

# 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:** Marcella Van Stryland 403-784-3519

### 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

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**Kari Buijs**

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**Dave Lastiwka**

Field Services Coordinator, 587-999-3447

**Murray Minchin**

Fields Services Coordinator

### Egg Price Update Effective June 12, 2022

Canada Grade	Size	Price Per Dozen	
A	Extra Large	2.960	↑
A	Large	2.960	↑
A	Medium	2.660	↑
A	Small	2.300	↑
A	Nest Run	2.786	↑
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](mailto:info@eggs.ab.ca)

### Next Issue: December 16, 2022

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



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Email: [info@eggs.ab.ca](mailto: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 our fellow producers for their ongoing vigilance to enhance their biosecurity and help mitigate the risk of further spread of Avian Influenza (AI) in the province. While it has certainly been a long and difficult year, it has been great to see farmers and industry partners rising to the challenge to keep our birds safe and ensure Albertans continue to have a stable supply of fresh, local eggs and poultry products.

The EFA Board and staff have also been working hard throughout the year to support producers and keep the industry functioning efficiently. The Board recently extended the Alberta End of Lay Program (AELP) through February 2023. Any producers interested in participating are encouraged to contact Erin Johnston at the EFA office. Also, as was covered in the October issue of *EggNotes*, EFA recently launched the Emergency Pullet Relocation Program (EPRP), as a tool to relocate pullets displaced by AI. Both programs have the intention of maximizing the supply of fresh eggs from Alberta egg farms.

## Nielsen Update

The Nielsen retail sales data is available up to October 8th, which is period 10 for 2022. The data indicates that in the latest 4-week period 3.1 million dozen eggs were sold in Alberta; a 0.1% increase from the previous 4-week period (ending September 10th), and a 2.6% decrease in sales compared to the same period in 2021.

Nielsen retail sales in the last 52 weeks are down 4.9% over the previous 52 weeks in Alberta, to 40.5 million dozen eggs. Regular white & brown eggs have seen the smallest sales decline; a 3.5% decrease over the previous 52 weeks, to 35.0 million dozen eggs (86.4% 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.



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## Avian Influenza (AI) Update

An early start to the fall migration season has unfortunately resulted in another wave of outbreaks of Avian Influenza in Alberta. As of the time of publication, there are currently 16 active Primary Control Zones (PCZs) in the province, with 57 total confirmed cases (32 commercial poultry farms + 1 commercial mixed poultry farm).

The Alberta Poultry Industry Emergency Management Team (APIEMT) continues to work closely with the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA), the Chief Provincial Veterinarian's office, and industry partners, to efficiently manage each Infected Premise (IP) and mitigate the risk of further spread of AI in Alberta.

Together, we can minimize the impact of AI on the egg and poultry industry.

## Spark 2.0 Collaborate-Incubate-Ignite

On October 17th, Spark 2.0 Collaborate-Incubate-Ignite brought together key players including poultry research committees and board members, researchers, allied industry representatives, and board staff to discuss the continuous improvement of the poultry industry.

The session was geared towards identifying the challenges and opportunities, networking, and developing collaborations and strategies which can lead to practical solutions. We are looking forward to where the learnings from this session may take us.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

**November 10**, QE3 2022 Quota Exchange applications to purchase deadline

**November 11**, EFA office closed for Remembrance Day

**November 28**, 2023/2024 Quota Leasing Pool applications deadline

### UPCOMING WEBINARS

**November 17**, Government Relations Webinar



*Missed a recent webinar? You can watch the recordings of past webinars on the producer portal -> <https://portal.eggs.ab.ca/producer-portal/learning-portal/webinars-and-eggbytes>*

***Most recent webinar: Revised Animal Care Program***



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# Healthy Birds

## *Euthanasia Training*

When the new Animal Care Program comes into effect (May 2023) it will be a requirement that farmers be able to demonstrate that at least one person who performs euthanasia on-farm has been trained by a certified trainer.

There must be a certificate or record of completion for the participant who completed the training signed by the certified trainer. The record must document the date of training, list the content covered in the training, and confirm that a successful demonstration of competency on the primary euthanasia method was performed. The person who completes this training then becomes eligible to train other employees on the farm.

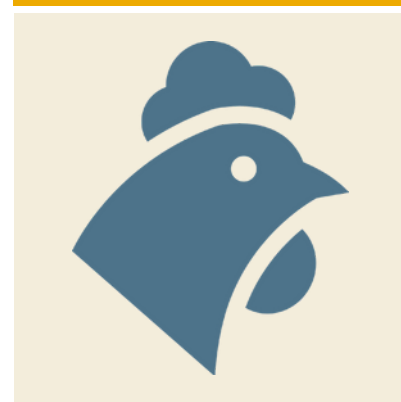
A certified trainer for the purpose of euthanasia training would be someone with extensive knowledge and experience in performing proper euthanasia techniques, and who has expertise in the euthanasia technique being trained on. This could be a vet, poultry specialist or other person who has demonstrated competency in performing euthanasia and can verify that someone being trained is competent.

If you do not have a euthanasia certificate issued by a certified trainer, you can access EFA's online euthanasia training on the Producer Portal. The Euthanasia E-Learning Module will automatically generate a certificate once you have scored 100% on the final quiz. If you do not score 100% you will need to retake the quiz to get a certificate. Once you have received your certificate you will need to have EFA field staff verify demonstration of competency to meet Animal Care Program requirements.

If you need a certificate for a staff member or other farm worker, please contact Kari Buijs to have a username and password set up for this individual [kari.buijs@eggs.ab.ca].

## *Feed & Water Flock Talk*

If you missed the feed and water flock talk on October 19th in Red Deer, the presentations, related articles, and factsheets have all been added under the Learning and Education page on the Producer Portal. Did you know that Poultry Innovation Partnership has developed a Water Decision Tree App? To learn more about it and how you can access it for free review the flock talk resources.



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## Redeveloped Animal Care Program Reminders

Animal welfare is a top priority for Canadian egg farmers. Every egg farmer shares this commitment by taking part in a national Animal Care Program (ACP). The ACP demonstrates to the public, our customers, consumers, other egg farmers and stakeholders that egg farmers are committed to maintaining high standards of animal welfare on farm.

Alongside the Start Clean-Stay Clean® food safety program, the ACP is the foundation of the Egg Quality Assurance™ (EQA®) certification program, an industry-wide initiative that certifies Canadian eggs are produced according to strict food safety and animal welfare standards. Ensuring that the ACP reflects the latest in animal welfare science and industry practices is critical to the integrity of the program. To this end, the ACP is based on a Code of Practice, developed using a robust, science informed, multi-stakeholder and consensus based process led by the National Farm Animal Care Council, or NFACC.

With the release of an updated Code of Practice for the Care and Handling of Pullets and Laying Hens in 2017, Egg Farmers of Canada undertook the task of updating the ACP to include all new, applicable Code requirements. A special multi-stakeholder and consensus based process called the Animal Care Assessment Framework was used to do this, with the goal of receiving recognition from NFACC to bolster the integrity and trust for our ACP. The new ACP, called the redeveloped ACP, will go into mandatory effect May 1st, 2023. At that time, egg farms must be in compliance with all applicable redeveloped ACP requirements. The only exception is the round feed space per bird requirement, which will be implemented pending the outcome of the five year Code review.

In preparation for the redeveloped ACP, a sample audit checklist with the program requirements is available for farmers to use and is on the producer portal. You will also have access to the record templates for the redeveloped ACP on the portal and in your 2023 record keeping calendars. A farmer manual outlining all requirements, keys to compliance and record templates will be circulated to farmers later this fall.

### Overview of the Redeveloped ACP

The redeveloped ACP will replace the current ACP. Core requirements from the current ACP have been transferred over to the redeveloped ACP, in addition to the new Code requirements which have been incorporated. The redeveloped ACP is broken down into seven sections that each include a number of requirements.

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This format mirrors the Code format. The sections are as follows:

1. Housing systems
2. Lay facility environmental management
3. Feed and water
4. Health management and husbandry practices
5. Handling and transportation
6. Euthanasia
7. On-farm depopulation

#### From the Current to the Redeveloped ACP: Important Changes to be Aware of

While the audit process for your annual ACP audit will not change with the transition from the current to redeveloped ACP, there are some changes you can expect. In addition to the new requirements that will have to be met, we would like to again highlight some changes that the redeveloped ACP will bring:

- The 90% pass model for the ACP is being replaced with a new model where all requirements must be met to pass the ACP audit. This means that if any CARs are issued during an ACP audit, they will have to be closed in the assigned timeframe.
- If a CAR is issued, a timeframe of 7 days or less, 30 days or 3 months will be assigned to close the CAR, depending on the program requirement in question that is not met. The process you follow to close a CAR will not change.
- The (general element) requirements in the current ACP that will be mandatory in the redeveloped ACP (i.e. have to be met) include:
  - Lay facility temperature - in redeveloped ACP: temperature range of 10-28°C must be maintained, daily min/max temperature recorded and birds monitored daily for thermal comfort.
  - Ammonia concentrations - in redeveloped ACP: tested monthly, must be below 25ppm and if exceeded, corrective action taken.
  - Emergency plan - in redeveloped ACP: emergency plan prepared, written emergency contact list available, back up power system available where applicable, and system and at minimum power and temperature alarms tested monthly.
  - Beak treatment - in redeveloped ACP: beak treatment and trimming policy, requirements followed and corresponding records are required.
  - Moulting - in redeveloped ACP: moulting is only permitted with egg board approval using acceptable methods. If it occurs, veterinary and nutritionist oversight is required.

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- Feed withdrawal - in redeveloped ACP: Processor provided feed withdrawal time recommendation is followed (overall time off feed interval must be in compliance with Health of Animals Regulations Part XII-Transport of Animals).
- Mortality - in redeveloped ACP: mortality recorded daily.
- Lighting - in redeveloped ACP: light intensity must be at least an average of 5 lux at feeders during the light phase in conventional and enriched colony housing, and at least an average 10 lux in the hens' environment in free run / free range systems during the light phase. In free run / free range systems and enriched colonies with artificial light, light intensity must be raised gradually or staged over a minimum period of 5 minutes when turned on, and lowered gradually or staged over a minimum period of 15 minutes when turned off.
- Feed and water consumption records - in redeveloped ACP: Feed and water consumption must be recorded daily (e.g., daily bin scale or dump hopper weights, cross auger timer run times, water meter daily reading)

Transitioning to the redeveloped ACP reflects a major accomplishment for egg farmers and the egg industry. By implementing the newest animal care standards from our most recent Code of Practice, egg farmers continue to show their dedication to animal welfare and commitment to providing Canadians with high quality eggs from hens cared for with the highest standards of animal welfare.

### **CETPP Qualifications**

Policy 13.4 - Conversion to enriched Transition and Producer Price (CETPP) has been updated in anticipation of the redeveloped Animal Care Program (ACP) that comes into effect on May 1, 2023.

All requirements of the ACP must be met in order for producers to receive the enriched producer price. If any requirements are not being met, the producer will not receive the enriched producer price from the time the flock went into production until it has been confirmed that the producer is meeting all requirements.



#### **Egg Joke**

How do chickens stay fit?  
***They eggs-ercise!***



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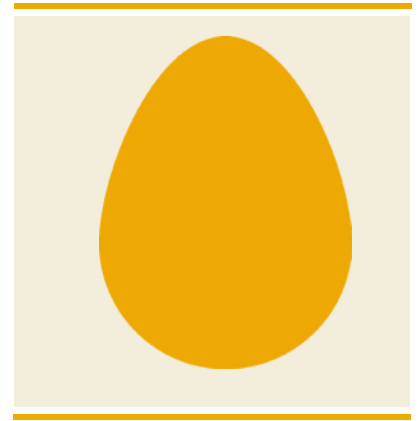
# Healthy Eggs

## New Egg Manager Workshop

Its official – EFA's next New Egg Manager workshop will be held in Calgary on December 8th! Based on feedback from recent new egg managers, the workshop will feature:

- An opportunity to engage with and have lunch with the EFA Board of Directors
- Peer to peer learning on optimizing production
- Discussion with subject matter experts on topics like biosecurity
- A chance to connect with staff and ask questions about quota and on-farm programs

A formal invitation has been sent out but if we missed you and you would like to register you can contact Brandy Addai at [brandy.addai@eggs.ab.ca](mailto:brandy.addai@eggs.ab.ca). The workshop is targeted toward egg managers who have newly joined the industry or taken over the role in the past 3-4 years. If that applies to you, we hope to see you there!



## Classified Ads

### Poultry Equipment for Sale!

- Big dutchman flat chains feed drives and corners
- Egg gathering equipment for big dutchman conventional cages
- End manure drives big dutchman

If interested, please contact Joe at 403-323-7705

### Layer Equipment for Sale!

- Layer equipment
- Valli enriched cages for 4,320 birds

If interested, please contact Ken (Newell Colony) at 587-816-2500 ext.825

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

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



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# Healthy Farms

## *Federal Consultation on Nitrogen Fertilizer Emissions Targets. From Egg Farmers of Canada*

As most will be aware, in December 2020, the federal government announced a target to reduce emissions from nitrogen-based fertilizers by 30%. This target is part of the federal government's overall climate change plan, entitled "A Healthy Environment and a Healthy Economy". The strategy is specifically targeting Nitrous oxide (N<sub>2</sub>O) emissions arising from fertilizer use in Canadian agriculture. Nitrous oxide (N<sub>2</sub>O) is a strong greenhouse gas. The target is a reduction in emissions, not fertilizer.



This target was reaffirmed in spring 2022, when Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) started consultations on how to achieve this goal. Consultations were open until August 31, 2022. AAFC issued a discussion paper outlining several areas in which the government is hoping to gain input from stakeholders, including:

- Barriers: Identifying the barriers to adopting fertilizer reduction practices
- Partnerships and promotion: How can government partner with industry to promote the adoption of sustainable fertilizer practices?
- Data: How can governments and industry more accurately capture emissions data on farm?
- Innovations: How can governments and industry promote the development of innovative technologies to assist in emissions reductions?

Additionally, the target gained attention following the meeting of Canadian agriculture ministers this summer where provincial governments raised concerns. Much of the concern is linked to the implementation of the target and fertilizer reduction practices. Several provincial governments and organizations representing farmers have asked for emissions reductions from fertilizer to be measured via intensity. That is, how much food is produced compared to the amount of fertilizer used. The federal government's plan is focused on an absolute reduction in emissions, which some farm groups say will result in less food being produced at a time when the world can't afford it.

The Canadian Federation of Agriculture (CFA) has been involved in these consultations and submitted comments and input based on member feedback. [Note: To view the CFA submission, please visit the Resource Library on the Producer Portal under Learning & Education and search for 'fertilizer'].

According to the CFA, their primary focus remains on ensuring there are sufficient supports in place for farmers as this target is implemented, along with ensuring the targets will not undermine competitiveness and that regulations will not be implemented.

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The implementation of the target has a widespread impact on food production in Canada, the Canadian agriculture sector, as well as the egg supply chain (e.g. feed crop production). Additionally, nitrogen fertilizer would typically be used on egg farms that are growing their own crops. For example, farmers growing crops would be applying a combination of nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium, manure from their livestock, as well as micronutrients like sulphur and zinc. Considering strategies that reduce emissions at the point of feed crop production, as well as during manure management will play a role in reducing overall emissions for the egg farming sector. EFC worked through CFA to provide input into the federal consultation and is monitoring the file.

### ***Securing Loads Reminder - Brought to you by AgSafe Alberta***

Over the last few weeks, I have seen a few pictures on social media of loads of straw bales going off the sides of trucks. So, I thought I would touch on load securement. When we talk about load securement, these types of pictures (see below) of bales come to mind. However, it really refers to any load that you may be hauling, including items in the back of your pickup truck. Have you ever been behind a vehicle in the city hauling some lumber home where it is hanging out of the back of a minivan and not tied in? Have you ever driven behind a vehicle on the highway and seen something come flying out of the box of the truck and you needed evasive maneuvers to avoid hitting it? A few extra seconds to tie something down could save a costly insurance claim or even a life.

So the next time you are hauling any type of load, ask yourself these questions and identify ways to prevent it from happening:

- Could a load shift/roll/spill/fall off?
- Could someone decide not to use load securement equipment or use load securement equipment improperly?
- Could someone decide not to use blocking/bracing/chocks to prevent movement of the load?
- Could someone use weak or inappropriate anchor points, underrated load securement equipment, the wrong type of load securement devices, or damaged straps/load securement devices?
- Is it possible for someone to secure a load without the proper training?
- Could straps become cut or worn while rubbing against sharp edges during transport?



## Mental Health in Agriculture Webinar

According to the 2021 study of 'Farmer Mental Health in Canada' done by the University of Guelph; 1 in 4 Canadian Farmers felt that their life was not worth living, wished they were dead, or thought of taking their own life in the last 12 months.

The Do More Agriculture Foundation champions mental health and well-being for Canadian agriculture producers. Executive Director Megz Reynolds says "The needle has moved regarding mental health in agriculture it still has a long way to go before we are no longer losing community member's to death by suicide. It is on each and every one of us to work together to end the stigma surrounding mental health and change the culture, this starts with self education and by joining the conversation."

AHEM (Animal Health Emergency Management Project) is partnering with the Do More Agriculture Foundation in delivering a *1-hour live virtual webinar focused on mental health in agriculture*.

**When:** November 15th, repeated on January 17th and March 21st

**Time:** 10:00 AM MST

The workshop, delivered by Megz Reynolds, is designed to introduce participants to mental health in agriculture, highlight how to support ourselves and others, the importance of refilling our own cups and how to have conversations about mental health. This will be a "hands on" workshop with group exercises to engage participants and practice having conversations.

Visit [www.animalhealth.ca/workshops](http://www.animalhealth.ca/workshops) today to register for the date that works best for you. There is no cost to attend!

## CUSMA Update

On November 4, 2022, the federal government's Fall Economic Statement addressed the long-standing commitment to Canadian egg and poultry farmers on programming to offset the impact of the Canada – United States – Mexico Agreement (CUSMA). This round of mitigation will come in the form of measures added to the existing Poultry and Egg On-Farm Investment Program (PEFIP), which was previously developed to offset the impact of the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP).

The PEFIP offers support to poultry and egg farmers as they invest in their farms, making productivity improvements and enhancing the sustainability of their operation. This reinvestment in our industry benefits all Canadians, and sustains economic activity as farmers purchase new equipment, source green technology, and expand their operations, aligned with Canada's goals to grow the agricultural sector and reduce our carbon footprint.

EFA will share additional details about this CUSMA mitigation as they are released by the federal government.



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# Healthy Communities

## World Egg Day

This year, EFA put the spotlight on World Egg Day throughout our social channels! The picture below is what we posted to each channel.



We saw great engagement over Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram!

### Quick Hit Analytics:

- Twitter
  - 15 likes
  - 4 retweets
  - 270 impressions and 26 engagements
- Instagram
  - 4 likes
  - 114 accounts reached
  - 4 shares
- Facebook
  - 9 likes
  - 3 shares

Egg Farmers of Canada released a short Youtube video celebrating this day. You can view it [here](#)!

## 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 presence. Each month we'll include a communications update 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 [tate.odwyer@eggs.ab.ca](mailto:tate.odwyer@eggs.ab.ca) or call 587-391-6122.



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## Marketing Highlights

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

### Did you know?

Egg Farmers of AB @EFA\_AB\_eggs · Oct 20

#DYK The color of the yolk depends on the type of feed hens eat. Feed that is wheat-based will make hens produce lighter yolks, while feed that is corn-based will be darker. Other than the color of the yolk, it's nutritional value is the same!



### New Blog: 5 Entertaining Recipes for Kids



COOKING

OCTOBER 5, 2022

#### 5 Entertaining Egg Recipes for Kids

With school back in full swing, you may need help coming up with ideas to keep your kids busy after school or during the weekend with some unique activities

### Spark after Dark Event! - Telus Science Centre, Calgary



A fun-filled evening and 2,006 adults attended!



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