

# EggNotes

## Board of Directors

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**Vice Chair:** Peter Waldner 403-795-8621  
**EFC Director:** Beatrice Visser 780-674-6297  
**EFC Alternate:** Jerry Hofer 403-363-3501  
**Director:** Conrad Vanessen 403-635-7998  
**Director:** Elie Hofer 780-691-8512

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Manager Programs & Research, 587-391-6129 / ext.129

Carley Frerichs  
Farm Programs Coordinator, 587-391-6125 / ext.125

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Kari Buijs  
Business Manager, 587-391-6123 / ext.123

Dave Lastiwka  
Field Services Coordinator, 587-999-3447

Murray Minchin  
Fields Services Coordinator

### EFA Vision Statement

Healthy Food, Healthy Farms,  
Healthy Families

### EFA Mission Statement

Cultivating a sustainable egg industry  
together with farmers, consumers & other  
stakeholders

### EFA Office Hours

Regular Office Hours  
July 2 - Canada Day, Office Closed

### Egg Price Update Effective February 21, 2021

Canada Grade	Size	Price Per Dozen	
A	Extra Large	2.510	↑
A	Large	2.510	↑
A	Medium	2.220	↑
A	Small	1.890	↑
A	Nest Run	2.360	↑
A	Pee Wee	0.270	↓
B		0.760	↓
C		0.150	↓

Note: From the minimum paying price, graders can only deduct charges as authorized by the EFA Board. Effective December 29/19, rates were set for each zone in Alberta and reflect the maximum rate that can be deducted from producer's weekly cheque. For further information, please refer to OPP #13.3 on the producer website.

EggNotes is the official newsletter of Egg Farmers of Alberta.  
Submissions should be sent to:  
info@eggs.ab.ca

Next Issue: July 16, 2021

Note: EggNotes can be accessed on the EFA website or EFA's producer website



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P: 403-250-1197 Toll Free: 1-877-302-2344 F: 403-291-9216  
Website: eggs.ab.ca Producer Website: albertaeggproducers.ca  
Email: info@eggs.ab.ca Office hours: M-F: 7:30am - 4:00pm

# Board Update

## ➤ EFA Regional Meetings

The Egg Farmers of Alberta (EFA) Board of Directors would like to advise producers that the upcoming round of regional meetings, which typically occur in mid-June, are being pushed into August. The decision was made to hopefully allow us to conduct the meetings in person, in accordance with any active provincial restrictions and policies. Since some producers have expressed a preference for virtual meetings, one of the regional meetings will be both in-person and broadcast virtually.

- Monday August 9 - Calgary & Zoom
- Tuesday August 10 - Lethbridge #1
- Wednesday August 11 - Lethbridge #2
- Thursday August 12 - Grande Prairie
- Friday August 13 - Edmonton

EFA will send all producers a package with registration information and additional details as we get closer to the meeting dates.

## ➤ EFA's Sustainability Strategy

EFA originally developed its sustainability strategy in 2014, in collaboration with the Alberta Agriculture & Forestry and the Prasino Group. Over the past seven years the strategy has resulted in the adoption of EFA's four pillars (healthy birds, healthy eggs, healthy farms and healthy communities), hosting two significant stakeholder engagement sessions on the environment and animal welfare, and the publication of EFA's annual Sustainability Report. The Board has recently committed to working with a new partner to update EFA's sustainability strategy, with a focus on building public trust and cultivating a sustainable egg industry, to help guide us in the coming years.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- June 15,** EFA Board Meeting
- June 27,** Quota Leasing Pool Application Out
- July 2,** Canada Day - Office Closed
- July 6,** Research Committee Meeting
- July 8,** Quota Exchange Sales Deadline
- July 15,** Quota Exchange Red / Green Date
- July 18,** Quota Leasing Pool Application Due



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# Healthy Birds



## ➤ Re-issuing Conventional Hen Housing Certificates

Between 2015 to 2017, EFA distributed conventional hen housing certificates to all Alberta egg farmers. Since then, there have been a few clarifying guidelines communicated from Egg Farmers of Canada (EFC) on what should be included on each hen housing certificate. These guidelines include:

- Ensuring there is one certificate per facility (room)
- Feeder space should be explicitly outlined on the certificate
- The removal of grandfathering which was phased out January 1, 2020

To comply with these guidelines, EFA has revised and is redistributing all conventional hen housing certificates. Upon receipt of your new conventional hen housing certificate, please destroy your previous conventional hen housing certificate(s).

Please note: The assessment of feeder space in the redeveloped Animal Care Program is currently undergoing revision by EFC. It may shift to an outcome-based measure approach. For producers with conventional housing systems that are limited by feeder space we are holding the certificate until a final decision is made by EFC.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Carley Frerichs at [carley.frerichs@eggs.ab.ca](mailto:carley.frerichs@eggs.ab.ca) or 403-250-1197 x 125.

## ➤ Animal Care Program Clarifications

Egg Farmers of Canada has released the following clarifications to the Animal Care Program:

- Feed withdrawal for birds being caught and loaded for live transport must comply with the Health of Animals Regulations – Part XII Transportation of Animals (please refer to the CFIA Feed, Water, and Rest withdrawal table in your record keeping calendars for details). Water must be available until catching begins.
- For on-farm depopulation, feed and water must be available until the depopulation process begins.
- As of August 1, 2021, daily mortality records must have a number written down, even if the number is 0.



## ➤ From The Production Management Committee: Implementation of Redeveloped Animal Care Program

At the most recent ad hoc Production Management Committee (PMC) meeting on May 17th your PMC discussed EFC's proposal to revise the plan for the implementation of the redeveloped Animal Care Program (ACP). EFC was requesting input regarding a 12-month phase instead of the 18-months as originally approved.

The PMC felt that ideally producers should be given the maximum amount of time (18-months) to allow for changes to be made to their facilities or adjustment of their pullet orders to meet capacity based on the new ACP requirements. However, the PMC acknowledged that it could be possible to adjust to a 12-month phase in with the caveat that the redeveloped ACP is implemented on January 1, 2023. An implementation mid-year could be problematic because it would mean Egg Farmers of Alberta would have producers on different programs (old and redeveloped ACP). This would create inequity with respect to producer of the year and recognition programs and it would also have an impact on the record keeping calendars (different versions of calendars for old vs. redeveloped ACP).

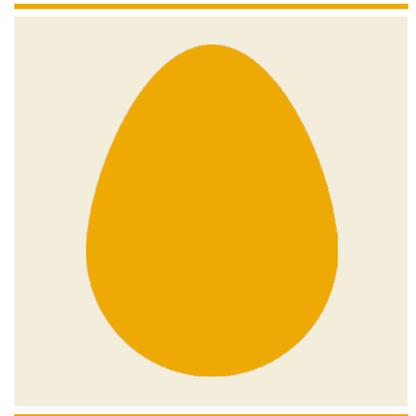
Thus, the recommendation put forward to EFC was to consider an implementation date of January 1, 2023, while providing producers the longest adjustment period possible (i.e. push for an internal deadline to approve the final version of the program in summer of 2021 or September at the latest, with no further delays).

## Healthy Eggs

### ➤ Salmonella Testing Process Clarification

On May 10th there was an update memo sent to all producers related to the CFIA SE recall policy and EFA's risk mitigation efforts. The memo noted that, "if you receive a report that says you have Salmonella (but that it is NOT SE), it will be the final report you receive." We have had some questions from producers about whether this means removal of all Salmonella positive flocks whether it is SE or not. To clarify, we will continue to test Salmonella positive samples to determine if the Salmonella is Enteritidis or 'Other'. As per usual, the post positive response protocol will **only** come into effect if the Salmonella is identified as SE. We apologize for any confusion on this matter.

If you have any questions about the SE testing process please contact Jenna Griffin at the EFA office.



# Healthy Farms

## ► Safety Minute from AgSafe Alberta

The following article was scheduled as part of EFA's ongoing series about farm safety. After this article was written and submitted by AgSafe, EFA learned of a tragic accident (runover) at a poultry farm near Red Deer. EFA would like to pass along our condolences to the family, friends, and colleagues of Ephraim, who lost his life as the result of the recent on-farm incident.



This article is courtesy of AgSafe Alberta.

This month we will focus on R which stands for Rollovers/Runovers. These types of incidents remain the biggest killer on farms, so what is happening?

### Runovers

We have extra riders in the cab, that do not have a safe place to sit, and we are still reaching up into cabs to start tractors and we are also driving equipment where we have significant blind spots. These blind spots occur not only with large tractors and equipment, we also see them in small equipment like skidsteers. The challenge is that this equipment also moves quickly.

Take time to make eye contact with people on the ground and even have them wear hi-vis vests or clothing to help them be more visible to the driver. We know it takes an extra few seconds to hop up into the cab to start the equipment, but it can save lives, so take those few seconds.

### Rollovers

Rollovers often happen when we are overdriving or driving too close to ditches or embankments. Installing ROPS (roll over protective structures) on equipment, including quads can save lives. Ensure your farm team drives to the conditions of the road, and to exercise caution when operating near ditches.

We know that many of these seem obvious and everyone should know this, however the numbers tell us that they don't (it is not common sense), but you can work to make it common knowledge on your farm but sharing this information through a tool box talk and including it in your training.



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## ➤ **Farm Security**

With Alberta rolling out plans to ease restrictions and reopen the province, and with the warm summer months fast approaching, now is the time for farmers to remain extra vigilant about their farm security. While the Government of Alberta has strengthened provincial trespass laws to protect farmers from “harassment and occupations by protesters, which are actions that risk introducing disease and threaten the welfare of animals”, all farmers should have a comprehensive security and response plan in place to safeguard the health and well-being of their farm, family, employees, animals, and livelihood.

As a reminder for all Alberta egg farmers, there are a variety of resources available on the Farm Security page in the Healthy Farms section of the producer website. EFA’s Farm Security Toolkit provides details and tips to help you develop a security plan for your farm, as well as a response plan to help you know what to do if your farm is ever targeted by activists or is the victim of an illegal trespass. Committing to effective farm security is vital to maintaining the health of your farm.

# Healthy Communities

## ➤ **Registration Open for the Canadian Poultry Research Forum**

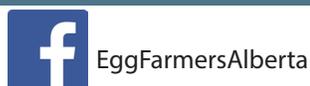
The new initiative, the Canadian Poultry Research Forum, was announced in the May issue of EggNotes. As a refresher, this initiative arose from the annual Prairie Poultry Meetings which had historically brought together researchers and their graduate level poultry science students from the three Western provinces (Saskatchewan, Alberta, and Manitoba) to present their planned and completed research projects. This year, the meeting has expanded and includes poultry researchers and students from across Canada.



The meeting is scheduled for June 21-23, 2021 and is a virtual event. The virtual meeting platform will allow attendees such as producers to easily interact, provide feedback and ask questions. To register, visit: <https://pheedloop.com/CPSN2021/site/home/>

## ➤ **EFA Office Update**

Egg Farmers of Alberta is planning to re-open the EFA office on Monday, June 14th, in accordance with Alberta’s Open for Summer Plan. Staff will continue to follow all recommended public health measures, which will likely include wearing masks and social distancing. EFA also kindly requests all visitors, including farmers, to call ahead and schedule meetings with staff. We look forward to reopening the office and serving Alberta egg farmers and industry partners in person once again, while ensuring the health, safety, and well-being of the EFA Board, staff, and guests.



## ➤ Youth Employment and Skills Program

The Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada want to help fund 2000 agricultural positions for Canadians aged 15-30 as part of their Youth Employment and Skills program. Farmers can receive up to \$14,000 for hiring a Canadian youth for positions including agriculture, agri-food, agri-food science or veterinary medicine. The additional support can be used from April 15, 2021 to March 31, 2022. Applications will be accepted on a first come, first served basis – apply today by visiting: [https://www.agr.gc.ca/eng/agricultural-programs-and-services/youth-employment-and-skills-program/?id=1557778999519&utm\\_source=ext\\_web&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=yesp&utm\\_content=yyyy-05-dd\\_0002](https://www.agr.gc.ca/eng/agricultural-programs-and-services/youth-employment-and-skills-program/?id=1557778999519&utm_source=ext_web&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=yesp&utm_content=yyyy-05-dd_0002)



## ➤ Communications Update

We believe in two-way communication between our consumers and us, and we want you to stay informed, be active and engaged about our social media happenings. Each month we'll include a communications update of a piece of work that we are proud to show you! We would also love your opinion on what you want to see, so if you have suggestions feel free to send them to [adelina.gashi@eggs.ab.ca](mailto:adelina.gashi@eggs.ab.ca) or call 587-391-6122.

## ➤ Summer Kick Off Campaign for June

As part of our 2021 marketing strategy, we've developed a themed monthly campaign as an engaging and creative way to share all the wonderful information about eggs. For the month of June, we will be kicking summer off with egg recipes that are perfect for the grill, picnic, and summer breakfast mornings. The goal of this month's campaign is to celebrate the start of a new season with the only way we know how... EGG RECIPES! Follow us on social to check out our summer kick off recipes.



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