



# 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 | 403-784-3519  
**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 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**  
 • 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, 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 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. Submissions should be sent to:  
[tate.odwyer@eggs.ab.ca](mailto:tate.odwyer@eggs.ab.ca)

**Next Issue: April 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](http://eggs.ab.ca) | Producer Portal: [portal.eggs.ab.ca](http://portal.eggs.ab.ca)  
 Email: [info@eggs.ab.ca](mailto: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 would like to thank our fellow farmers, value chain partners, industry stakeholders, and EFA staff, for making our 55th Annual General Meeting such a resounding success. The Board was pleased to see 121 registered Alberta egg farmers participate in the AGM, as part of 256 overall attendees. The Board appreciates everyone who took the time to celebrate the highlights from the past year and look ahead to the future of the egg industry.

EFA's 2024 Board of Directors:

- Chair: Peter Waldner
- Vice Chair: Conrad Vanessen
- EFC Director: Beatrice Visser
- EFC Alternate: Jerry Hofer
- Director: Elie Hofer
- Director: Marcella Van Stryland
- Director in Training: Jorn Wipf

Muneer Gilani continues to serve EFA as Alberta's Canadian Egg Industry Reciprocal Alliance (CEIRA), with Joe Kleinsasser serving as alternate.

Thank you to John Hofer for his service to the EFA Board of Directors over the years. His thoughtful and forward-thinking approach were tremendous assets for EFA and the provincial egg industry.

The EFA Board and staff would like to sincerely wish John all the best in the future!

## UPCOMING KEY DATES

**March 15** | New Entrant Program (NEP) packages will be available

**March 20** | NEP Townhall Call #1 - Q&A session

**March 26-27** | EFC AGM

**March 29** | Office closed for Good Friday

**April 3-4** | EFA Board Meeting

**April 4** | QE2-24 Deadline to submit an Application to Sell Quota

**April 10-12** | Quebec Egg Farmers AGM

**April 10-14** | Aggie Days Calgary

## UPCOMING WEBINARS

 **March 26** | Egg Ambassador Training



# Healthy Farms

## *New Research Outcomes Videos*

There are two new research outcomes videos available on the producer portal. Both videos are on projects funded by Egg Farmers of Alberta. In the first video, researcher Dr. Clover Bench and her PhD student Emily DePaoli present their findings on the Use of 3D Kinematics, DXA, and Genomics to Evaluate Perching in Commercial Strains of Enriched-Housing Laying Hens. What strain of laying hen do you think might be best suited for enriched housing systems? Find out in this video!



The second video is on Long Lived Layers – An Environmental, Economic, and Animal Welfare Cost/Benefit Analysis. This video features researchers Dr. Nathan Pelletier and Dr. Maurice Doyon and their students Vivek Arulnathan, Ian Turner, and Ousmane Traore walking 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 meanwhile extending flock cycles over 53 weeks demonstrates an increase in environmental impacts per tonne of eggs?

To learn more about these studies, visit the Research Outcomes page!

## *On-Farm Climate Action Fund Applications Open*

The On-Farm Climate Action Fund (OFACF) which will be delivered by Results Driven Agriculture Research has opened for funding applications until March 31, 2025.

OFCAF supports adopting beneficial management practices (BMPs) that reduce greenhouse gas emissions while fostering economic and environmental sustainability. A single farm is eligible for up to \$75,000 to facilitate on-farm BMPs in the areas of:

- Nitrogen management
- Cover cropping
- Rotational grazing practices

Visit [www.rdar.ca](http://www.rdar.ca) for information about the program and the application process.



## **Water Well Monitoring**

Do you have water well monitoring conditions attached to your confined feeding operation (CFO) permit? The Natural Resources Conservation Board (NRCB) has just published a new fact sheet outlining sampling methods and best practices for collecting water samples.

You can find it on the producer portal under Learning and Education by searching “NRCB” or “Water well”.

For more information, contact your nearest NRCB field office:

Morinville: 780-939-1212

Red Deer: 403-340-5241

Airdrie: 403-340-5241

Lethbridge: 403-381-5166

Dial 310-0000 to be connected toll free.

### *Hearings under the Agricultural Operation Practices Act: what to expect*

If you ever need to participate in a hearing on a Natural Resources Conservation Board (NRCB) decision about a confined feeding operation, you may not be sure of what to expect, or how to prepare.

The NRCB has created a short, animated video to help explain the hearing process under the Agricultural Operation Practices Act (AOPA).

Check out the video on the NRCB website at [www.nrcb.ca](http://www.nrcb.ca)

More questions? Contact Laura Friend, NRCB Manager of Board Reviews at 403-297-8269 (toll free 310-0000) or at [laura.friend@nrcb.ca](mailto:laura.friend@nrcb.ca).

## **Workers Compensation Board Yearly Statistics - 2023**

The Workers Compensation Board has released their 2023 annual statistics on the number of claims, types of injuries, cost of compensation etc. for the Alberta poultry and egg sector. There were 8 claims in 2023 vs. 7 in 2022. The results for 2023 indicated that the highest incident of injury was from either coming into contact with or being struck by an object or equipment with injuries being predominantly sustained to the hands and fingers. Injuries were observed mostly in the 19-50 years of age range. For further details visit the producer portal at Farm Safety (Farm Programs).



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## CO2 Monitor Calibration

AgSafe Alberta has created an in-depth bulletin on “Gas Monitors & Common Agricultural Gases”, which provides valuable information on different types of hazardous gases, different types of gas monitors and calibration of monitors. The section below is taken from this bulletin, but we encourage you to read this in its entirety on the producer portal or at: [https://agsafeab.ca/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/ASA\\_Gas-Monitors-Common-Ag-Gasses-bulletin-v4.pdf](https://agsafeab.ca/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/ASA_Gas-Monitors-Common-Ag-Gasses-bulletin-v4.pdf).

### CALIBRATION CHECK

*A calibration check verifies that the sensor(s) and alarms on a personal gas monitor respond within the manufacturer's acceptable limits by exposing it to a test gas. During a calibration check, the user will compare the test gas concentration to the reading on the personal gas monitor. If the results are found to be within the manufacturer's acceptable limits, the calibration check has verified the gas monitor's accuracy. If the calibration check results are not found to be within the manufacturer's acceptable limits, a full calibration will need to be performed.*

### FULL CALIBRATION

*A full calibration is a process that adjusts a personal or portable gas monitor's reading to coincide with the known concentrations of zero and span gases.*

*This results in two steps:*

- 1. Zero calibration, sometimes called zero suppression, is where the personal gas monitor is exposed to the ambient or “zero grade” air. Each sensor registers to zero and the O2 sensor is calibrated to a value of 20.9%.*
- 2. Span calibration is where each sensor expects to be exposed to a known concentration of gas. As each sensor calibrates, the personal gas monitor adjusts to the calibration gas and known values if needed to ensure that the gas concentration values are accurately registered and displayed.*

*It is important to note that if a sensor has degraded beyond an acceptable level, it will have reached its End-Of-Life and will no longer pass a calibration. Any servicing that is performed, such as the replacement of sensors, must be performed as per the manufacturer's instructions and by a qualified person.*

*Article continued on next page ...*



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Egg Farmers of Alberta



As many of you use CO2 Monitors in your routine depopulation it is important to ensure your monitors are calibrated.

Calibration can be done by contacting the company where your monitor was purchased, contacting [co2meter.com](http://co2meter.com) or the following company in Edmonton:

Air Extreme Inc  
6158 50 St NW  
Edmonton, AB T6B 2N7  
780-439-3362  
[leslie@airextreme.ca](mailto:leslie@airextreme.ca)

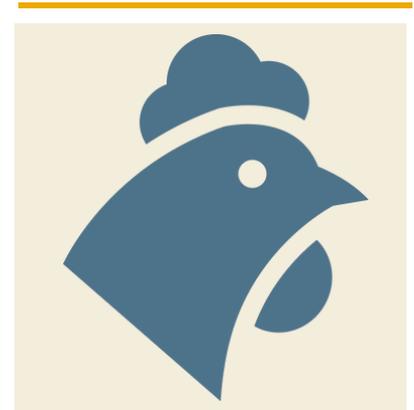
Options for replacement filters are the company where your monitor was purchased, contacting [co2meter.com](http://co2meter.com) or the following company in Calgary:

ESG Filtration Ltd.  
#11, 6025 - 12th St. SE  
Calgary, AB T2H 2K1  
403-571-0202  
[customer.service@esgfiltration.com](mailto:customer.service@esgfiltration.com)

## Healthy Birds

### *Choosing a Loose Pullet Housing System*

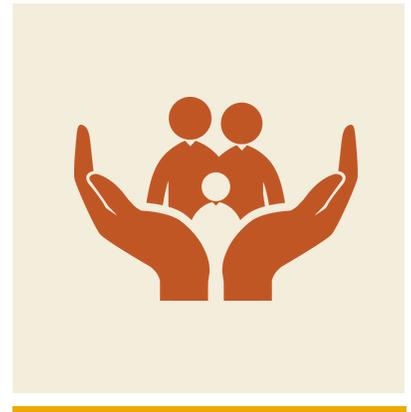
Are you considering a loose pullet housing system for your new pullet barn? Egg Farmers of Alberta has developed this handy guide on things you may want to consider when installing a loose housing system in your new pullet facility. To review the document visit the Learning and Education page on the producer portal.



# Healthy Communities

## **New Research Summaries**

Egg Nutrition Center conducted a study examining the association between egg consumption and cardiometabolic risk factors in adults. The study demonstrated that regular egg consumption as part of a healthy diet had long-term beneficial effects on blood pressure and glucose metabolism and lowered the long-term risks of high blood pressure and diabetes. For more details, please read the Egg Farmers of Canada research summary on Eggs & Cardiovascular Health available on the producer portal under research outcomes.



Additionally, Egg Farmers of Canada has also released a research summary on minimizing the effects of Infectious Bronchitis Virus (IBV) on egg production and egg quality. The researchers advise that a combination of live and attenuated vaccines should be applied pre lay to induce protection against different IBV strains. This summary is also available on the research outcomes page of the producer portal.

## **Culinaire Magazine - Best of Egg Feature**

EFA partnered with Culinaire Magazine to do another special egg feature, which will appear in the April 2024 issue.

We were looking for nominations for 3 types of egg dishes offered at restaurants across Calgary, *Devilled eggs*, *Scotch Eggs*, and *Egg Salad Sandwiches*. Culinaire received over 15 nominations for each category and judging took place on February 26 and March 4 by a group of 4 judges. The winners will be announced on Global News Calgary on Saturday, March 30 and an article will be featured in the April issue!



## **Aggie Days Calgary - Birds Needed**

We are still in need of 13 white hens and 13 brown hens to have at our booth during Aggie Days, taking place April 10-14. The birds need to have great feather coverage and the farm(s) who supply the birds will be compensated. If you would like to help us out, please reach out to Tate O'Dwyer, EFA's Marketing & Social Media Coordinator at [tate.odwyer@eggs.ab.ca](mailto:tate.odwyer@eggs.ab.ca) or at ext 122.

## **Calgary Hitmen "Bake-off" Video**

The *Bake-off* video, presented by EFA, has now been published and can be viewed here: <https://chl.ca/whl-hitmen/video/hitmen-bake-off-presented-by-egg-farmers-of-alberta/>

HAPPY  
Easter

