

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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### DIRECTOR

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### DIRECTOR

Susan Schafers 780-963-3249

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### MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER

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### PRODUCER SERVICES MANAGER

Christina Robinson ext. 125

### INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

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### OFFICE MANAGER

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### ADMIN ASSISTANT – CUSTOMER SERVICE

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### MARKETING & EVENTS COORDINATOR

Catherine Kelly ext. 128

### PRODUCER SERVICES ADMINISTRATOR

Carla Znak ext. 127

### FIELD SERVICES COORDINATOR

Murray Minchin ext. 131

### FIELD SERVICES ADMINISTRATOR/COORDINATOR

Dave Lastiwka ext. 132

## Board of Directors Update

Your Egg Farmers of Alberta (EFA) Board would like to provide producers with a brief update in response to the CTV W5 episode about Canada's egg industry, which aired on October 19<sup>th</sup>. The show featured an undercover video recorded on an Alberta egg farm, by an investigator working for an animal activist organization.

There were definitely some images on the video that we too found disturbing, which were not aligned with the expectations we have for everyone on farms demonstrating a high level of respect for hens. Those images are not representative of how animals are cared for on egg farms in Alberta, or across Canada. From the moment the video was brought to EFA's attention, we worked closely with Egg Farmers of Canada (EFC) and the farmer involved, who was devastated by what happened on his farm. The farmer was extremely cooperative and, together with EFA and EFC, took immediate action in this matter. Efforts to rectify the situation and prevent another similar situation from occurring are ongoing. Animal care was, and continues to be, a top priority for EFA and our egg farmers.

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PRODUCER WEBSITE: [www.albertaeggproducers.ca](http://www.albertaeggproducers.ca)  
OFFICE HOURS: Monday – Friday, 7:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.



## 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:

**December 24<sup>th</sup> @ noon**

**December 25<sup>th</sup>**

**December 26<sup>th</sup>**

**December 27<sup>th</sup>**

**December 31<sup>st</sup> @ noon**

**January 1<sup>st</sup>**

We hope this will not cause any inconvenience.

## EGG PRICE UPDATE

Effective from **November 10<sup>th</sup>, 2013**

### **Grade A**

X Large	\$2.080	↓
Large	\$2.080	↓
Medium	\$1.900	↓
Small	\$1.480	↓
Nest Run	\$1.964	↓
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.*

## EFA Board of Directors – Nominations

At EFA's upcoming AGM in February 2014, 2 seats on the EFA Board of Directors will be up for election. Amin Valji has completed 6 years of distinguished service and must stand down. Joe Kleinsasser has completed his first 3-year term and will be eligible to run for another term.

EFA will continue the nomination process which allows Director nominations to be made both in advance and from the floor at the AGM. EFA will be distributing Director profiles, nomination forms and eligibility requirements to producers in a packet with your 2014 levy schedule. The nominee must consent to the nomination in writing and every nomination form must be signed by two different registered producers. Nomination forms can be delivered to the EFA office via mail, email, fax or hand delivered, and must be received at the EFA office by Monday, January 24, 2014.

Nominee profiles will be distributed in the notice of meeting package and at the EFA AGM registration desk. Although nominations are also allowed from the floor of the AGM, EFA encourages nominations to be submitted in advance. This gives producers time to review each candidate's profile, enabling them to make a sound, informed decision.

## Field Statistics Update

This is how our farmers have done with their Start Clean – Stay Clean (SC-SC) and Animal Care Program (ACP) evaluations, so far in 2013.

- 148 SC-SC layer evaluations have been completed in 2013
  - ✓ Alberta's average score: 98.7%
  - ✓ 69 Alberta farmers scored a perfect 100% rating
- 148 ACP evaluations have been completed in 2013
  - ✓ Alberta's average score: 98.5%
  - ✓ 97 Alberta farmers have scored a perfect 100% rating
- 115 SC-SC pullet evaluations have been completed in 2013
  - ✓ Alberta's average score: 97.7%
  - ✓ 50 Alberta farmers have scored a perfect 100% rating

So far, only a few of the qualified producers have achieved accreditation in the SC-SC pullet program and we would like to see many more do so in 2014! **Please speak to your EFC Field Inspector about getting a Part 3 audit and your accreditation, during their next visit!** EFA would like to thank all our farmers for their dedication and hard work every day, ensuring that safe, quality eggs are produced humanely!

## UPCOMING EVENTS CALENDAR

### **January 14**

Regional Meeting (producers only)  
*Edmonton*

### **January 15**

Regional Meeting (producers only)  
*Calgary*

### **January 16**

Regional Meeting (producers only)  
*Lethbridge*

### **January 28-30**

Atlanta Poultry Show  
*Atlanta, GA*

### **January 29**

Production Management  
Committee Meeting  
*EFA Office, Calgary*

### **February 3**

EFA Board Meeting  
*EFA Office, Calgary*

### **February 5**

Provincial Managers Meeting  
*EFC Office, Ottawa, ON*

### **February 5-6**

EFC Board Meeting  
*EFC Office, Ottawa, ON*

### **February 24**

Producer Meeting (1:00 pm)  
*Sheraton, Red Deer*

### **February 24**

AGM Reception & Trade Show  
*Sheraton, Red Deer*

### **February 25**

EFA Annual General Meeting  
*Sheraton, Red Deer*

## EFA Updates

### **Levy**

Egg Farmers of Canada's (EFC) 2014 draft budget was approved by the EFC Board at their November meeting. Closing balances of \$29.0M in the Pooled Income Fund (PIF) and \$1.6M in the Administration Fund are projected to the end of 2014. The budget is based on a status quo levies order for EFC at \$0.3375 per dozen, split between the PIF (\$0.304), Administration Fund (\$0.03), Risk Management Fund (\$0.001) and Research Fund (\$0.0025). The EFA Board reviewed the 2013 Operational Plan, budget and levy requirements at the December meeting. The EFA Board set the total provincial levy at \$0.3910 per dozen, which includes the national levy (\$0.3375) and the provincial levy of \$0.0535 per dozen (\$0.035 for Administration and \$0.0185 for the Provincial IP Pool).

### **Quota**

At their November meeting, the EFC Board approved a motion planning an increase that equates to an additional 295,961 layers nationally. Also discussed was the 2013 quota increase equating to 286,663 layers, which had been approved in November 2012, but had been held in abeyance while the EFC Board worked through the options discussed at the IP Efficiencies Workshop. The EFC Board approved a motion seeking prior approval for a quota increase that equates to an additional 582,127 layers nationally, effective December 29, 2013 to December 27, 2014. EFC will submit the appropriate quota order amendments for prior approval to Farm Products Council of Canada (FPCC). This will not take effect in Alberta until the EFA Board has received confirmation that the new quota order has been approved by FPCC, then all producers will be notified in writing at the same time, and staff will not provide any information over the phone.

### **Over Base Quota Fee**

The EFA Board has set the Over Base Quota Fee at \$0.75 per bird, effective January 1, 2014. This fee is set on an annual basis, using the following criteria:

- The fee will be set by January 1<sup>st</sup> of each year.
- The annual user fee will be a minimum of \$0.00 and maximum of \$3.00 per bird, per year.
- The estimated year-end Over Base Quota Fee fund balance is not to exceed \$500,000.
- Producers will be invoiced in conjunction with their levy statement at the end of December.

## EFA PRODUCER WEBSITE

EFA has some exciting changes coming to our producer website. Soon each registered producer will be able to access information about their own quota and facility, easily and confidentially. EFA will unveil this new segment at a producer meeting being held on February 24, 2013 (the day before EFA's AGM), in Red Deer.

This development has been made possible thanks to funding provided by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada's Canadian Agricultural Adaptation Program (CAAP), managed in Alberta by the Agriculture and Food Council of Alberta. EFA would like to thank CAAP for their help in moving our quota management and producer communication to a higher level of excellence!



Agriculture and  
Agri-Food Canada

Agriculture et  
Agroalimentaire Canada

**Agriculture & Food Council**  
of Alberta

The following resources are now available on the producer website:

- Pullet Growing List Policy and Forms (under 'Forms')
- SC-SC Pharmaceutical Form (under 'SC-SC Layers & Pullets')
- Updated summaries of SC-SC changes (under 'SC-SC Layers & Pullets')

Visit EFA's producer website at:  
**[www.albertaeggproducers.ca](http://www.albertaeggproducers.ca)**

For a username and password, please call the EFA office.

## Changes to the Start Clean – Stay Clean (SC-SC) Program

At EFC's July meeting, a motion was passed to ban the use of Category 1 antibiotics by May 2014. As follow-up to this motion, EFC has made the following changes to the SC-SC Programs:

- The new Pharmaceutical Record within the SC-SC programs will be used to identify the use of Category 1 antibiotics. This new record will be required as of January 9, 2014. Copies of the new Pharmaceutical Record will be available at EFA's regional meetings in January, and are also available on the producer website, under 'SC-SC Layers & Pullets'.
- The Letter of Certification from hatcheries will be required to provide assurance that chicks are free from Category 1 antibiotics.

Category 1 antibiotics are important to human medicine and are essential for treating serious bacterial infections. Limited alternatives are available if resistance to these antibiotics develop, which is why agricultural groups are doing our part to prevent anti-microbial resistance. For more information, see the Anti-microbial resource sheet on the producer website, under 'Best Production Practices – Poultry Health'.

## SC-SC Annual Water Test

Producers preparing for their annual water test must remember to specify to the lab that they want Total Coliforms and Fecal Coliforms analyzed, since this is what is required by the SC-SC program. The results for Total Coliforms and Fecal Coliforms should be recorded separately on your results.

## Interim Policy for Free-Run and Aviary Systems

The Interim Policy for Free-Run and Aviary Systems was introduced by EFC last year and came into effect on November 7, 2013. EFA supports the adoption of standards for these housing systems. As of November 7, any new free-run or aviary housing systems and any new quota must meet the interim density standards. This requirement is now a part of EFA's space density policy.

EFC is currently considering grandfathering provisions for producers who had free-run facilities and quota in operation prior to November 7, 2013. EFC is proposing that such facilities be grandfathered based on the requirements outlined in the 2003 Code of Practice. EFA's Production Management Committee is providing feedback on this proposal and will advise producers when a final decision has been reached.

## EGG FARMING BEST PRACTICE

Hand washing facilities with disposable paper towels should be readily available and used. Use of sanitizing lotion is an acceptable alternative.

## BIO-SECURITY TIP

Maintain driveways and areas within the Controlled Access Zone (CAZ) (ie: well graveled), to minimize transfer of yard debris to delivery and pickup vehicles.

## CLASSIFIED ADS

### **#1) For Sale:**

200 pullets

Contact:

Darryl @ Brant Colony  
403-684-3126 (or 3058) ext.503

### **#2) Wanted:**

24" Egg-Gard strips and clips

Contact:

Joe Entz @ Roseglen Colony  
403-838-2545 ext.712 (or 623)

## 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](mailto:info@eggs.ab.ca)

## NEW – Pullet Growing List

EFA has determined that one of the biggest obstacles preventing egg farmers from moving to 'all in – all out' production is pullet growing space. Facilities that have traditionally housed two ages of birds often have one pullet barn, with the capacity to grow half of their quota birds. Moving to 'all in – all out' production creates two problems:

1. The producer does not have the capacity to grow their own entire quota
2. The producer has a pullet barn that is only being utilized for half of its potential

EFA has developed a new Pullet Growing List to help producers wishing to move to 'all in – all out' production find another registered producer with whom they can share pullet growing. For example, a producer who wishes to move to 'all in – all out' production in January, may need half of their pullets grown by another producer from September to January, but has the capacity to grow pullets for another producer from February to August. Producers interested in sharing pullet growing space can add their name to the Pullet Growing List, which is circulated by EFA, as a method of connecting producers in a way that is fair and respects confidentiality.

To add your name to the Pullet Growing List, simply complete a Pullet Growing List Request Form. These forms are available at the EFA office and on the producer website, under 'Forms'. Once your request is received, you will be added to the list and will receive regular updates. Producers are responsible for connecting with others on the list and for agreeing to the details of a pullet growing arrangement. It is also up to each producer to confirm that the pullet grower they are working with is conducting on farm food safety, animal care, poultry health and other management practices in accordance to their expectations.

## CEIRA Update

In order to receive full coverage under the CEIRA insurance program, pullet producers must now score at least 90% on their SC-SC program. This is now consistent with the requirement for layer producers.

CEIRA Directors met on November 5, 2013 and confirmed that "losses that occur from an infection in any production facility that is used during the term of the Policy for any purpose other than the operation of the Insured Business" are excluded from coverage. If you use your pullet or layer barn for any purposes other than housing pullets or layers, please contact EFA immediately to discuss the potential impact for your farm.

## 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*:  
**January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2014**

Next issue of *EggNotes*:  
**February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2014**

## “YOKES” OF THE MONTH



*Guaranteed to crack you up!*

**Q:** Why isn't the chef getting anything for Christmas?

**A:** Because he beats the eggs!

**Q:** Why did Santa think of replacing the elves with chickens?

**A:** Because they work around the cluck!

## Darkling Beetles: Little Pests, Big Problems

Darkling Beetles are unwanted guests in layer barns, as they pose a risk to both bird health and food safety. They can spread a number of food-borne pathogens that are important to food safety including Salmonella, E-coli and Campylobacter. The re-introduction of Salmonella to a barn after cleaning and disinfecting has also been linked to these little pests.

Darkling beetles are also known to transmit Mareks disease, avian influenza, coccidiosis and many other poultry diseases. They can also cause significant structural damage in a barn. Some estimates suggest that severe infestations can result in losses of up to 25% of the insulation in a poultry house per year. Energy costs have been estimated to be up to 60% higher in buildings with beetle damage. It is clear that addressing darkling beetle problems needs to be part of every barn manager's routine.

### About the Darkling Beetle

- Larvae of these beetles are known as lesser mealworms
- The beetles are about 6-10mm long and are brown or black in colour
- Beetles can fly up to one mile, but most crawl, typically at night
- Adult beetles live from 3 months to a year
- The beetles eat both animal protein and vegetation and often feed on manure, spilled feed and dead birds
- Beetles tend to accumulate in dark corners of manure or litter, or places where there is feed

It is possible to have a Darkling Beetle problem in your barn and not be aware of it. Beetles often stay out of sight during the day and come out at night. Continuous monitoring is a key step to identifying and dealing with a beetle problem. A simple way to monitor beetles is to place traps along the sidewalls of your barn and near feeders. Traps can be made by rolling corrugated cardboard into a 10-12" long, 2" PVC pipe. Remove the cardboard from the traps to count beetles once a week. If you see a rapid increase in their numbers it is a sign that you need to take action.

Once beetles are in your barn, they can be difficult to remove, however using an insecticide during your flock change can help. Insecticide should be applied during the flock change, after cleaning and disinfection is complete. Beetles can quickly develop resistance to insecticides and so the product you are using should be switched up every flock cycle, or at most, after every two flock cycles. Always carefully follow the directions and apply the labeled amount of insecticide as low doses can promote resistance. Speak to your supplier about which insecticides work best for Darkling Beetles.

*Continued on Page 7...*

## FEDERAL FUNDING ANNOUNCED

The federal government announced that they are investing \$2.6 million to help western Canadian poultry producers develop vaccines and increase production capabilities!

Funding will come from the government's Western Economic Diversification ministry and will be combined with support from the Alberta Livestock and Meat Agency (ALMA), and will be given to the Institute for Applied Poultry Technologies.

Alberta is home to the largest number of egg producers in western Canada and the second largest number of chicken producers, according to Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada.

The Institute for Applied Poultry Technologies was formed in 2012 by industry stakeholders and is a not-for-profit body. Its mandate is to research new and cost-saving poultry health technologies that will help prepare for disease outbreaks, reduce costs and improve product quality. The federal funding will help the Institute develop, produce and commercialize vaccines and other health-related products for poultry.

Government officials state the ultimate goal as helping the poultry industry meet consumer demands for better food safety and hormone-free poultry.

## Darkling Beetles... Continued from Page 6

You can also take steps that will make your barn less appealing to Darkling beetles by:

- Filling cracks and holes in your barn floor and walls
- Removing mortalities and feed spills promptly
- Storing your manure as far away from the barn as possible, as this can be a reservoir for beetle populations

Little pests like Darkling Beetles can cause big problems, but a consistent, vigilant pest management program is your best defence.

## Industry Development Update

With ongoing efforts in the areas of animal care, food safety and environment, it is apparent that EFA needs to develop a way to more effectively report to retailers, government and the public on the work that we are doing on a daily basis, as well as our philosophy of continuous improvement. These stakeholders are looking to see that hot spots have been identified and that we are actively working to improve on them. ARD is committed to helping EFA improve competitiveness and has successfully applied for and received funding under the Growing Forward 2 Business Management program, to support the development of a sustainability strategy for EFA. EFA and ARD have sent out a Request for Quote to engage a consultant that will work with EFA staff members to gain a clear understanding of EFA's vision, mission, values and operations. A final report will be delivered that will identify:

- Options for a platform for sustainability and their pros & cons
- Recommended actions to be taken, future goals and next steps
- Information on appropriate metrics for goal setting and communication
- How research should be used to assist with the strategy

Moving forward with a sustainability strategy should enable EFA to report on key results areas to external stakeholders, frame our efforts in a way that resonates with those stakeholders and demonstrate the existence of shared values.

## NEW AOPA APPLICATION FORMS

As part of a project to improve access to the information that approval officers use to review an application for a new or expanding confined feeding operation, the Natural Resources Conservation Board (NRCB) has revised the application forms for permits under Agricultural Operations Practices Act (AOPA), as well as the decision documents that explain how a decision is reached. The updated forms and documents will ensure that the reasons for approval officer decisions are clearly explained and accessible for applicants and other parties. They will also improve the efficiency of how decisions are issued.

The information that an operator must provide has not changed. However, the new forms include sections that will be completed by an approval officer when they review the application. The forms have also been reorganized in response to informal feedback from operators. Applications submitted by an operator will continue to be publically available. The expanded form, with the approval officer's comments included, will also form part of the public record.

The new forms have been in use since early October. They are available from the NRCB website ([www.nrcb.ca](http://www.nrcb.ca)) and ARD extension specialists. For assistance filling out the forms, please contact your local extension specialist or get connected by calling 310-FARM.

## Intensive Livestock Working Group (ILWG) Update

### **Farm Safety**

There has been some activity within ARD to develop an education initiative in the form of a certification program called "Farm Safe", which is being modelled after the Environmental Farm Plan Program. It includes an on-farm hazard identification and risk assessment, followed by the development of a farm safety plan to address those risks identified. However, education is just one component of a strategic approach that would create a provincial policy framework that must maximize effectiveness of limited resources, consolidate existing programs, identify insurance coverage options and develop an effectual communication – outreach network. The working group had its first meeting on November 28<sup>th</sup>, with an expectation of having the strategic framework ready for implementation by March 2014.

### **Sub Basin Phosphorus Pilot Project**

This project is a long-term research initiative between ILWG and ARD, to develop and test an approach to mitigate phosphorus loss from agricultural watersheds in Alberta. The project team hosted its second workshop on October 1<sup>st</sup>. The next phase of engagement will be working with producers in both Acme and Tindastoll Creeks, to identify critical source areas for phosphorus run-off on any land base, by using ILWG's newly developed risk assessment tool.

### **Bow River Phosphorus Management Plan**

The goal of this initiative is to identify strategies and actions to improve water quality by reducing phosphorus loading into the Bow River (Bears paw Dam to upstream of the Bassano Dam). It is considered a pilot project of the water quality management frameworks approach that will be developed under each of the seven regional plans. A cost/benefits analysis was conducted in October and potential solutions will be pilot tested over the next five years, to determine their effectiveness.

### **Land Planning**

The draft SSRP was released on October 10<sup>th</sup> and ILWG worked with Agri-Environmental Partnership Alberta (AEPA) to facilitate ARD presenting a workshop on October 16<sup>th</sup>, to review the draft plan with emphasis on agricultural interests. Stakeholder engagement sessions were conducted throughout November. While there were some concerns expressed about specific aspects of the plan, it seems to have received a fairly soft landing from agricultural interests overall.

## SM5 FARM TOUR

On Monday, October 21<sup>st</sup>, Alberta supply management was fortunate to host the Honourable Premier Alison Redford and the Honourable Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development Verlyn Olson on a farm tour. The AB SM5 organized a day filled with hands-on farm tours to help promote the essential role that supply management plays in sustaining & growing our industries.

The day started at Kamlah Turkey Farms, near Didsbury, where our guests were shown the different stages of turkey production.

Lunch followed at Country Cousins restaurant in Linden, where an incredible meal was prepared with supply managed ingredients. SM5 Board Chairs and GMs had an opportunity to highlight the benefits supply management provides their industry. Premier Redford then addressed the group and voiced her support for supply management, which she believes it is fundamental to who we are as Albertans.

The day concluded at Arco Poultry Farms, a broiler hatching egg farm, the most specialized of the supply managed commodity groups.

The Premier and Minister thoroughly enjoyed their day spent with AB SM5. At the end of a full day, the Premier remarked that it was a wonderful way to spend the day and how she felt that SM5 were incredibly gracious hosts.

## Euthanasia of Layer Hens

- *by Poultry Health Services veterinary team*

Animal welfare is a concern of all involved in the layer industry, but also is a great interest to our consumers. For you as a producer, welfare is part of your everyday work – you do your best to keep your birds in excellent health and prevent injuries by providing adequate food, water, and housing. Unfortunately, sometimes some of the birds get injured or become sick. In such situations you are advised to seek help of a veterinarian, but even the veterinarian cannot always help. Ending the life of some of your birds is an integral part of raising and providing the best for many more of them. How you do that is very important, and by training and perfecting acceptable and humane methods of euthanasia you and your farm staff can make a difference.

The word euthanasia refers to the act of intentional ending of the life in the aim to relieve pain and suffering. There are several methods of euthanasia of birds that are acceptable and approved. The list includes administration of drugs in the veins of the birds, or use of various gasses, but those methods either need to be performed by a professional, or require equipment. In the barn, the easy, effective, approved, and humane method of euthanasia is cervical dislocation or simply dislocation of the head from the neck. The birds that is already in distress needs to be handled carefully, by holding both legs and supporting the breast and then slowly taking it out of the cage. Then, with your left hand you need to hold both legs while placing the thumb and forefinger (or forefinger and middle finger) from both sides of the head. With quick and resolute movement, the head should be bent up while at the same time pulled forward. It is normal that the birds show some involuntary movements after the death. You always need to check whether the head is dislocated and to see whether the bird is dead – the bird should not breathe or move the eyes or the third eye lid. Properly disposing sick birds will prevent spread of the disease.

Training of the producers to perform euthanasia should be documented and use of appropriate methods enforced at all times on the farm. Welfare is a concern to all of us in the industry, and we need to be able to show to our consumers that we really care.



## ALBERTA EGG MARKET UPDATE

The Nielson preliminary retail sales data is available up to November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2013 and indicates that in the latest 4-week period, 2.8 million dozen eggs were sold in Alberta; a 0.9% increase from the previous 4-week period (ending Oct. 19<sup>th</sup>) and a 2.6% increase in sales compared to the same period in 2012.

Nielson retail sales in the last 52 weeks are up 2.9% over the previous 52 weeks in Alberta, to 34.3 million dozen eggs! Specialty eggs (excluding Omega-3 eggs) have seen the largest sales growth in the last 52 weeks in Alberta; a 14.3% increase over the previous 52 weeks, to 2.0 million dozen eggs (5.7% of the total eggs sold in Alberta).

## EFA ONLINE!

Remember to tell everyone you meet about the EFA website, where you can find lots of eggcellent information about being an egg farmer, how an egg a day can be part of an active, nutritious lifestyle and a wide variety of delicious recipes! *Get Cracking* to [eggs.ab.ca](http://eggs.ab.ca)



## Marketing Update

### **Classroom Agriculture Program**

The Classroom Agriculture Program (CAP) is a non-profit initiative that teaches grade four students the importance of agriculture in their daily lives. CAP began in 1985 and since that time more than 570,000 students have participated. Over 22,500 students have already been registered for the 2013-14 school year, which is a 12.5% growth of CAP over last year.

EFA is a member and supporter of CAP, which is provided free of charge to grade four classes across Alberta. As a CAP member, EFA helps the organization achieve its objectives through financial support, distributing information about the program and promoting program involvement. CAP members are also a great source of program volunteers.

CAP volunteers go directly into classrooms to discuss farming and agriculture, giving unique presentations based on their own specialty. Presentations are one hour long and include story-telling, hands-on props and fun activities. CAP provides training, resources, ideas and guidance to all volunteers. Typically, it will take new volunteers about five hours to deliver their first CAP presentation, including training, preparation and the presentation itself. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, please visit the CAP website ([www.classroomagriculture.com](http://www.classroomagriculture.com)) for more information or to register as a volunteer.

CAP is supported by the Minister of Education and the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development.

### **EFA 2013 Highlights**

- Total # of events attended: 29
- Total # of events sponsored: 201
- Total # of school/health presentations: 62
- Total # of resources distributed: 162,424
- Total # of promotional items distributed: 96,325

## Correction Notice

It was brought to EFA's attention that there was an error in the "Growing Forward 2: Manure Management" article found on page 7 of the October issue of *EggNotes*. In the bulleted list of 10 examples of manure composting related costs, only the first 2 bullets are actually eligible under Growing Forward 2's Confined Feeding Operation Stewardship Program:

- Specialized compost mixing or aeration equipment (ie: windrow turner)
- Monitoring equipment (for temperature, moisture and oxygen)