

THE CACKLER

THE LATEST EFO NEWS



get cracking®
Egg Farmers of Ontario

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Sweet Potato Hash

ONE SIMPLE WAY TO ADD COLOUR TO JANUARY

Chase away the January blues with Egg Farmers of Ontario's (EFO's) latest recipe. The weather outside might be grey and dreary, but your breakfast plate doesn't need to be! Our easy-to-make *Sweet Potato Hash* is not only colourful enough to brighten any mood, it also only uses one sheet pan, so clean up is nothing to get down about. The sunny-side up eggs in the recipe don't hurt either!

For further inspiration, EFO created a fun how-to video to share on social media, including our YouTube page and on our website.

To get the recipe and video, please visit <https://www.getcracking.ca/recipes/sweet-potato-hash>.

IN THIS ISSUE

- Comments from the Coop, by Marc Bourdon, Zone 10 Director
- Award winning sponsorship
- EFO hiring Trailer Operators

UPCOMING CONTRIBUTIONS BY:

- | | |
|-----------|---------------------------------|
| February: | Andy DeWeerd
Pullet Director |
| March: | Scott Graham
EFO Chair |

UPCOMING BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETINGS:

- February 7 & 8
- March 5

REFLECTING ON AN EVENTFUL 2017

By Marc Bourdon, Zone 10 Director

January is always a natural time for reflection. The business planning process at Egg Farmers of Ontario (EFO) included an evaluation of 2017 and it brought to mind three highlights from a busy and successful year.

Around May 1st, EFO became aware of some farmers experiencing significant numbers of false layers. The problems related to certain strains of bronchitis present in Ontario the last few months of 2016.

Our sector was able to respond effectively to manage the outbreak, which caused subsequent health and productivity problems in about two dozen layer flocks.

EFO developed a program, using funds from its Bacteria Control Fund, to buy pullets to replace the most severely affected flocks quickly and provide compensation for affected flocks that achieved less than 90 per cent rate of lay at the end of their flock cycles.

Next, longer-term efforts and planning got underway. As a continuing response to the false layer issues, EFO is doing testing and data collection on some pullet flocks across Ontario.

This will position us to better understand what is happening with the bronchitis virus and some of its variant strains that some of our farmers have found in their flocks.

A positive highlight happened later in the year when Toronto was the site for Egg Farmers of Canada's (EFC's) 2017 summer meeting in early July. A diverse cross-section of Ontario egg

and pullet farmers came to participate in the collaboration and co-operation that makes our industry thrive.

It was Ontario's turn to be host province. We invited three farm families from each of EFO's 10 Zones, along with EFO's Board Directors, to attend and participate in the event. It was an open meeting with about one-third of the 300 people attending from Ontario.

A highlight was the first full day of the conference that featured an "Eggs and Athletes" line up of speakers, sponsored by Canadian egg sector stakeholders, in a wide variety of sports.

The second day of the conference was an open meeting of EFC's Board of Directors. This gave the farmers in attendance an up-close look at some of the ongoing business and current issues and the representatives from across Canada representing them in action.

I think the meeting gave farmers in attendance a renewed appreciation for the spirit of collaboration and co-operation that keeps our diverse sector evolving and positioned to thrive in the face of constantly changing technology and market realities.

The final issue I want to highlight is our *Consumer Choice Engagement Strategy* that made significant progress to proactively engage stakeholders and consumers to preserve their choice of eggs in the marketplace from the various approved hen housing systems.

The strong presence of the national graders in Ontario combined with the concentration of head office locations



of many national restaurant chains, retailer and institutional egg buyers made Ontario the epicentre of the search for marketing solutions desired by grocery retailers and foodservice operators to deal with public statements about their future egg purchasing plans.

During 2017, the effort garnered support from EFC, all provincial and territorial boards, national and regional graders, Canadian Poultry and Egg Processors Council (CPEPC) and other stakeholders.

One clear choice of name, Egg Quality Assurance (EQA), and the associated logo choice are now proceeding in the administrative development and overall approval process of an EFC working group set up to deal with the program.

I encourage all egg and pullet farmers to check out the 2018 Business Plan Overview on our getcracking.ca site, posted under the 2018 Zone Election Meeting Information on the Egg Farmers homepage and also to look at the 2018 Business Plan for EFO's plans for the upcoming year.

WITH THIS ISSUE

- PIC Eastern Producer Conference Registration*
- Euthanasia Training Sheet*
- Trailer Operator Job Posting*
- Summary of Revised Regulations for Unvented Heaters*

* Denotes to egg and pullet farmers only

WE WANT YOU!

OPERATORS NEEDED FOR 2018 FAIR SEASON



Egg Farmers of Ontario's mobile egg education trailers will be back on the road in Spring 2018 and we need *YOUR* help.

We are looking for dynamic, self-motivated and knowledgeable trailer operators for the 2018 fair and event

season, March through to October.

This position involves mainly weekend work, with some time required during weekdays for educational events. Applicants must have a valid drivers' license and also have access to a truck with a ball hitch.

If you, or someone you know, is interested in applying for this position, please see attached insert for more information including criteria, responsibilities and contact information.

EGG FARMERS FUELING WORLD CLASS ATHLETES...ONE EGG AT A TIME



Above: Front and inside of signed Christmas card, sent to EFO Chair Scott Graham, with a thank-you from Team Homan.

As the official breakfast of the *Ford World Women's and Scotties Tournament of Hearts* Curling Champions, Team Homan, EFO is proud to support them on their journey to the Olympics.

The team will be representing Canada at the games in PyeongChang, South Korea.

The games begin February 9 and run until February 25. We wish Team Homan all the best in pursuit of their goals.

To learn more about our partnership and the team, visit <https://www.getcracking.ca/article/efo-announces-partnership-canadian-womens-curling-champions>.

2017 PRODUCTION STATISTICS

(in boxes of 15 dozen)

Ontario Production (week ending #44)

2017 – 14,937,556

2016 – 14,023,632

Ontario IP

(week ending #44)

2017 – 3,722,616

2016 – 3,239,209

Ontario EFP

(week ending #44)

2017 – 1,005,009

2016 – 1,004,888

US Shell Egg Imports to Ontario (week ending December 9, 2017, #49)

2017 – 1,299,166

2016 – 1,799,046

Condolences

Egg Farmers of Ontario would like to extend our deepest sympathies to the family of Zone 5 egg farmer Laurence Vanden Heuvel. Laurence passed away January 7 with his family at his side, following a snowmobile accident. He is survived by his wife Helen, children and grandchildren. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family during this very difficult time.

CONGRATULATIONS



Above: Grant Crack, MPP for Glengarry-Prescott-Russell presents Kevin and Marcel Laviolette with their Regional Award.

Ferme Avicole Laviolette Ltee (Zone 10) and the Laviolette Family on winning a 2017 *Agri-Food Innovation Excellence* Regional Award for their state-of-the-art egg production facility.

For more information, please visit http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/premier_award/2017/events/b/fall.htm.

AN EGGS-CELLENT START TO THE DAY



Zone 9 egg farmer Stephanie Nanne was featured on CTV *Morning Live* (Ottawa) where she showed

the morning host how to make a family friendly egg recipe – the *Pizza Frittata*.

Stephanie also answered egg questions including where to buy fresh, Ontario eggs. To watch the segment, visit <http://bit.ly/2B6Y4MJ>.

FOLLOW US ONLINE



EGGS IN THE NEWS

Hard-boiled egg project is gaining widespread interest

Ontario Farmer
January 2
by Bob Reid

It started with two schools and one egg producer, but it is estimated that 60 schools in Waterloo County are receiving eggs, with over 100 schools in total across Waterloo, Huron, Perth and Oxford counties now participating.

Two years ago Gary West approached two elementary schools in Perth County, where his own children had once attended, offering to provide students with boiled, peeled and packaged hard-boiled eggs as a nutritious snack food alternative.

Sprucedale Public School in Shakespeare and nearby North Easthope Public School took West up on his offer and so it began. A number of participants then had to be brought together to work cooperatively in turning inspiration into reality.

The two large egg-grading

companies in the province - Burnbrae Farms in Mississauga and Grey Ridge Egg Farms in Listowel - have the equipment to prepare and package the hard-boiled eggs in a sealed plastic container.

With the help of many volunteers the eggs are often sliced and combined with other foods - cucumber slices on crackers etc. - in imaginative ways, adding to their snack food appeal.

West estimated 60 schools in Waterloo County are receiving eggs with over 100 schools in total across Waterloo, Huron, Perth and Oxford counties now participating.

"I want to make sure no one is left out," said West of the opportunity for schools to provide students with protein in the form of hard boiled eggs.

FARMER NOTICES

REMINDER: EUTHANASIA TRAINING

If you, or an employee on your farm has not completed the mandatory euthanasia training, the course is still available online. Farmers and employees still requiring this training should contact Albert Visser via email at avisser@getcracking.ca to register for the online course. See attached insert for more information.

WEBSITE UPDATES DELIVERED STRAIGHT TO YOUR INBOX

A feature of the farmer website, www.getcracking.ca/members, offers a Rich Site Summary (RSS).

This is a format for delivering regularly changing web content.

Egg and pullet farmers who subscribe to this feed will receive any updates to the website via their email.

Please visit <https://www.getcracking.ca/members> to sign up.

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 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 office.

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	gizmo53.dm@gmail.com	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	Scott Brookshaw	sbrookshaw@sympatico.ca	519-671-7568
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 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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