



# Home Week Policy – Egg Farmers

as amended August 2019

## **PURPOSE AND INTENDED OBJECTIVES:**

Egg Farmers of Ontario (“EFO”) has determined that a designated home week (“DHW”) is required for each producer to enable the Board to effectively manage the supply and orderly marketing of eggs in Ontario and to work effectively with producers, hatcheries, grading stations, transport companies and catchers to ensure a predictable and reliable supply of eggs to consumers and industry stakeholders.

Each producer has a DHW which is the week within which that producer are required place 19 week old birds in an egg production facility pursuant to the quota fixed and allotted to that producer.

## **Administering the Home Week Policy**

To provide flexibility, placements can be made during the weeks immediately prior to and immediately after the DHW (the “sleeve”). All stakeholders should however, target placement in their DHW to ensure an even distribution of birds week to week.

The DHW applies and remains in effect year to year. No change in a DHW can be made except upon application to the Board by filing an Application for Exemption - Home Week Policy form not less than six months in advance of any requested new DHW.

This policy applies to all new farmers and any new barn construction.

Producers who fail to place within the DHW sleeve period will be deemed to be in an over quota position and may be subject to sanctions as determined by the Board.

- As an example, if a farmer’s DHW is week 5 of 52 available home weeks, all future replacement flocks are required to be placed in week 5 although placement can be made in weeks 4 or 6 without sanction / penalty.
- Regardless of the week birds are placed, all birds including program birds cannot remain in production more than 52 weeks, quota credits will be provided if the farmer is eligible.
- If the Board approves production for a period greater than 52 weeks at the farmer’s request, a 30 cent per dozen assessment for production after week 52 will be triggered as the farmer would have recovered their pullet costs.
- In all cases the seven (7) day mandatory downtime between layer flocks applies.

## *Example of additional levy charge:*

Producer’s Home Week Ending:           Week #5, Saturday February 3rd

Exemption Week Ending A:            Week #4, Saturday January 27th

## Producer Flock Placements:

| Flock # 1<br>Home Week #5 | Flock # 1<br>23 Week Count | Flock # 2<br>Replacement Flock   | Number of Days in Excess<br>Week #6 - Exemption Week B |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------|--|
| Placement<br>February 3   | 5,125 Birds                | Placement Week #8<br>February 20 | February 11 – 19<br>9 days                             |

Levy Charge: \$0.25 x 5,125 x 9 days = \$11,531.25

[Days calculation: placement date (19 week old hens) outside of the designated home week and/or exemption week, using the respective Sunday date of the home week and/or exemption week].



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**COMPLIANCE:**

Any producer in good standing may qualify for the home week allowance. To be in good standing a producer 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 [Quality Standards], Section 26 [On Farm Food Safety/Animal Care Program], Section 27 [Housing Density] and Section 29 [Sanctions]. Indirect methods to circumvent EFO's policies will not be permitted and where identified may result in an appropriate reduction or cancellation of quota.