

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: Marcella Van Stryland | 403-392-4665
Director in Training: Jorn Wipf | 403-635-0516

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

EFA Staff

Stephen Scott

- General Manager, 587-391-6124 / ext.124

David Webb

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

Nicole Whitehouse

- Marketing & Community Relations Specialist,
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

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 / Controller, 587-391-6123 / ext.123

Dave Lastiwka

- Field Services Coordinator, 587-999-3447

Murray Minchin

- Field Services Coordinator, 403-830-3447

Egg Price Update Effective February 25, 2024

Canada Grade	Size	Price Per Dozen	
A	Extra Large	3.080	↑
A	Large	3.080	↑
A	Medium	2.780	↑
A	Small	2.420	↑
A	Nest Run	2.900	↑
A	Pee Wee	0.260	↓
B		0.750	↓
C		0.140	↓

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.

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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



Your Egg Farmers of Alberta (EFA) Board of Directors recently completed our annual strategic planning session with EFA's management team. We reviewed the efforts, successes, and challenges from the past year, and prioritized the key areas of focus for next year. The staff will now build their 2025 Operational Plan around EFA's four strategic pillars – healthy birds, healthy eggs, healthy farms, and healthy communities.

Working Genius

At EFA's September Board meeting, Directors reviewed the Working Genius model that "helps people discover their natural gifts and thrive in their work and life". By working with a facilitator to better understand the natural working strengths and frustrations of each Director, the intention of incorporating Working Genius into future EFA Board meetings is to make the Board's limited time together more efficient and effective. Working Genius is "changing the way people are thinking about their work and teams, and is leading to more dignified, fulfilled and successful work". You can learn more about Working Genius here: <https://www.workinggenius.com/>

UPCOMING EVENTS

- September 6** | 2024b Allocation Notice
- September 11** | 2025/2026a Quota Leasing Pool Launched
- September 26** | APIEMT Producer Webinar
- September 30** | 2025/2026a Quota Leasing Pool Applications Due
- October 3** | 2024 QE4 Sales Deadline
- October 3 & 4** | PSIW
- October 10** | 2024 QE4 Red / Green Date
- October 30** | 2025/2026a Quota Leasing Pool Results



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Healthy Farms

On-Farm Efficiency Funding Program Now Open

The On-Farm Efficiency Program is part of the Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership (S-CAP) in Alberta.

<https://www.alberta.ca/sustainable-cap>

The new On-Farm Efficiency Program (OFEP) is open to applications as of August 14, 2024. The intent of the On-Farm Efficiency Program is to support producers in achieving environmental benefits by improving the efficient use of agricultural inputs. The Program funds primary producers to carry out projects that optimize the use of inputs such as fertilizer, pesticides, and energy. This program has four Streams. An applicant may apply to any or all the Program Streams:

- Smart Farm Technology
- Energy Efficiency
- Farm Security
- Efficient Grain Handling

Funding is retroactive to April 1, 2023. Eligible expenses are funded at a **cost-share rate of 50%**. The maximum funding per applicant is **\$150,000** over the duration of the Program. The maximum funding per Stream over the duration of the Program is: \$50,000 for Smart Farm Technology, \$50,000 for Energy Efficiency, \$2,000 for Farm Security, and \$100,000 for Efficient Grain Handling. For some Eligible Items, there is a maximum grant stated in the Funding List.

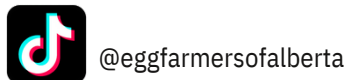
For more detailed information and program documents you can visit the OFEP website at www.alberta.ca/on-farm-efficiency-program

For program inquiries, connect with the OFEP team:

Hours: 8:15 am to 4:30 pm (open Monday to Friday, closed statutory holidays)

Toll free: **310-FARM** (3276) (in Alberta)

Email: OFEP@gov.ab.ca



Alberta Egg Farmers: Leading the Way in Sustainable Agriculture

Alberta egg farmers are revolutionizing sustainable agriculture with cutting-edge technology and the natural power of chicken manure. By embracing a circular-economy approach, egg farmers are cultivating a sustainable egg industry in Alberta. This forward-looking strategy not only benefits their own farm but can also have a positive impact on the broader provincial agriculture sector, while minimizing their overall environmental footprint.

“ *It makes me feel good to provide my neighbour with quality compost, largely comprised of chicken manure from my flock, to help grow the very crops that I feed to my laying hens. It’s not only a partnership that makes both our farms more sustainable, it truly is the circle of life.* ”

Mike Froese

[LEARN MORE](#)

Nielsen Update

The Nielsen retail sales data is available up to August 10th, which is period 8 for 2024. The data indicates that in the last 4-week period 3.6 million dozen eggs were sold in Alberta; a 0.9% decrease from the previous 4-week period (ending July 13th), and a 7.9% increase in sales compared to the same period in 2023.

Nielsen retail sales in the last 52 weeks are up 6.8% over the previous 52 weeks in Alberta, currently sitting at 46.9 million dozen eggs. Omega-3 eggs have seen the largest sales growth; a 12.9% increase over the previous 52 weeks, to 1.2 million dozen eggs (2.5% 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 portal (Eggstra... / Egg Sales Trends).



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Healthy Birds

From Your PMC: Pullet Barn Standards

There has been strong interest among producers planning to build pullet barns in the next few years about the future standards for square inches per bird. Particularly for free-run facilities, the industry faces some uncertainty about where these measurements will be set over the long-term. While we continue to believe that conventional pullet systems will be at 44 sq. in. per bird, the minimum floor space allowance for pullets in multi-tier free run systems is currently under review. The EFC Production Management Committee (PMC)

expressed concerns with the Code requirement in aviary pullet rearing systems of 44 sq in. They believe there would be harmful animal welfare implications should a multi-tier system be housed at this high density. As such, they originally proposed a change to the final space allowance to mirror the single-tier systems one at 108 sq in per bird. After significant concerns were expressed, EFC requested further consultation. While we cannot know the final number until the code amendments are published, *it is now believed (but not confirmed) that this number will be closer to 90 sq. in.*



EFC is actively working with various stakeholders to establish these standards. We anticipate the public comment period on the Code review will run from November 2024 – January 2025 (producers will have a chance to provide input) and then the numbers should be finalized by spring/summer of 2025. We understand the challenges this timeline poses, and we appreciate your patience as we await the final numbers.

Our recent PMC meeting on August 27th highlighted the importance of engaging with EFC's PMC as we continue to iron out challenges associated with unit of measurement discrepancies in the Code for both layer and pullet systems. EFA's PMC is working to ensure that the Code is applied consistently and fairly on all farms, regardless of when they are measured. As we navigate this uncertainty, there may be some delays in processing measurements as we want to be certain that the capacity information provided to you will stand.

During this period of change, just as when we started measuring layer systems, there may be some growing pains - we will work together toward the best outcomes for producers!



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Pullet Measuring Protocol Clarification

In the pullet measuring protocol, useable space is defined as:

Includes the main floor, litter area, elevated terraces, plus any elevated tiers with a height of at least 45.0 cm (17.7 in) to which birds have continual access, but excludes ramps and ladders, if applicable. Space under offset elevated terraces counts as useable floor space.

A clarification has been made regarding offset elevated terraces. The usable space below the offset elevated terraces do not require a height of 45.0cm (17.7 in) and counts towards space allowance for the entire rearing period. The minimum height of 45.0cm (17.7 in) was intended for the primary tiers of the system. It was not meant to apply to offset/transitional terraces used to assist chicks and pullets in navigating and accessing all tiers of the system during all stages of their development.

