

THE CACKLER

THE LATEST EFO NEWS



get cracking®
Egg Farmers of Ontario

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VALÉRIE GRENIER CARVES OUT SUCCESS

Ski sensation Valérie Grenier is headed to Italy after impressive results in Lake Louise.

Grenier, daughter of Zone 10 egg farmers Nathalie and Gabriel, has been turning heads on the alpine circuit. During the Lake Louise Alpine Ski Cup on December 4, Valérie competed in two downhill and one Super G events,

finishing with three top 30 results.

Egg Farmers of Ontario, together with Fédération des producteurs d'oeufs du Québec, is proud to sponsor Valérie in her athletic endeavors.

To see Valérie in action, visit <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1bOWqK8AFYM>.

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- 3 ways to simplify breakfast
- Amended Zone 6 & 10 meeting times

UPCOMING CONTRIBUTIONS BY:

January:
Marc Bourdon, Zone 10 Director

UPCOMING BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETINGS:

January 4 & 5

COMMENTS FROM THE COOP

LOOKING AHEAD TO 2017

By Craig Hunter, Zone 9 Director

As we look forward to the next year as egg and pullet farmers, let's look at a few issues which I believe will continue to impact our industry.

The importance of telling our story

As consumers get two or three generations away from a farm and continue to get bombarded with misinformation about our farms, it is more important than ever that we "tell our story" in any way which works for each of us as individual farmers.

I have had many opportunities to speak to hundreds of consumers on tours at our farm, at the Canadian National Exhibition, the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair and local fairs and events. Transparency is certainly becoming an important part of what we do as farmers. Part of our story must continue to include promoting our fair farm pricing system which allows Canadian consumers to have access to nutritious, affordable and locally produced eggs and egg products.

The good news is that consumers seem very happy about how we are producing eggs for them, with very few exceptions. Egg Farmers of Ontario's *Consumer Choice Engagement Strategy* will be an important part of this critical issue and hopefully, the majority of our large retailers and foodservice customers will continue to provide choice to consumers.

Animal Welfare

This will continue to be an important issue in our industry. After approximately three years of Code Development Committee meetings, we will soon have a new *Code of Practice* which has been made possible by building consensus amongst a very broad group of stakeholders.

Even though we are highly influenced by what is happening in the U.S. egg industry, the National Farm Animal Care Code process is a unique system whereby all sectors of animal agriculture can develop "Made in Canada" solutions to animal welfare challenges. During the next year, Egg Farmers of Canada, along with the provincial egg boards, will be developing an updated animal care audit which will guide us on how we handle and house our layers and pullets in the future.

Avian Influenza

Currently, outbreaks of avian influenza are having a devastating effect on the poultry industry in the European Union and other parts of the world. We need to take the issue of biosecurity on our farms VERY seriously.

Politics in both Canada and the U.S.

We will need to maintain a very proactive position on trade issues which might affect our industry.



Antibiotic Use

We continue to read about a variety of animal products being promoted as "antibiotic free." Some consumers are influenced by this type of promotion and are looking for products which are antibiotic free. In reality, eggs could be considered to be in that category already; however, we have to recognize that our use of antibiotics is not zero.

We must continue to utilize the best possible vaccination programs, along with excellent cleaning, disinfection and biosecurity programs to satisfy consumer demands and keep our birds healthy. Even though the general public should be more concerned about the over-prescribing of antibiotics in human medicine, when it comes to the issue of antibiotic resistance, we will still need to do our best to meet the challenge of "no antibiotic use" as part of our ongoing egg business.

THREE EASY WAYS TO SIMPLIFY BREAKFAST



The latest addition to Egg Farmers of Ontario's (EFO's) recipe resources has arrived just in time to make your breakfast a breeze!

Breakfast & Brunch Beauties is a double-sided, accordion-style pamphlet featuring three delicious brunch recipes: *Crispy Breakfast Quesadillas*, *Easy Festive Brunch Bake*, and *Canadiana*

Eggs Benedict. The resource is perforated to easily fit into your recipe box.

76,500 copies were printed for EFO use. If you would like to receive copies for an upcoming display or event, please contact ssabo@getcracking.ca.

**PLEASE NOTE:
UPDATED TIMES FOR ZONE 6 AND 10
2017 ZONE MEETINGS FOR THE ELECTION
OF COUNCILLORS, DELEGATES AND DIRECTORS
FOR EGG FARMERS OF ONTARIO**

Zone	Date	Location	Times
1	January 9	Royal Canadian Legion, Wyoming 493 Erie St, Wyoming	Social noon Lunch 12:30 p.m. Meeting 1:30 p.m.
2	January 9	Coldstream Community Hall 10227 Ilderton Rd RR 2, Ilderton	Social 5:30 p.m. Dinner 6:00 p.m. Meeting 7:00 p.m.
3	January 10	Mt. Elgin Community Centre 333204 Plank Line, Mount Elgin	Social 6:00 p.m. Dinner 6:30 p.m. Meeting 7:30 p.m.
4	January 11	Hernder Winery 1607 Eighth Ave Louth, St. Catharines	Meeting 3:30 p.m. Social 5:30 p.m. Dinner 6:00 p.m.
5	February 13	Holmesville Community Centre 190 Community Centre Rd., Holmesville	Social 5:30 p.m. Meal 6:00 p.m. Meeting 7:00 p.m.
6	January 17	Shakespeare Optimist Hall 3976 Galt Street, Shakespeare	Social 5:30 p.m. Dinner 6:15 p.m. Meeting 7:00 p.m.
7	January 19	Knox Presbyterian Church 220 Livingstone Ave N, Listowel	Social 12 noon Lunch 12:30 p.m. Meeting 1:30 p.m.
8	January 25	Bobby C's Dockside Restaurant 70 Port Darlington Rd, Bowmanville	Meeting 3:00 p.m. Social 5:00 p.m. Dinner 5:30 p.m.
9	February 7	The Chateau Brock Restaurant (Formerly CJ's Banquet Hall) 803 Chelsea Street, Brockville	Social 5:00 p.m. Meal 6:00 p.m. Meeting 7:30 p.m.
10	February 6	St Isidore Arena 20 Arena St, St Isidore	Meeting 3:30 p.m. Social 5:30 p.m. Meal 6:30 p.m.
Pullet	March 29	Annual Meeting Fallsview Casino, Niagara Falls	Time to be confirmed

**EFO POLICIES, PROGRAMS
AND PROCEDURES ARE
ONLINE**

Reminder: New policies and procedures will be updated and posted on EFO's farmer website www.getcracking.ca/members/operations-quota as they come into effect and will no longer be mailed to all farmers.

Policies, procedures and documents posted on EFO's farmer website contain the most up-to-date versions and should be used for all policy interpretation and quota transactions - please check this site frequently.

If further information or clarification on any matter is required, farmers should contact EFO's Board office.

**ORGANIC COUNCIL OF
ONTARIO NEEDS YOUR HELP**

The Organic Council of Ontario aims to study the lack of growth in the sector by launching a series of surveys for agri-food stakeholders, both organic and non-organic. The surveys are designed to understand the obstacles to growing organic business in Ontario.

For survey links:

Non-organic producers
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/nonorganicproducers>

Non-organic operators
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/nonorganicoperators>

For more information, please see attached insert.

**2016
PRODUCTION
STATISTICS**

(in boxes of 15 dozen)

**Ontario Production
(week ending #44)**

2016 – 14,023,632
2015 – 12,933,504

**Ontario IP
(week ending #44)**

2016 – 3,239,209
2015 – 2,454,068

**Ontario EFP
(week ending #44)**

2016 – 1,004,888
2015 – 1,004,705

**US Imports to Ontario
(week ending
November 26, 2016, #48)**

2016 – 1,661,946
2015 – 2,498,030

**EGG
CLASSIFIEDS**

FOR SALE:

Farmer Automatic rod conveyor for sale. 60"O" L x 20" W with one decline or rise. Please call: Pete 519-902-3507 or Colin 519-328-7787

WANTED:

Used Helmans feeder drive motors. Please call: Pete 519-902-3507 or Colin 519-328-7787

Farmer Automatic cages, 24" x 22.75" conventional, 216 cages. Please call: Peter 519-392-8448

HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS

To celebrate Christmas and the New Year, EFO will be closing at end-of-day December 23, and will re-open Tuesday, January 3, 2017.

In case of emergency, please contact Harry Pelissero, EFO General Manager, on his cell phone at 289-237-5554. Have a safe and happy holiday!

UPDATE: EUROPEAN OUTBREAK OF AVIAN INFLUENZA

In November 2016, an outbreak of H5N8 Avian Influenza (AI) was declared in 10 European countries; including Austria, Croatia, Denmark, Germany, Hungary, the Netherlands, Poland, Sweden, Switzerland and Russia. This prompted England and Scotland to declare an AI prevention zone, which requires all bird keepers to implement additional biosecurity measures to protect their flocks from wild birds.

With this in mind, we remind you to follow these biosecurity measures:

- Every farmer, employee and every person entering all poultry barns must put on clean footwear, protective clothing and follow all biosecurity protocols on every entry into barns.
- Minimize visits to other poultry production sites and avoid any co-mingling of birds or contact with outside/wild birds.
- Avoid exchanging equipment with other poultry production sites.
- Ensure all vehicles/farm equipment that access the barn vicinity are properly washed and disinfected and that the laneway is restricted/secured.
- Ensure adequate training of farm and company personnel in biosecurity and disease prevention.
- Ensure adequate control of wild birds and rodents.
- Have a pressure washer or hose available to wash tires and equipment, and make this available to all service vehicles.
- If possible, "heat treat" the barn/litter ahead of chick or poult placement (to 30 °C for a minimum of three days).

If your birds show any sign of illness, please contact your veterinarian and board immediately.

How to contact EFO Zone Directors

Your Directors are available to address any questions and comments you may have pertaining to your industry.

Zone	Director	Email Address	Phone
1	Scott Helps	shelps@ymail.com	519-464-2744
2	Dianne McComb	dmccomb@isp.ca	519-494-5360
3	Dan Veldman	dveldd@gmail.com	519-801-5216
4	Roger Pelissero	rpelisseroeggs@gmail.com	905-984-0279
5	Brian Miller	bwmiller@quadro.net	519-235-1126
6	Scott Graham	scottgraham06@gmail.com	519-284-1300
7	Bryan Hostrawser	bryanhostrawser@gmail.com	519-803-9076
8	Hubert Schillings	chschillings@hotmail.ca	905-260-0951
9	Craig Hunter	chunter@burnbraefarms.com	613-341-2006
10	Marc Bourdon	marc@bourdon.ca	613-551-5071
Pullet	Andy DeWeerd	abdeweerd@hsfx.ca	519-502-5385

Egg Farmers of Ontario Mission Statement The mission of Egg Farmers of Ontario is to provide customers with a supply of high-quality eggs at a fair price and a fair return to egg and pullet farmers within a stable national supply management system.

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FARMER NOTICES

UPDATED INFORMATION: EUTHANASIA TRAINING AVAILABLE ONLINE

If you or an employee on your farm has not completed the mandatory euthanasia training, the course is now available online.

Farmers and employees still requiring this training should contact Albert Visser at avisser@getcracking.ca to register for the online course.

Please see attached insert for updated information on veterinarians available for validation.

WITH OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHIES

Egg Farmers of Ontario would like to extend our condolences to the Vander Burgt family.

Zone 5 egg farmer John Peter Vander Burgt passed away suddenly on November 19 as the result of a car accident.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to his family for their loss.

NOMINATIONS NOW BEING ACCEPTED FOR POULTRY WORKER AWARD

The Poultry Industry Council (PIC) is now accepting nominations for the 2016 Ed McKinlay Poultry Worker of the Year Award. This award recognizes an individual who has made a contribution to the poultry industry, whether it be through a specific project or over a larger time period.

The deadline has been extended and will remain open until March 1, 2017. For more information on the award and criteria to enter, please visit <http://www.poultryindustrycouncil.ca/aboutpic/poultry-worker-award/>