

EggNotes

Board of Director

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780-674-6297

Vice Chair: Susan Schafers
780-722-3238

EFC Director: Joe Kleinsasser
403-653-4480

Director: John Hofer
403-641-2030

Director: 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 & Social Media Coordinator: Angie Lang
ext: 103

Farm Programs Manager: Christina Robinson
ext: 125

Industry Development Officer: 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
Application Support Specialist: Kelly Pow
ext: 105

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 will be closed Monday, October 8 for
Thanksgiving

Egg Price Update Effective May 27, 2018

Canada Grade	Size	Price Per Dozen	
A	Extra Large	2.20	↑
A	Large	2.20	↑
A	Medium	1.970	↑
A	Small	1.600	↑
A	Nest Run	2.073	↑
A	Pee Wee	0.270	-
B		0.750	-
C		0.150	-

Note: From the minimum paying price, processors can only deduct charges as authorized by the EFA Board. Farm-gate pickup rates were set in August 2010, and no increase in individual freight rates have been approved since that time.

EggNotes is the official newsletter of
Egg Farmers of Alberta.

Submissions should be sent to:
info@eggs.ab.ca

Next Issue: October 12, 2018

Note: EggNotes can be accessed on the EFA website (both full
issue PDF and blog posts) 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

EFA Board Update

The Egg Farmers of Alberta Board of Directors would like to thank everybody for coming out to help celebrate EFA's 50th anniversary! You made it a truly memorable experience.

Thanks to the Honourable Oneil Carlier, Minister of Agriculture and Forestry, for your kind words, and your continued support of Egg Farmers of Alberta, the provincial egg industry, and the uniquely Canadian system of supply management.

Thanks to Chef Jordon of Crack'd YYC, Bud Edgar the Comedy Cowboy, Tobacco Road, and the Wild Wild West Event Centre, for making sure we were all well fed and greatly entertained. Thanks to the EFA staff for organizing the festivities, and to all our sponsors, whose support helped make the event possible.

Thanks to our fellow egg farmers, all our value chain partners and industry stakeholders, for making Alberta's egg industry the most amazing industry to work in, and the most amazing family to work with.

Finally, thanks to Egg Farmers of Alberta, for 50 years of visionary leadership. Here's looking ahead to the next 50 years of growth and innovation!



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Egg Farmers of Alberta

HEALTHY BIRDS

HEALTHY FARMS HEALTHY EGGS

HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

World Egg Day

Mark your calendars to help promote and celebrate World Egg Day on Friday, October 12th!

EFA is working with Egg Farmers of Canada to have Egg Ambassadors appear in grocery stores throughout Alberta, as part of a national World Egg Day initiative to give consumers across the country a chance to meet a real egg farmer. This will be a tremendous opportunity to learn more about where their food comes from and how it was produced.

If you'd like to learn more about World Egg Day or EFA's Egg Ambassador program, please contact David at the EFA office (x126).

Upcoming Events

September 19 & 20 - EFC Meeting - Ottawa

September 24 - 26 - EFA Board Meeting & Strategic Planning - Edmonton

October 2 – PMC Meeting – Board office

October 3-4 - Alberta Poultry Industry Emergency Management Training - Red Deer

October 15-18 – CPEPC – Hyatt Regency, Calgary

October 16 – Farm Safety Committee Meeting – Board office

October 30 – EIAC Meeting – Calgary

October 31 – Colony Elders Meeting – Board office

November 1 – EFA Board meeting – Board office



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Healthy Eggs

New Construction for Sparks Eggs!

Construction has started on Sparks Eggs' new grading station in Calgary. Sparks is excited to report that progress is being made rapidly, and they look forward to a 2019 opening. Since 1969, Sparks have sold eggs in Alberta. The new grading station is an indication of how progressive the egg industry has become in the west. The Sparks ownership, management and staff would like to thank egg producers in Alberta for their support.

Stay tuned for an open house in early 2019!

Nielsen Update

The Nielsen retail sales data is available up to August 18, 2018, and indicates that in the latest 4-week period 3.02 million dozen eggs were sold in Alberta; a 1.4% decrease from the previous 4-week period (ending July 21st), and a 5.1% increase in sales compared to the same period in 2017.

Nielsen retail sales in the last 52 weeks are up 4.8% over the previous 52 weeks in Alberta, to 41.2 million dozen eggs. Specialty eggs (excluding Omega-3) have seen the largest sales growth; a 6.5% increase over the previous 52 weeks, to 3.6 million dozen eggs (8.7% of the total eggs sold in Alberta).

For more information: <http://www.albertaeggproducers.ca/information-center/egg-sale-trends/>



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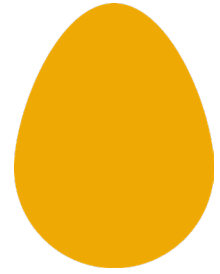
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Why Wet Wash?

Imagine you are cleaning your kitchen floor. You begin with a sweep – this removes the bulk of the dirt, but there is still material stuck to the floor. To get a truly clean floor you must bring out the soap and warm water.



Sweeping is like dry cleaning, it only removes the bulk of organic material. In layer and pullet barns there is still organic materials stuck to the facility walls, floors, ceiling and equipment following dry cleaning. The material stuck to layer and pullet barns is made up of fecal material, dust, egg material, feathers and biofilms (that you often can't see) that can contain pathogens.

Biofilm protects bacteria from their environment and disinfectants. For disinfectants to be effective the biofilm and all organic material stuck to facility and equipment surfaces must be removed. Disinfectants will not work if they don't come in contact with target organisms. The detergent (or soap) used while washing is capable of breaking down biofilm and organic material for removal in the wash water. Dry cleaning alone is of little or no use in fighting pathogens or disease if it is not followed by wet cleaning prior to disinfection. To effectively clean out contaminants and pathogens from your barn, the best practice is to wet wash between flocks.

Update to Salmonella Sampling Protocols

Egg Farmers of Alberta is amending our Salmonella sampling protocols, removing the requirement to test all flocks on farm when one flock needs to be tested. When more than one flock is housed in a single production facility, all flocks within the facility will continue to be tested. As much as possible, EFA will continue to schedule SE sampling on farms so that as many flocks as possible can be sampled within the sampling time frames. This change will be most evident on farms that have an above average number of pullet barns and/or egg layer barns and flocks don't align for sampling at the same time.



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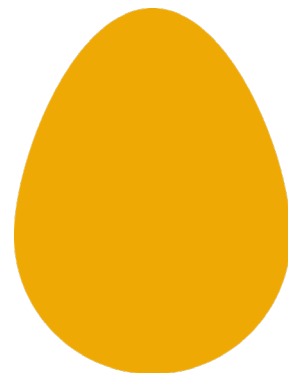
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Changes to SC-SC Program effective January 10, 2019

Egg Farmers of Canada is currently reviewing the SC-SC on farm food safety program and as a result, is making the following changes effective January 10, 2019:



Element	Change & Reason
Sanitary outer clothing and a change of boots are required before anyone enters the restricted area of the production unit	The use of foot-baths, spray disinfectants and disinfectant mats will no longer be an acceptable alternative to changing boots when entering the restricted area. This change is being made because boot change alternatives require high maintenance when used correctly and can be a source of biological pathogens when used incorrectly. Full points will be granted only if boots are changed before entering the restricted area.
Cleaning and disinfecting the laying facility – Dry-clean SE test	Should a farmer choose to dry-clean, an SE test will be conducted 8 weeks prior to re-population to ensure that the test results are outcome-based. This test dry-clean SE can be combined with the late-lay SE test in the previous flock. Should the test results be SE positive, the barn must be wet-washed and disinfected prior to re-population. **Note, wet cleaning is strongly recommended. Please see the article Why Wet Wash? to learn more.

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Element	Change & Reason
Bonus Points Section	<p>Three following bonus point elements will be removed from the SC-SC program:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) All in/all out in each production unit b) Changing footwear, or using foot dips or spraying disinfectant on footwear between different age lay facilities in the same production unit. <p>These bonus point questions have been removed to prevent misrepresentation of the final audit scores.</p>
Cats, dogs and other animals are denied access to the production unit	<p>Cats may be used in conjunction with a comprehensive pest control management system. If a cat is used in the production unit as an additional method of pest control, the following guidelines will apply:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Cat may be male or female, but must be spayed/neutered ii. Cat litter must be swabbed for SE once annually, at a minimum iii. Cat must have access to their own food, water, and litter iv. Cat must not have access to the outdoors <p>If cats are used as an additional method of pest control, and all of the above guidelines are met, the farmer will receive equivalency points for the element.</p>

Healthy Farms



New Fee for Non-Conformance

Although it happens very rarely, there have been cases where farms score below the mandatory requirements in the Animal Care and SC-SC programs year after year. These farms receive significant support and follow-up to ensure that their corrective actions are addressed and that they meet industry standards within their corrective action deadlines. Following review of these cases, the Production Management Committee recommended a new policy that will see those farms that are below 90% on the Animal Care or SC-SC program for three years or more in a row will be charged a non-refundable fee of \$250.00 payable to the Board. This fee will be used to help cover the additional work related to following up on corrective actions.

Building a new barn or renovating?

If you are planning to build a new barn or renovate your production facility, we encourage you to set-up a hen housing meeting with Egg Farmers of Alberta. During the meeting, we provide valuable information, not just about hen housing, but about quota, biosecurity and environmental considerations. To set up your meeting ask your EFA Field Coordinator or contact Christina Robinson.



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Healthy Communities



Celebrating 50 Years of Alberta Egg Farming

“An organization no matter how well designed is only as good as the people who live and work on it”. Congratulations to all the producers and EFA staff on a successful fifty years.

EFA and the amazing producers have spent a half a century together - what better cause for an amazing gold celebration! The success that EFA has seen over the last fifty years doesn't just happen overnight, it takes hard work and dedication to the industry.

Though the EFA name has been changed several times over the past half century, the organization's core reason for remaining unchanged, as does EFA's commitment to building a successful and sustainable egg industry.

In 1968, an estimated 31.2 million dozen eggs were produced to feed the population of 1.5 million people. In 2017, Alberta egg farmers produced 61.2 million dozen eggs to feed 4.3 million Albertans. Today there are over 170 registered egg farming families raising over 2.5 million laying hens.

Our success is not ours alone to share. It is with huge thanks to our producers, value chain partners and industry stakeholders for making Alberta's egg industry what it is today!

To view the full blog post and see pictures, visit our website: <http://eggs.ab.ca/about/efa-blog/celebrating-50-years-of-alberta-egg-farming/>



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Healthy Birds



CEIRA Announces Avian Influenza Coverage

CEIRA is pleased to announce Avian Influenza (AI) coverage beyond compensation from the Federal Government's Health of Animals Act. The Health of Animals Act only provides compensation for the value of birds up to the age birds are removed. CEIRA's coverage was developed to address losses not covered by the Health of Animals Act as noted in the chart below. AI coverage is automatically combined with your existing SE coverage. The based premium increases from 25 cents to 28 cents per chick effective September 17, 2018.

Health of Animals Act

- Value of birds at age of removals

CEIRA

- Margin coverage for unrealized production
- Margin coverage for placement delays
- Veterinary expenses
- Laboratory analysis expenses
- Imposed CFIA biosecurity expenses
- Litter/manure heating and disposal expenses
- Additional cleaning and disinfection expenses.

If you have any questions, please call CEIRA at 1-877-628-9564 or email info@ceira.ca

Notice on Interim Housing Standards & Housing Certificates for Furnished & Loose Housing

In July, EFC approved their Measuring Methods for Non-Conventional Housing. As of September 10th, EFC will begin coordinating farm visits to measure facilities with furnished or loose housing systems. Following verification of the measurements, hen housing certificates will be issued. EFA is working to determine how the National measuring protocols differ from the provincial protocols, and the potential impact on farmers. A copy of EFC's Measuring Protocols is available for your reference on the producer website on the Animals Care Program page.

At EFC's summer meeting, their Board also approved Interim Housing Standards. As of January 10, 2019 Egg Farmers of Canada will begin auditing farmers on these standards,

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that reflect the 2017 Code of Practice requirements. The aim of these audits is to help farmers identify where facilities are not meeting 2017 Code requirements prior to the release of the re-developed Animal Care Program. The Interim Housing Standards will be audited in a separate evaluation form to the Animal Care Program Rating form and will not impact the Animal Care Program score. Corrective Actions will be issued following the interim housing assessment. While CARs will be managed in the same manner as the Animal Care program, there is no mandatory score or penalties for non-completion of interim housing CARs.



Alternative housing systems will not receive an Interim housing standard assessment until they have had their measurements verified by EFC and have received a hen housing certificate.

Pullets For Sale

250 Lohmann LSL and 250 Lohmann Brown pullets available.

19 week date Oct. 22, 2018.

Call Susan Schafers at 780-722-3238 for more information.



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