



Cackler

The Latest EFO News

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get cracking®
Egg Farmers of Ontario

August 2023



August Recipe Outreach

August recipe outreach was all about enjoying the last of summer as we slowly head into fall

In *City Parent* magazine, EFO's [Raspberry Lemon Curd Pops](#) were featured on the front cover and also as a full-page advertisement inside. Families were enticed into cooling down after summer fun with a call out to our recipe and website.

Readers of *Canada's Food & Drink* magazine were treated to our [Cajun Summer Veggie Skillet](#) recipe. Filled with fresh summer garden ingredients, with just a kick of spice, it's a great way to get that personal harvest of veggies from getting out of hand!

Finally, LCBO's *Food & Drink* magazine showcased our [Sundried Tomato Pesto Eggs](#). Since the publication is released in August but remains in-store into the fall, EFO invited readers to enjoy a more savoury recipe. More than 530,000 print copies of the popular publication will be available in LCBO locations across Ontario.

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UPCOMING BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETINGS:

- September 11
- October 31

WITH THIS ISSUE:

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INDUSTRY updates

Christian Farmers Federation of Ontario (CFFO)

CFFO districts continue to host summer barbeques for members. For more details, visit <https://www.christianfarmers.org/events>.

The CFFO calendar is turning 70 and they are asking members to send photos of past CFFO events and/or people for a chance to have them featured on the upcoming calendar.

CFFO will have a booth at The Hastings County Plowing Match and Farm Show (August 23), Canada's Outdoor Farm Show (September 12-14) and the Canadian Greenhouse Conference (October 4-5).

For more information, visit their [website](#).

Farm Credit Canada (FCC)

In the most recent updates from FCC, a number of interesting articles were shared, including:

[2023 Grains, oilseed and pulses outlook update](#)

[Expenses lurk everywhere – how to keep track of your cost of living](#)

[Off-farm investing: a long-term strategy](#)

Recent information on the *FCC Knowledge Podcast* included a bonus episode on the topic of equity and how to fairly divide resources to children, including those that aren't involved on-farm. To listen to the episode, click [here](#).

Do you know the true cost of living? FCC can help with their handy cost of living calculator! Knowing how much cash flow is required to cover your cost of living can be a good starting point for many on-farm decisions and planning. Try it [here!](#)

Livestock Research Innovation Corporation (LRIC)

Don't miss out on LRIC's Project Management Workshop, coming up on August 22 at the University of Guelph. This interactive workshop will introduce participants to the principles and best practices of project management. To register, visit <https://www.livestockresearch.ca/events>.

Ontario Federation of Agriculture (OFA)

In the most recent updates from the OFA *Newswire*, OFA attended a number of events including the 2023 Canadian Federation of Agriculture summer board meeting and the Federal, Provincial and Territorial Roundtable, and representatives were also in attendance in Alymer on August 3 for the announcement regarding funding through the Biosecurity Enhancement Initiative.

Don't forget, the deadline to apply for OFA's 2023 bursary program is August 31! OFA is offering bursaries to five post-secondary, three undergrad, one apprenticeship, one post-graduate, veterinary or leadership development program students. For more information including eligibility, visit <https://ofa.on.ca/bursary2023/>.

Did you know that OFA members can receive 10% off select items at any Mark's store with

their Mark's Pay as you Go discount card? For more information, visit <https://ofa.on.ca/benefit/marks-commercial/>.

To learn more about upcoming events from OFA, visit their calendar of events [here](#).

Poultry Industry Council (PIC)

PIC's Annual Fundraiser Golf Tournament is coming up on September 6th at the Foxwood Golf & Country Club in Baden, ON. [Registration](#) golf-tournament is still open so don't miss your opportunity to enjoy the day.

PIC also recently shared their 2023-2024 tentative education and event schedule:

2023-2024 TENTATIVE EDUCATION & EVENT SCHEDULE

Session	Type	Date
Golf Tournament - Baden	In-Person	6-Sep-23
Science in the Pub - Guelph	In-Person	25-Sept-23
PIC's AGM - Elora	Hybrid	26-Oct-23
Innovation Conference - Guelph	In-Person	14/15-Nov-23
Producer Update	Virtual	29-Nov-23
Producer Update - Mount Brydges	In-Person	13-Dec-23
Producers Update - Brodthagen	In-Person	10-Jan-24
Science in the Pub - Guelph	In-Person	22-Jan-24
National Poultry Show - London	In-Person	7/8-Feb-24
Producer Update - Lincoln	In-Person	28-Feb-24
Producer Update	Virtual	6-Mar-24

For full event details, please visit www.poultryindustrycouncil.ca.

Save the date for the Poultry Innovations Conference on November 14-15th in Guelph, ON. Guest speaker includes David Speller, a leading authority on poultry technology and digital solutions. Keep your eye out for registration, coming soon!

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 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.

PUPPIES AND PULLETS

Perth County's Kayla Veldman trains service dogs AND raises pullets for her family egg farm

by Gary West, Zone 6



A young Perth County poultry farmer has taken on the important task of not only raising hens to lay eggs, but also has become a “puppy raiser,” for not just any run of the mill puppies!

Kayla Veldman volunteers her

time with Autism Dog Services (A.D.S.) and foster's service dogs in training from 8 weeks old, until they are ready for advanced training, which is usually when the dog is about 18 months old.

Kayla farms with her family south of Stratford, on the Perth-Oxford boundary, and took the time to speak with me about her newly found hobby.

She started volunteering with A.D.S. during COVID, “as a way to get out of the house” and discovered she really enjoyed working with the dogs and learning how to train them.

Kayla says she has fostered four service dogs in training for the organization so far, and is currently training Barley (pictured left), who is just over a year old.

One of her previous foster dogs is working as a certified service dog for an individual with autism. Two of her previous dogs before that, have been changed careers, and now work as scent detection dogs with police services.

Most service dogs she trains are Golden Labs and Golden Retrievers with some being Standard Poodle Cross Breeds.

Kayla, who is a graduate from the University of Guelph, says she started off raising puppies, but transitioned to raising adult dogs and now spends a lot of her time finishing the training of those adult dogs, when they are over a year old. She says

they finish their training before they move into advanced training with the “on staff” professional dog trainers.

“It has been incredibly rewarding to volunteer as a puppy raiser,” said Kayla. “It’s always hard to let the dogs go at the end of their training, but it is so rewarding watching them go on and do great things.”

Autism service dogs make a world of difference for the children and families of children that they serve. According to Veldman, A.D.S. animals help children with autism by offering companionship, aiding in confidence building, help to keep children safe, and supporting those children through their sometimes difficult, daily lives.

As a young energetic lover of dogs, Veldman says autism dog services is currently recruiting puppy raisers. They are looking for people who are able to commit 12 to 18 months to socialize and provide basic training to puppies, and attend biweekly puppy classes.

She said being a volunteer puppy raiser with A.D.S. is most rewarding and knowing you are helping someone in need with autism.



Calling all volunteers: Western Fair

[The Western Fair](#) is set to begin on September 8th and will run until September 17th, and we need our volunteers to help engage with consumers about egg farming!

EFO's small egg trailer will make up a display for egg farmers and will be participating in the Ag in the Classroom school tours taking place on September 11th to the 15th (from 9 am to 3 pm).

Shift times are Monday to Friday, 3 p.m. to 9 p.m. and on Saturdays and Sundays, there will be two shifts from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. and 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. Two volunteers are needed per shift.

If you are interested in volunteering at the Western Fair this year, please contact Monique Benedict at benedictmonique@gmail.com.



We NEED your HELP!

Volunteers needed for the 2023 International Plowing Match

The 2023 International Plowing Match & Rural Expo (IPM) is being held September 19-23 in Bowling Green, ON and we are still in need of volunteers to help with our display.

Egg Farmers of Ontario will be participating in the event with our large egg education trailer and volunteers are essential to make this event a success.

If you would like to help out during the daily shift times of 12:30 to 5 p.m. at the IPM this year, please contact Kwesi Jacob (kjacob@getcracking.ca).

PRODUCTION STATISTICS

(in boxes of 15 dozen)

Ontario Production (week ending #24)

2023 – 9,307,383
2022 – 9,394,429

Ontario IP (week ending #24)

2023 – 1,468,786
2022 – 2,023,360

Ontario EFP (week ending #24)

2023 – 623,741
2022 – 313,850

US Shell Egg Imports to Ontario (week ending July 15, 2023 - #28)

2023 – 925,754
2022 – 477,000

follow us online!



GOVERNMENT FUNDS SUPPORTING BIOSECURITY MEASURES RECENTLY ANNOUNCED

On August 2, the Canadian and Ontario governments announced an investment of up to \$7.5 million to help agri-food businesses enhance their biosecurity measures with the *Biosecurity Enhancement Initiative* (BEI).

The funds are made available through the *Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership* (Sustainable CAP), which is a five-year investment by federal, provincial and territorial government to strengthen the agriculture and agri-food sector.

The BEI is a cost-sharing initiative to help eligible farmers, processors and other essential farm-supporting agri-food businesses protect against disease, while enhancing operation resilience and supporting public trust in the food supply system. Applications will be accepted beginning September 19, 2023.

For more information about the Biosecurity Enhancement Initiative, click [here](#) or see the full news release sent with this issue of *The Cackler*.

Attend an upcoming workshop or training with Agriculture Wellness Ontario

Spaces still available for upcoming sessions!

In the Know is a mental health literacy workshop for farmers and the agricultural community. The four-hour course is designed around real events using real scenarios with the goals of increasing the understanding of mental health and wellness on the farm, creating comfort in having conversations about mental health while raising awareness and reducing stigma.

September 25th – 10am – 2pm – Register: <https://bit.ly/3PMgCJR>

The Guardian Network is training and peer connection, including continuous learning for trained Guardians. The role of a Guardian is to reduce mental health stigma common in agricultural communities by promoting access to mental health supports, programs and fostering mental health conversations with farmers who may be in distress and connecting them with appropriate mental health and crisis resources.

August 23rd 8:30-4:30 - Register: <https://bit.ly/3kQIjX5>

September 27th 8:30-4:30 - Register: <https://bit.ly/3kQIjX5>

EFOnline

Welcome to EFOonline! A new monthly section.

Each month, beginning in September, keep your eye out for helpful tips & tricks, frequently asked questions (FAQs) and much, much more, all related to the EFOonline portal.

See you in September!

FARMER UPDATES

Wanted

Minimum 8'-0" long slat bars for Jansen nesting system.

Contact James: 519-608-3829

For Sale

Staalkat packer for sale, 40 case, 2007 type FP102.

Asking \$28,500

Call Markus: 613-229-8336

NOTICE: Changes to the Quota Transfer System (QTS)

The following notice was emailed to all egg and pullet quota holders on August 3:

In 2022, Egg Farmers of Ontario (EFO) embarked on a thorough review of the Quota Transfer System (QTS), through a third-party consultant which included farmer consultation and market research.

This comprehensive review has been completed. At its August 2, 2023 meeting, the EFO Board approved that:

1. Effective January 1, 2024, the QTS price will be adjusted to \$391/bird for layer quota and \$33/bird for pullet quota;
2. 2024 will be considered an observation period, with the prices remaining stable at \$391 and \$33 per bird for layer and pullet quota respectively; and
3. Given the changes to the QTS price, QTS-3-2023 will be cancelled.

More details will be shared in the near future.



Cajun Summer Veggie Skillet



Servings: 4
Prep Time: 20 minutes
Cook Time: 10 minutes

INGREDIENTS

2 tbsp (30 ml) olive oil
2 cups (500 ml) diced zucchini
2 cups (500 ml) small chopped broccoli florets
1 orange bell pepper, diced
1 cup (250 ml) fresh corn kernels off the cob
1 tbsp (15 ml) hot sauce
1 tsp (5 ml) packed brown sugar
½ tsp (2 ml) each garlic powder and onion powder

½ tsp (2 ml) each paprika, oregano and thyme
½ tsp (2 ml) each salt and pepper
2 cups (500 ml) packed baby spinach
1 cup (250 ml) halved grape tomatoes
4 eggs
2 green onions, sliced
Pepper to taste

DIRECTIONS

Heat oil in a large non-stick skillet over medium-high heat. Add zucchini, broccoli, bell pepper, corn, hot sauce, sugar, garlic powder, onion powder, paprika, oregano, thyme, salt and pepper; sauté for 3 minutes. Stir in spinach and tomatoes; let cook further 1 minute until spinach is wilted.

Make 4 shallow wells and add an egg into each well. Reduce heat to medium-low, cover and cook until whites are set with a runny yolk; about 4 minutes. Remove from heat.

Sprinkle with green onions and season with pepper to taste.

“eggs-pert” advice

TIP: For a variation, try scrambling the eggs into the veggie skillet, add grated cheese and roll into a tortilla for a breakfast burrito.

EGGS IN THE NEWS

Shop, cook and dine Canadian in celebration of Food Day Canada

Farms.com
August 1, 2023

GUELPH, ON – The foods grown, raised and produced in Canada are as diverse as the population that calls it home.

That gives us a lot to celebrate on Food Day Canada, marked this year on August 5th.

Conveniently, Food Day Canada also happens at a time of year when Ontario’s rural roads are dotted with roadside farm stands selling

the freshest fruits and vegetables you can find. From corn through sweet berries to root veggies like onions and potatoes, local produce has richer and bolder tastes than anything imported, and is packed with nutrients for a healthy addition to any menu.

Food Day Canada is a grassroots celebration of Canadian farmers and fishers, chefs, researchers and home cooks who inspire us to shop, cook and dine Canadian.

There are an estimated 180 farmer’s markets across Ontario – plus countless road-side

farmgate stands where farmers sell direct to passersby. Ontario is in the sweet spot for local produce, with sweet fruits like cherries, blueberries and apricots in season, as well as staples like corn, carrots, cucumbers and peppers currently being harvested – not to mention Ontario meats and poultry, farm fresh eggs and dairy products which are always in season.

OUTREACH update



Above: Digital ad promoting the Pick Ontario program.

Left: Information about the Laver family and Ontario egg farmers in the Fortinos flyer.

Fortinos promotion

For the third year, EFO partnered with popular GTA and Hamilton-area grocery chain Fortinos with their Pick Ontario First campaign which runs from July 27 to August 23.

The program promotes fresh, local products through advertising in the Fortinos flyer, which is distributed to approximately 800,000 GTHA households.

The flyer featured the Laver family (Zone 8) and also included information about EFO and nutrition facts.

The promotion also includes two social media posts weekly, for a total of eight, which featured some of EFO's 2023 recipes. In addition, EFO was featured in a weekly e-newsletter with links directly to getcracking.ca.

Zone	Director	Email Address	Phone
1	Scott Helps	shelps@ymail.com	519-464-2744
2	Lorne Benedict	lornebenedict@outlook.com	519-281-3321
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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



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.