

THE CACKLER

THE LATEST EFO NEWS



get cracking®
Egg Farmers of Ontario

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MOVE OVER COOKIES, IT'S EGGNOG SEASON!

For many people, Christmas is synonymous with milk and cookies for Santa. But they are forgetting one very important, very traditional thing – eggnog.

Thankfully, Rita DeMontis, senior national Lifestyle and Food Editor for Sun Media agrees! She recently featured Egg Farmers of Ontario's (EFO's) *Classic Eggnog* and *Eggnog*

Tart recipes in her column, which was featured in Sun Media publications across Canada, including the [Toronto Sun](http://torontosun.com). Take our word for it – try serving this homemade eggnog to your guests (especially the one who likes to come down the chimney) - they will thank you for it!

For these recipes and more, visit www.getcracking.ca.

IN THIS ISSUE

- Comments from the Coop, by Craig Hunter, Zone 9 Director
- Reminder - Farms must keep laneways clear
- Upcoming Zone Meetings: times, date and location

UPCOMING CONTRIBUTIONS BY:

January: Marc Bourdon
Zone 10 Director
February: Andy DeWeerd
Pullet Director

UPCOMING BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETINGS:

January 8 & 9
February 6 & 7

COMMENTS FROM THE COOP

THE TRUTH ABOUT GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

by Craig Hunter, Zone 9 Director

Animal Activists have discovered another way to attack animal agriculture by spreading “fake news” about Green House Gas (GHGs) emissions. The issue of the environment and climate change is a popular topic in the media in recent times. As we know, the entire world is concerned with reducing GHG emissions to prevent a further increase in global temperatures. This has turned the world's attention to GHGs and their sources.

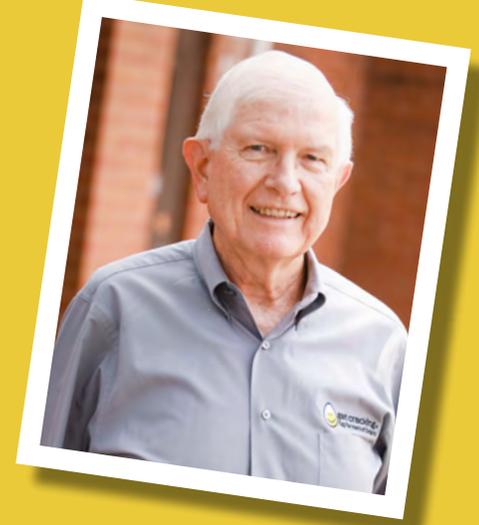
The main sources of GHGs come as no surprise: oil and gas industries and vehicle emissions. But the GHGs produced by animal agriculture and their impact on the environment have also been in the news. Some special interest groups are implying that animal agriculture is responsible for 50% of GHG production, which is absolutely untrue! Recently, the *Eat Lancet* report presented a scenario for consuming a highly plant-based diet to “Save The Planet.” This report made news headlines, but, unfortunately, the many articles indicating the flaws and biases in the report did not.

In reality, plant and animal agriculture combined make up approximately 10% of emissions in Canada or the US. Of that, animal agriculture makes up about

66% (or 7% of total GHG emissions). In contrast, the oil and gas and transportation sectors make up about 50% of emissions in Canada, followed by buildings, electricity generation and industry.

What if we were to abandon animal agriculture? Would it save the planet?

An extensive study in the US (reported in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences in 2017) examined the effect of completely eliminating animal agriculture on GHG emissions in the US. The study stated that the GHG emissions would only be reduced by 2.6% after accounting for adjustments to resulting agricultural demands. The report also stated that without animal products, it would be difficult to meet the nutritional requirements of the human population and therefore nutritional deficiencies would be widespread. Livestock, particularly ruminants, consume substantial amounts of by-products from food, biofuel and fibre production that are not edible by humans, and they make use of untillable pasture and grazing lands that are not suitable to produce crops for human consumption. Animals also provide us with more than food. A multitude of animal-derived products are used in adhesives, ceramics, cosmetics,



fertilizer, germicides, glues, candies, refining sugar, textiles, upholstery, photographic films, ointments, paper, heart valves and many other products. An assessment of agricultural systems must consider that animals and crops affect more than GHGs.

Based on studies done by Dr. Nathan Pelletier, Egg Farmers of Canada's Chair in Sustainability, we in the Canadian egg industry have been reducing our environmental footprint for decades. For the past 50 years, Canadian egg production has increased by 50%, while the industry's environmental footprint dropped by almost 50%. In a recent Spanish study, scientists obtained a carbon footprint per dozen eggs of 2.7 kg of carbon dioxide equivalent, which is described as similar to milk and much lower than that of veal, pork or lamb.

The egg industry has an amazing success story to tell about our effect on the environment and it's time that we told it!

WITH THIS ISSUE:

- Ontario Animal Health Network - Quarterly Producer Report
- On-Farm Visitor and Inspector Safety Policy for Egg and Pullet Farms

** denotes to egg and pullet farmers only*

NOTICE: Mandatory Ammonia Levels and Monitoring

Just a reminder to all farmers to ensure that the ammonia level in the lay and grow-out facilities are monitored and maintained below 25 ppms.

At a minimum, levels are to be tested monthly from October to March.

However, at any time if the ammonia levels are higher than 20-25 ppms, corrective actions must be taken and recorded. Should this situation occur, the ammonia levels must be tested monthly regardless of the time of the year.

Exemption Rule:

1. If a farmer has an egg production or pullet rearing housing system where the manure is removed at a minimum of once a week, the farmer is not required to conduct ammonia tests.
 - However, should ammonia levels be detected above 20-25 ppm in the above systems, the exemption no longer applies and the above requirements will then apply.
2. Shallow pit conventional systems and aviaries with belt systems are not exempt from ammonia testing.
3. Pullets under 6 weeks of age, regardless of housing system, are also exempt from testing requirements.

2020 ZONE MEETINGS

For the election of Councillors, Delegates & Directors

Zone	Date	Location	Times
1	January 6	Royal Canadian Legion 493 Erie St, Wyoming	12:00 - Social 12:30 - Lunch 1:30 - Meeting
2	January 6	Caradoc Sands Golf Club 24500 Saxton Rd, Strathroy	5:30 - Social 6:30 - Dinner 7:00 - Meeting
3	January 13	Elmhurst Inn 415 Harris St., Ingersoll	5:30 - Social 6:00 - Dinner 7:00 - Meeting
4	January 15	Hernder Winery 1607 Eighth Ave Louth, St. Catharines	3:30 - Meeting 5:30 - Social 6:00 - Dinner
5	February 13	White Carnation Restaurant 79867 Parr Line, Holmesville	5:30 - Social 6:00 - Dinner 7:00 - Meeting
6	January 21	Quality Inn & Conference Centre 1144 Ontario St, Stratford	3:30 - Meeting 5:30 - Social 6:15 - Meal
7	January 14	Knox Presbyterian Church 220 Livingstone Ave N, Listowel	11:30 - Social 12:00 - Lunch 1:00 - Meeting
8	January 22	Golden Beach Resort 7100 County Road 18, Roseneath	3:00 - Meeting 5:00 - Social 5:30 - Dinner
9	February 3	Moose McGuire's (inside Aquarium) 6 Broad Street, Brockville	11:30 - Social 12:30 - Lunch 1:30 - Meeting
10	January 16	St Isidore Arena, St. Isidore 20 Arena St, St Isidore	3:00 - Meeting 5:00 - Social 6:00 - Dinner
Pullet	March 31	Fallsview Casino, Niagara Falls	TBD

2019 PRODUCTION STATISTICS

(in boxes of 15 dozen)

Ontario Production (week ending #44)

2019 - 15,554,479
2018 - 15,163,921

Ontario IP (week ending #44)

2019 - 3,352,462
2018 - 3,297,807

Ontario EFP (week ending #44)

2019 - 1,049,924
2018 - 1,000,301

US Shell Egg Imports to Ontario (week ending November 16, 2019 - #46)

2019 - 2,586,750
2018 - 2,652,114

REMINDER: Egg and pullet farmers must clear snow and ice from laneways and yards

Egg Farmers of Ontario (EFO) reminds all egg and pullet farmers of the requirements to keep your farm laneways and yards clear of snow and ice. This is a critical safety issue for grader drivers picking up your eggs, industry / EFO staff coming onto farms to perform required tasks and all potential farm visitors.

In addition to the safety issues, maintaining safe and easy access also reduces costs. Already there have been significant costs incurred to industry as a result of heavy tow equipment being required by egg trucks stuck in winter conditions on some Ontario egg farms.

Providing safe conditions for egg pickup is more than a courtesy - it is every farmer's obligation under the applicable sections of the *Ontario Occupational Health and Safety Act*. In addition, EFO's *On-Farm Visitor and Inspector Safety Policy for Egg and Pullet Farms* states "General areas around the home, barn yard and buildings need to be safe from trips, slips, falls and collisions (ice, snow, vehicle and farm equipment traffic)." A copy of the policy is attached for your reference.

ZONES CONTRIBUTE TO LOCAL INITIATIVES



The Stratford House of Blessing recently received a donation from Royal Bank of Canada (RBC) and Zone 6 egg farmers to provide fresh, local eggs to the food bank.

Egg farmers Gary West and Tonya Haverkamp took part in the cheque presentation to the food bank along with representatives from RBC and the Stratford House of Blessing.



EFO and Zone 7 are a proud sponsor of the University of Guelph IHSA Equestrian team, which currently has 14 riders in the group.

The team competes against other universities and several of the team's riders have qualified for regionals.

Recently Zone 7 Director Scott Brookshaw and egg farmer Anneke Stickney presented team members with funds to support this sponsorship.

REMINDER: Home Week Policy/30 Cent Assessment

All egg farmers are reminded that the *Home Week Policy* must be adhered to.

A *Home Week* is required for each farmer to enable the Board to effectively manage quality, supply and orderly marketing of eggs in Ontario and to work effectively with farmers, hatcheries, grading stations, transport companies and catchers to ensure a predictable and reliable supply of eggs to consumers and industry stakeholders.

EFO Board approval is required to change *Home Week* and / or to extend production beyond 52 weeks. In those cases where extended production has been Board approved, the farmer will be invoiced at the end of the flock 30 cents per leivable dozen, plus HST, marketed after week 52 as the cost of the pullet would have been fully recovered. Revenue will be used to offset the levy.

This applies to all farms, including research flocks, regardless of the reason why the flock period has been extended.

If you have any questions related to the *Home Week Policy*, please contact the Board office.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Through Egg Farmers of Ontario's (EFO's) sponsorship with the Ontario Minor Hockey Association (OMHA), egg and pullet farmers will be needed for medal presentations across the Province. Playdowns usually begin mid-March and EFO will work to have local farmers on-location at select events. If you are interested in presenting during championship games in your area, please contact Sarah Brien (sbrien@getcracking.ca).

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	Lorne Benedict	lbenedict@eastlink.ca	519-281-3321
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	Scott Brookshaw	sbrookshaw@sympatico.ca	519-671-7568
8	George Pilgrim	georgepilgrim@hotmail.com	905-376-6869
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 safe, high-quality eggs at a fair price and a return to egg and pullet farmers achieved through fair farm pricing, within a stable national supply management system.

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FARMER NOTICES

FOR SALE

One Sanovo Staalkat FP40 farm-packer, 80 cases per hour, all stainless steel. Brand new with full one-year warranty. Installed and delivered in Southwestern Ontario, \$30,000. If interested, please call Meller Poultry Equipment, 519-587-2667.

EFO POLICIES, PROGRAMS AND PROCEDURES ONLINE

Reminder: New policies and procedures will be updated and posted on EFO's farmer website at www.getcracking.ca/members/operations-quota as they come into effect.

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 office.

SAVE THE DATE!

EGG AMBASSADOR TRAINING,
MARCH 30TH.

DETAILS TO FOLLOW IN THE
NEW YEAR.

