

# EggNotes

## Board of Director

**Chair** Beatrice Visser  
780-674-6297  
**Vice Chair:** John Hofer  
403-641-2030  
**EFC Director:** Joe Kleinsasser  
403-653-4480  
**Director:** Conrad Vanessen  
403-635-7998  
**EFC Alternate:** Peter Waldner  
403-795-8621  
**Director:** Bernadette Vandeborn  
780-349-6311

## EFA Staff

General Manager: Susan Gal  
ext: 124  
Marketing & Comm. Manager: David Webb  
ext: 126  
Marketing Specialist: Angie Lang  
ext: 103  
Farm Programs Coordinator: Carley Frerichs  
ext: 125  
Manager, Programs & Research: Jenna Griffin  
Ext: 129  
Office Manager: Laurel Martin  
ext: 121  
Logistics Coordinator: Brandy Addai  
ext: 101  
Farm Services Administrator: Erin Johnston  
ext: 127  
Business Manager: Kari Buijs  
ext: 132  
Fields Services Coordinator: Dave Lastiwka  
ext: 128  
Fields Services Coordinator: Murray Minchin

## 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

Family Day, office closed February 17, 2020

## Egg Price Update

### Effective September 8, 2019

Canada Grade	Size	Price Per Dozen	
A	Extra Large	2.360	↑
A	Large	2.360	↑
A	Medium	2.130	↑
A	Small	1.750	↑
A	Nest Run	2.225	↑
A	Pee Wee	0.280	-
B		0.770	-
C		0.160	-

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 13, 2020

Note: EggNotes can be accessed on the EFA website (full issue PDF) or EFA's producer website



## Board Update

Another round of Regional Meetings has come and gone and the Board of Directors wants to thank all the producers who traveled to listen, learn and engage. We had such great turn-outs, even considering the unfortunate cold weather. Many producers had questions around the hen housing measurements, as well as the new transportation records that were implemented by CFIA. EFA has been working diligently to create documents for producers that will make the new changes an easy transition. Questions and suggestions from the open and in-camera portions of the meeting will be reviewed by the staff, relevant committees and the Board of Directors and you will be updated at future meetings or through the EggNotes.

There was a lot of great conversations around how producers can be equipped with a proper emergency plan in the case of a farm break-in. EFA staff went over the new farmer portal and how to gain access and we encourage you to check out the site, as there is a lot of great information available to you. As a reminder, the producer updates and presentations from the regional meetings are available on the producer website. The Board of Directors would also like to invite you attend the Western Poultry Conference held on Monday, February 24th at the Cambridge hotel in Red Deer. The conference will be followed by our 51st AGM.

You can register for the Western Poultry Conference here: <http://westernpoultryconference.ca/registration-2/>



## EFA Annual General Meeting

EFA hopes for a tremendous turnout of registered egg farmers, value chain partners and industry stakeholders, as we host our 51st Annual General Meeting (AGM) on Tuesday, February 25th.

The AGM will be held at the Cambridge Red Deer Hotel & Conference Centre. Following a review of EFA's Annual Report, elections will be held for two positions on the EFA Board of Directors. Joe Kleinsasser has completed his third consecutive 3-year term and must stand down. John Hofer has completed his second 3-year term and will likely need to stand down, unless EFA's Plan Regulation is amended before February. As a reminder, all nominations must be received at the EFA office by **February 11th, 2020**.

## WCRL Avian Collection & Recycling Services – Effective January 1, 2020

As previously communicated, effective January 1, 2020 WCRL will no longer provide avian euthanasia services. However, WCRL continues to offer pick up and recycling services. As a result, WCRL has lowered the charge for avian disposal from \$0.20 per bird to \$0.15 per bird and the pickup minimum from \$2,000 to \$1,500.

The minimum charge was introduced in 2009 due to the significant distances traveled to some smaller producers. WCRL has communicated that they will work with producers to schedule services, where possible, so that multiple producers are serviced during a trip to try to negate the minimum charge being applied to smaller producers.

## Opportunity for Young Leaders

The Canadian Agriculture Youth Council is currently seeking applicants for their new program. The council will offer advice on agriculture and agri-food issues that matter to young people in the sector. The council will work with Minister Bibeau representing Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada and other groups.

You must be between 18-30 years of age on January 1, 2020, have background in the farming and/or food industry and experience in addressing food-related opportunities and challenges is considered an asset. If you are interested in applying, the deadline is **February 14, 2020**: <https://bit.ly/2RLt1ld>

## Quota Exchange

EFA launched the Quota Exchange for QE1-20 on December 10, 2019. Unfortunately, EFA did not receive any eligible applications for quota sales and therefore will not be running the exchange this quarter. The next Quota Exchange (QE2-20) will launch on March 10, 2020. Notices will be sent to all registered producers.



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## Whole Barn Gassing List

Back in August 2019, Egg Farmers of Alberta encouraged producers to contact the office if they were interested in sharing gas delivery costs for whole barn gassing. Egg Farmers of Alberta since started to develop a list of interested producers and would like to continue to urge producers to contact Carley Frerichs at [carley.frerichs@eggs.ab.ca](mailto:carley.frerichs@eggs.ab.ca) or at 403-250-1197 ext. 125.

Remember that only enlisted registered egg producers can request information from the list. Owing to the sensitivity of the information, the list will not be posted, distributed, or circulated in its entirety via any means but will be used as a tool for staff to answer questions about whether other farms in the area are using whole barn gassing in the same time frame and to allow for release of contact information. Farmers seeking information about others who may be in the area depopulating at the same time frame are encouraged to call Carley at the office.

## CAP Funding

Please be advised that the following programs targeted at primary producers are now open for applications:

- Accelerating the Advancement of Agricultural Innovation
- Adapting Innovative Solutions in Agriculture
- Environmental Stewardship and Climate Change - Producer
- Farm Water Supply
- Irrigation Efficiency

Please note that some programs still have intake windows while for others, program in-take dates have been removed and applications will be reviewed as they are received, on a first come, first serve basis throughout the course of the program. For more information please visit [cap.alberta.ca](http://cap.alberta.ca)

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## Feed Letters:

EFA would like to remind all producers retain a feed letter from your feed supplier. We would also encourage all producers to have your annual water test done as well. If you have any questions, please call Dave Lastiwka 403-250-1197 ext. 128



## Farm Safety 🏠

At the January regional meetings, there were questions as to who may be subject to an inspection or investigation. Bill 26 does not touch the changes made by Bill 6 to the Occupational Health and Safety (OH&S) Act. Bill 6 extended basic health and safety protections to paid, non-family farm and ranch workers as of January 1, 2016. If you do not have any paid workers you are exempt from the Act and investigations. If you have one or more paid workers, you are under the Act and OH&S officers are authorized to inspect farm and ranch workplaces to ensure that work is not being carried out in a manner that is safe and serious injuries and accidents on farm and ranch work sites must be reported and investigated.

Keep in mind that if you hire a contractor or conduct non-farm work (ex. construction, manufacturing, etc.) the Act applies.

For more information please visit the Farm Safety section of the Producer website under “Healthy Farms”.

## Pharmaceutical Categories and Record Keeping 🟡

At the January regional meetings, there were questions related to what needs to be recorded in the pharmaceutical use record section of the SC-SC calendars. *The Pharmaceutical record should include all antibiotics, vaccines, dewormers and any products with a D.I.N (including vitamins and electrolytes) administered to laying hens between 19 weeks of age and the end of lay.*

Health Canada has categorized antimicrobial drugs (with a focus on antibiotics) into four categories based on their significance in human medicine. Medically Important Antimicrobials (MIAs) include antibiotics used in human medicine to treat and prevent illnesses. These are categories I-III. Category IV antibiotics are not currently used in human medicine and therefore are not currently considered medically important. As a reminder, as of December 1, 2018, all MIA's require a prescription from a veterinarian prior to purchasing. Regardless of category, they should ALL be recorded on your pharmaceutical use record.

Category	Importance to human medicine and criteria	Examples of antibiotics included in this category
I	Very high importance. No/limited alternatives available to treat serious human infections. MIA.	Cephalosporins (third and fourth generations), Fluoroquinolones
II	High importance. Alternatives are generally available to treat serious human infections. MIA.	Penicillins, Aminoglycosides
III	Medium importance. Alternatives generally available to treat human infections. MIA.	Tetracyclines (Oxytetracycline, Chlortetracycline), Bacitracin
IV	Low Importance. Not currently used in human medicine. Not classified as MIA's.	Ionophores, Flavophospholipds

Based on Health Canada Categorization of Medically Important Antimicrobials (2009)



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# HEALTHY BIRDS

HEALTHY FARMS HEALTHY EGGS  
HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

## SOP Correction

In order to support farmers in meeting upcoming Animal Care Program requirements to have a vet approved Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for euthanasia, EFA has provided SOPs for MAC Carts, Whole Barn Gassing, and Sea Container Gassing developed by Dr. Mike Petrik.

Unfortunately, there was an error in the original MAC Cart SOP. It stated:

- 0.1 lbs of CO2 on hand per bird to be euthanized (1 x 100 lb bottle for each 10,000 birds)

This should have been:

- 0.1 lbs of CO2 on hand per bird to be euthanized (1 x 100 lb bottle for each 1,000 birds)

The SOP posted to the producer website has been revised to reflect this correction. If you have an old copy on hand, please replace it with the new version.

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## Celebrate with the Alberta Poultry Industry!

Join guests from across the Poultry Industry as we celebrate on Tuesday, February 25! During the banquet dinner we will be hosting a Silent and Live Auction, with proceeds being donated to STARS Air Ambulance. If you have something to add to the Auction; be it a great bottle of wine, a gift certificate to your favorite restaurant or something on behalf of your company – please contact us to donate today!

Please contact Nancy Robinson; [nancy@ahep.ca](mailto:nancy@ahep.ca) or (780) 434-8414

Tickets are \$55.00 in advance or \$75.00 at the door.



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## Updates to the Producer Website

### Manure Dryer Fact Sheets:

In October 2019, Egg Farmers of Alberta distributed four fact sheets based on the research conducted on Manure Dryers to producers via email correspondence. The fact sheets outlined the project overview, manure moisture and nitrogen content, in-barn air quality, and overall economics and learnings. For producers easy reference, these resources have been made available on the producer website under Healthy Farms (Manure).

### Flock Talk Summary Release:

Egg Farmers of Alberta is pleased to announce the release of the Manure: More than Waste Flock Talk Summary. The “What was Heard” document outlines the collaborative discussion between producers and experts on in-barn management, measuring ammonia, manure storage, regulatory processes, and field application. This document can be found on the producer website under Healthy Farms (Manure).

### Corrective Action Plan Template:

In both the Animal Care Program and Start-Clean, Stay-Clean On-Farm Programs there are instances where producers may be required to fill out a Corrective Action Plan (CAP) in order to close a Corrective Action Request (CAR). This occurs when a CAR needs to be closed in order to avoid a program failure, but cannot physically be completed until a flock change. In these scenarios, the producer will fill out the CAP template and submit to Dave Lastiwka at Egg Farmers of Alberta ([dave.lastiwka@eggs.ab.ca](mailto:dave.lastiwka@eggs.ab.ca)). The CAP will be verified by Egg Farmers of Canada at the next on-farm program audit to ensure compliance.

Visit the producer website at Farm Programs (Animal Care Program, Start-Clean, Stay-Clean Layers or Pullets) for a copy of the CAP template.

### Upcoming Events

**February 18** - Research Committee Meeting

**February 24** - Western Poultry Conference, Red Deer, AB

**February 25** - EFA Annual General Meeting, Red Deer, AB

**March 4** - Manitoba Annual General Meeting, Winnipeg, MB

**March 4-6** - BC Poultry Conference, Vancouver, BC

**March 11-12** - Saskatchewan Annual General Meeting, Saskatoon, SK



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