



# Cackler

The Latest EFO News

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get cracking®  
Egg Farmers of Ontario

April 2023



Above (left): Julie Wynette (Zone 6) joins the host of CTV News Kitchener to share Easter recipes; and (right) one of the beautifully decorated trees submitted for the #EasterTreeContest.

## Easter Celebrations

'Tis the season...  
that brings  
another opportunity to  
celebrate eggs!

### EFO SPREADS EASTER FUN!

Egg Farmers of Ontario (EFO) was happy to share in the fun this Easter by bringing back the popular #EasterTreeContest. This *eggs-citing* event invites egg-decorating enthusiasts to create an egg tree for a chance to win one of five EFO prize packages.

The contest began on March 17 and ran until April 10. Entries will be judged in one of three categories; indoor, outdoor or community tree. A total of 101 entries were received and our panel of egg farming judges - Megan Veldman, Sally Van Straaten and Kevin Laviolette - are currently compiling the results.

In addition to the contest, EFO collaborated with education and food influencers. Content featured delicious new recipes, such as the [Heirloom Tomato and Pearl Ontario Quiche](#) created by @zimmysnook and delicious [Italian Easter Cookies](#) from @modestmarce. A total of 26,497 impressions were achieved as a result of the collaborations.

Easy Easter entertaining recipe ideas were promoted on television with egg farmer Stephanie Nanne (Zone 9) on CTV *Morning Live* (Ottawa) and *Global News Morning Kingston*, and Julie Wynette (Zone 3) was featured on CTV News Kitchener. Both shared EFO's [Mediterranean Sheet Pan Omelette](#) and [Coconut Lime Cupcakes](#).

### IN THIS ISSUE

Industry Updates: FCC,  
OABA, OFA, PIC

Sponsorship Update:  
The Grove Wellness Hubs

Recipe of the Month:  
[Coconut Lime Cupcakes](#)

Outreach Update:  
OMHA Championships

#### UPCOMING BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETINGS:

- May 4 & 5
- June 7

#### WITH THIS ISSUE:

- EFC Net Zero Commitment News Release

# INDUSTRY updates

## Farm Credit Canada (FCC)

In updates from FCC, the most recent [FCC Farmland Values Report](#) was shared. This is an annual review of land value trends across Canada by region.

To get the most out of the report, watch the [webinar](#) that reviews the key findings.

Are you looking for guidance and support on transitioning your farm to the next generation? Get expert advice by watching [Helping the next generation lead transition](#).

Other helpful articles include:

[How rising asset values change farm transfer discussions](#)

[Debt load details to know](#)

[Balancing tax rules with corporate farm structure](#)

Want to view upcoming FCC events? Click [here](#).

## Ontario Agri Business Association (OABA)

A number of updates from OABA were shared in their weekly e-news, including that they will be again offering their Health & Safety Network. This program provides the information and tools through networking to work towards the goal of eliminating workplace injuries and accidents. Find more information or register [here](#).

They also issued a reminder that if you are contacted by media regarding avian influenza, they should be directed to contact the Feather Board Command Centre Information Unit by contacting Kathryn Goodish (Kathryn.goodish@ontariochicken.ca) or Donna Lange (dlange@getcracking.ca).

For more information from OABA, including membership information and upcoming events, visit [oaba.on.ca/index.php](#).

## Ontario Federation of Agriculture (OFA)

OFA wants to remind everyone to keep safety top of mind as the planting season approaches. Read the full article [here](#).

In an article on OFA's Viewpoint, OFA Director-at-Large Sara Wood shared her experience as an aspiring farm leader at Queens Park. Read the full article [here](#).

OFA also invited people to "kick-start" the local food season during Easter. Click [here](#) to read the full release.

Did you miss the recent webinar on the Underused Housing Tax? Click [here](#) to watch it.

For more interesting content from OFA, including upcoming events, articles and news, visit [ofa.on.ca/newsroom/](#).

## Poultry Industry Council (PIC)

PIC would like to remind everyone of the upcoming Research Impacts Day on May 17, 2023 in Elora. This is a hybrid event that highlights leading research and how it benefits the poultry sector. For more information or to register, visit <https://www.poultryindustrycouncil.ca/education/research-impacts>.

Wednesday, June 28 is Poultry Health Day! This session in Stratford will feature speakers that discuss the aspects of maintaining a healthy flock and much more! Click [here](#) to access details or to register.

PIC has compiled helpful information and resources on biosecurity and disease, including avian influenza. To access the resources, click [here](#).

Don't forget to save the date for PIC's annual golf tournament on September 6, 2023. More information will be provided as it becomes available.

## BOARD OFFICERS, COMMITTEES & REPRESENTATIVES

April 1, 2023 - March 31, 2024

### Chair

\*Scott Helps

### Vice Chair

Dan Veldman

### Egg Farmers of Canada Representative

Scott Brookshaw

### Egg Farmers of Canada Alternate

George Pilgrim

### Executive Committee

Scott Helps, Dan Veldman, Scott Brookshaw, Marcel Jr. Laviolette

### Audit Committee

Scott Helps, Brian Miller, Dan Veldman

### Egg Industry Advisory Committee

Scott Helps, Dan Veldman, Scott Brookshaw, Marcel Jr. Laviolette, Alvin Brunsveld

### Finance Committee

Scott Helps, Marcel Jr. Laviolette, Ian McFall, George Pilgrim, Sally Van Straaten

### Production Management Committee

Scott Helps, Scott Brookshaw, Marcel Jr. Laviolette, George Pilgrim, Sally Van Straaten, Dan Veldman

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### Farm & Food Care Ontario Representatives

Janelle Cardiff, Sally Van Straaten, Alvin Brunsveld (alternate)

### Ontario Federation of Agriculture Representative

Sally Van Straaten

### Poultry Industry Council Representative

Sally Van Straaten

### Pullet Growers of Canada Representative

Alvin Brunsveld

### Pullet Growers of Canada Alternate

Marcel Jr. Laviolette

### Treasurer

Ryan Brown

### Secretary

Jennifer Correa

*\*EFO's Chair serves as an ex officio member on all EFO committees*



by The Grove Staff

The Grove Wellington Guelph (The Grove) is a “one-stop-shop” for youth aged 12-26 designed to meet a wide range of needs including mental health, substance use, primary care, education, employment, training, housing and other community and social services. The Grove’s doors are open to youth whether they are looking for well-being services or if they are simply looking for a safe place to hang out.



At The Grove, we are incredibly thankful to Egg Farmers of Ontario for the partnership and generous support. Egg Farmers of Ontario are instrumental leaders in providing important wellness services for youth, including the construction of fully equipped kitchen spaces across The Grove’s sites. It is through this support that local youth have a safe and comfortable space to go, have a nutritious snack, connect with friends and relax.

Support from Egg Farmers of Ontario is providing hands-on wellness services and resources for youth, including engaging recreational activities like cooking lessons, where young people have the opportunity to learn and develop new skills in the kitchen facilities. The generous donation provided by the Egg Farmers of Ontario has given local youth the opportunity to enjoy nutritious food, including real eggs packed with protein, so they can feel safe and at home in a space dedicated to youth wellness, fun and growth.

The Grove Wellington Guelph seeks to provide an integrated network of valuable resources and services for youth to meaningfully participate in their own mental health and wellness journey. It is through the generous support and donation of organizations like Egg Farmers of Ontario that this becomes possible.

Above: Photos from The Grove Wellington Guelph kitchens and a recent cooking event where youth learned to make quiche!



Please be advised Egg Farmers of Ontario’s **59th Annual Meeting** will be held on **Thursday, March 7 and Friday, March 8, 2024** at the Niagara Fallsview Casino Resort.



# Holiday

## NOTICE

EFO will be closed on Monday,

May 22 to enjoy Victoria Day.

In case of emergency, please contact

Ryan Trim, Director of Operations

at 905-464-6590 or Ryan Brown,

Chief Executive Officer at

289-834-4582.



## POLICIES AND PROCEDURES NOTICE

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.

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 to ensure you have the most recent information.

## PRODUCTION STATISTICS

(in boxes of 15 dozen)

### Ontario Production (week ending #8)

2023 – 3,016,896

2022 – 3,242,087

### Ontario IP (week ending #8)

2023 – 454,139

2022 – 824,140

### Ontario EFP (week ending #8)

2023 – 206,936

2022 – 0

### US Shell Egg Imports to Ontario (week ending March 25, 2023 - #12)

2023 – 420,876

2022 – 223,600

follow us online!



# BIOSECURITY UPDATE



## ADDRESSING IMPORTANT RISK FACTORS

Most of us understand the basics of keeping highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) out of the barn, but there are other easily managed factors that are often not considered.

### 1. WILD BIRDS, WILDLIFE AND RODENTS

- Wild birds, wildlife and other pests are a huge risk of introducing HPAI to your flock. Even with regular biosecurity controls in place, it's important to take a look at the property surrounding your barn and identify what could be attracting birds and animals. Mossy growth on the roof of outbuildings and sheds could be putting you at risk, and keeping them free of growth will make them less attractive to birds and critters.
- Consider using wild bird deterrents in key areas to decrease the risk of tracking disease on equipment and boots.
- Ponds on the farm property are another area of risk as they appeal to migratory birds.

### 2. PEOPLE

Not only should you be looking at the surrounding area outside of buildings and sheds, but also consider what may be happening inside your buildings with the potential to spread disease. This can include:

- Ensuring there is proper pest control inside of sheds and outbuildings.
- Are you practicing biosecurity at the entry point to all farm buildings so you aren't spreading disease from one area to another? Proper cleaning of entry ways is important. When cleaning, start in restricted areas out to "dirty areas." Also be sure to disinfect all entry ways (suggest end of the day so that the proper contact time is achieved overnight).
- Making sure you have dedicated clothing for each production unit if you have multiple complexes.
- Are all family and/or farm employees following the same strict biosecurity procedures? Make sure everyone accessing the barn and property on a daily basis is trained on the biosecurity practices on the farm and that they understand the importance of following them at all times.
- Consider who is in charge of ensuring biosecurity is followed when you aren't there. Sometimes an absence isn't planned, as in the case of illness, so it's important to make sure procedures are still maintained.
- Control the visitors to your farm and limit to essential services only.



### 3. BUILDING MAINTENANCE

Although regular building maintenance is a large aspect of good farm management, sometimes unexpected events can make you more susceptible to the spread of disease. Damage to buildings caused by storms or floods should be repaired as quickly as possible. Not only can water coming into your barn create costly damage, it can also make an easy entry point for disease. Maintaining netting on ventilation systems can also provide an extra barrier to disease making it into the barn.

### 4. EQUIPMENT

Not only can disease be introduced via the feet of people, animals and rodents, it can make its way in via equipment. Limit access of introducing disease via shared equipment. This can be done by:

- Disinfecting items such as buckets, containers, and wheelbarrows.
- Making sure any construction debris from repairs is disposed of quickly and is not stored close to barns.
- Clean and disinfect any equipment that enters and leaves the barn.
- Regularly clean and disinfect the outside of vehicles including tractors, forklifts, pump trolleys, etc. upon entry or exit.

Reducing the risk of HPAI is always the goal. Following strict on-farm biosecurity protocols combined with these additional barriers will help towards the prevention of disease.

## FARMER UPDATES

### For Sale

Staalkat packer for sale, 40 case,  
2007 type FP102.  
Asking \$28,500

Call Markus: 613-229-8336

### 1000-1200 ft of Chain Feeder Trough

- Good used condition
- Only used for approximately 3 years
- Comes with couplers
- \$3,000

### 13-Ton Feed Bin

- Excellent used condition
- \$2,000
- Does not include removal or delivery

### Circulation Fans

- Approximately 16 circulation or stir fans for sale
- Most are 120 V motors, remainder are 220 V
- Motors have not been tested
- \$75 / fan or \$750 for all

### Used Exhaust Fans and Parts

- 16 exhaust fans (18-24") for sale
- Several complete fans, several just the fan housing
- Fan motors have not been tested
- \$200 for complete fans
- \$50-\$100 for incomplete
- \$1,500 for all

Please contact:

Nathan Hutten

Email: [nathan@huttenshenhaven.com](mailto:nathan@huttenshenhaven.com)

Cell: 289-257-0421

Used free-run Jansen Poultry Equipment (5 years old). Nests: 574' including 3 drive units, slats: 2,350 sq' - Flex egg Conveyor: 102' including 1 90 degree corner and 1 drive unit.

Please Contact- 519-786-8107



### EFC announces net-zero commitment

To commemorate their 50th anniversary in March, Egg Farmers of Canada announced their commitment to achieve net-zero greenhouse gas

emissions by 2050. This announcement marks the next step towards a sustainable Canadian egg farming future.

To read the full release, see the attached insert titled EFC Net Zero Commitment News Release or visit the website [here](#).

## COCONUT LIME CUPCAKES



Servings: 12  
Prep Time: 30 minutes  
Cook Time: 13 minutes

### INGREDIENTS

1¼ cups (310 ml) all-purpose flour  
1¼ tsp (6 ml) baking powder  
½ tsp (2 ml) kosher salt  
⅓ cup (75 ml) unsalted butter, softened  
¾ cup (180 ml) granulated sugar  
2 eggs  
½ cup (125 ml) stirred, canned full fat coconut milk  
1 tbsp (15 ml) fresh lime juice  
1 tsp (5 ml) lime zest  
1 tsp (5 ml) coconut extract

### Coconut White Chocolate Frosting:

1 tub (227 g) cream cheese, at room temperature  
200 g good-quality white chocolate, melted  
½ cup (125 ml) icing sugar  
¼ cup (60 ml) stirred canned full fat coconut milk

2 tsp (10 ml) coconut extract  
½ tsp (2 ml) lime zest  
½ cup (125 ml) sweetened flaked coconut, toasted  
6 lime slices, halved

### DIRECTIONS

Preheat oven to 350°F (180°C).

In a medium bowl, whisk together flour, baking powder and salt.

In a large bowl, with an electric mixer on low speed, beat butter and sugar until fluffy. Beat in eggs, one at a time; beat in coconut milk, lime juice, lime zest and coconut extract. Stir in flour mixture, quickly until combined, being careful not to overmix.

Line a 12-cup muffin pan with cup liners. Divide batter evenly among prepared muffin cups; about halfway.

Bake for about 11-13 minutes or until toothpick inserted into the centre comes out clean. Let cool in pan for 5 minutes. Transfer to a cooling rack and let cool completely.

**Coconut White Chocolate Frosting:** In a large bowl, with an electric mixer on medium speed, beat cream cheese, melted white chocolate, icing sugar, coconut milk, coconut extract and lime zest, scraping bowl as necessary; beat for 1 minute, until well blended. Cover and refrigerate for at least 30 minutes, until thickened and spreadable, or for up to 1 day.

Frost cupcakes evenly and sprinkle edge with toasted coconut. Garnish with lime slice.

## EGGS IN THE NEWS

### RECIPE: Italian egg drop soup requires few ingredients, can be made in minutes

Simcoe.com  
April 13, 2023  
by Joanne Nijhuis

This Italian version of a traditional Chinese egg drop soup requires only a handful of ingredients and can be made in minutes with pre-prepared homemade or boxed broth.

Eggs are a nutrition powerhouse as a source of complete protein and several important nutrients. Eggs are also a good source of the fat-soluble vitamins A, D and E as well as vitamins B12, riboflavin, folate and the mineral selenium.

Did you know most of the eggs we buy in the grocery store are produced in our own backyard? Buying local eggs ensures freshness, is better for the environment and is a great way to support neighbouring farming communities.

### INGREDIENTS

6 cups (1500 mL) chicken or vegetable broth, homemade or store-bought  
4 large eggs, beaten  
4 ounces (113 grams) freshly grated Parmigiano-Reggiano cheese  
2 cups (500 mL) baby spinach, cut into strips  
1-2 cups (250-500 mL) sliced chicken, fish or shellfish, optional  
Salt and freshly ground black pepper to taste  
1 pinch of ground nutmeg, optional  
1 pinch of cayenne pepper, optional

Freshly grated lemon zest and/or fresh lemon juice to taste, optional

Lemon slices to garnish, optional

2 tablespoons (30 mL) chopped fresh parsley to garnish, optional

### INSTRUCTIONS

1. In a large pot, bring the broth to a simmer and season with salt and pepper to taste.
2. Combine the beaten eggs, grated cheese, nutmeg, and cayenne pepper in a bowl.
3. While whisking the broth, slowly pour the egg mixture into the pot. Continue to whisk while bringing the soup back to a simmer.
4. Add spinach and chicken, fish or shellfish and heat until fully cooked.
5. Stir the soup once more and serve hot with preferred garnishes.

# OUTREACH *update*

## OMHA closes out the season at the 2023 Championships

The OMHA Championships presented by Egg Farmers of Ontario just wrapped up the final weekend of competition over the Easter weekend.

Games were held over four weekends March 17 to April 9 and were held in Oakville, Barrie, Halton Hills, Kingston, Whitby and Windsor, where more than 390 teams fought to be named one of the 45 champions.

Ontario egg farmers from across the province were on hand at the various venues to present the prized red hats and medals to players and teams.

EFO would like to congratulate all OMHA players and are proud that eggs fuel great athletes.

For more information about OMHA and the program, visit <https://www.omha.net/>.



Above: The coveted #redhats and medals are ready for presentation.

Right: Egg farmer Tonya Haverkamp (Zone 7) poses with U11 champions during one of the events.



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	519-521-1325
6	Sally Van Straaten	sallyvanstraaten@gmail.com	519-301-4408
7	Scott Brookshaw	scott@grayridge.com	519-671-7568
8	George Pilgrim	georgepilgrim@hotmail.com	905-376-6869
9	Ian McFall	imcfall@burnbraefarms.com	613-498-8526
10	Marcel Jr. Laviolette	marcel@falaviolette.com	613-806-2847
Pullet	Alvin Brunsveld	brunsvelda@gmail.com	519-319-1874



7195 Millcreek Drive,  
Mississauga, ON L5N 4H1

## EGG FARMERS OF ONTARIO MISSION STATEMENT

Egg Farmers of Ontario is a farmer-run organization that manages the supply and orderly marketing of eggs so consumers can enjoy fresh, local, safe, high-quality protein produced under fair farm pricing.