

# THE CACKLER

THE LATEST EFO NEWS



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Egg Farmers of Ontario

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## EGGS-CEPTIONAL OMELETTES AT QUEEN'S PARK



Egg farmers of Ontario (EFO) held their 19th annual Member of Provincial Parliament (MPP) Omelette Breakfast September 27, in the Legislative Dining Room at Queen's Park.

More than 40 MPPs joined the breakfast, along with legislative staff members. Attendees were served delicious omelettes freshly made by EFO Board Directors.

The Honourable Jeff Leal, Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs joined the breakfast and provided greetings to guests.

Premier Kathleen Wynne also stopped by to start her day with a delicious omelette.

*Left to right: EFO Chair Scott Graham, Premier Wynne and Minister Leal; Zone 8 Director Hubert Schillings with Lorne Coe, MPP Whitby-Oshawa; John Vanthof, MPP Timiskaming-Cochrane; and EFO Board Directors Brian Miller, Scott Brookshaw, Dan Veldman, Scott Graham, Scott Helps, Hubert Schillings, Marc Bourdon, with Leah Schillings, Josie MacHattie (both Zone 8), Megan Veldman (Zone 3), and Dianne McComb.*

### IN THIS ISSUE

- Comments from the Coop, Scott Brookshaw, Zone 7 Director
- FBCC Update
- EFO launches new food bank contest

### UPCOMING CONTRIBUTIONS BY:

- November: Hubert Schillings  
Zone 8 Director
- December: Craig Hunter  
Zone 9 Director

### UPCOMING BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETINGS:

- November 1 & 2
- December 6 & 7

# COMMENTS FROM THE COOP

## GATHERING INFORMATION TO PROTECT ALL OUR BIRDS

By Scott Brookshaw, Zone 7 Director

Facing any business challenge or emergency, first you deal with the immediate problem, then focus efforts to make sure you are in the best position to remove, reduce or manage the problem in the future.

That is the position Ontario's egg and pullet sector is in as Egg Farmers of Ontario (EFO) embarks on a bronchitis testing and information-gathering process after dealing with the outbreak earlier this year.

Our sector was able to respond effectively to manage the outbreak, which caused subsequent health and productivity problems in about two dozen layer flocks placed in the first several months of 2017.

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.

Egg Farmers of Ontario (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 may achieve less than 90 per cent rate of lay at the end of their current flock

cycles.

Now, the longer-term efforts and planning are underway. As a continuing response to the false layer issues caused by variant bronchitis challenges, EFO will begin doing some testing and data collection on some pullet flocks across Ontario beginning in the coming weeks.

Our purpose is to gather some data and test results 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, and particularly in pullet flocks.

The bronchitis response team at EFO has been working with industry, veterinarians, and the Animal Health Lab to come up with the most effective approach to investigate the bronchitis virus and how the age of the pullet when exposed to the virus relates to the impact on laying ability.

Testing and information gathering will be done at randomly-selected pullet farms in each zone across Ontario beginning in the coming weeks and will continue over the next 12 months. Testing which will involve taking swabs from a selected number of birds at three different intervals during the growing period of pullets. Testing will be done at approximately two weeks of age, eight weeks, and later in the flock.

We don't want added boots in barns, so the testing will be done by trained



and approved personnel and will be industry staff, trained farm owners, or employees, who would typically already be on farms to do service work, so there would not be any extra farm visits, or the test could be done by a veterinarian. Results from these tests would go to EFO and the bronchitis response team and information would be held in confidence with no specific producer information being shared.

If you are one of the pullet farmers that are selected, EFO would appreciate if you will allow these tests and data collection to take place on your farm. Communication with those farms selected will be made by the industry reps that will be doing the testing.

All Ontario egg and pullet farmers will benefit from the information learned through this testing and indeed, there are now reports of false layers in other provinces as well, so we can look at that information as well and the collective effort will benefit farmers across Canada.

## FBCC UPDATE

The Feather Board Command Centre (FBCC) has recently updated its website for easier access, improved resource library and to offer users the ability to sign up for automated emails to ensure timely information.

A workshop was held on September 26 and included industry, Canadian Food Inspection Agency and Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs representatives. The goal of the workshop was to review permitting and movements to ensure business continuity during an Avian Influenza outbreak. This was held as part of the Agri-Risk Project entitled *Sustaining the Poultry Industry in the Face of Infection*.

A simulation is scheduled for October 19 and will include select poultry industry representatives, industry stakeholders and government

representatives. This table top simulation is to test the movement permitting process and recovery measures within the context of business continuity.

For more information, please visit the FBCC website at <http://www.fbcc.ca/>.

## EGGS-CELLENT MEALS, FROM FARM TO BEDSIDE

Egg Farmers of Ontario is proud to be a part of a new local food initiative with the Halton Healthcare Services through their *Good for You, Locally Grown* program. To help promote all the greatness that local food offers, the hospital offers several dishes that feature fresh Ontario eggs, including egg sandwiches and omelettes, on patient menus.

Phase two of the initiative will be launched thanks to a \$51,000 grant from the Greenbelt Fund, through the Government of Ontario's Local Food Investment Fund. This not only allows patients local, healthy foods while they heal, it also helps patients identify local food choices so they can make the transition to the same foods at home.

## WITH THIS ISSUE

- 2017 Workshop Brochure
- AI Fall Migration Notice
- Trichomonas Gallinae Notice

## EFO'S LATEST CONTEST ROCKS!



**E**gg Farmers of Ontario (EFO) has partnered with *Rocks & Rings* and the 2017 Canadian World Women's Curling Champions Team Homan to launch a new contest October 12 at W.E. Gowling Public School in Ottawa during their *Rocks & Rings* event.

Team Homan members Lisa Weagle (lead) and Emma Miskew (third) were also on-hand to help get the contest,

## 2017 PRODUCTION STATISTICS

(in boxes of 15 dozen)

**Ontario Production (week ending #32)**  
2017 – 10,870,096  
2016 – 10,087,793

**Ontario IP (week ending #32)**  
2017 – 2,741,692  
2016 – 2,285,016

**Ontario EFP (week ending #32)**  
2017 – 729,599  
2016 – 730,128

**US Shell Egg Imports to Ontario (week ending September 16, 2017, #37)**  
2017 – 765,650  
2016 – 1,387,120

and the tournament, underway.

To enter, participants must either like EFO's Facebook page and share the contest image or follow us on Twitter and retweet the contest image to win a prize pack that includes a weekend pass to *Roar of the Rings*, eggs for one year, a *Rocks & Rings* session with a take-home floor curl set and an autographed Team Homan photo.

The contest runs October 12 to 31. For more details, please visit <https://www.getcracking.ca/article/make-your-world-egg-month-rock>.

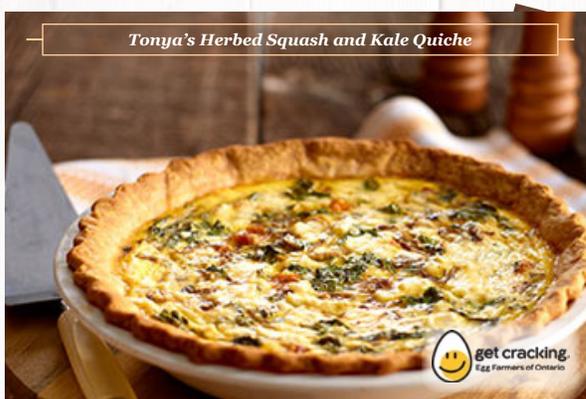
EFO would like to extend our deepest sympathies to the Hoftzyer and Krall families.

Bernice Hoftzyer (Zone 5) passed away on October 13. She was predeceased by her husband Gerard, and is survived by her four children.

Donna Krall, mother of Zone 1 egg farmer Doug Krall, passed away on September 28.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to both families during this very difficult time.

## UNLEASH THE QUICHE! EFO INTRODUCES NEW SPICE CARD



Egg Farmers of Ontario has just released the latest in our spice card collection – *Tonya's Herbed Squash and Kale Quiche*. This delicious combination of herbs with sweet squash and caramelized onions will impress even the pickiest of eaters.

63,000 cards were produced, including executions for eight other provincial egg boards.

Cards are packaged in boxes of 500. If you would like to order cards for an upcoming event, please contact Stephanie at [ssabo@getcracking.ca](mailto:ssabo@getcracking.ca).



## NEW ENTRANT SUPPORT TEAM GIVES NEW EGG FARMERS A HELPING HAND

New entrants are vital to maintaining a vibrant and healthy sector and encouraging new egg and pullet farmers in the current positive business and policy environment is the purpose of Egg Farmers of Ontario's (EFO's) *New Entrant Support Team* (NEST) approach.

There has been a significant increase in new egg and pullet farmers in Ontario recently as a result of a combination of positive factors for the sector. NEST is designed to support and continue that trend.

Information about NEST has been put together on EFO's website with

links and contact information to help orient new entrants with a solid base of information about egg and pullet farming with an overview of the sector, the policy background and outlining the roles, responsibilities and contact information for stakeholders in the sector.

The idea behind NEST is that individuals and businesses are in a stronger position to succeed when they have a strong network of people or a strong support team in place. For more information on NEST, please visit <https://www.getcracking.ca/members/new-entrant-support-team>.

## EFO POLICIES, PROGRAMS AND PROCEDURES ONLINE

Reminder: New policies & 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.

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Our egg education trailer will be at the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair (RAWF) this November and we need farmer volunteers to "tell their story."

The RAWF runs November 3-12 and EFO operates two shifts per day; 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. and 3 a.m. - 9 p.m. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Morgan Baker at [mbaker@getcracking.ca](mailto:mbaker@getcracking.ca).

For more information on the RAWF, please visit <http://www.royalfair.org/>.

## 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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# FARMER NOTICES

## 2017 EGG AND PULLET FARMERS' WORKSHOP

Plans are underway for the 2017 Egg & Pullet Farmers' Workshop. It will be held on November 29 & 30 at the Toronto Airport Marriott Hotel. Invitations and information regarding the workshop have recently been sent. If you have any questions, please call EFO's office.

## EGG CLASSIFIEDS

### RARE OPPORTUNITY NEAR LISTOWEL

100 acre layer farm with 11,389 bird quota, 85 acres workable, tilled at 20-25 ft. Shop heated with propane or wood boiler, standby generator, 3 phase hydro.

House 3,700 square feet, built in 2000.

Geothermal heating with Central Air and Air-tight wood stove in finished basement.

Email [lmshantz80@gmail.com](mailto:lmshantz80@gmail.com), 519-291-2648 or cell 519-291-7706.

## FOR SALE:

Yamasa 100cs per hr egg grader, 9 yrs old, all stainless steel construction, includes Modern Matic egg washer, pre-accumulator for inline use, egg loader, 4 automatic packers with Denesters. Domino A200+ inkjet system (for egg coding). Runs perfect; we are upsizing. Available early 2018. Please contact Marcel at 613-806-2847 for viewing or any questions. Can be seen in operation on appointment. Call for pricing.