

EggNotes

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Kari Buijs
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Dave Lastiwka
Field Services Coordinator, 587-391-6128 ext.128

Murray Minchin
Fields Services Coordinator

Please note that Kari's extension has been changed to 123, and Adelina's is now 122.

▶ 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 ◀

Office is closed to the public until further notice
but all staff can be reached by phone or email

Egg Price Update Effective May 27, 2020

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: July 17, 2020

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

- ▶ Your Egg Farmers of Alberta Board of Directors would like to remind our fellow farmers about EFA's upcoming June Regional Meetings, which will be hosted online via Zoom. An invitation was emailed to all registered producers in mid-May, detailing the instructions for registering and attending the meetings.

While producers are encouraged to join via Zoom to be able to see the presentations, you are also able to join via telephone so you can hear the presentations. Even if you only plan on joining a meeting via telephone, you still need to pre-register for your preferred meeting, in order to get the phone number and access code for that particular meeting.

The deadline to pre-register for the June Regional Meeting of your choice is today – **Friday, June 5th!**

We look forward to connecting with you at the EFA producer meetings, which are scheduled for the following dates:

- June 16
- June 17
- June 18
- June 23
- June 24

STAFFING UPDATE

- ▶ EFA is pleased to welcome Adelina Gashi to the team, as our new Marketing & Social Media Coordinator! Adelina brings her creativity, passion and experience building highly engaged communities to the role. Originally from Prizren, Kosovo, Adelina is engaged to be married and enjoys hiking, gardening, travelling, exercising, trying out new restaurants and shopping. She is eager to work with the EFA staff and Board, and to help the egg industry continue to evolve to the benefit of Alberta egg farmers.

As of the end of February, Angie Lang is no longer with EFA. While it was bittersweet to say goodbye after three years of dedicated service, everybody at EFA wishes Angie nothing but success as she moves on to pursue a new opportunity.

UPCOMING EVENTS

June 9, EFA Board Meeting
June 16,17,18, 23, & 24, EFA Regional Meetings
July 7, EFC Meeting (via Zoom)
July 14, CETPP Quarterly Meeting



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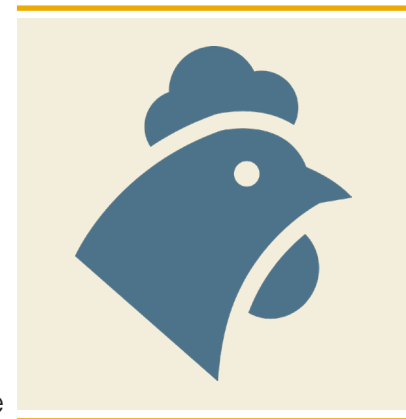
Egg Farmers of Alberta



EggFarmersAlberta



Healthy Birds



► Outcome-Based Measures

Last month, EggNotes featured an article about available resources on the producer website for foot health. To further investigate the uptake of monitoring outcome-based measures and finding more ways to assist Alberta producers, EFA reached out to hear what producers had to say. To view the commentary provided from fellow Alberta egg producers, visit the Bird Based Measurements page on the producer website, in the Healthy Birds section, or ask Murray/Dave for a paper copy of the outcome-based measures producer success stories document.

During the consultation with Alberta egg producers monitoring outcome-based measures, it became apparent that many producers found the outcome-based measures pages in the Start Clean – Stay Clean® calendar too bulky and awkward to carry into the barn. As a result, many producers would either carry a little notepad or mentally keep track of their observations. To help address this issue, EFA has developed a stand-alone document with the feather cover and foot health monitoring instructions and record keeping template. This way, if producers are not interested in completing the entire outcome-based handbook described in last month's EggNotes article, they can carry a clipboard with the stand-alone document into the barn. To access a copy of the feather cover and foot health monitoring stand-alone document visit the Bird Based Measurements (Healthy Birds) page on the producer website.

► The Biosecurity Assessment with 2020 Additions

Since the launch of the updated 2020 Biosecurity Assessment, EFA field coordinators have completed 141 biosecurity assessments between January and May. There have been significant improvements with producers' biosecurity since the completion of the 2019 biosecurity assessment.

Highlights include:

- 96% of farms have concrete pads/blocks outside their primary entrance (previously 93%)
- 99% of farmers have alternative access points to the barn locked (previously 98%)
- 98% of farm personnel present at the time of the visit were able to demonstrate the appropriate transition to restricted area (previously 93%)
- 99% of farms have dedicated area for storage of dirty clothes and boots on the unrestricted side of transition zone (previously 92%)
- 98% of farms have dedicated area for storage of clean clothes and boots on the restricted side of transition zone (previously 83%)
- 97% of farms have a cleaning and disinfecting schedule for transition zones (previously 88%)

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- 100% of farms have an SOP that provides detailed descriptions of biosecurity procedures and employee biosecurity responsibilities (previously 81%)
- 99% of farms have information available for visitors that explains biosecurity transition steps to follow prior to restricted zone entry (previously 81%)

EFA has seen some great results and identified some areas for improvement:

Areas that are doing well	Areas for improvement
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Biosecurity Transitions</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 98% of farm employees adhere to biosecurity transitions (ie: changing into clean boots/barn wear and washing hands) 	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Signage at the primary entrance includes</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indicators that the area beyond the sign is biosecure (only 13% of producers) • Contact information (13% of producers) • Be Seen, Be Safe signage (2% of producers) • Trespassing/Private Property sign (13% of producers)
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Animal Contact</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 93% of farm employees are aware of the risks associated with encountering off-farm birds (ie: pet, wild, captive, other farms) • 99% of producers question visitors on recent animal contact prior to allowing entrance into controlled access zones 	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Signage at the secondary entrance includes</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indicators that the area beyond the sign is biosecure (only 6% of producers) • Directs visitors to the primary entrance (1% of producers) • Directs visitors to visitor parking (no producers currently have a sign like this) • Trespassing/Private Property sign (9% of producers)
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Sharing equipment / tools / machinery</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 84% of producers are not sharing equipment/tools/machinery off their property • 77% of producers are not sharing equipment/tools/machinery between barns 	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Primary Entrance Barriers</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only 4% of producers have a barrier • Only 2% of producers lock their barrier
	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Secondary Entrance Barriers</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only 4% of producers have a secondary barrier • Only 4% of producers lock their secondary barrier



Since signage has been identified as an area for improvement, EFA has included some examples below from fellow Alberta egg producers to demonstrate different types of signage that can be used on farm:

		
<p>Indicates the area beyond the sign is/biosecure visitor parking</p>	<p>Provides contact information</p>	<p>Trespassing/Private Property sign</p>

For more details on the statistics from the 2020 Biosecurity Assessment, visit the Biosecurity Assessment page on the producer website, in the Farm Programs section.

➤ **Version 3 of the EFC Measuring Protocols for Enriched and Free Run / Free Range Facilities**

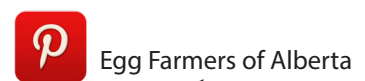
Changes have been made to Egg Farmers of Canada (EFC) Measuring Protocols for Enriched and Free Run/Free Range facilities to ensure that clear, objective interpretation is provided to those who are measuring housing systems. As a result, Version 3 of the EFC Measuring Protocols for Enriched and Free Run/Free Range Facilities has been added to the Animal Care Program page on producer website, in the Farm Programs section.

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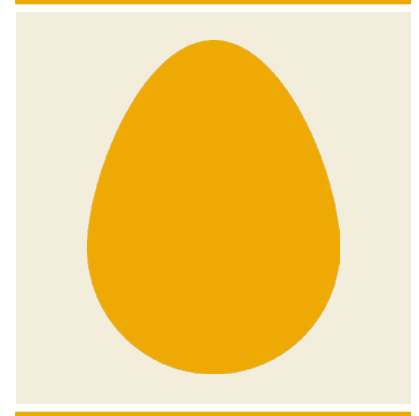


Enriched	Free Run / Free Range
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Measuring Feeder Space and Waterers</u></p> <p>1. If a front (external) feed trough intersects with an inner feed trough, include the full length of inner and external (intersecting) feed troughs in the accessible feed space measurements, but subtract 5.6 in (14 cm) from each intersection to account for 2 birds' worth of lost feeder space.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Measuring Nest Space</u></p> <p>1. If the nest is a nest "pocket" design, instead of measuring along the floor when measuring nest depth, measure straight across to include the pocket.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Measuring Nests</u></p> <p>1. If the nest box is at the front of the enriched colony, the breast plate/toe rail can be included as nest box space if reasonable.</p> <p>2. Measuring along the floor captures slope but requires estimating where the nest curtains extend to the floor (ie: where the nest curtain 'wall' is on the floor). If measuring along the floor is unclear due to having to estimate, it is acceptable to measure at the top of the nest box.</p> <p>3. Visually inspect the nest curtains to confirm they extend close to the floor (without impeding the flow of eggs). Nest curtains must fully cover the sightline of the hens when they are sitting down in the nest box. Unless altered/shortened, manufacturer issued curtains are acceptable.</p> <p>Front nest curtains should extend to the feed trough, however existing curtains issued from a manufacturer that have a gap between the feed trough and curtain are acceptable, provided they have not been altered/shortened. Apply the same assessment to panels in front nests that are blocking feeder. It is acceptable for there to be a small gap above the panel between the panel and the top of the enriched colony.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Measuring Perches</u></p> <p>1. There is no horizontal distance requirement between perches and other structures, however perches must be usable for the birds. If for some reason a perch is unusually close to another structure and it is unclear if the bird can actually perch, or if it is unclear that a perch is accessible (ie: unsure about perch usability) request photos showing the birds perching/roosting on the perches at night.</p>

EFC has also clarified that inner feeders in conventional housing systems will not be accepted as useable feeder space. However, it is important to note that enrichable systems with a purposefully designed built-in feeder at the back of the cage near or at the partition that is supplied with feed from a centre feed pipe, are acceptable.



Healthy Eggs



► Nielsen Update

The Nielsen retail sales data is available up to April 25, 2020, and indicates that in the latest 4-week period 3.9 million dozen eggs were sold in Alberta; a 5.3% decrease from the previous 4-week period (ending March 28th), and a 14.9% increase in sales compared to the same period in 2019.

Nielsen retail sales in the last 52 weeks are up 3.2% over the previous 52 weeks in Alberta, to 42.6 million dozen eggs. Specialty eggs (excluding Omega-3) have seen the largest sales growth; a 6.8% increase over the previous 52 weeks, to 4.9 million dozen eggs (11.4% 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.

► Standard Operating Procedure for the SC-SC™ Part 1-2 Audit

As part of the Start Clean – Stay Clean® Part 1-2 audit, producers who manage their own feed mill are required to provide a written Standard Operating Procedure (SOP), which includes elements such as cleaning and sanitation, pest control, biosecurity, equipment (scales and metering devices), and medicated feed. To assist producers in fulfilling this requirement, a generic SOP for feed mills template has been added to the producer website, on the Feed Letter Template page (in the Forms section) and both the SC-SC™ Layers SC-SC™ Pullets pages (in the Farm Programs section).

Healthy Farms



► QE2-2020 Update

QE2-20 Quota Exchange Summary Results:

Number of Sellers	1
Number of Purchasers	10
Total Number of Bird of Quota Offered for Sale	1,384
Total Number of Bird of Quota Purchase Bids	11,304
Market Clearing Price (MCP)	\$452.00
Number of Birds of Quota Transferred	0
Number of Successful Sellers	0
Number of Successful Purchasers	0

If you are interested in participating in the next Quota Exchange, the launch date is set for June 9, 2020. The Quota Exchange Policy 9.34 can be found on the producer website.



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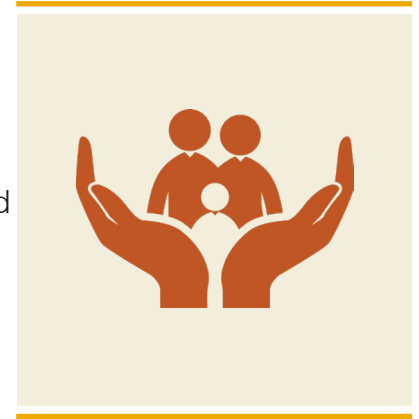
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Healthy Communities



▶ Quarter Two Research Report Update

The quarter two research report is available on the producer website and contains updated information on research funded by Egg Farmers of Alberta. Did you know that hens can regulate their own calcium intake? Or that genetics plays a role in how laying hens perch? This and more information can be found by visiting the EFA Research page on the producer website, in the Information Centre section.

▶ Prairie Poultry Meeting

The annual Prairie Poultry Meeting (PPM) has been moved to an online Zoom platform! Historically, this meeting had brought together graduate level poultry students from the three western provinces (Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba), to practice presenting their research findings in preparation for competition in an international conference. While the presentations can get highly technical to fit the requirements for a research presentation, the content contains cutting edge research and provides attendees the opportunity to interact directly with the students and researchers who worked on the project. The reputation of the PPM has grown in popularity. This year, the meeting is anticipated to have representation from universities including UofA (Edmonton), UofC (Calgary), UofL (Lethbridge), UofS (Saskatchewan), and possibly the UofD (Nova Scotia). In the past, industry representatives have attended the meeting and relayed their learnings back to their associations. However, EFA has requested that Alberta egg producers be provided the opportunity to directly attend the meeting this year. Since the PPM will be held virtually, this caters very well to accommodating a large group of people and eliminates fees typically used for hosting a traditional event. With such a keen interest from universities in participating in the meeting, it will be held over a series of days (June 23-24) starting daily at 10:00 am MST and running approximately 2.5 hours.

To register please visit www.poultryinnovationpartnership.ca

If you have questions please contact Carley Frerichs at carley.frerichs@eggs.ab.ca or 587-391-6125.

▶ Congratulations to Ty Lastiwka

In January, EFA shared news that Ty Lastiwka, Dave Lastiwka's son, had enrolled in the Poultry Production Technician specialization of the Green Certificate Program (GCP). Egg Farmers of Alberta would like to congratulate Ty for achieving 98% on his first GCP test. Thank you to all egg farmers who provided their time and wisdom and helped explain about their operation. While Ty's farm visits have temporarily been suspended due to COVID-19, EFA hopes he will be able to carry on soon and have no doubt he will continue to impress!



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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. Every 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.gashi@eggs.ab.ca or call 587-391-6122

► Thank you Alberta

Last month, we worked with our lovely influencer Meg Tucker in creating a thank you video for Albertans and egg farmers. The purpose of the video was to show our appreciation to all the egg farmers of Alberta who work hard to provide egg supply to all Albertans during the COVID-19 pandemic. We also wanted to thank and reassure our consumers that the egg farmers of Alberta will continue to provide fresh and local eggs to all Albertans. If you have not had the chance to check out the video, you can do so through our Facebook, Instagram, Twitter or YouTube account. Alternatively, you can request a copy.

► Social Media Update

Analytics are important in tracking how effective our work and message is to our consumers. Our best performing Facebook post for the month of May reached over 15,000 people. During the course of a 31-day period, we received 23,700 impressions on Twitter which is the total number of times our tweets were seen in May.

Facebook post

Egg Farmers of Alberta
Published by Hootsuite (?) · May 6 at 12:15 PM · 🌐

You don't have to wait until the farmers' market open to eat local: almost all the eggs in Alberta grocery stores are from local egg farmers. Get the facts about Alberta eggs. <http://ow.ly/B2y450z9v1c>

15,877 People Reached 1,367 Engagements [Boost Post](#)

Jonathan Bouffard, Roselle Rosete and 57 others 1 Comment 11 Shares

Twitter Impressions

Your Tweets earned **23.7K impressions** over this 31 day period

Category	Value
Tweets	1,345
Engagements	55
Engagement rate	4.1%

Egg Farmers of AB @EFA_AB_eggs · May 26
CRACK YOU UP: Who tells the funniest egg jokes?
COMEDI-HENS!
Comment below and share with us your egg-cellent jokes
[#CrackYouUp](#) [#eggjoke](#) [#ABeggs](#)
pic.twitter.com/y1mZ9mV8xe

[Promote](#)

