers, for their commitment and hard work each and every day, to ensure that safe, high quality eggs are produced humanely!



EFA's goal is to have 30 producers newly accredited in the SC-SC Pullet Program in 2014.

Congratulations to the following producers who have recently achieved their SC-SC Pullet accreditation, bringing the total to 23 producers and helping us move closer to our goal, while demonstrating their commitment to excellence in food safety!

- ✓ Crystal Springs Colony
- ✓ Fairville Colony
- ✓ Miami Colony
- ✓ Plainview Colony
- ✓ Rockport Colony
- ✓ Springside Colony
- ✓ Sunnysite Colony

STAFF UPDATE

Peggy Galbraith, our Customer Service Admin Assistant, chief organizer and mother hen, is on leave while recovering from major surgery. We miss Peggy's bright smile and can-do attitude, and send her our best wishes for a full and speedy recovery! If you would like to send words of encouragement to Peggy, please email or fax them to our office, and we will make sure she gets them.

While Peggy is away, we are pleased to welcome back a familiar face to our office. Carla Znak, former Producer Services Administrator, has joined our staff on a temporary basis to fill the Customer Service Admin Assistant role. We are happy to have Carla's positive attitude and wealth of knowledge back at EFA!

We appreciate your patience and understanding, as we adjust to Peggy's absence and await her return.

EGGNOTES SUBSCRIPTION INFO

Do you know someone who wants to subscribe to *EggNotes*? Simply have them send their name, company or organization, fax number and email address to: info@eggs.ab.ca

Over-Base Quota Allocation

The EFA Board is pleased to announce a 3.6168% quota allotment, effective October 5, 2014. Notices have been sent to each individual producer, with details of the allotment. As you are working to activate your quota, here are some important points to keep in mind:

- Paperwork for reserve to issued transfers or quota leases must be completed and received by the EFA office on or before April 6, 2015. You can request your documentation on the producer website, by submitting a completed request form, or by contacting the EFA office.
- To accommodate flock cycles and pullet growing, producers have 18 months, or until April 6, 2016, to activate their quota from this allotment.
- In order to activate quota, you must have birds available to fill the quota that are within 4 weeks of age of the majority of the flock, and must come from a pullet barn, not a layer barn.

With this allocation, 6,854 units of layer quota have been set aside for the New Entrant Program. Details of the next application process for the NEP will be released on January 5, 2015.

Levy Update

At the recent Egg Farmers of Canada (EFC) Board meeting, a 4 cent-per-dozen levy decrease was approved, effective October 5, 2014. This decrease has received final approval from Farm Products Marketing Council, and will help to ensure that the EFC year-end fund balances fall within the trigger points for the Pooled Income Fund. The change was reviewed at the last EFA Board meeting, where it was determined that the best approach in Alberta would be to adjust levy at year-end, so that we can avoid the process of changing levy mid-year.

Pullet Growers of Canada Update

On September 2, 2014, the Pullet Growers of Canada (PGC) informed their partners about the development of a draft Animal Care Policy for Pullets, which is an important milestone for the Canadian pullet industry. The key outstanding issues that need to be resolved are cage density and the audit process, in addition to the development of the procedures and supporting templates, to pave the way to implementation.

The PGC has also initiated a consultation process, to help resolve the outstanding issues. According to the PGC, the final Animal Care Policy for Pullets is expected to be completed by the end of the calendar year.

EFA PRODUCER WEBSITE

For announcements and the latest news, be sure to check EFA's Producer Website regularly. EFA is continually updating and adding new resources. The Producer Website is a great source of information about your industry!

Visit EFA's Producer Website:
www.albertaeggproducers.ca

EGG FARMING BEST PRACTICE

With winter coming, please ensure that all vents are screened, since wild birds will be looking for a warm place. By preventing wild birds from nesting in the roof portion of your facility, it will reduce the risk of disease in your facility.

BIO-SECURITY TIP

Prevent pets, such as cats and dogs, from accessing the production facility and feed storage area.

CLASSIFIED ADS



#1) For Sale:

- 38 Chicken Crates (32.5" x 22")
- \$25 each

Contact: Ted @ 403-752-4176 x.713

Animal Care Program Updates

We would like to thank all of our producers for your cooperation in adopting the new requirements of the Animal Care Program, which came into effect on August 9, 2014. We hope that you and all your employees have reviewed and signed the new documents – Farm Animal Welfare Policy, Employee Code of Conduct and Visitors Policy – which will help increase animal care accountability across the Canadian egg industry.

There are 3 new elements that come into effect on January 1, 2015:

Routine Inspection – Although farmers inspect their hens already, this element ensures that the process is documented, and provides specific requirements for what is to be inspected and at what frequency. Consistency on all farms is a key expectation of retail and foodservice customers, so having daily inspections done in the same way helps to provide that standardization.

Handling, Catching, Loading Guidelines – This element was added because this is a highly visible and vulnerable area, where animal welfare can be compromised. Developing a set of guidelines and having documentation around the catching and loading process will help protect farmers.

Euthanasia Plan – This is one of the most important areas where welfare can be compromised, but is also one of the most visible areas, where best practices often aren't understood by the public. By documenting methods used, using only trained personnel, and following recognized and approved methods, farmers can ensure that hens are euthanized in the most humane way possible, only when it is absolutely necessary.

Each of these new elements will be worth 30 points, and are categorized as Critical Care Elements (CCE). When two or more CCE are not completed during an assessment, it will result in the need for immediate action to resolve the issue via the Corrective Action process, regardless of overall score.

In order to make the adoption of these new elements as easy as possible, EFA is taking the following actions:

- Update the records forms for SC-SC to include the new records needed for routine inspections, bird handling & catching, and euthanasia
- Creating a Euthanasia resource with standard operating procedures for the most common, AVMA approved methods
- Coordinating euthanasia workshops for farmers, to facilitate training

Full details of the changes are available on the Producer Website. Thank you for taking the steps to prepare for these upcoming changes.

UPCOMING EVENTS CALENDAR

October 28

EFC PMC Consultation Session
Ottawa

October 29

Canadian Poultry Sustainability Awards
Guelph

November 4

Colony Elders Meeting
Calgary

November 5

EFA Board Meeting
Calgary

November 5

New Entrant Welcome Reception
Calgary

November 6

New Egg Manager Training Workshop
Calgary

November 12

CEIRA Board Meeting
Ottawa

November 13 & 14

EFC Board Meeting
Ottawa

November 19

Western Provinces Meeting
Calgary

November 20

APIEMT Meeting
Edmonton

November 26

AB PMC Committee Meeting
Calgary

December 11

EFA Board Meeting
Calgary

Infectious Laryngotracheitis (ILT)

There have been a number of positive cases of ILT occurring in backyard flocks across Alberta recently, with 3 confirmed in September 2014. ILT is a viral disease located in the respiratory tract of chickens. Sick chickens have nasal discharge, followed by coughing and gasping. In severe cases, blood stained mucus can be seen around the nostrils and lower beak, and blood can also be seen on walls of cages. There is a decrease in egg production, but egg shells are not affected. Mortality is usually 5-20%.

ILT in chickens is caused by a virus of the same family that causes cold sores in people; once chickens are infected, they have it for life. Even though mortality in an infected flock will eventually stop, if the flock is later stressed by another disease or a cold/wet environment, they will become infectious and will spread the virus to other birds or become sick again themselves. There is no evidence to suggest that ILT is transmissible to humans or to other mammals. It is considered safe to consume meat and eggs from ILT-infected birds.

As with other viral diseases, there is no treatment; vaccination is the only way to protect your flock. Always consult your veterinarian on what vaccine to use, as some vaccines can cause disease in other birds that are located in the same barn, other barns, or farms that have not been vaccinated. ILT can be carried farm to farm by direct contact between birds, through contaminated equipment and vehicles, or on dirty footwear and clothing. Only purchase birds from a source known to be free of ILT, and maintain strict bio-security at your facilities, to best protect your flocks.

Contact a veterinarian as soon as sick or dying birds are observed, to determine the cause. ILT's clinical signs can be very similar to those of Avian Influenza, Newcastle Disease and Infectious Bronchitis. Early detection of highly contagious viruses is essential to minimize the impact on your birds, as well as those of your neighbours.

Field Visit Cancellation Fee

As of October 1, 2014, EFA has implemented a new policy related to field visit cancellations. With producers spread widely throughout the province, Field Coordinators must efficiently plan travel to ensure visits are completed within the required timeframes. Currently, at least 3 days notice of field visits is provided to producers.

To prevent last minute field visit cancellations, producers must provide at least 24-hour notice, or they will receive a Field Visit Cancellation Fee of \$250 +GST. Field visit can be cancelled by contacting the EFA Field Coordinator that is scheduled to visit the farm via phone or email.

EFA MEDIA FARM TOUR

River Bend Colony played host to a group of special guests, which included several local media outlets, on September 9, 2014. Walter Decker, the colony's egg manager for the past 16 years, led the group on a tour of the egg farm, sharing his expertise and years of experience.

Following a presentation from EFA, which highlighted the egg industry's pillars of healthy birds, healthy eggs and healthy farms & communities, the tour started in the pullet barn, where the 4-day old chicks stole the show. The tour then moved to the layer barn, which features furnished housing that provides more space for the hens, along with a variety of enrichments such as nest boxes and perches. The group was treated to a delicious lunch, thanks to the kind folks at River Bend Colony.

The farm tour was a wonderful opportunity for EFA to share the Alberta egg industry's many recent achievements, which includes the adoption of a new hen housing policy, and the launch of the Producer Environmental Egg Program, the New Entrant Program and the Youth Development.

EFA was thrilled with the amount of exposure for River Bend Colony and the province's egg industry, as seen on CBC Calgary and CTV's Alberta Primetime, heard on CBC Radio Calgary, CBC Radio Canada and Rural Roots Canada, and seen in The Western Producer!

Transport is a Key Component of Animal Welfare

Humane transport of chicks and/or pullets is a joint responsibility of buyers, sellers, managers and shippers. If you buy or sell birds that are shipped, you should be familiar with the National Farm Animal Care Council (NFACC) Recommended Code of Practice for the Care and Handling of Farm Animals – Transportation, the elements related to transport in the Recommended Code of Practice for the Care and Handling of Pullets, Layers and Spent Fowl, and the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) Transportation of Animals Act (Health of Animals - Part XII).

There are some key points referenced in these Codes and Regulations to remember regarding transport and handling:

- Sudden loud noises and other disturbances alarming to birds should be minimized.
- Crews should be supervised by experienced personnel.
- The lowest light levels possible that will not impinge on worker safety are used when catching birds.
- Hanging racks should not be used to move birds. Birds should be gently placed into carts for transport.
- When possible, birds should be caught individually and held in a comfortable upright position with both hands as they are transferred directly into or out of a transport container. If this is not possible, birds should be carried by both legs with no more than three (3) birds in each hand.
- Hens should not to be carried solely by a single leg or wing, or by the head, neck or tail. Whenever possible, passing birds from one person to another or transferring birds from one container to another should be avoided.
- The size of openings such as container doors, cage doors, and panels on trucks should be large enough to permit easy passage of hens to avoid bone breakage and other injuries.
- Containers are not to be dropped or tipped such that birds pile up against the side.
- Stocking density in the containers should be as per industry standards, taking into consideration the weight of the birds and the climatic conditions.
- Visibly unfit birds should not be loaded for transport. Refer to Poultry Industry Council's "Should this Bird Be Loaded" reference material.
- The drivers of transport vehicles should be aware of climate conditions and make necessary adjustments (ie: to bird density, tarps, fans during standby) to keep birds thermally comfortable.
- Catching and transport should be planned so that feed is withdrawn no more than 24 hours prior to transport.
- Water should not be withdrawn prior to catching.

NESTLE ANNOUNCES GLOBAL COMMITMENT TO ANIMAL WELFARE

- *United Voices Newsletter, Sep.4, 2014*
United Egg Producers

Nestlé has announced a major pledge to improve the welfare of the farm animals in its supply chain, following the signature of a partnership agreement with NGO World Animal Protection. The agreement means that the hundreds of thousands of farms that supply Nestlé with its dairy, meat, poultry and eggs will have to comply with tighter animal welfare standards. Nestlé, with its global purchasing footprint, also becomes the first major food company to form an international partnership with an animal welfare NGO.

Nestlé has some 7,300 suppliers from whom it buys animal-derived products directly – everything from milk for its range of yogurts and ice-reams, to meat for its chilled foods and eggs for its fresh pastry and pasta. “We know that our consumers care about the welfare of farm animals and we, as a company, are committed to ensuring the highest possible levels of farm animal welfare across our global supply chain,” said Benjamin Ware, the company’s Manager of Responsible Sourcing. These now include, for example, spacing requirements for the rearing pens of certain species of animals, such as pigs and cows, to ensure they are not cramped and can engage in normal animal behavior.

These new standards will be independently audited and will also comprise measures that include pain relief for farm animals. Also, Nestlé has pledged that by the end of next year, 40% of the company’s key commodities – including meat, poultry, eggs and dairy will be fully traceable.

Stress Behaviour in Laying Hens

- *Caitlyn Erickson and Clover Bench, PhD*

Stress in laying hens is a welfare concern that can result in drops in egg production and reduced hen immunity and overall health. Laying hens may alter their behaviour during periods of stress, which can be used as an indicator of unsuitable housing conditions.

For example, hens may exhibit displacement or redirected behaviours during periods of stress. Behavioural signs of stress may include feather pecking, vocalisation (alarm or frustrating calls), pacing, head shaking and displaced preening. Other displacement behaviours include yawning, wing-flapping, stretching, bill wiping, feather raising and body/wing shaking. An increase in aggressive behaviours, such as fights, pecking and threats, may also be an indication of stress. This aggression may be directed towards other birds in the flock or self-directed.

Laying hens may also exhibit stereotypic behaviours due to frustration and stress, as a means of coping. Stereotypic behaviour is repetitive in nature and with fixed action patterns, which have no obvious goal or function.

Possible Solutions

A housing environment that allows for the performance of behavioural needs reduces the frustration in birds and decreases the occurrence of stress behaviours. Important behavioural needs in laying hens include:

- **Perching:** Laying hens like to perch and roost. Care should be taken during perch placement so access to other resources is not hindered.
- **Dustbathing:** This maintenance behaviour serves to improve hen feather condition. Providing appropriate and adequate substrate for a flock that allows dustbathing is important.
- **Nesting:** Hens prefer to nest in separate areas. Provided nest boxes should allow enough space to nest. Hens can get stuck and suffocate in nest boxes, so watch what that hens can get out when they want.
- **Foraging:** Hens scratch or peck the ground when foraging. Appropriate substrate (ie: peat, straw or pine shavings) promotes foraging behaviour.

Continued on Page 8...

ABOUT EGGNOTES



EggNotes is the official newsletter of the Egg Farmers of Alberta.

Submissions should be sent to:
info@eggs.ab.ca

Submission deadline for the next issue of *EggNotes*:
November 28th, 2014

Next issue of *EggNotes*:
December 12th, 2014

"YOKES" OF THE MONTH



Guaranteed to crack you up!

Q: How do you feel after Thanksgiving dinner?

A: Egg-zosted!

Q: How many eggs can you put in an empty container?

A: Only one, then it wouldn't be empty anymore!

Stress Behaviours in Laying Hens, Continued from Page 7

Management and environmental strategies can also be employed to help reduce stress. These include:

- **Noise:** Prolonged loud noise is aversive to hens and may be a cause of stress. Producers should avoid exposing a flock to long periods of noise.
- **Lighting:** Inappropriate lighting can be a cause for stress in hens. Lighting should be adequate enough to allow normal activity, feeding and drinking behaviours. Consult the Code of Practice for layers on appropriate lighting levels.
- **Stocking Density:** Limited space is also associated with stress, and may not allow for performance of important behavioural needs. Flocks should be kept at stocking densities outlined in EFA's Animal Care Policy.
- **Competition:** When resources are limited, aggression and frustration increase due to competition. Adequate resources should be provided for each bird in a flock, such as litter, feed, water, and access to preferred areas.
- **Housing:** Laying hens are social and separation from other birds can be stressful. Hens should be able to see and have access to other birds in a flock, while still being able to separate themselves if they want. Also, keep flock groupings and the overall environment consistent, as stress increases when birds are removed or added to a flock, or their routine changes.

Take Home Message

Stress can be a serious concern for hen welfare and productivity. It is important to determine the underlying cause of stress and address the problem promptly. It is also important to keep informed on Egg Farmers of Alberta and Egg Farmers of Canada animal care guidelines, which help to minimize laying hen stress.

International research in the area of laying hen welfare is ongoing, to better understand how management in various housing systems impacts hen welfare.

EGG FARMER BLOG

On August 1st, 2014, egg farmer and EFA Chair – Susan Schafers – launched a farmer blog that is hosted on the EFA website. 'Farming By Dog Rump Creek' is an opportunity for Susan to give people an idea what life is like on a farm, raising a family and being involved in the thriving Alberta egg industry.

Susan has already published 6 blog posts and plans to publish 2 new posts every month. She'll be sharing her experiences and insights as an egg farmer, talking about the industry and agriculture. She'll also share her favourite recipes and invite you to join her on all the adventures that come with being a mom, a farmer and an EFA Director!

This blog is yet another way how Alberta egg farmers are opening their barn doors and sharing the passion and dedication they have for egg farming!

www.eggs.ab.ca/farming/farming-by-dog-rump-creek



International Egg Ambassador – Levi Hofer

In August, Egg Farmers of Canada (EFC) encouraged Canadian egg farmers to participate in a World Trade Organization (WTO) campaign called 'Why Trade Matters to Everyone', to help promote the uniquely Canadian system of supply management and a sustainable egg industry. Levi Hofer, egg manager at New York Colony and EFA Vice-Chair, submitted a story and we are thrilled to announce that his story was selected to be featured at the WTO Public Forum being held this October, in Geneva, Switzerland.

Levi expanded upon his original story, to provide a guest blog post for EFA and EFC. You can read Levi's trade story in his guest blog: www.eggs.ab.ca/why-trade-matters-to-me



EFA & Egg Farmers Give Back – CIBC Run for the Cure

On Sunday, October 5, 2014, the EFA team participated in the Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation's CIBC Run for the Cure. The team, which consisted of EFA staff, Directors and family members, were proud to be part of the 8,000+ participants walking and running at the Calgary site. Thank you to all our supporters, who helped us raise over \$3,800 for this worthwhile cause!



ALBERTA EGG MARKET UPDATE

The Nielson preliminary retail sales data is available up to September 20th, 2014 and indicates that in the latest 4-week period, 2.73 million dozen eggs were sold in Alberta; a 5.7% increase from the previous 4-week period (ending August 23rd) and a 3.7% increase in sales compared to the same period in 2013.

Nielson retail sales in the last 52 weeks are up 5.6% over the previous 52 weeks in Alberta, to 35.8 million dozen eggs! Specialty eggs (excluding Omega-3 eggs) have seen the largest sales growth in the last 52 weeks in Alberta; a 21.4% increase over the previous 52 weeks, to 2.36 million dozen eggs (6.6% of the total eggs sold in AB).

EFA ONLINE!

The EFA consumer website has been completely redesigned to have a stronger egg theme, shine a spotlight on our farmers, and provide consumers with much more of the information they are seeking!

Get Cracking to: www.eggs.ab.ca



Like us on Facebook!

facebook.com/EggFarmersAlberta



Follow us on Twitter!

twitter.com/EFA_AB_eggs

Focus on Farmers – Egg Ambassador Toolbox

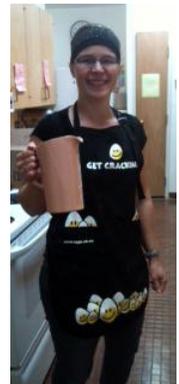
At the EFA Regional Meetings in June, every egg farmer received an Egg Ambassador toolbox, with information and ideas for getting involved in grassroots public relations and/or government relations, to help promote Alberta's egg industry.

We would like to encourage all producers to share your stories of how you have been active in your community, talking about egg farming and sharing our industry's many positive stories and achievements. Whether you invited your MP/MLA for a farm tour, spoke to a class full of students, or simply talked to somebody in town, every engagement is an *eggcellent* opportunity to share your story!

We would like to keep track of all the ways Alberta egg farmers are actively involved in helping to tell our story, and would even like to feature your stories in this space, in future issues of *EggNotes*. Whether large-scale or one-on-one, getting involved can help make a difference for the entire egg industry!

Please contact David Webb at the EFA office, via phone or email, to share your story. Who knows, we may even share your story. Everyone who shares a story between now and the January Regional Meetings will be entered into a draw for a \$25 Canadian Tire gift card!

Jennifer Tuininga (Kapeda Farms) proudly wore her EFA apron as she prepared a first-day-of-school breakfast!



Upcoming Events

Come visit the EFA booth at these *EGG*cellent events:

- **Can Fit Pro** **October 25**
Calgary, University of Calgary
- **Edmonton Health Show** **November 22-23**
Edmonton, EXPO Centre at Northlands

EFA 2014 Marketing Highlights

- Total # of events attended: 23
- Total # of events sponsored: 102
- Total # of school & health presentations: 54
- Total # of resources distributed: 90,714
- Total # of promotional items distributed: 100,154

CFO EXTENSION SERVICES

Are you looking to build or expand your production facility? Could you use support as you navigate the NRCB application process? Do you have questions about the sustainability of your livestock operation? If so, you can connect to a Confined Feeding Operations (CFO) Extension Specialist with Alberta Agriculture and Rural Development (ARD). These specialists provide technical expertise to livestock producers to ensure Alberta's livestock industry grows in a competitive and environmentally sustainable manner. They also provide information on the regulatory requirements of the Agricultural Operation Practices Act (AOPA) and other relevant legislation.

Extension staff can assist with:

- Determining if a permit is required
- Understanding the application process and regulatory requirements
- Collecting information to determine potential site risks and initial site evaluation
- Providing information on management options to meet regulatory requirements and address potential site risks
- Directing clients to information and tools to help complete the application process

ARD CFO Extensions Specialists provide services across the province. Dial 310-FARM today!

Farm Safety Update

Over the past several years, the issue of farm safety has received growing attention from an industry, political and public perspective. Time and resources have been directed to building an effective farm safety strategy, and providing continuing education on operating a safe farm.

Alberta Agriculture has been working on adapting the Canada Farm Safe Plan for Alberta, and EFA has been encouraging egg farmers to participate in piloting the program. In addition, EFA is going to work to help support egg farmers in implementing a farm safety plan for their farm, to help mitigate the risk of injury.

EFA has also identified two other priorities that need immediate attention and government/industry collaboration, including insurance coverage for farm workers, and farm fatality investigation and reporting. Did you know that farming is the only industry exempt from mandatory workers' compensation coverage? Did you know that if a fatality happens on farm, there is no regulation that allows for third party investigation and reporting? Farms can voluntarily apply for workers' compensation, to protect themselves and their workers in case of an injury at work.

By developing a health and safety program that meets established standards (ie: Farm Safe Plan), farms may also be eligible for a Certificate of Recognition (CoR). Certificates are issued by Alberta Jobs, Skills, Training and Labour and are co-signed by Certifying Partners. Achieving and maintaining a valid CoR is required for earning a financial incentive on insurance through the WCB Partnerships in Injury Reduction program.

For more farm safety information please visit the producer website.

New Egg Manager Training Session

EFA is pleased to be offering our first ever New Egg Manager Training Session. The goal of the workshop is to inform new egg managers, so they can be successful in our dynamic and sometimes complicated egg industry. We will cover a wide variety of topics, from the role of EFA to quota, levy and on-farm programs.

The workshop will run from 10:00 am – 4:00 pm on Thursday, November 6, 2014, in Calgary.

If you are relatively new to the egg industry, or would just like a refresher, please contact the EFA office to register. Space is limited and priority will be given to those new to EFA.