

# THE CACKLER

THE LATEST EFO NEWS



get cracking®  
Egg Farmers of Ontario

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## SEVEN DIFFERENT WAYS TO SPICE UP YOUR MORNING

Egg Farmers of Ontario (EFO) has joined with TABASCO® to challenge Canadians to spice up their eggs!

From July 13th to August 31st, the TABASCO® Hot Summer Crew will be in Toronto, Montreal and Vancouver to pick up the tabs of lucky brunch diners who post a photo of their meal with a bottle of TABASCO® to Facebook or Instagram using the hashtags #myTABascoTO, #myTABascoMtl or #myTABascoVC.

Not in any of those cities? No worries, brunch goes across the rest of Canada can still participate by using #myTABasco for a chance to get their tab picked up “digitally.”

In September, TABASCO® and EFO will host a contest in

grocery stores to encourage shoppers to enjoy the seven flavours of the sauce to spice up their morning eggs. To enter the contest, starting in September, shoppers who purchase a dozen eggs and a bottle of TABASCO® sauce can submit their receipts online for a chance to win \$5,000 in groceries.

You don't have to wait for the contest to start to enjoy eggs and TABASCO® sauce. Pick up one of their seven different flavours next time you visit the grocery store and try them with your favourite egg recipe: Original Pepper Sauce, Buffalo Style Hot Sauce, Garlic Pepper Sauce, Green Pepper Sauce, Chipotle Pepper Sauce, Habanero Pepper Sauce and Sweet & Spice Pepper Sauce.

### IN THIS ISSUE

- Comments from the Coop, Lorne Benedict, Zone 2 Director
- EFO Celebrates Local Food Week
- Try EFO's latest recipe

### UPCOMING CONTRIBUTIONS BY:

July:  
Dan Veldman, Zone 3 Director  
August:  
Roger Pelissero, Zone 4 Director

### UPCOMING BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETINGS:

July 3 & 4  
July 31 & August 1

## COMMENTS FROM THE COOP

# WE ALL SHARE THE ROAD ON EGG FARMERS' JOURNEYS

By Lorne Benedict, Zone 2 Director

There is an old saying that if you do not know where you have come from, it is hard to know where you are going. This came to mind as a new Egg Farmers of Ontario (EFO) Board Member, knowing I must think about coming from dealing with the day-to-day challenges on our own farm and going to helping to deal with egg farming issues at the provincial level.

At the end of my first three months serving on EFO's board, I look back and can say that it has been a busy and enjoyable beginning to this journey.

In terms of literally where we come from, my wife Tracy and I live with our four daughters on our 2nd generation egg farm located just north of Kerwood in EFO's Zone 2. We are proud to be Ontario egg farmers and enjoy the many benefits of being part of a regulated sector.

I have always been somewhat of a history buff and this extends to the egg sector as well. I enjoy reflecting on the history of egg farming and realizing how it has evolved. I wanted to know where the sector has come from by learning about its history.

In terms of where we are going, I find it exciting to have the privilege of taking an active role in how the sector continues to change to meet

consumer demands. To be part of a group that represents what I believe is a leading industry in Canadian agriculture is a privilege. As our daughters are becoming older now and expressing a keen interest in our farming operation, the timing was right at home for me to begin to broaden my horizons and take on this new opportunity.

I have always marveled at how a product as simple as the basic egg can have such a complex infrastructure to support getting it from the farm to the grocery store shelf. By becoming a Director, I am able to understand and support the many facets of the egg business.

I have already become more aware that EFO does not operate as an isolated entity within the province of Ontario, but as one player within a much larger Canadian system. We work as members within the structure of Egg Farmers of Canada which in turn is supervised by the Farm Products Council of Canada.

Filling our markets will continue to be something that we will be working hard to do. Consumers rely on a safe, affordable, nutritious Canadian product. It is challenging to work with an entire country with such vast regional differences, but in Ontario we are committed to fully utilizing our allotted



production quota. As farmers we must be receptive to change and flexible enough to rise to the challenges as they present themselves.

EFO has a multitude of resources available to farmers. The information is there. As farmers we need to take the time to seek it out. Make it a priority to stay current with what is happening not only in your own barns but the world beyond. Read your emails, attend the workshop in November, come to the annual meeting in March, meet other farmers and give your input. Step out of your comfort zone - get involved – have a say. I'm sure glad I have the opportunity.

## WITH THIS ISSUE

- On-Farm Visitor and Inspector Safety Policy for Egg and Pullet Farms
- Report - Stress, anxiety, depression and resilience in Canadian farmers

• denotes to egg and pullet farmers only

Finally a soufflé....



that's berry simple to make!

For many people, even the mention of a soufflé makes them run from the kitchen in terror. We know they can be intimidating, but they don't have to be!

Enter Egg Farmers of Ontario's June recipe of the month – *Strawberry Soufflé*. This light and elegant dessert isn't as hard to make as you may think.

Even better, Ontario strawberries are at their peak in June and July, so it's the perfect time to give it a try.

Find the recipe and the video on how to make it at: <https://www.getcracking.ca/recipes/strawberry-souffle>.

## EGG QUALITY ASSURANCE



The *Egg Quality Assurance* (EQA) program was launched February 1, but what exactly does that mean? As the plan has been rolling out over the past few months, here is a quick summary of the program:

### What is EQA?

Egg Quality Assurance is a

Canadian-made, national program that certifies eggs are produced according to strict food safety and animal welfare standards. The two critical elements of EQA are Egg Farmers of Canada's (EFC's) *Start Clean-Stay Clean™* and *Animal Care* programs.

### Who does EQA involve?

This program involves the entire Canadian egg industry – all the way from egg farmers and graders, to processors, retailers and foodservice operators.

### Why EQA?

The EQA mark is a symbol of high-quality eggs and since all Canadian eggs meet EQA requirements, it contributes to consumer trust in eggs. When consumers see the EQA symbol on the carton or in restaurants, it is reassurance that Canadian egg farmers always meet the highest quality standards for food safety and animal care.

Have more questions? Visit [www.eggquality.ca](http://www.eggquality.ca) to find out more about the EQA program.

## 2019 PRODUCTION STATISTICS

(in boxes of 15 dozen)

### Ontario Production (week ending #16)

2019 – 5,671,936  
2018 – 5,489,858

### Ontario IP (week ending #16)

2019 – 1,192,836  
2018 – 1,183,012

### Ontario EFP (week ending #16)

2019 – 357,660  
2018 – 364,800

### US Shell Egg Imports to Ontario (week ending May 18, 2019 - #20)

2019 – 1,109,921  
2018 – 940,066



## HAPPY CANADA DAY!

Egg Farmers of Ontario's (EFO's) office will be closed on Monday, July 1 to enjoy Canada Day.

In case of emergency, please contact EFO General Manager Harry Pelissero on his cell phone at 289-237-5554.

## EFO JOINS IN LOCAL FOOD WEEK CELEBRATIONS



Above: Poster created to advertise the event.

Egg Farmers of Ontario (EFO) joined Farm & Food Care June 5 at Catalyst 137 in Kitchener to celebrate *Local Food Week* during the *Farmers & Food Trucks* event.

Despite a wet and dreary day, many came out to enjoy lunch made with locally sourced ingredients prepared by food trucks. Participants could meet Ontario farmers and visit displays set up by EFO, Grain Farmers of Ontario and the Ontario Federation of Agriculture. Representatives from Turkey Farmers of Ontario, Beef Farmers of Ontario and Ontario Greenhouse Vegetable Growers were also in attendance at the event.

Attendees were encouraged to post photos online and tag #loveONTfood.

# VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!



Above:  
EFO's large trailer ready for visitors at the 2018 CNE.

Egg Farmers of Ontario (EFO) is looking for active egg or pullet farmers to help with the Canadian National Exhibition (CNE).

The CNE is open from August 16 to September 2 and EFO has two shifts operating per day. The morning shift runs from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and the afternoon shift is 4 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Both past volunteers and new ones are encouraged to help and to invite fellow farmers to join. The knowledge and experience of our farmers are invaluable at such events!

If you are an active egg or pullet farmer who is interested in volunteering, please contact Sarah Brien at [sbrien@getcracking.ca](mailto:sbrien@getcracking.ca).

# FARMER NOTICES

## REMINDER: ON-FARM VISITOR AND INSPECTOR SAFETY

Egg and Pullet farmers are reminded to frequently review and follow EFO's On Farm Visitor and Inspector Safety Policy for Egg and Pullet Farms (dated April 1, 2015).

A copy of this policy is included as an insert with this edition of *The Cackler*.

## REMINDER: BUY & SELL

Looking for used equipment or parts or have good items that you don't need but others might?

Don't forget, *The Cackler* is available to all egg and pullet farmers to post buy and sell ads.

To place an ad, please send details to Pam Passerino by email at [ppasserino@getcracking.ca](mailto:ppasserino@getcracking.ca).

## SRED CLAIM 2018

Ontario egg farmers will be receiving a letter for your Scientific Research and Experimental Development expenditures (SRED) relating to 2018.

Please follow the instructions provided in the letter. Note, the SRED for 2018 needs to be filed with your 2018 tax return before the end of June 2019.

Should you have any questions on how to claim this credit, please speak to your accountant/tax specialist.

## 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](http://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	<a href="mailto:shelps@ymail.com">shelps@ymail.com</a>	519-464-2744
2	Lorne Benedict	<a href="mailto:lbenedict@eastlink.ca">lbenedict@eastlink.ca</a>	519-281-3321
3	Dan Veldman	<a href="mailto:dveldd@gmail.com">dveldd@gmail.com</a>	519-801-5216
4	Roger Pelissero	<a href="mailto:rpelisseroeggs@gmail.com">rpelisseroeggs@gmail.com</a>	905-984-0279
5	Brian Miller	<a href="mailto:bwmiller@quadro.net">bwmiller@quadro.net</a>	519-235-1126
6	Scott Graham	<a href="mailto:scottgraham06@gmail.com">scottgraham06@gmail.com</a>	519-284-1300
7	Scott Brookshaw	<a href="mailto:sbrookshaw@sympatico.ca">sbrookshaw@sympatico.ca</a>	519-671-7568
8	George Pilgrim	<a href="mailto:georgepilgrim@hotmail.com">georgepilgrim@hotmail.com</a>	905-376-6869
9	Craig Hunter	<a href="mailto:chunter@burnbraefarms.com">chunter@burnbraefarms.com</a>	613-341-2006
10	Marc Bourdon	<a href="mailto:marc@bourdon.ca">marc@bourdon.ca</a>	613-551-5071
Pullet	Andy DeWeerd	<a href="mailto:abdeweerd@hsfx.ca">abdeweerd@hsfx.ca</a>	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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