

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: Marcella Van Stryland | 403-392-4665
Director in Training: Jorn Wipf | 403-635-0516

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

Stephen Scott

- General Manager, 587-391-6124 / ext.124

David Webb

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

Vacant

- 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

Melissa Procyk

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

Brandy Addai

- Emergency Preparedness & Response Coordinator, 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 / Controller, 587-391-6123 / ext.123

Dave Lastiwka

- Field Services Coordinator, 587-999-3447

Murray Minchin

- Field Services Coordinator, 403-830-3447

Egg Price Update Effective February 25, 2024

Canada Grade	Size	Price Per Dozen	
A	Extra Large	3.080	↑
A	Large	3.080	↑
A	Medium	2.780	↑
A	Small	2.420	↑
A	Nest Run	2.900	↑
A	Pee Wee	0.260	↓
B		0.750	↓
C		0.140	↓

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.

Next Issue: July 19, 2024

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



#101, 90 Freeport Blvd NE, Calgary, Alberta, T3J 5J9
 P: 403-250-1197 | Toll Free: 1-877-302-2344 | F: 403-291-9216
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 looks forward to engaging with our fellow egg farmers next week during our second round of 2024 regional producer meetings. As a reminder:

- Monday, June 17th – Calgary (Winston Golf Club) & Zoom
- Tuesday, June 18th – Grande Prairie (Pomeroy Hotel)
- Wednesday, June 19th – Edmonton (Holiday Inn – Nisku)
- Thursday, June 20th – Lethbridge (Lethbridge Lodge)

If you have any questions or need help registering, please contact Melissa at the EFA office (x.101).

Egg Farmers of Canada Summer Meeting

Egg Farmers of Canada (EFC) invites egg farmers across the country to attend their annual summer meeting, which is being held in Montreal this summer, July 7-10, 2024.

The deadline to register is June 21, 2024. To register:
<https://site.pheedloop.com/event/summermeeting/home>

EFA encourages Alberta egg farmers to attend the EFC summer meeting!

UPCOMING KEY DATES

- June 17** | Calgary Regional Meeting
- June 18** | Grande Prairie Regional Meeting
- June 19** | Edmonton Regional Meeting
- June 20** | Lethbridge Regional Meeting
- June 25** | New Entrant Program Application Deadline @ 4:00 PM
- July 1** | Office closed for Canada Day
- July 4** | QE3 2024 Sales Deadline
- July 5-14** | Calgary Stampede
- July 7-11** | EFC Summer Meeting
- July 10** | EFA Team Building (office closed in the afternoon)
- July 15-16** | EFA Board Meeting

UPCOMING WEBINARS

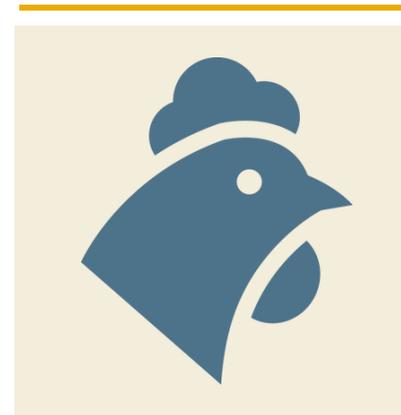
-  **June 17** | Calgary Regional Meeting



Healthy Birds

Emergence of Avian Metapneumovirus Infections in North America

Egg Farmers of Alberta would like to advise producers of the recent emergence of Avian Metapneumovirus Infections (aMPV) in Ontario, the United States, and most recently Manitoba. In recent months, multiple states throughout the USA have documented increased cases of aMPV subtypes A and B with significant economic losses, affecting broilers, broiler breeders, layers, cage free organic birds and turkeys. In April, Ontario had its first confirmation of the aMPV subtype B in poultry flocks in the province. Confirmed cases in layer flocks in Manitoba are the most recent cases.



aMPV is a highly contagious disease and can spread between all poultry species. It is commonly known as Turkey Viral Rhinotracheitis in turkeys and Swollen Head Syndrome in chickens. The clinical signs of aMPV are primarily in the respiratory tract and mortality may be severe. Decreased egg production has also been observed. The disease is spread through direct contact with affected poultry, introduction by wild birds or contamination by infected materials or equipment.

aMPV is not a food safety or human health concern.

EFA would like to remind producers of the importance of being aware of where their birds are coming from and continuing with a high standard of biosecurity practices. As always, if you notice signs of illness in your birds, it is critically important that you contact your vet, the Chief Provincial Vet, or EFA immediately.

LED light flickering video recording

The research committee recently met with researcher Dr. Karen Schwean-Lardner and her graduate student Samantha McPhee who presented their findings from the light flickering study. They found that while light flicker appears to have minor impacts on birds, there is a substantial impact to farm workers. To find out more about what they learnt, visit the research and outcomes page on the producer portal to view the video recording.

The Importance of a Disposal Plan

Since the beginning of the Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) outbreak EFA has been encouraging producers to submit disposal plans for pre-approval to the Government of Alberta. While the process for approval has been slow, we are still encouraging producers to do this. At this point we are also asking any producers who have already submitted plans to send a copy of what was submitted to brandy.addai@eggs.ab.ca. Also anyone who has not yet submitted a plan, please send it to both brandy.addai@eggs.ca and chief.prov.vet@gov.ab.ca.

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It is important for all producers to have thought of, and written out, your plan for disposal. As well as a back up, or secondary plan. While your initial plan may be in barn composting, approval will still be needed for surface burial once the pile is moved outdoors or deep burial if that is the last option available.

Any disposal activities will need to be approved by the CFIA but having your “Alberta Diseased Livestock Mortality Disposal Location Form” completed will help you, and the provincial government save significant time in the approval process. Please look for this form in your orange Emergency Response binder or contact Brandy Addai for a copy.

Some points to consider from the Disposal of Dead Animals Regulation, are:

8(3) a dead animal may be buried in a farm burial pit only if the bottom of the pit is at least one metre above the seasonal high-water table

8(4) one or more dead animal may be buried in a farm burial pit if

(a) The total weight of the dead animal buried in the pit does not exceed 2500 kg, and

(b) The pit

i. is at least 100 m from any well or other domestic water intake, stream, creek, pond, spring, river, irrigation canal, dugout or other water source and the highwater mark of any lake,

ii. is at least 25 m from the edge of any coulee or embankment,

iii. is at least 10 m from any other farm burial pit,

iv. is at least 100 m from any residence,

v. is at least 100 m from the boundary of any land owned or leased by a person other than the owner of the dead animal, unless the owner or leaseholder of the land has consented in writing to the pit being located closer to the boundary,

vi. is at least 300 m from any provincial highway, and

vii. is covered with

A) a minimum of one metre of compacted soil, if no additional dead animals are to be buried in the pit, or

B) a wooden or metal lid that is designed to exclude scavengers and quicklime is applied to the dead animal or animals in sufficient quantities to control flies and odour, if the weight limit established by clause (a) has not been reached and the owner intends to bury additional dead animals in the farm burial pit.

Please note there are other criteria for on-farm burial under 100 kg and over 2500 kg

Please refer to the Disposal of Dead Animals Regulation under the Animal Health Act for more information



Healthy Farms

Farm Programs - Mid-Year Update

As we reach the midpoint of the year, it's heartening to reflect on the progress we've made together in our farm programs. Your dedication and hard work are yielding impressive results, and we're excited to share some highlights with you.

Producer Environmental Egg Program (PEEP)

The Producer Environmental Egg Program (PEEP) has seen remarkable participation and success this year. Over 70 assessments have been completed to date, and we are thrilled to report that 36 producers have achieved a perfect score of 100%.



Farm Safety

Safety on the farm remains a top priority. In 2024, 88 farm assessments have been completed by EFA's Field Services Coordinators. While only two farms have met the stringent threshold of scoring a minimum of 5 on all questions to pass the assessment, many of you are diligently working to improve your scores and we are encouraged by the increased engagement with AgSafe's online training. We have heard directly from dozens of producers who are taking the time to work through it. The average score currently stands at 45%, showing significant potential for improvement. Remember, you have until the end of the year to submit the necessary documentation to achieve a score of 60% or greater to be eligible for EFA's Eggcellence Awards. Keep pushing forward - your dedication to safety is essential for the well-being of everyone that is a part of your egg operation!

Animal Care and Start Clean - Stay Clean®

We are now one year into the redeveloped Animal Care program. Producers are adapting well to the new standards, resulting in a noticeable reduction in Corrective Actions issued. The most common area needing attention remains the accurate recording of true minimum and maximum humidity and temperature readings. Twice daily checks of temperature at the time of the check are not sufficient; it's crucial to determine the exact maximum and minimum humidity and temperature in your cooler (SC-SC™) and minimum maximum temperature in the lay facility (ACP) with the appropriate tools.

The current average score for the Start Clean - Stay Clean® program is 99.9%, with farmers continuing to demonstrate an extremely high standard for food safety. There have been 62 SC-SC™ Layers audits thus far in 2024.

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Biosecurity

Over 140 assessments have been completed so far in 2024. We have been following up directly with producers where high-risk activities are indicated (over 80 phone calls/letters) and are very encouraged by the conversations we have been having. Over 25 producers who do not currently have Danish Entries have communicated that they either will install one or will consider it – way to go!

Moving Forward

As we look ahead to the rest of the year, let's maintain this momentum. Your hard work and dedication are the backbone of these programs, and the progress we've made so far is truly commendable. Together, we can continue to raise the bar and achieve even greater heights in environmental stewardship, farm safety, food safety, and animal care.

Thank you for your ongoing commitment and efforts. Let's keep striving for excellence and making our farms safer, more sustainable, and more successful.

Poultry Innovation Partnership Innovation Showcase Meeting Reports

There are two new Poultry Innovation Partnership Innovation Showcase Meeting Reports available on the producer portal. The first report is on the Precautions and checks for poultry drinking water quality during seasonal transitions. The second report includes information on Burnbrae's solar farms. Visit the Research and Outcomes page to view these reports.

Your Premise Identification Number (PID)

The incidents of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) have demonstrated how important it is for EFA producers to maintain current/accurate information in their PID account. The PID system is the source for Alberta mapping and data extracts during a disease or other incident response (either directly by AGI staff, or via the national system by CFIA). It can also be used as an early warning system to notify people registered in the PID system of a natural disaster such as a flood or fire that could affect their animals or operations. Having accurate animal locations, contact information and other key data in one system is critical for a quick and effective emergency response.

The following PID account information should be reviewed regularly:

- Contact information (e.g. name, address, phone or cell number change, new email address, etc.),
- Capacity for poultry species,
- Change in producer registration number,
- Addition/Removal of a premises/operation (e.g. you have purchased/operating a second operation, or sold/no longer operating an existing operation/premises),
- Retirement or end of registration with EFA (e.g. has sold quota, transferred it to child, etc.)

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Creation and maintenance of a PID account and registering at least one premises is the responsibility of the producer.

To learn more about premises identification and find links for online account creation, updating, etc.: www.agriculture.alberta.ca/premises.

To create a new account online or update an existing account: <https://partners.agric.gov.ab.ca/pid/>.

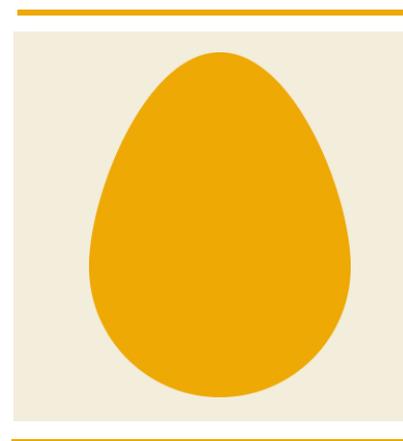
To set up online access to an existing PID account, if this hadn't been done before: <https://partners.agric.gov.ab.ca/pid/sign.page>.

To reset an existing username and/or password, or for more information - call 310-FARM (3276).

Healthy Eggs

Reminder to Record Pesticide Usage

Per the Start-Clean Stay-Clean™ program, if a farmer manages their own pest control, they must record the number of bait stations and locations, number of traps and locations, type of pesticide used, and amounts used. This is a friendly reminder that if you are using mouse bait or another pesticide, it needs to be recorded in the record keeping calendar in the Pest Control section.



Classified Ads

Wanted - Chicken Feet!

- A local company is looking to purchase chicken feet for export. The chicken feet must be butchered and cleaned, frozen in 30-50 kg bags, with appropriate health certificates.
- Contact Anthony for more information @ 403-830-8839



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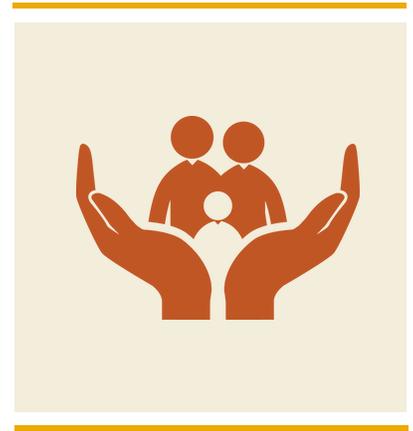
Egg Farmers of Alberta



Healthy Communities

Shifts still available for the Calgary Stampede

A reminder to all egg ambassadors that there are still shifts available to work at this year's Calgary Stampede, happening July 5 to 14, 2024. We are also in search of 13 white and 13 brown birds with good feather cover. If you are interested in finding out which shifts are open or helping us out with birds, please contact David Webb, EFA's Marketing & Communications Manager at 403-250-1197 ext. 126 or email david.webb@eggs.ab.ca



Social Media Influencer - Anthony Wong

One of our influencers, Anthony (@acheatdayeveryday) posted a delicious recipe for the second quarter for us, *Savory Prosciutto & Burrata Dutch Baby*.

This recipe reel was posted on May 21st, and has reached over 1,950 accounts, has been played over 3,000 times, and has 175 likes!

To watch the reel, visit:

<https://www.instagram.com/p/C7PU6akPlbP/>



Happy Canada Day
on July 1st!

