

EggNotes

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EFC Alternate: Jerry Hofer	403-363-3501
Director: Elie Hofer	780-691-8512
Director: John Hofer	403-363-0393

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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 ◀

Due to COVID-19, EFA's office is closed. Staff are working
from home and are available during regular business hours
(7:30 am - 4:00 pm) by phone and email.

Egg Price Update Effective July 18, 2021

Canada Grade	Size	Price Per Dozen	
A	Extra Large	2.610	↑
A	Large	2.610	↑
A	Medium	2.320	↑
A	Small	1.990	↑
A	Nest Run	2.455	↑
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: March 11, 2022

Note: EggNotes can be accessed on the EFA website 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 (EFA) Board of Directors would like to thank everyone who attended our recent virtual regional producer meeting. The Board would also like to thank the EFA staff for efficiently transitioning plans to a single virtual meeting format, which seemed to go flawlessly. Though we were looking forward to getting together with our fellow egg farmers and industry partners from across the province, we are thankful to have established such a reliable alternative that producers have become comfortable with. The Board was pleased to have such a great turnout and appreciate all those who took the time to join the meeting, as well as those who have since watched the meeting recording on the producer website.

As all registered Alberta egg farmers should know by now, the EFA Board's election process that was detailed in the January issue of EggNotes will no longer be necessary. Since only two nominations were received for the two 3-year terms and only one nomination was received for the one 2-year term, all three Director positions have been acclaimed. Conrad Vanessen and Beatrice Visser have been acclaimed for 3-year terms, while John Hofer has been acclaimed for the 2-year term.

Your Board of Directors looks forward to seeing you – in person or virtually – at EFA's upcoming 53rd Annual General Meeting (AGM) on Tuesday, March 1st, 2022. The AGM will be held in person at the Cambridge Hotel in Red Deer and will also be broadcast via Zoom, from 9:30 am – 3:15 pm. The morning session will include updates from EFA's Chair and EFC Director, a report from the Farm Products Council of Canada, and the presentation of EFA's audited financials. The afternoon session will include the presentation of EFA's Producer of the Year award, an update about the Federal Provincial Agreement (FPA), a presentation from the Canadian Centre for Food Integrity about the issues and trends impacting the national agri-food industry, and the launch of EFA's revised sustainability strategy.

Formal invitations to EFA's AGM have been sent to all registered egg farmers, which included detailed instructions for registering and attending the AGM either in person or via Zoom. An extensive pre-AGM package will be mailed to all registered egg farmers by February 15th, which will include a copy of the 2021 Annual Report, minutes from the 2021 AGM, and EFA Rules of Order. **Registration is mandatory** for anyone who wants to attend EFA's AGM, whether in person or virtually.

UPCOMING EVENTS

February 21, Office closed for Family Day

February 23, Research Committee

February 24, Salmonella in the Egg Industry Webinar

March 1, Annual General Meeting (in-person and via Zoom)

February 28 - March 4, Manitoba Egg Farmers AGM

February 28 - March 2, Western Poultry Conference (Zoom)



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March 3, Salmonella Committee
March 10, Saskatchewan Egg Producers AGM
April 7, Sales Deadline for QE-2 Quota Exchange

Healthy Birds

► **After-hours receiving cooler now installed at the UCVM Diagnostics Services Unit (DSU)**

Good news! An outdoor cooler for receiving veterinary diagnostic samples after-hours is now in place at the Diagnostic Services Unit (DSU) at the Spy Hill Campus of the University of Calgary. **The temporary after-hours phone number will no longer be monitored.** The address is 11877 85th St NW.

The cooler is located near the DSU main entrance on the south side of the Clinical Skills Building (CSB) and immediately to the left of bay door #5. Please adhere to the following instructions when dropping off samples after-hours:

1. The cooler is only for use when dropping off samples AFTER-HOURS on weeknights and weekends. The DSU is open Monday to Friday, 8:30am-4:30pm (closed on holidays, weekends and during University closures); samples must be brought into the DSU for receiving during these hours. The cooler will not be available during the Christmas holiday closure.
2. The lock combination is available by logging into the EFA Producer Portal and checking this article under 'news.' Please ensure the cooler is closed and locked after dropping off samples.
3. Producers and owners are welcome to drop off samples; however, the attending veterinarian must fill out and sign the DSU submission form. Samples will not be accepted without veterinarian involvement.
4. The sample container should be clearly labeled, and the DSU submission form folded and attached to the container in a water-proof bag (e.g., Ziploc bag). Please fold the submission form to maintain case confidentiality.
5. Please attach a DSU tag provided in the cooler to the sample container. The cooler is intended for small carcasses (less than 100 lbs) and tissues/swabs and cannot accommodate large carcasses over 100 lbs. Please ensure large carcasses are brought into the DSU during regular business hours for receiving.

For questions or further information regarding the after-hours receiving cooler or general DSU information, please visit <https://vet.ucalgary.ca/DSU/>, call (403) 220-2806, or email dsu@ucalgary.ca.

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Outdoor cooler for after-hours receiving at the DSU



Campus map showing cooler location at 11877 85th St NW



Cooler location to the left of bay door #5

► Detection of the Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza in a commercial flock in Canada

Since December 23, 2021, there have been several detections of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) along the Canadian-United States Atlantic flyaway. Several of these detections have been in wild birds with more recent transmissions into backyard and commercial flocks.

The latest update from the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) is that a commercial turkey flock in Nova Scotia reported a mortality of 8,000 birds within 48 hours, attributed to the HPAI Eurasian strain. Experts are reporting that birds impacted by this disease are showing instant mortality with virtually no signs of illness outside of reduced activity. The CFIA is working to control the spread of disease by implementing zones around the impacted premise. The 10 km radius around this case encompasses 91 poultry production premises. For eggs, 40% of producers are in the 10 km control zone and could be up to 1/3 of Nova Scotia's quota and includes one of their two central grading stations.



Producers should be aware that birds from the Atlantic flyaway may cross over the province of Alberta or come in contact with birds on other flyaways crossing the province during spring migration, and it is critical that producers continue to keep their biosecurity at the top of their mind as we approach migration season in March-April.

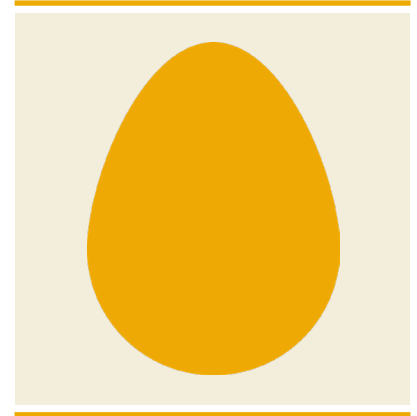
Healthy Eggs

► Nielsen Update

The Nielsen retail sales data is available up to January 1st, 2022, which is effectively the year-end stats for 2021. The data indicates that in the latest 4-week period 3.5 million dozen eggs were sold in Alberta; a 10.9% increase from the previous 4-week period (ending December 4th), and a 4.5% decrease in sales compared to the same period in 2020.

Nielsen retail sales in the last 52 weeks are down 7.5% over the previous 52 weeks in Alberta, to 41.1 million dozen eggs. Other specialty eggs (ie: free-run, free-range, organic) have seen the smallest sales decline; a 6.3% decrease over the previous 52 weeks, to 4.6 million dozen eggs (11.3% 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.



Healthy Farms

► PEFIP Reminder

The Poultry and Egg On-Farm Investment Program (PEFIP) is live and open for producers to submit project funding applications. All applications must be submitted and managed via the PEFIP website, after producers have successfully registered. EFA strongly encourages all Alberta egg farmers to register with PEFIP, even if you are not planning on submitting a funding application right away, to help expedite the process when the time comes that you do want to apply for funding.

A question was raised during EFA's virtual regional meeting last month, regarding delays receiving payments for approved projects and the possibility that an annualized cap exists for PEFIP funding. EFA has confirmed that the federal government did spread the budgeted funding equally across the 10-year funding period, which was not announced when the PEFIP initially launched. EFC is working with the federal government to try and ensure that there are no delays with project approvals or funding payments in the future.



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As a reminder, EFA distributed a PEFIP toolkit last year (also available on the producer website) that includes a step-by-step guide with screenshots to help walk producers through both the registration and application processes. If producers are having trouble registering or applying, please contact David Webb at the EFA office, or contact the PEFIP customer service center directly. Various options for contacting them are available on the 'Contact information' tab of the PEFIP website (<https://agriculture.canada.ca/en/agricultural-programs-and-services/poultry-and-egg-farm-investment-program/contact-information>).

As a further reminder, EFA would like to hear from producers that have successfully submitted a project funding application that has been approved for PEFIP funding. This will allow EFA to maintain a list of the types of projects that are being approved, which is a common question from Alberta egg farmers. EFA will be able to share this list via the producer website, to help all Alberta egg farmers make use of the funding available through the PEFIP. Please contact David Webb at the EFA office to share your PEFIP success stories.

Healthy Communities

► Celebrate Canadian Agriculture Day

February 22, 2022 is Canadian Agriculture Day! We will be raising our forks to you, our Canadian producers who provide fresh, safe and local food. Leading up to and the day of, we will be showing our appreciation for Canadian farmers, especially our 170 egg farmers who dedicate their lives to ensure Canadians have access to amazing food. Join the social party and celebrate with us in 1 of 3 ways:

1. Post a photo or video of how you are celebrating Canadian agriculture
2. Cook an all-Canadian meal
3. Post a "forks up" selfie

Whichever way you decide to participate, make sure to use the hashtag **#CdnAgDay** and tag us (EFA's social handles are found at the bottom of this page). We want to show our appreciation to all of our farmers, hope you can join us on February 22!



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➤ **Eggcellence Club Update**

Each year, EFA aims to host a special event to congratulate farmers that have achieved an exceptional level of performance in their on-farm programs. In its inaugural year EFA planned the event to coincide with the AGM so that as many qualifying farmers as possible could attend. As the AGM was virtual last year, we hosted breakfasts at the regional meetings in August. This year the AGM will be both virtual and in-person. However, there are still significant restrictions in place and the decision was made to postpone once again. We hope to host a gathering for the 2021 honorees in conjunction with the June regional meetings – stay tuned!

➤ **Egg Ambassadors Update**

EFA is hopeful that 2022 will finally provide the opportunity for Egg Ambassadors to get back out to events, into grocery stores, and hosting farm tours. It has been far too long since we have been able to engage consumers and interact with the public to share the story of local egg farmers and the fresh, local food they provide. Every Alberta egg farmer has a role to play in promoting the Canadian egg industry and locally produced eggs, whether it is formally working with EFA or informally interacting with neighbours in your community.

These are EFA's upcoming initiatives and existing resources available on the producer website (Healthy Communities) to help prepare all Alberta egg farmers to be Egg Ambassadors:

- Egg Ambassador themed producer engagement webinar in late March
- In-person Egg Ambassador workshop in Q2 (April – June)
- Egg Ambassador toolkit & policy
- Farm Tours tips
- Grassroots Public Relations & Social Responsibility Program toolkit

As a reminder, EFA's Grassroots Public Relations & Social Responsibility Program was originally launched in 2019, to encourage Alberta egg farmers to get involved and engaged with their local community. We highly encourage you to sign up for the Grassroots Public Relations & Social Responsibility Program, you can access the application on the Egg Ambassador page (Healthy Communities) on the producer website. There are a variety of ways to get involved, such as hosting a farm tour, attending a local event, or having a donation of graded eggs matched. All the details, as well as an application form, can be found in the toolkit.

Be sure to watch your email for more details about both the Egg Ambassador webinar and workshop. If you have any questions about being an Egg Ambassador, or how you can participate in EFA's Grassroots PR/SR Program, please contact David Webb at the EFA office.



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► 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.banaj@eggs.ab.ca or call 587-391-6122.

► Local farming and Agriculture Campaign for February

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 February, we are bringing light to Canadian Agriculture Day by celebrating the food we love and the people who produce it, Canadian farmers. Throughout February, we will be sharing ways for people to celebrate Canadian agriculture. Follow us on social to check out our upcoming posts!



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