

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: Vacant

EFA Vision Statement
 Healthy Food, Healthy Farms,
 Healthy Families



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

EFA Staff

Stephen Scott
 • General Manager, 587-391-6124 / ext.124

David Webb
 • Marketing & Comm. Manager, 587-391-6126 / ext.126

Tate O'Dwyer
 • Marketing & Comm. Coordinator, 587-391-6122/ ext.122

Jenna Griffin
 • Manager Programs & Research, 587-391-6129 / ext.129

Carley Frerichs
 • Farm Programs Coordinator, 587-391-6125 / ext.125

Laurel Martin
 • Office Manager, 403-250-1197 / ext.105

Melissa Procyk
 • Admin Support Coordinator, 403-250-1197 / ext.101

Brandy Addai
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 587-391-6128 / ext.128

Reshma Kurian
 • Financial Coordinator, 587-391-6121 / ext.121

Erin Johnston
 • Farm Services Administrator, 587-391-6127 / ext.127

Kari Buijs
 • Business Manager, 587-391-6123 / ext.123

Dave Lastiwka
 • Field Services Coordinator, 587-999-3447

Murray Minchin
 • Fields Services Coordinator, 403-830-3447

EFA Office Hours

Monday to Friday - 7:30 am to 4:00 pm

Egg Price Update Effective November 5, 2023

Canada Grade	Size	Price Per Dozen	
A	Extra Large	3.030	↑
A	Large	3.030	↑
A	Medium	2.730	↑
A	Small	2.370	↑
A	Nest Run	2.853	↑
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 portal.

EggNotes is the official monthly newsletter of Egg Farmers of Alberta. Submissions should be sent to:
tate.odwyer@eggs.ab.ca

Next Issue: February 16, 2024

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



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After Hours Response Line: 368-996-3447
 Website: eggs.ab.ca | Producer Portal: portal.eggs.ab.ca
 Email: info@eggs.ab.ca | Office hours: M-F: 7:30 am - 4:00 pm

Board Update



Your Egg Farmers of Alberta (EFA) Board of Directors hopes for a tremendous turnout of registered Alberta egg farmers, value chain partners, and industry stakeholders, at our 55th Annual General Meeting (AGM) on Tuesday, February 27th, 2024. The AGM and combined producer session will be held in person at the Red Deer Resort & Casino in Red Deer, from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. There will not be a virtual option for joining the AGM this year.

Following a review of EFA's Annual Report, as well as updates from Egg Farmers of Canada and Farm Products Council of Canada, elections will be held for two positions on the EFA Board of Directors. Peter Waldner has completed his second three-year term and John Hofer has completed his first three-year term, and both are eligible for re-election. As a reminder, Director Nomination Packages were sent out at the end of December, and all nominations must be received at the EFA office by February 9th, 2024. That is also the deadline to change the designated representative for your farm and submit any resolution to be addressed at the AGM. The afternoon session will begin with the Producer of the Year announcement. Producers from the four poultry Boards will then come together for the keynote speaker, Nick Black from Intensions Consulting, who will present "*What do we know about today's poultry consumer?*".

EFA would like to remind all egg farmers and honoured guests to pre-register for the AGM by submitting your completed registration forms via the online tool or to the EFA office, by February 4th, 2024. Only pre-registered attendees will be able to have lunch. An extensive pre-AGM package will be mailed to all registered egg farmers by February 13th, 2024, including a copy of the 2023 Annual Report, minutes from the 2023 AGM, a voting guide, and EFA Rules of Order.

The event will conclude with a poultry industry cocktail and a hors d'oeuvres reception from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm.

A Warm Welcome to EFA's newest team member!

Please join us in welcoming Melissa Procyk to the team as EFA's new Administrative Support Coordinator! Melissa was born in Peace River, AB. She grew up spending free time with family on their acreage; this is where her love for the country life began. Melissa looks forward to being a part of the team, getting to know everyone including the producers, and taking part in the growth and success of EFA. Make sure to say hi the next time you stop by the office!



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Egg Farmers of Alberta



2024 New Entrant Program

Egg Farmers of Alberta (EFA) is pleased to announce that the New Entrant Program will be opening for applications in 2024.

EFA believes that it is crucial to the long-term sustainability of agriculture in Canada that new people and new investment be encouraged to enter the industry. EFA's New Entrant Program was developed in order assist individuals and families who want to own an egg farm by alleviating some of the start-up capital.

Below is a listing of important dates for the 2024 New Entrant Program:

- **February 22, 2024 Townhall Webinar (see below for registration information)**
- **May 1, 2024 2024 New Entrant Program is open for applications**
- **June 25, 2024 Deadline for New Entrant applications**
- **November 30, 2024 Announcement of Successful New Entrants**
- **February 25, 2025 New Entrant Welcome Reception (EFA AGM)**

Application forms and new entrant information packages will be available on our website www.eggs.ab.ca as of May 1, 2024.

To register for the Townhall webinar, please visit www.eggs.ab.ca/healthy-farms/new-entrant-program and register through the registration link provided.

2024 Electronic Record Keeping Calendars

The 2024 Excel Record Keeping Calendars are now available on the producer portal. They can be found under Farm Programs or Record Keeping and the subsection Additional Templates To Support Meeting Program Requirements. Please note that we have a newly available 2 Flock Pullet Record Keeping Calendar as well.

Additionally, the portal record keeping calendars have also been generated for 2024. We strongly encourage producers to try out transitioning to this record keeping format.

AI Update

At the time of publication, there are currently 3 active PCZs in Alberta (PCZ 227, PCZ 223, PCZ 196).

UPCOMING KEY DATES

- February 8** | EFA Board Meeting
- February 8** | QE1 2024 Purchase Deadline
- February 19** | Office closed in lieu of Family Day
- February 22** | 2024 NEP Townhall Webinar
- February 27** | EFA AGM
- February 29** | QE1 2024 Summary of Quota Transfers



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Egg Farmers of Alberta



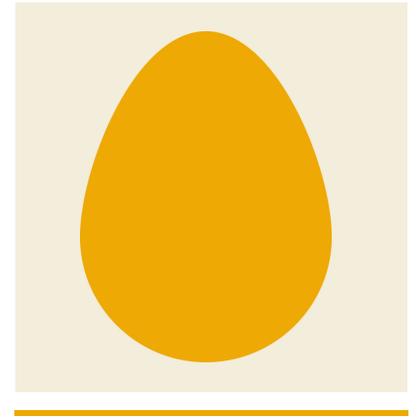
Healthy Eggs

2024 Amendments to the Start-Clean - Stay-Clean® Farmer Guidelines Manuals

The Start-Clean - Stay-Clean® (SC-SC™) program is continuously evolving as a result of emerging experiences, science-based research, technical advancements, and government regulations.

Throughout 2023, Egg Farmers of Canada approved several amendments to the SC-SC™ programs which became effective January 1, 2024. To reflect these amendments, the SC-SC™ farmer guidelines manuals (layers and pullets) have been updated.

The amended pages as well as the full version of the updated manuals for both pullets and layers have been posted to the producer portal. The amended pages were distributed at the January regional meetings for all producers who could attend.



Healthy Farms

Long Lived Layers Project Summary

A project summary funded by Egg Farmers of Alberta on Long Lived Layers has been added to the producer portal. This summary walks you through the environmental and economic trade-offs of extending layer flock cycles. *Did you know the economically optimal cycle length is 71 weeks long? Did you know extending flock cycles over 53 weeks increases the environmental impact per tonne of eggs?* Learn more by visiting the Research and Outcomes section under Learning and Education.



Classified Ads

Are you currently or soon to be looking to sell any farm equipment, tools, etc? If so, reach out to Tate O'Dwyer, EFA's Marketing & Social Media Coordinator to get your ad in EggNotes. If you are interested in having an ad in future issues, please email tate.odwyer@eggs.ab.ca or call 587-391-6122.



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Egg Farmers of Alberta



Healthy Farms

Wildfire Prevention

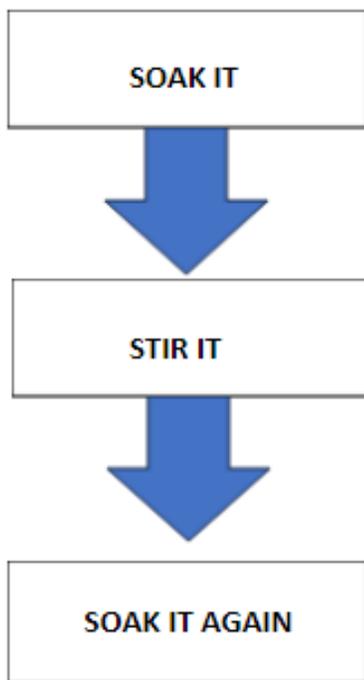
One of the learnings from the project with All One Sky, regarding climate risks and adaptation actions, was to reduce damage to buildings and property from wildfires. One way to do this is to encourage Alberta egg farmers to adopt FireSmart Guidelines and practices on farm. This will be article two of a four-part series and will focus on winter wildfire prevention tips.



This year there is a lack of snow cover and very dry conditions which can leave brown, dry grass exposed and ready to ignite. All a wildfire needs is an ignition source. If fires aren't put out properly, they can spread and burn underground all winter. They can then re-emerge in the spring as wildfires.

Winter Campfires or Burns – A fire left smoldering can dig deep into the ground as it burns organic matter. Inserting a metal rod into your fire is a good way to tell if it is extinguished. If the metal rod comes out hot you know the fire is still smoldering.

Steps to extinguish a fire:



For further information refer to Farm and Acreage: a guide to reducing the risk from wildfire.

This guide provides information for farmers and residents on acreages to assist in reducing the risk from wildfire. Topics covered include: fire permits, safe use of burn barrels and burning of grass, stubble, piles and windrows, building a FireSmart home, preventing wildfires caused by off-highway vehicles, fall and winter wildfire prevention, farm, ranch, and woodlot practices for wildfire prevention, evacuation planning, and wildfire insurance.



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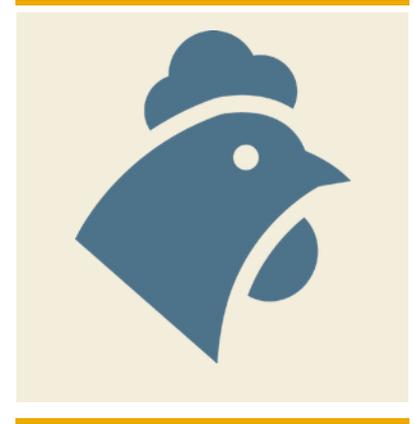
@eggfarmersofalberta



Egg Farmers of Alberta



Healthy Birds



Record Keeping Policies Converted to Forms

The following record keeping policies have been converted into a form format on the producer portal:

- Visitor Policy
- Farm Welfare Policy
- Beak Treatment and Trimming Policy
- Pullet Flock History Self Grower (For Pullet Growers)
- Pullet Flock History Certificate (For Pullet Vendors)

These forms can be accessed by going to the bottom of the Record Keeping Calendar tab on the producer portal under the *Policies for Signature*. Once the policy is complete and submitted it will be automatically converted to a pdf and stored in the completed policies table at the very bottom of the page (please note, you may need to refresh your page before the document shows up). These pdfs can be accessed and/or downloaded at any time.

For the Pullet Flock History Certificate, once the form is complete the pullet purchaser identified on the form will receive a copy of the completed document. An email notification will be provided to the pullet purchaser to let them know the pdf of the Pullet Flock History Certificate is available on the producer portal.

Light Flicker Project Factsheets

Did you know that light flickering that occurs during the brooding and rearing phase has demonstrated no carry-over effect when birds are later transferred to production without light flickering? Neither did we! Researcher, Dr. Karen Schwean-Lardner and her research team investigated the effects of LED light flickering on pullet welfare, health, and production as well as the further impact on hen performance, egg production, and egg quality. To learn more about the findings from this study, review the pullet and laying hen factsheets for light flicker found on the research outcomes page of the producer portal.

Electric Stunning Standard Operating Procedure

An updated version of the Electric Stunning Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) has been added to the producer portal. This updated SOP includes the following statement:

I HAVE REVIEWED THIS SOP WITH _____ TO CONFIRM PRODUCER UNDERSTANDING AND STATE THAT THIS SERVES AS TRAINING ON THIS METHOD TO MY SATISFACTION AS A QUALIFIED ADVISOR.

This statement can be signed off with your field services coordinator (Murray Minchin or Dave Lastiwka) to fulfill the training requirements for this method of flock depopulation.



Healthy Communities

Alberta's Farm Mental Health Survey

The organization, AgKnow, is looking for producers or those who work in the agriculture industry to partake in an online survey, titled - *Support for Alberta Farm Families*. Mental Health programs for farmers are rolling out across Canada. Responses will help ensure programming addresses current needs and aligns with Alberta farms.

For more information or to fill out the survey, visit:
<https://www.agknow.ca/alberta-farm-mental-health-survey>.



EFA's Partnership with the Calgary Hitmen

As part of being an official partner of the Calgary Hitmen this season, EFA recently had a booth on the concourse back on December 17th, 2023. EFA staff member Tate O'Dwyer and contractor Monique Cote worked the booth. We had resources we gave out (including A Guide to Choosing Eggs, EggFacts, and Eggs101) along with recipe spice packs, and egg shaped pop-its. We also had our Egg Guessing Contest there too with the chance for someone to win an eggciting prize package and 2 months of free eggs. Our next appearance will be Sunday, January 28th, when the Hitmen play the Regina Pats at 2:00 pm.



Canadian Agriculture Day is almost here

Wednesday, February 13th marks Canadian Agriculture Day, a day we shine the spotlight on Canadian Agriculture.

While we are appreciative of the work every farmer does every day, this day is when we truly celebrate the ongoing effort and commitment all 168 Alberta egg farms do in supplying fresh, nutritious, and high-quality eggs to fellow Albertans.

Thank you to all Alberta egg farmers for the tireless hours of work you put in to making sure your hens are taken care of and healthy. Join us in raising a fork and saying thanks.



Let's celebrate the food we love



Marketing Highlights

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



Social Media Christmas Contests

EFA hosted two joint Instagram contests during the month of December 2023 with Cook with Meg and the other with the restaurant Egg & Spoon.

The winner of our contest with Egg & Spoon received a box full of egg swag (pictured below), along with 1 month of free eggs, a \$100 Egg & Spoon gift card, and a tour of an egg farm. Our winner with Cook with Meg's contest won 6 months' worth of free eggs (equaling 24 egg coupons)!

EFA sees the value that these types of contests bring to our community and always sees great engagement from followers. We look forward to doing more contests as we move forward in 2024.



7 likes
brianellishwang Thank you so much @eggfarmersalberta and @cookwithmegtoday ! That'll make a lot of omelettes, quiches, baking and so much more this year!
3 days ago

