



Emergency Bronchitis Relief Program

as amended August 2017

INTRODUCTION:

Egg Farmers of Ontario (EFO) has become aware of issues reported by some producers experiencing significantly lower rates of lay and other related health issues in flocks placed during the past several months. The current information indicates the issues may be related to certain strains of Bronchitis.

PRINCIPLE:

Producers who are affected by the recent Bronchitis strain and are experiencing a rate of lay less than 80% will have the opportunity to voluntarily participate in the *Emergency Bronchitis Relief Program*. The program will offer quota credits to the affected producers to help offset lost production by allocating additional birds that may be placed either with the replacement flock or at a later date. The Board reserves the right to amend or discontinue the *Emergency Bronchitis Relief Program* at any time.

CRITERIA:

1. The producer must provide an authorized veterinary diagnosis of the Bronchitis.
2. The flock must have been housed in the egg layer barn after January 2017.
3. Producers have the option of either full or partial depopulation of the affected flock. The number of quota credits will be determined using 90% of either the depopulated amount (partial) or if full flock removal, 90% of the determined allowable in barn of the affected flock at 23 weeks.
4. Producers may use the quota credits at their discretion; quota credits are not required to be used within a certain time.
5. Quota credits must be utilized at a flock placement and must be placed as outlined in the *EFO Housing Density Policy*.
6. The producer must provide signed documentation/commitment that their pullet grower/contractor has been/will be paid in full for the affected flock.
7. The producer must remain within the designated 2017 home week/exemption weeks of the original flock placement.
8. EFO will work with industry partners to source replacement birds, of which EFO will cover up to 100% of the cost.
9. By the producer participating in the *Emergency Bronchitis Relief Program* the producer waives any and all legal claims, by the producer, respecting the losses incurred.
10. Producers with the lowest rate of lay will be considered first in the program.

COMPLIANCE:

Any quota holder who is in good standing may apply to the Board for this program. To be in good standing, a quota holder must be in conformity with all EFO Regulations, Policies, Orders and Directions, including housing density. Producers must have all the paperwork filed at the EFO office as outlined in the EFO General Regulations and be up-to-date with all licence fees, levies and any other amounts owing to EFO.

SANCTIONS:

The Board may cancel or reduce, refuse to increase, refuse to loan, fix, and allot quota to any person for any reason that the Board considers proper. Additional or alternative sanctions may apply under *EFO's Quota Policy*; Section 25 [Sanctions], Section 26 [Quality Standards], Section 27 [On-Farm Food Safety] and Section 28 [Housing Density]. Indirect methods to circumvent EFO's policies will not be permitted and where identified may result in an appropriate reduction or cancellation of quota.