

EggNotes

Board of Directors

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EFC Alternate: Jerry Hofer 403-363-3501
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Director: John Hofer 403-363-0393
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▶ **EFA Vision Statement** ◀
 Healthy Food, Healthy Farms,
 Healthy Families

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

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▶ **EFA Office Hours** ◀
 Regular Office Hours
 April 15 - Good Friday, Office Closed

Egg Price Update Effective March 6, 2022

Canada Grade	Size	Price Per Dozen	
A	Extra Large	2.780	↑
A	Large	2.780	↑
A	Medium	2.490	↑
A	Small	2.160	↑
A	Nest Run	2.617	↑
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: June 10, 2022

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



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

Board Update

▶ Alberta Avian Influenza (AI) Update

EFA would like to thank the Canadian Food Inspection Agency, the Chief Provincial Veterinarian's office with Alberta Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Economic Development, and our industry partners, for their hard work responding to the ongoing outbreak of Avian Influenza (AI). More specifically, we appreciate the extensive communication and collaboration with those layer producers who have been directly impacted by AI. We would also like to thank Alberta egg farmers for their continued diligence implementing enhanced biosecurity protocols on their farms, to help combat the spread of AI in Alberta.

At the time of publication, there are now more than 27 confirmed cases of AI in the province, including 18 commercial poultry farms and 9 non-commercial farms. The Alberta Poultry Industry Emergency Management Team (APIEMT) continues to meet on a daily basis to share updates and coordinate the response on farm-by-farm basis. The APIEMT is providing regular updates to Alberta poultry producers, value chain partners, and industry stakeholders. A regularly updated statement is being maintained on the EFA website, and Alberta egg farmers can access more detail information about the AI outbreak on the producer portal.

▶ Board Update

Your Egg Farmers of Alberta (EFA) Board of Directors would like to invite our fellow farmers, value chain partners, and egg industry stakeholders to EFA's upcoming round of regional producer meetings. Several timely and important topics will be discussed, including an update about the ongoing Avian Influenza situation, farm gate pick-up, the COP and feed pricing.

Here is the schedule for EFA's June regional producer meetings:

- June 21 - Calgary (Winston Golf Club)
- June 22 - Grande Prairie (Pomeroy Hotel, 11633 100th Street, Grande Prairie)
- June 23 - Edmonton (Holiday Inn Conference Centre, 4485 Gateway Blvd, Edmonton)
- June 28 - Lethbridge (Lethbridge Lodge, 320 Scenic Drive, Lethbridge)
- June 29 - Lethbridge (Lethbridge Lodge, 320 Scenic Drive, Lethbridge)



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Healthy Birds

► Lighting Requirements in Stage 1 of the Redeveloped Animal Care Program

The revised Animal Care Program has specific requirements with respect to lighting:



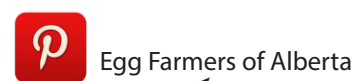
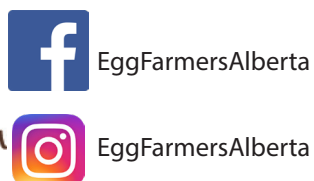
- In conventional and furnished housing light intensity must be at least an average of 5 lux at feeders during the light phase
- In free run / free range systems light intensity must be at least an average of 10 lux in the hens' environment during the light phase, so that hens can navigate their surroundings:
 - For multi-tier systems auditors will measure the light intensity in lux at 2 spots along the feeders (directly under a bulb and in-between bulbs) on each tier and a floor reading (excluding underneath the system). All measurements will be added together and divided by the total number of measurements taken to get the average of the lay facility.
 - For single-tier systems they will measure the light intensity in lux at 5 spots (2 dark spots, 2 light spots, 1 midpoint), add the lux together, and divide by 5 to get the average.
- Light intensity may only be reduced to correct injurious behaviour (e.g. feather pecking).

We would highly recommend that all producers have their own lux meter so that they can verify they are meeting these lighting requirements throughout their flock cycle. There are also phone apps available that have been demonstrated to be fairly accurate.

There is an additional requirement that in free run / free range systems or enriched colonies the light intensity must be raised gradually or staged over a minimum period of 5 minutes and lowered gradually or staged over a minimum period of 15 minutes to give birds sufficient time to roost and come off perches without causing injury. Nest lights being turned on or dimmed in a graduated manner, or staging 2 different sets of lights, are acceptable. Auditors will be interviewing farmers about their lighting program to determine how light is controlled in the lay facility, and how lights are turned on and off.

► Health of Animals Transport Regulations Fact Sheet

As a refresher, the amended Health of Animals transport regulations went into effect February 2020. Throughout this process questions have arisen over interpretation and implementation of the regulations. EFA and EFC have worked with CFIA to create a national question and answer (Q & A) document for the egg industry about the amended transport regulations. An updated Q & A document verified by the CFIA is now available on the Producer Portal under Learning & Education by searching "transportation".



➤ **Interpretation for Code Requirement: The number of tiers must not exceed 4 where the ground level is considered to be one**

At the request of the Animal Care Program (ACP) redevelopment project team, the EFC Production Management Committee (PMC) has developed an interpretation for the Code requirement pertaining to maximum number of tiers allowed in a multi-tier housing system.

The interpretation will be added as audit criteria to stage 2 of the redeveloped ACP, as well as to the measuring protocol for free run / free range housing systems:

- Tiers will be measured on a vertical plane
- If more than four tiers are present in total in the lay facility, a walkway must be present to ensure the upper tiers can be adequately inspected
- There cannot be a straight vertical drop in excess of four tiers

➤ **Animal Care Policy Update**

Please be advised that as of May 10, 2022, producers who are not using approved methods of depopulation are subject to immediate revocation of their producer licence.

Acceptable methods are outlined in Appendix E of the NFACC Layer Code of Practice. Two additional methods, low atmospheric pressure stunning (LAPS), and stunning (e.g, with an electric knife) followed by exsanguination are also acceptable euthanasia methods for depopulation. The ACP redevelopment project team has approved these other two methods following the review of peer-reviewed scientific studies, and slaughter regulation in Canada. The project team includes a veterinarian and animal welfare scientist who is an expert in euthanasia. Euthanasia methods listed in Appendix E and those approved by the ACP redevelopment project team take precedence. No other methods are allowed for depopulation

➤ **Alberta End of Lay Program (AELP)**

As a result of the layer flocks that have been depopulated due to Avian Influenza, we are looking for avenues to replace the supply that has been displaced. Similar to the recent STMRQ program, we are looking for producers near the end of lay to extend flock cycles and who have an empty barn where they can keep their old flock and also place their new flock. On May 12, 2022 a general memo was sent to all producers with details about the program, as well as a memo, the policy, and the application form to producers that have been identified that might have the ability to participate in the program.



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➤ **Modifying Lay Facility Housing Systems after Initial Measurement**

As you know measuring housing systems in preparation for the redeveloped Animal Care Program (ACP) audit has been ongoing since 2018. In the event that changes are made to a housing system in a lay facility after the initial measuring visit, the changes have to be measured and accounted for in the facility capacity calculation. If required, a new housing measuring certificate and measurement form are issued accordingly.

As a friendly reminder, if you modify a housing system in a lay facility after the initial measurement, please contact the EFC field inspector who conducted the measurement (ex. Mona or Jacci) to advise of the change and book a visit to measure accordingly. Alternatively, you can notify EFA Field Services Coordinators (Murray or Dave) who will coordinate with the EFC inspector.

Modifying a housing system includes changing, adding or removing the following amenities: feeders, drinkers, useable space (e.g., terraces, tiers, litter space, flooring, slope of the floor etc.), nests, perches, litter/dustbathing/foraging or scratch pads/substrates/sites and range openings.

➤ **Quota Leasing Pool Policy**

The Quota Leasing Pool has been updated to allow flexibility in adjusting producer's lease dates to align with placement dates up to a maximum of 30 days. If the realignment results in the lease being longer than previously applied for, leases from future pools will be reduced accordingly to balance off the additional supply created by extending the lease in the previous pool.

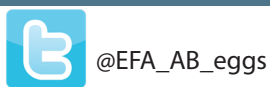
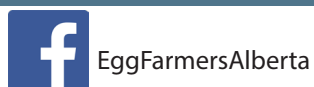
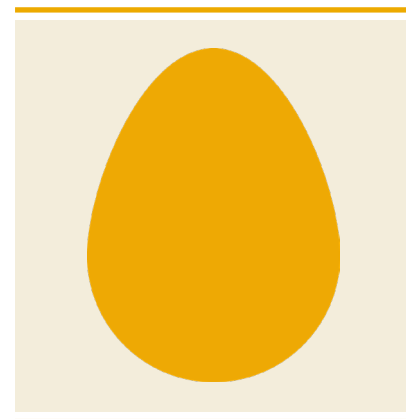
Healthy Eggs

➤ **Nielsen Update**

The Nielsen retail sales data is available up to March 26th, which is period 3 for 2022. The data indicates that in the latest 4-week period 3.1 million dozen eggs were sold in Alberta; a 0.7% decrease from the previous 4-week period (ending February 26th), and a 3.1% decrease in sales compared to the same period in 2021.

Nielsen retail sales in the last 52 weeks are down 7.8% over the previous 52 weeks in Alberta, to 40.6 million dozen eggs. Regular white & brown eggs have seen the smallest sales decline; a 7.5% decrease over the previous 52 weeks, to 34.7 million dozen eggs (85.5% 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 website.



Healthy Farms

► The Canadian Agricultural Partnership Value-Added and On-Farm Value-Added Programs

The Canadian Agricultural Partnership value-added and on-farm value-added programs are currently open and will remain open until May 24, 2022.

Project intake period: April 11, 2022 – May 24, 2022

Project end date: All projects must be completed by March 1, 2023

Previous purchases: Purchases made on or after January 1, 2022 will be eligible for reimbursement

The On-Farm Value-Added Program is designed exclusively for primary producers who are adding value to agricultural products on farm. Primary producers must be an Alberta registered entity operating in Alberta that is active in the business of changing an agricultural product into a value-added product. Primary producers who do not create a value-added product are ineligible.

Value-added product means an agricultural product that is changed, manipulated or enhanced through physical, chemical, or thermal means, and includes packaging of the enhanced agricultural product.

The following activities may be eligible:

- Processing capacity expansion
- Food safety improvement
- New product and process development
- Market development and access

Please visit the Canadian Agricultural Partnership website for more information on the Partnership and other CAP programs: <https://cap.alberta.ca/CAP/index.html>



A Saskatchewan egg producer has room to grow 12,000 pullets starting Jan 2023.
Can place anywhere from Jan 1 to March 10 2023, if interested please contact Toby at
(306)-856-4704 or (306)-856-4705 ext.712



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Healthy Communities



► Staff Update

We are pleased to announce that Justin Phillips will be joining EFA on May 2, 2022, as our Financial Coordinator. Justin grew up in Edmonton, Alberta and now lives in Calgary with his young family. Outside of work, he likes to stay active in the gym and the archery range. He is looking forward to contributing to the success of EFA, as well as making great memories.

Please make sure to say hi to Justin and introduce yourself when you see him.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- May 12**, Purchase deadline for QE2
- May 16**, EFA Research Committee Meeting
- May 23**, Victoria Day - Office Closed
- May 25**, EFC Board Strategic Planning Session in Ottawa
- May 26**, Quota Exchange deadline for QE2
- June 21**, Buyback Assessment Review Team (BART) Meeting with EFC
 - June 21**, Calgary (Winston Golf Club)
 - June 22**, Grande Prairie (Pomeroy Hotel, 11633 100th Street, Grande Prairie)
 - June 23**, Edmonton (Holiday Inn Conference Centre, 4485 Gateway Blvd, Edmonton)
 - June 28**, Lethbridge (Lethbridge Lodge, 320 Scenic Drive, Lethbridge)
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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.

► **Monthly Social Highlights**

Continuing with our 3 main overarching themes year-round, we are sharing a variety of content this month. We are sharing the benefits of Lutein found in eggs for healthy vision and protection against heart disease. This month, we will also be sharing a few simple recipes that take less than 10 minutes to prepare, such as Egg in a Cloud. For the farming theme, we are highlighting how supply management works to ensure consumers have access to safe, fresh and locally produced eggs. Here's what you can expect to see on social:

