

EggNotes

Board of Director

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Director: Elie Hofer
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EFA Staff

General Manager: Susan Gal
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Marketing & Comm. Manager: David Webb
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Marketing & Social Media Cord. : Adelina Gashi
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Farm Programs Coordinator: Carley Frerichs
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Manager, Programs & Research: Jenna Griffin
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Office Manager: Laurel Martin
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Logistics Coordinator: Brandy Addai
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Farm Services Administrator: Erin Johnston
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Business Manager: Kari Buijs
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Fields Services Coordinator: Dave Lastiwka
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Fields Services Coordinator: Murray Minchin

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

Office is closed to the public until further notice
but all staff can be reached by phone or email

Egg Price Update

Effective September 8, 2019

Canada Grade	Size	Price Per Dozen	
A	Extra Large	2.360	↑
A	Large	2.360	↑
A	Medium	2.130	↑
A	Small	1.750	↑
A	Nest Run	2.225	↑
A	Pee Wee	0.280	-
B		0.770	-
C		0.160	-

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: June 5, 2020

Note: EggNotes can be accessed on the EFA website (full issue PDF) or EFA's producer website



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Email: info@eggs.ab.ca Office hours: M-F: 7:30am - 4:00pm

Board Update

Your Egg Farmers of Alberta Board of Directors would like to remind our fellow farmers that despite the ongoing situation and requirement to self-isolate and work remotely, the EFA staff and Board continues to operate business as usual. To that end, EFA is moving forward with a new delivery method for the June producer meetings.

EFA will host 5 online meetings via Zoom, with each meeting capped at 35 registered attendees. When invitations are emailed out, egg farmers will have to follow the steps included in the email to register for their preferred meeting, on a first come – first serve basis. These meetings will be closed to industry partners, to help ensure all producers will be able to attend one of the meetings.

The EFA producer meetings are scheduled for the following dates:

- June 16
- June 17
- June 18
- June 23
- June 24

We look forward to connecting with you in June!

EFA Staff Update

EFA is pleased to welcome Adelina Gashi to the Marketing & Communications team, as our new Marketing & Social Media Coordinator. Adelina brings her creativity, passion and experience building highly engaged communities to the role. Originally from Prizren, Kosovo, Adelina is engaged to be married and enjoys hiking, gardening, travelling, exercising, trying out new restaurants and shopping. She is eager to work with the EFA staff and Board, and to help the egg industry continue to evolve to the benefit of Alberta egg farmers.



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HEALTHY BIRDS

New Foot Health

There is a strong desire within both science-based research and industry to move towards outcome-based measures (also known as bird-based measures). Outcome-based measures assess the state of the birds and provides producers with more flexibility in how they manage their flocks. Monitoring outcome-based measures such as feather cover and foot health can assist producers in early detection of feather pecking, environmental issues such as lighting or temperature, equipment issues, litter quality, signs of dehydration, and many more! The producer website has featured many resources on assessing feather cover and its multitude of benefits. However, EFA has recently updated the bird-based measures page to include a variety of new sources focusing on foot health. Visit Bird-Based Measurements (Healthy Birds) on the producer website for more details.

EFA also encourages producers who are interested in monitoring outcome-based measures to contact the office for a copy of the bird-based measurements handbook. This handy little book is designed to be compact so that producers can bring it with them into the barn to record their outcome-based findings. Please contact Carley Frerichs at carley.frerichs@eggs.ab.ca or (403)-250-1197 x 125 for a copy of your own bird-based measures handbook.

Upcoming Events

- **May 13** - Research Committee Meeting
- **May 18** - Victoria Day (EFA office closed)
- **May 20** - New Entrant Committee Meeting
- **May 21 & 26** - Uniform Levy Project Team Meeting
- **May 27** - EFC & Egg Board Pricing Meeting
- **June 9** - EFA Board Meeting
- **June 16, 17, 18, 23 & 24** - EFA Regional Meetings



HEALTHY BIRDS

Resources on the Canadian Food Inspection Agency Transportation Regulations

At the January regional meetings, the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) transportation regulations were presented. During these meetings, producers had several questions regarding the updated regulations and needed further clarity. EFA, in collaboration with the Production Management Committee and Alberta Pullet Growers, attended a presentation and Q&A period with a CFIA transportation representative. The purpose of this meeting was to gather clarity on the recent changes to the regulations and provide answers to outstanding questions from the regional meetings. From this meeting with CFIA, resources have been developed and added to the producer website on the Transportation (Healthy Birds) page, which include:

- A recording of the CFIA transport regulation presentation
- A PDF version of the PowerPoint slides with speaking notes
- A Question & Answer Factsheet on CFIA transportation regulations

The Q&A Factsheet on CFIA transportation regulations features the questions posed at the regional meetings and the follow-up answers from a CFIA transportation representative. To further assist producers with the transportation regulations, the transport workshops scheduled for August are intended to incorporate these regulations and how to complete documentation to ensure compliance with the CFIA transportation regulations.



HEALTHY BIRDS

Weigh Scales and Poultry Transport

EFA has received a couple inquiries from producers on how the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) transportation regulations may impact producers during poultry transport at the weigh scales. It should be noted that direct communication from CFIA to the weigh scales has not been provided. However, CFIA published and informed the public through media and the CFIA website that there were recent changes to the transport of animal's regulations.

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Unfortunately, commercial or private hauling of livestock are not exempt from the weigh scales. Producers are expected to stop at the scales, or they will risk receiving a ticket. CFIA recommends contacting the weigh scales if you have concerns. The link provided below is for the Alberta government website and lists the contact information for all the scales in Alberta.

<https://www.alberta.ca/commercial-vehicle-inspection-stations-offices.aspx>

If during transit a producer comes across a long lineup at the weigh scale or if there is bad weather etc... that concerns the producer for the welfare of the birds on the trailer, it is recommended to contact the weigh scales to flag for the scale workers that there are live animals on your load. The workers may be able to prioritize your load.



Quota Exchange Updates

QE2-2020 Update – Green Notification

EFA is pleased to report that 1 eligible application to sell 1,384 layers of quota has been received, so applications to purchase will now be accepted. The deadline for EFA to receive applications to purchase layer quota is May 14, 2020.

The following update has been made to the Quota Exchange:

If either an application to purchase or application to sell is incomplete or incorrect, the producer will be given a maximum of 3 business days to provide any missing documentation or correct any errors, failing which the Board will disallow the purchase or sale offer to be included in the QE. The Quota Exchange Policy (OPP # 9.34) can be found on the producer website.



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Government Research Update

On April 28th the interim board for the Results Driven Agriculture Research (RDAR) organization had an information session and continued to express an interest in collecting feedback from producers, industry, and key partners in the agricultural sector. RDAR is described as a non-profit, arm's-length agriculture research organization and the selected interim board is a governance entity that will ensure the strategic planning and goals of budgets are met.

A regionally reflective advisory board composed of various agriculture sector representation will assist the interim board with important projects to ensure value, profitability and areas of focus. Although not all agriculture sectors may be directly represented on the advisory board, the RDAR interim board has stressed that selected representatives will have an extensive foundation of knowledge and must be sensitive to the needs of all agriculture commodities. For the advisory board to function well it needs to cap its representation at 8-12 members. However, the establishment of the advisory committee as well as the official board is still ongoing and will be a collection of members who approach research with the best interest of the agriculture industry.

RDAR aims to select research that will be adopted and utilized by Alberta producers. Therefore, the allocation of funding will be influenced by the quality of proposed projects, economic benefit, and impact for producers. The organization will take over the management of previous research, recognize the ongoing and existing research industry strategies, and have demonstrated a willingness to work collaboratively with other funders.



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HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

Alberta Poultry Contact Tree for Emergencies

Most people can tell you of at least one incident where they were left in an unforeseen circumstance and did not know where to turn for the proper assistance. There is nothing worse than being faced with an emergency and not knowing who can help you.

The Production Management Committee (PMC) has identified that many Alberta poultry producers can provide a variety of resources and support during a disaster. However, the struggle is that other individuals may not be aware that these producers can aid them during an emergency. Therefore, the PMC has proposed the creation of an Alberta-wide poultry contact tree that would provide the names, location, and resources of Alberta poultry producers who would be willing to aid in the event of an emergency.

The PMC recognizes that this is an area where collaboration with the other poultry sectors could be beneficial. As such, the producers interested in being added to the contact tree to provide resources or support during an emergency should be aware that this document will be shared among commercial poultry producers including chicken, turkey, and hatching eggs. EFA encourages producers to consider coming forward with any resources or support they may be able to provide in the event of a disaster. A well-developed contact tree will provide significant assistance not only to producers in an emergency, but also during the development of contingency plans.

If you are interested in becoming a part of an Alberta poultry industry emergency contact tree, please contact Carley Frerichs at carley.frerichs@eggs.ab.ca or (403)-250-1197 x 125.



HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

Poultry Industry Council upcoming online presentations

The Poultry Industry Council (PIC) in Ontario is hosting a series of three online presentations in June. The online presentations will run for three Wednesdays in a row, from 1:30 pm - 2:30 pm, at a cost of \$25.00. The information below outlines the details of each presentation:

June 10: Making Data Work for You: Tracking, Sharing and making data a part of your poultry farm

During this online presentation participants will hear about the terms and conditions of handing over your data, learn about Transport Genie technology and its traceability and tracking, and about research that is using big data to track and predict disease outbreaks.

June 17: Before the Crisis: Planning and Preparation for the Unexpected

How are you preparing for the unexpected? During this online presentation, participants will hear from Ontario Pork on their one stop tool kit for being prepared for an on-farm emergency, making your biosecurity more user friendly, and OMAFRA Poultry Specialist talking about lessons learned the hard way.

June 24: The Changing landscape of rights and responsibilities

During this online presentation participants will plan to explore everything from knowing your rights, how to keep your farm safe and how to ensure your farm is “camera ready”. And, when something unexpected happens, we hope to share real stories from the field on how this type of scenario might unfold.

EFA continues to encourage producers to engage in online learning opportunities such as these, to gain valuable knowledge on what is new in the poultry industry and different ways producers can be prepared for various events. To register for these online presentations please contact Carley Frerichs at carley.frerichs@eggs.ab.ca or (403)-250-1197 x 125.



HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

4-H Alberta

4-H Alberta is the newly restructured organizational body that streamlines the governance, structure and operating functions previously handled by the 4-H Council of Alberta, the 4-H Foundation of Alberta, and the 4-H Section of Alberta Agriculture and Forestry. 4-H is a youth development organization that guides, supports and inspires Alberta's greatest resource, the youth of the province. 4-H encourages youth to learn to do by doing and empowers them to become leaders and volunteers in their clubs, communities, countries, and the world.

With a century of leadership excellence, the new 4-H Alberta is hiring! 4-H Alberta is seeking a team of professionals with a youth-first mindset to build, grow and make a difference in their communities. There is a need for full-time, part-time and contract positions. Please visit the 4-H Alberta website to learn more about them and the available positions (<https://www.4h.ab.ca/About/careers.html>).



HEALTHY EGGS

Nielsen Update

The Nielsen retail sales data is available up to March 28th, 2020, and indicates that in the latest 4-week period 4.1 million dozen eggs were sold in Alberta; a 27.8% increase from the previous 4-week period (ending February 29th), and a 29.6% increase in sales compared to the same period in 2019.

Nielsen retail sales in the last 52 weeks are up 2.6% over the previous 52 weeks in Alberta, to 42.11 million dozen eggs. Regular white & brown eggs have seen the largest sales growth; a 4.2% increase over the previous 52 weeks, to 35.6 million dozen eggs (84.6% of the total eggs sold in Alberta).

As a reminder, additional Nielsen trend data that is updated approximately every four weeks is available on the producer website.



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