

EggNotes

Board of Directors

Chair: Peter Waldner 403-795-8621
Vice Chair: Conrad Vanessen 403-635-7998
EFC Director: Beatrice Visser 780-674-6297
EFC Alternate: Jerry Hofer 403-363-3501
Director: Elie Hofer 780-691-8512
Director: John Hofer 403-363-0393
Director in Training: Vacant

EFA Vision Statement
 Healthy Food, Healthy Farms,
 Healthy Families



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

EFA Staff

Stephen Scott
 • General Manager, 587-391-6124 / ext.124

David Webb
 • Marketing & Comm. Manager, 587-391-6126 / ext.126

Tate O'Dwyer
 • Marketing & Comm. Coordinator, 587-391-6122/ ext.122

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

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

Laurel Martin
 • Office Manager, 403-250-1197 / ext.105

Melissa Procyk
 • Admin Support Coordinator, 403-250-1197 / ext.101

Brandy Addai
 • Emergency Preparedness & Response Coordinator,
 587-391-6128 / ext.128

Reshma Kurian
 • Financial Coordinator, 587-391-6121 / ext.121

Erin Johnston
 • Farm Services Administrator, 587-391-6127 / ext.127

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

Dave Lastiwka
 • Field Services Coordinator, 587-999-3447

Murray Minchin
 • Fields Services Coordinator, 403-830-3447

EFA Office Hours

Monday to Friday - 7:30 am to 4:00 pm

Egg Price Update Effective November 5, 2023

Canada Grade	Size	Price Per Dozen	
A	Extra Large	3.030	↑
A	Large	3.030	↑
A	Medium	2.730	↑
A	Small	2.370	↑
A	Nest Run	2.853	↑
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 portal.

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

Next Issue: March 15, 2024

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



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After Hours Response Line: 368-996-3447
 Website: eggs.ab.ca | Producer Portal: portal.eggs.ab.ca
 Email: info@eggs.ab.ca | Office hours: M-F: 7:30 am - 4:00 pm

Board Update



EFA hopes for a tremendous turnout of registered Alberta egg farmers, value chain partners, and industry stakeholders, at our 55th Annual General Meeting (AGM) on Tuesday, February 27th, 2024. The AGM will be held in person at the Red Deer Resort & Casino in Red Deer, from 9:30 am to 3:30 pm. There will not be a virtual option for joining the AGM this year.

Following a review of EFA's Annual Report, as well as updates from Egg Farmers of Canada and Farm Products Council of Canada, elections will be held for two positions on the EFA Board of Directors. Peter Waldner has completed his second three-year term and John Hofer has completed his first three-year term, and both are eligible for re-election. The afternoon session will begin with the Producer of the Year announcement. Producers from the four poultry Boards will then come together for the keynote speaker, Nick Black from Intensions Consulting, who will present "*What do we know about today's poultry consumer?*".

All producers are invited to attend a poultry industry cocktails and hors d'oeuvres networking session from 3:30 pm to 5:00 pm, in the event center where the industry trade show is being hosted. The evening will conclude with an industry reception from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm. We hope to see you in Red Deer!

January Regional Meetings



If you missed attending the regional meetings or are interested in watching a specific section of the meeting, the entire zoom recording from the Calgary regional is now available to view on the producer portal, under information center - producer meetings, along with the presentation from CEIRA.



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Egg Farmers of Alberta



2024 New Entrant Program

Egg Farmers of Alberta (EFA) is pleased to announce that the New Entrant Program will be opening for applications in 2024.

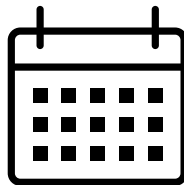
EFA believes that it is crucial to the long-term sustainability of agriculture in Canada that new people and new investment be encouraged to enter the industry. EFA's New Entrant Program was developed in order assist individuals and families who want to own an egg farm by alleviating some of the start-up capital.

Below is a listing of important dates for the 2024 New Entrant Program:

- **February 22, 2024** | 2024 Townhall Webinar (see below for registration information)
- **May 1, 2024** | New Entrant Program is open for applications
- **June 25, 2024** | Deadline for New Entrant applications
- **November 30, 2024** | Announcement of Successful New Entrants
- **February 25, 2025** | New Entrant Welcome Reception (EFA AGM)

Application forms and new entrant information packages will be available on our website www.eggs.ab.ca as of May 1, 2024.

To register for the Townhall webinar, please visit www.eggs.ab.ca/healthy-farms/new-entrant-program and register through the registration link provided.

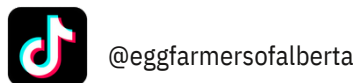


UPCOMING KEY DATES

- February 19** | Office closed for Family Day
- February 26** | PIP Flock Forum: Mystery, Mayhem, & Mastery of Fibre (Red Deer)
- February 27** | EFA AGM
- February 29** | QE1 2024 Summary of Quota Transfers
- March 13** | Egg Ambassador Workshop (Red Deer)
- March 20** | Egg Ambassador Workshop (Lethbridge)

UPCOMING WEBINARS

-  **February 22** | 2024 New Entrant Program Townhall
- March 26** | Egg Ambassador Training



Healthy Farms

Forms Workshop Presentation

A big thank you to the producers that stayed after the January Regional Meetings to attend the Forms Workshop. We hope you found the session valuable.

We understand that not all producers interested may have been able to stay for the session, so Egg Farmers of Alberta (EFA) has posted the slide deck along with the speaking notes on the producer portal. It can be found under the producer meetings on the information center drop down menu.

If you have any questions on the content, please contact Carley Frerichs at 403-250-1197 x 125 or carley.frerichs@eggs.ab.ca or Brandy Addai at 403-250-1197 x 128 or brandy.addai@eggs.ab.ca.

Back-up Power Record

At the January Regional Meetings the updates and clarifications to the Animal Care and Start-Clean, Stay-Clean® program were presented. During the session, producers at one of the meetings asked if a back-up power record template could be provided to fulfill the Animal Care Program requirement. As a result, EFA has created a back-up power record template which has been provided on the producer portal under Calendar Records and Policies for Signature on the Farm Programs and Record Keeping Calendar pages.

Farm Safety

(Incident source: Briere, Karen. 2022, February 23. "Dairy farm fined for worker's death." Western Producer. Accessed 2023, January 08 from <https://www.producer.com/news/dairy-farm-fined-for-workers-death/>). Courtesy of AgSafe Alberta.

A temporary foreign worker was found dead after his clothing became caught in an unguarded power take-off (PTO) shaft while processing barley with a tractor and grain mill. He left behind a wife and two children.

Description	Injury Type	Age Range	Sector	Location
Foreign worker entrapped in PTO shaft	Fatality	30-39 years	Dairy	Saskatchewan

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It was believed that the worker had been visually inspecting the rolling process when a piece of his clothing became caught by the running PTO shaft. In addition to his clothes being wrapped around the shaft, it was reported that his hands and face came into contact with the chain & gears as well.

Important findings from this incident included:

- While the worker had been working with another person initially, that person was somewhere else at the time of the incident and there were no witnesses.
- Documents confirmed that the equipment had been manufactured with the necessary guarding over the gears, chains and PTO shaft. It was reported that the required guards had been removed a couple of months prior to the incident during maintenance. It was determined that the farm not having reinstalled them was an oversight as opposed to a deliberate act.
- The Crown and defense counsel agreed to an \$80,000 fine (to be paid over a two-year period) and the dairy farm was prevented from participating in the temporary foreign worker program for a period of time.

Below are some tips that will help you prevent a similar incident from occurring on your farm:

1. Thorough, farm-specific hazard assessments are essential to preventing incidents on your farm, and they are required by Alberta OHS legislation before work begins.
2. Pre-job inspections and regular workplace inspections can help catch oversights, such as damaged or missing guards before equipment is used. Just remember that workers will need to be trained in how to perform an inspection, what to look for, and how to report it.
3. Your farm's working alone procedure should clearly state that when two workers are required for a task and one worker has to leave the immediate work area for any length of time (e.g., to get something, to take a washroom break, etc.), all work must stop and only be restarted when the person who left has returned and is ready to begin again.

Hazard Assessments and Work Alone plans and policies are covered under the EFA/AgSafe Yr 1 Farm Safety training and assessment. Through our partnership with AgSafe, Alberta egg farmers have access to AgSafe field staff to do one on one coaching on farm. If you'd like assistance building your farm safety plan, please contact Jenna at the office at ext 129.



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Capturing Value from Manure

Want to win a \$25 Tim Horton's gift card? Help us tell your story!

In line with the EFA Sustainability Strategy commitment that “EFA supports the increased application of ‘circular-economy’ practices on Alberta egg farms to capture value and minimize environmental impacts” the EFA Board has set a goal that by December 31, 2024, there are at least 5 unique producer stories about capturing value from chicken manure on the producer portal. The ‘opportunities for manure’ thread on the producer portal (<https://portal.eggs.ab.ca/producer-portal/forum/forum-home/opportunities-for-manure>) is a place to talk about how you capture value from your manure either on farm or via sale. Currently, there are two stories posted. We encourage you to log-in to the portal to share your story! Alternatively, you can call Jenna or Carley at the office, and we can talk to you about your story and post it for you!

In August, we will draw from all posted stories for a \$25 Tim Horton's gift card. EFA's marketing team will be sharing some of the stories (anonymously if requested) with the public via our consumer-facing digital communication channels.

Have you heard about OFCAF?

The On-Farm Climate Action Fund (OFCAF) delivered by RDAR provides financial support to producers to accelerate their adoption and implementation of on-farm Beneficial Management Practices (BMPs) to lower Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions. An eligible activity under Nitrogen management is transportation and spreading costs of synthetic Nitrogen fertilizer replacements (i.e. manure or compost) on land where it has not been applied in the past 10 years. Farmers can receive up to a maximum of \$75,000 for this activity. For more information visit <https://rdar.ca/funding-opportunities/ofcaf> or call 1-877-503-5955.

Classified Ads

Are you currently or soon to be looking to sell any farm equipment, tools, etc? If so, reach out to Tate O'Dwyer, EFA's Marketing & Social Media Coordinator to get your ad in EggNotes. If you are interested in having an ad in future issues, please email tate.odwyer@eggs.ab.ca or call ext 122.



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Egg Farmers of Alberta



Healthy Communities

2024 Egg Ambassador Program Update

EFA is excited for the upcoming event season, with plans for plenty of opportunities for Egg Ambassadors to engage with Albertans. EFA will be hosting two in-person Egg Ambassador workshops, as well as a webinar, to give more farmers an opportunity to attend a workshop. Whether you are an experienced Egg Ambassador or are just curious to learn more about the program and how you could potentially get involved in the future, EFA invites all Alberta egg producers to attend an upcoming Egg Ambassador workshop.



Calendar of Events:

- Egg Ambassador Workshop #1 (Red Deer) – March 13
- Egg Ambassador Workshop #2 (Lethbridge) – March 20
- Egg Ambassador Workshop #3 (virtual Zoom webinar) – March 26
- Aggie Days (Calgary) – April 10-14 [2 Sunday April 14 shifts remain]
- Calgary Stampede (Calgary) – July 4-14
- Alberta Open Farm Days – August 17-18
- Egg Farmer Profile – TBD (June – September)
- Farm Tour – TBD (July – August)

To learn more about this program, or to RSVP for an Egg Ambassador workshop, please contact David Webb at the EFA office (403-250-1197 x126 / david.webb@eggs.ab.ca). For more information about our upcoming events, or to sign up for a shift, please contact Tate O'Dwyer at the office (403-250-1197 x122 / tate.odwyer@eggs.ab.ca).

Alberta Open Farm Days

Alberta Open Farm Days early host farm registration is now open, and farmers can choose which day(s) they want to participate in.

Alberta Open Farm Days is a province-wide open house. This unique weekend event is intended to bring Albertans together through educational and experiential agricultural-based initiatives to learn more about where local food comes from and how it is produced. The overall goal is to showcase Alberta's agriculture and tourism industry in a fun, engaging, and meaningful manner to Albertans of all ages.

The deadline for host farms to register is April 30, 2024. To register and learn more, visit: <https://albertaopenfarmdays.ca/open-farm-days-2024/open-farm-days-registration-2024/>. Open Farm Days will provide road and farm gate signage for participating Host Farms.



Canada's Agriculture Day - another success!

Tuesday, February 13 marked Canada's Agriculture Day and the celebration was a resounding success! There were countless posts, tags, likes, and shares across many platforms including Facebook, LinkedIn, X, and Instagram. It is encouraging to see this relevant day is continuing to gain awareness and engagement throughout the country!

Calgary Hitmen "Bake-off" Video shoot

As part of our partnership with the Calgary Hitmen this season, we had our first player video shoot filmed at the end of January at Brown Bagging for Calgary's Kids (BB4CK) main location in Calgary. Here we had four Hitmen players along with two younger Hitmen fans, do a team vs team bake-off making carrot applesauce muffins! It was a new experience for most of the players, as they hadn't baked muffins before. At the end of the filming, EFA along with CSEC (Calgary Sport and Entertainment Corporation) presented BB4CK a cheque for \$1,000 to go towards the charity. Stay tuned for the full video when it gets released.

Social Media Highlight



EFA is pleased to start a new partnership with influencer Anthony Wong (@acheatdayeverday), a recipe blogger! As part of our partnership, Anthony will produce a new recipe Instagram reel every quarter this year, for a total of 4 reels. His first reel was a bacon and mushroom quiche (view here: <https://www.instagram.com/reel/C20NyhRvzI2/>). Anthony has over 12,600 followers on Instagram and over 1,000 followers on TikTok!. We look forward to the future content he provides and the added awareness he brings to EFA!



**Happy Family Day
on February 19!**



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