

# EggNotes

## Board of Directors

<b>Chair:</b>	Peter Waldner 403-795-8621
<b>Vice Chair:</b>	Conrad Vanessen 403-635-7998
<b>EFC Director:</b>	Beatrice Visser 780-674-6297
<b>EFC Alternate:</b>	Jerry Hofer 403-363-3501
<b>Director:</b>	Elie Hofer 780-691-8512
<b>Director:</b>	John Hofer 403-363-0393
<b>Director in Training:</b>	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, 587-391-6105 / ext.105

### Andrea Bieganek

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

### Brandy Addai

- Emergency Preparedness & Response Coordinator,  
403-250-1197 / ext.128

### Reshma Puthettukalam Sajan

- Financial Coordinator, 403-250-1197 / 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

### Egg Price Update Effective July 16, 2023

Canada Grade	Size	Price Per Dozen	
A	Extra Large	2.970	↑
A	Large	2.970	↑
A	Medium	2.670	↑
A	Small	2.310	↑
A	Nest Run	2.796	↑
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 newsletter of Egg Farmers of Alberta.  
Submissions should be sent to:  
[info@eggs.ab.ca](mailto:info@eggs.ab.ca)

**Next Issue: August 18, 2023**

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



#101, 90 Freeport Blvd NE, Calgary, Alberta, T3J 5J9  
P: 403-250-1197 | Toll Free: 1-877-302-2344 | F: 403-291-9216  
**After Hours Response Line: 368-996-3447**  
Website: [eggs.ab.ca](http://eggs.ab.ca) | Producer Portal: [portal.eggs.ab.ca](http://portal.eggs.ab.ca)  
Email: [info@eggs.ab.ca](mailto: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 would like to thank producers for another successful round of regional meetings. Your feedback is invaluable when determining which issues require further discussion, which topics can proceed forward, and what our priority areas of focus should be at EFA's upcoming strategic planning session. It is vital for the Board to keep our finger on the pulse of Alberta egg farmers, and understand what successes and challenges producers are dealing with at the grassroots level.

The Board would also like to thank all those producers who took the time to complete and submit their annual EFA Customer Service Survey. The EFA Board and staff are in the process of reviewing the results and determining what actions can potentially be taken to further strengthen EFA's ability to effectively serve the province's egg farmers.

Finally, if you have not already done so, the Board would like to encourage our fellow egg farmers to complete and submit their Producer Community Engagement Survey. This survey is a critical piece of EFA's sustainability strategy, specifically around demonstrating our commitment to the pledge about egg farming families positively contributing to the sustainability of communities across Alberta.

## EFC Board Update

The Egg Farmers of Canada (EFC) Board of Directors approved the revised Federal-Provincial-Territorial Agreement (FPTA) at their most recent Board meeting.

## **Results Driven Agriculture Research Roundup 2023**

On June 8th, Results Driven Agriculture Research (RDAR) had their second annual Roundup meeting at the Telus Spark Science Centre in Calgary. The gathering had over 200 participants from various agriculture sectors including a representative from Egg Farmers of Alberta. This meeting provided an excellent networking opportunity and served to provide an update on next steps for funding in agriculture research. RDAR reported there are currently 230 active projects with an additional 42 projects which have been completed. RDAR continues to focus on supporting research that provides solid knowledge translation plans and fuels on-farm adoption. Egg Farmers of Alberta looks forward to continuing to engage with RDAR and the other industry members for future producer led projects.



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## June Regional Meeting on the Portal

Did you miss attending the June regional meetings? We now have the recorded Calgary regional meeting video up on the Producer Portal available to watch. Visit the portal, click Information Centre, then Producer Meetings to watch the recording.

## Portal Feature – Corrective Action Request (CAR) Closure Submissions

On the producer portal under Farm Programs -> CARS, producers can now see their CAR closure letters (which show current program scores), historical CARs, and current CARs. A new feature is that if you have a correction action for your Animal Care or Start-Clean Stay-Clean® program that has not yet been closed, you can submit your documentation to close the CAR on the portal.

Click the edit button on an open/outstanding CAR:

Outstanding CARS

Inspection Date	CAR	Program	Agreed Resolution Date	Description	Status
04/18/2023	P151QA19iii	SCSC12-P	10/18/2023	The bins are not uniquely identified	new
04/18/2023	P258Q8ii	SCSC12-L	10/18/2023	Bins are not uniquely identified	new

1 - 2 of 2 items

You can then add documentation in support of the CAR closure:

Flag For EFA Review

Yes

File Upload \*

Select files...

Allowed Extensions: .doc;.docx;.pdf;.png;.jpg;.bmp;.jpeg

If you click on “add new document” and then “Flag for EFA Review = yes” when you click on submit, it will trigger an email to EFA with the document attached. In the portal, you will then be able to see when it has moved from “outstanding” to “historical” (closed).

If you have any questions about using this feature, please contact Jenna at the EFA office at [jenna.griffin@eggs.ab.ca](mailto:jenna.griffin@eggs.ab.ca) or x129.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**August 7** | Office closed for civic holiday

**August 10** | 2023 QE3 Purchase Deadline



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# Healthy Farms

## *Farm Safety Workshops - That's a wrap!*

On July 5th, EFA and AgSafe Alberta hosted the final farm safety workshop in Grande Prairie. That wraps up a series of workshops throughout June and July in Lethbridge, Calgary, Edmonton, and Grande Prairie. We would like to thank all farmers who participated – the engagement and discussion was fantastic, and you demonstrated exemplary leadership and dedication!



Farmers who attended the workshops noted they would implement practical changes on their farm such as:

- Upgrading their first aid kit
- Investigating the purchase of AED units
- Ensuring they have different fire extinguishers for different purposes
- Creating a barn map with emergency supplies and exits noted
- Adding additional job tasks to their Job Task Hazard Assessments such as outdoor yard maintenance, vaccinations, and using the egg lift
- Using WHMIS labels on products that have been transferred into non-original containers

As a friendly reminder, the revised Farm Safety assessment asks that all of the people performing work in the egg facility have completed a general WHMIS course that has been documented. If you do not already have documented WHMIS training, you can complete it for free at <https://www.agsafeabseed.ca/course/whmis-2015-pesticide-veterinary-drug-and-medicated-feed-awareness-course>

Use the code **EFA2023**.

HAVE A COUPON?

EFA2023

Redeem

There are 2 additional learning components in the assessment:

- 8.1. AgSafe Alberta EFA Year 1 Learning Overview
- 8.2 FarmSafe Plan Training Modules (Hazard Assessment, Hazard Controls, Emergency Response and Preparedness)

For the FarmSafe Plan training modules, these can be accessed from the <https://www.agsafeabseed.ca/> platforms by searching 'EFA'.



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All Courses

Not enrolled

Newest

Popular

Free

Certificate


CATEGORIES

Farm Safe Training

FARMERS CARE

Safety Training

Webinars



### Year 1 Egg Farmers of Alberta Farm Safety Risk Assessment Learning Component

This course provides the required modules for the new Farm Safety Risk Assessments being completed by the EFA.

Enroll

Free

## 01 Courses

Free

- Hazard Identification & Assessment
- Hazard Elimination & Control
- Emergency Preparedness & Management
- Certificate of Completion Notification 0 Pages

***For the Year 1 Learning Module, those farmers that attended the in-person workshops will be given credit – congratulations! For those who did not attend, stay tuned for an online option to receive this credit.***

### Sustainable CAP Program Update

With the recent completion of the election and caretaker period, Alberta Agriculture and Irrigation has resumed normal program communications and processing of applications. We encourage producers to review the programs available and apply for funding that would benefit your operation! Current open programs targeted to producers include:

- Efficient Grain Handling - <https://www.alberta.ca/efficient-grain-handling-program.aspx>
- Farm Technology - <https://www.alberta.ca/farm-technology-program.aspx>
- Resilient Agricultural Landscape Program - <https://www.alberta.ca/resilient-agricultural-landscape-program.aspx>
- Water Program - <https://www.alberta.ca/water-program.aspx>

For questions about SCAP contact [s-cap.alberta@gov.ab.ca](mailto:s-cap.alberta@gov.ab.ca) or phone 310-FARM (3276).



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## A Refresher on Masks

**Did you know?** In a study for the Coalition for Sustainable Egg Supply, egg barn workers who wore a mask more than 70 percent of the time had significantly better lung airflow. The combination of dust and ammonia can work in synergy to impair lung function - prolonged exposure without respiratory protection may lead to respiratory health problems, such as chronic bronchitis, wheezing and reduced lung function.



**Did you know?** When wearing a respirator, there are different reusable filters and/or cartridges depending on the respiratory hazard(s) you are being exposed to. When selecting a cartridge, it is important to consider if you are being exposed to dust, ammonia, pesticides, or other hazardous materials and whether what you are wearing is approved for that exposure.

### Resources and Example

To assist egg farmers in selecting the appropriate type of respirator for the factors and conditions present on your farm, EFA has posted reference charts and selection guides from major suppliers (3M and Honeywell) on the Producer Portal. You can find the documents by navigating to Learning and Education -> Farm Resources and Documents and searching for “mask”.

One farmer we spoke to who sources 3M masks from Gregg Distributors uses the more expensive specialized masks for specific activities and cheaper ones for daily dust exposure. For example, they use:

- PK/2 P95 filters for bird walks, mortality checks, etc;
- PK/2 P100 filters for more extreme dust (ex. barn blow down, feed mill cleanup, etc.);
- PK/2 MG/OV cartridges for gas and vapours such as ammonia, painting, mixing chlorine dioxide, etc.

It is always a good idea to discuss your individual needs with your manufacturer/supplier.

There are 2 additional resources from AgSafe on the Producer Portal that may be of interest:

- 1) A guide that discusses the differences between N95, half-facepiece, full-facepiece, and powered respirators
- 2) A bulletin on “Respiratory Hazards and the Avian Influenza Virus”.



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# Healthy Birds

## Water Resources

### *“Ask the Expert” Forum on the Producer Portal*

As noted in the March issue of EggNotes, there is a new section on the Producer Portal Forum: Water Issues and Treatment.



<https://portal.eggs.ab.ca/producer-portal/forum/forum-home/water-issues-and-treatment/water-issues-and-treatment>

This is a place to discuss water testing, treatment, and other water-related challenges or solutions. The thread is monitored by Dr. Mohammad Afrouziyeh from the Poultry Innovation Partnership (PIP).

All producers who shared a water expert contact or posted a water treatment question on the forum prior to June 30th were entered into a draw to win a water ORP and pH meter.

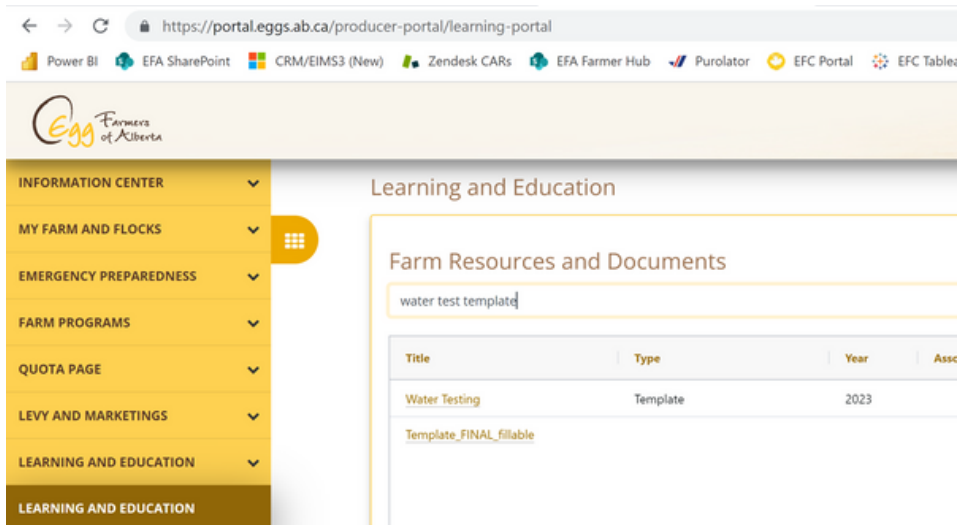
**Congratulations to Steve Kleinsasser from Jenner Colony who won the draw!** Thanks to all producers who submitted excellent questions – we encourage you to view the replies from Dr. Afrouziyeh and to continue to post your egg-cellent questions about water as they arise.

## Water Record Keeping Template

EFA has developed an optional template to assist producers who wish to keep track of pH, chlorine, peroxide residual levels, mineral levels, etc. The template also has a guide to conducting and interpreting water tests, including acceptable levels. It can be accessed on the Producer Portal at Learning & Education -> Producer resources and documents (search “water test template”).

*Article continued on next page ...*





## PIP Water App Release

The Poultry Innovation Partnership (PIP) water app has officially been released! It is accessible through <http://pippoultrywaterapp.com/>.

The app helps you to assess water quality-related risks and provides a customized risk mitigation report for your farm's unique requirements. The decision tree format gathers information about water through some questions. Based on the answers provided, recommendations are generated in each section, indicating what actions should be implemented. The protocols section links users to water quality information prepared by industry experts and video protocols on water management on poultry farms.

As a result of EFA's sponsorship of PIP, the water app is available to registered Alberta egg producers for free. You will need to click on the "App Access" icon on the top right of the page, and on the new page click on the Sign Up option to set up your account. There is a unique access code for Alberta producers. The code can be found by visiting the "Water Issues and Treatment" thread on the Producer Portal Forum, or you can contact Carley or Jenna at the EFA office.

You may share the app's generated results (PDF files) with your service providers. However, please only use the access code for your own purposes and do not share it with other folks, as the number of users from each commodity is being tracked and there is a different mechanism in place to provide access to the app for industry partners.



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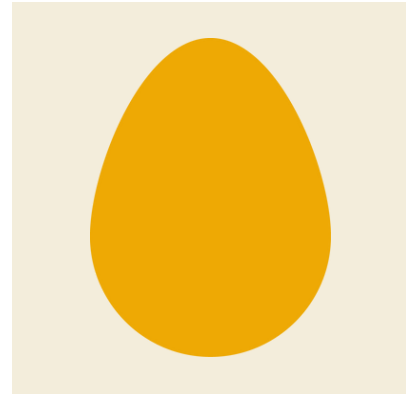




# Healthy Eggs

## *Research Summary & Article on Plant vs. Animal-based Proteins*

A new research summary and article have been uploaded to the producer portal under Research & Outcomes. The two documents developed by Egg Farmers of Canada compare the ounce equivalents of both animal and plant-based foods to understand how effectively the body uses nutrients from different protein sources. Both documents can be found by searching animal protein under the Research Outcomes document and video section.



## *Classified Ads*

**Are you selling equipment that you would like featured here?**

**Contact Tate O'Dwyer, EFA's Marketing & Social Media Coordinator at 587-391-6122 and your ad could be in the next month's edition! Classified ads are also located on the Classified forums section of the Producer Portal.**



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# Healthy Communities

## *Farm Stress & Coping Study Survey - AgKnow*

AgKnow (the Alberta Farm Mental Health Network), is conducting a survey that will help them understand what farmers and ranchers in Alberta find stressful about their work, how they cope, and their level of resilience. Any type of farmer, rancher, or farm employee in Alberta can take this survey. The survey takes approximately 10 minutes to complete and eligible participants can choose to enter their email to win 1 of 3 draws of \$200! For more information: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FarmStressCopingSurvey>. The survey is open until July 31, 2023.



## *Yahoo, Yeehaw, the Calgary Stampede was a blast!*

The 2023 Calgary Stampede was a highly successful event. It was great to have both the live birds and farmers back at our booth, engaging with the public. We also had our Egg Guess Container Contest back in action and had over **3,500** people enter! Over the course of the 10 days, we had countless questions, with many being the most common ones we hear, like: what's the difference between a brown egg and a white egg, the colour of the egg yolk (pale vs dark), and how many eggs does a hen produce in a year. A big thank you to all farmers who participated in this event, including a couple with it being their first time as an egg ambassador!



A reminder to those who worked a shift to please fill out the Egg Ambassador Feedback survey if you haven't already. This will help us plan for next year's Stampede.



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## ***A Special Thank You to Egg Ambassadors***

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We would like to recognize and thank the following Egg Ambassadors who helped work shifts at this year's Aggie Days and Calgary Stampede. Your work is much appreciated!

### ***Farmer/Colony Representation***

*Britestone & Kneehill Colony*

*Oaklane Colony*

*Midland Colony*

*Cayley Colony*

*Clearview Colony*

*Wild Rose Colony*

*Scotford Colony*

*Burnbrae*

*Castor Colony*

*Pleasant Valley Colony*

*Big Bend Colony*

*Morinville Colony*

*Lathom Colony*

*Acadia Colony*

*Wintering Hills Colony*

*Deerfield Colony*

*Greenwood Colony*

*Green Acres Colony*

*Vanessen Enterprises*



If you are interested in becoming an Egg Ambassador for events next year, be the lookout for our next Egg Ambassador workshops in 2024. More details to come.



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## Marketing Highlights

Here's a snapshot of some recent highlights in the marketing world!



### *Top Question's from Stampede*

- What's the difference between pale yolks and dark yolks?
- What is the thing on the hens head (comb)?
- Did they just lay that egg today?
- What housing system is this?
- How long do the hens live for?
- How many eggs do they produce?
- Difference between brown birds and white birds

### *Have you listened to The Cracked Egg podcast?*



Listen to our most recent episode, where we spoke with Dr. Teryn Girard with Prairie Livestock Veterinarians @ [eggs.ab.ca/podcast](https://eggs.ab.ca/podcast)

### *Calgary Stampede*



This year's Calgary Stampede attendance was the second largest in history! 1,384,632 people attended the event over the ten days.



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