



Cackler

The Latest EFO News

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get cracking®
Egg Farmers of Ontario

October 2023



Left: Egg farmer Tonya Haverkamp (Zone 7) with Breakfast Television hosts Meredith Shaw and Sid Sid Seixeiro.

EFO Celebrates

World Egg Day!

EGG FARMERS OF ONTARIO CELEBRATES WORLD EGG DAY WITH THE IT'S EGG O'CLOCK SOMEWHERE CONTEST

October 13 was World Egg Day (WED), and EFO celebrated with an *eggs-cellent* contest that encouraged Ontario to share how and when they love to eat their eggs! Participants could enter to win daily prizes or the grand prize of an egg gift basket and eggs for a year.

To do her part on WED, egg farmer Tonya Haverkamp (Zone 7) visited Toronto's [Breakfast Television](#) on October 13 to share the versatility of eggs and why she loves egg farming.

"World Egg Day is a fun way for us to share the many ways that eggs can be enjoyed, especially during different parts of the day," said Donna Lange, EFO Director of Public Affairs. "Through our *It's Egg O'Clock Somewhere* contest, we want people to remember that eggs are perfect for snacks, breakfast, lunch or dinner, whether at home or on-the-go."

The contest was supported on [worldeggday.ca](#) which in addition to contest details, includes recipe inspiration from around the world, links to meet more Ontario egg farmers or access resources and activities on EFO's [egg education](#) site.

More WED content is featured in the *Outreach Updates* section of this issue.

UPCOMING BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETINGS:

- October 31
- December 5 & 6

WITH THIS ISSUE:

- FBCC Fall 2023 HPAI Update
- Letter to Poultry Industry 2023
- Governments Supporting Mental Health Initiatives News Release

IN THIS ISSUE

Industry Updates:
AAC, FCC, OFA and PIC

Egg & Pullet Farmers'
Workshop Information

Recipe of the Month:
[Harvest Cobb Salad](#)

Outreach Updates:
More World Egg Day Fun!

INDUSTRY updates

Agricultural Adaptation Council (AAC)

AAC has been selected as the program delivery partner for the Increasing Deadstock Initiative, funded by the Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership through the federal, provincial and territorial governments. For more information on the initiative, visit adaptcouncil.org/program/deadstock.

Through the Ontario Agri-Food Careers Support Initiative, AAC has developed a digital toolkit for human resource managers. For more information or to access the articles, videos and events related to this initiative, click [here](#).

Farm Credit Canada (FCC)

FCC Knowledge updates included [2023 Economics Trends](#), [5 simple ways to boost serotonin](#) and [Why it's important to make time to connect](#).

They also shared the 2023 farmland values and where things are mid-year. To read the full report, click [here](#).

Want to learn how to create a business plan that aligns with your farm transition plans? [Watch Creating a business plan that fits your farm transition vision](#).

Ontario Federation of Agriculture (OFA)

OFA and the OPP (Central Region) recently collaborated with a shared road safety message during the harvest season to help keep everyone safe.

2023 OFA regional meetings are still underway. To view remaining dates by region, click [here](#).

October 6 was Ontario Agriculture Week – a time to celebrate local food and ingredients that are produced in Ontario. In support of Local Food Week, OFA shared the [news release](#) from OMAFRA on supporting Ontario farmers and local restaurants through Dine Ontario.

OFA will be hosting their AGM 2023 on November 21 & 22 at the Delta Hotel Toronto Airport in Toronto. The theme for the AGM is Fields of Opportunity: Cultivating a Sustainable Future for Ontario. For more information or to register, visit ofa.on.ca/community/annual-general-meeting/.

OFA is encouraging the passing of Bill C-234 to provide relief to Ontario farmers on the cost of energy. For more information about the Bill, click [here](#).

Finally, OFA shared that the deadline for Canadians to file their first Canada's Underused Housing Tax (UHT) is approaching on October 31. For more information on the UHT and for access to related resources, click [here](#).

Poultry Industry Council (PIC)

PIC is hosting their Hybrid Annual General Meeting on Thursday, October 26, 10 to 11:30 am. The in-person session is being held at the Grandway Events Centre in Elora. If you would

like to register for the virtual session, click [here](#) or in-person, [here](#).

The PIC Poultry Innovations Conference 2023 is being held on November 14-15 at the Grand Events & Banquet Centre in Guelph. This conference will feature panel discussions and keynote speakers on a variety of topics, including Valerie Carney with the Poultry Innovation Partnership and Benjamin Alig, who will share his insights on Better Housing Environments in Commercial Egg Production. For more information on the conference, including agenda and speakers, click [here](#). Click [here](#) to register for the conference.

PIC is looking for a new Executive Director. If you or someone you know is a leader with a background in science and agriculture, please apply. View the job posting [here](#). The application deadline is November 12, 2023.

[Register](#) for the November 29 producer update, which is an online session. Stay informed on poultry health trends, hear updates from OMAFRA's Poultry Specialist and get tips for spring improvements. This is a free event for all farmers, so be sure to register.

For information on upcoming events and more, visit poultryindustrycouncil.ca/.

IN THE Zone

Zone 2 farmers participate in Women's Leadership Conference

Middlesex egg farmers attended the Women's Leadership Conference in London on September 16, where they had a display table that included resources, recipe cards, keychains and grocery shopping lists. As a sponsor of the coffee break session, Zone 2 was able to have the on-site activation for the day along with two conference memberships.

Keynote speaker for the event was Christine Elliot, Former Deputy Premier and Minister of Health. Other panelists for the day included Karen Vecchio, MP Elgin-Middlesex-London, Joanne Vanderheyden, former mayor of Strathroy-Caradoc, Anne Marie Gillis, Councillor for the City of Sarnia and Cathy Abraham, Ontario Public School President.



2023 Egg & Pullet Farmers' Workshop

Registration now open

The 2023 Egg & Pullet Farmers' Workshop will take place on Tuesday, November 28 at the Hilton Mississauga/Meadowvale. Registration begins at 8 a.m. with the meeting to start at 8:30 a.m. until 4 p.m.

A welcome reception on Monday, November 27 will be held from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

A room block at the Hilton Mississauga/Meadowvale is available until October 28, 2023. Please call 1-800-HILTONS (445-8667) and ask for the Hilton Mississauga/Meadowvale. Mention the group name "Egg and Pullet Farmers' Workshop to secure the group rate of \$169 (plus taxes) or book online at <https://book.passkey.com/go/EggPulletWorkshop>.

Please register [online](#) no later than November 17, 2023.

NEW FOR 2023

As part of the Board's commitment to governance and building leadership capacity, we are pleased to offer a training session for Councillors and Delegates on Monday, November 27 from 12 noon until 7:00 p.m.

Councillors and Delegates will receive information on this session in a separate email.

Please note that due to capacity limits, this session is only open to Councillors and Delegates.

Don't forget to order your EFO promotional items for pick-up at the workshop before the **November 10th** deadline.

It's a great way to tick those items off your holiday shopping lists. To order, simply select the promotional items brochure [here](#), shop and place your order using the form at the back of the brochure and email to kjacob@getcracking.ca.

Attend an upcoming workshop/ training with Agriculture Wellness Ontario

Through its suite of programs, Agriculture Wellness Ontario is bringing mental health education, counselling services and enhanced community support to rural and agricultural communities across the province.

The Guardian Network includes training and ongoing peer connection and continuous learning for trained Guardians. The role of a Guardians is to reduce mental health stigma in Agricultural communities by promoting access to mental health supports, Agriculture Wellness Ontario programs, and fostering mental health conversations with farmers who may be in distress and connect individuals with appropriate mental health and crisis resources.

Mon. October 23rd – 8:30am – 4:30pm

Wed. November 29th – 8:30am – 4:30pm

Registration Link: <https://bit.ly/3kQJjX5>

In The Know is a mental health literacy workshop for farmers and the agricultural community. This four-hour course is designed around real events using real scenarios for educational purposes. The goals of the program are to increase understanding of mental health and wellness on the farm, create comfort in having conversations about mental health, raise awareness and reduce stigma.

Mon. November 27th – 10am – 2pm

Registration Link: <https://bit.ly/3PMgCJR>

Canadian and Ontario Governments Support Mental Health for Agriculture

The governments of Canada and Ontario recently announced they are investing more than \$8 million to support the mental health and wellness of farmers and their families.

This support ensures the *Farmer Wellness Initiative*, the *In the Know* program and the *Guardian Network* will continue to be available to everyone who needs them. These initiatives are designed to meet the unique mental health needs of farmers and their families and are delivered by the Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA), Ontario Division.

For more information, see *Governments Supporting Mental Health Initiatives News Release*, attached to this newsletter.

PRODUCTION STATISTICS

(in boxes of 15 dozen)

Ontario Production (week ending #28)

2023 – 10,831,247

2022 – 10,890,555

Ontario IP (week ending #28)

2023 – 1,777,761

2022 – 2,325,766

Ontario EFP (week ending #28)

2023 – 728,258

2022 – 410,810

US Shell Egg Imports to Ontario (week ending September 2, 2023 - #35)

2023 – 135,084

2022 – 617,992

follow us online!



Canadian egg processor wins international award

EggSolutions, a division of Global Egg Corporation, was presented with *The Clive Frampton Egg Products Company of the Year Award* at the International Egg Commission's (IEC) Global Leadership conference held in Lake Louise, AB this September.

This distinguished award is open to IEC members that are involved with further processing of eggs and egg products.

EggSolutions is a Canadian company that prides themselves on exceptional food safety, quality and customer service.

To learn more about the Clive Frampton Award, visit <https://www.internationalegg.com/our-work/awards/the-clive-frampton-award/clive-frampton-award-winners/>.



Scott Brookshaw accepts the award on behalf of EggSolutions from the IEC representative.

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

Price Change Notice

Effective Sunday, November 5, 2023, the Market Producer Prices for one dozen Grade A eggs are as follows: *Extra Large \$2.65, *Large \$2.65, *Medium \$2.35, *Small \$1.97 (*denotes change).

Effective Sunday, November 5, 2023 the producer prices for one dozen Grade A eggs from Enriched Housing at 116.25 square inches are as follows: *Extra Large \$2.73, *Large \$2.73, *Medium \$2.42, *Small \$2.03 (*denotes change).

The above prices are for eggs ungraded and unwashed f.o.b. the producer's farm, shipped and graded in minimum lots of 1,500 dozen. In lots of 300 dozen to 1,499 dozen the minimum prices shall be one cent (1¢) less, and in lots of 1 dozen to 299 dozen the minimum prices shall be ten cents (10¢) less than the above quoted prices.

BIOSECURITY best practices



With fall migration upon us, all farmers are urged to continue on-farm biosecurity measures to protect your flock and the industry from any incidence of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI).

Properly implemented biosecurity is your first-line defense against infectious disease. Your farm biosecurity protocols should be well thought-out, well implemented and continuously followed.

With HPAI being detected on poultry premises across Canada since early September, the Feather Board Command Centre (FBCC) has issued an update with reminders about protecting your flock from infectious diseases. FBCC is asking all farmers to review the recommended biosecurity practices, which can be found [here](#).

Please see the *FBCC Fall 2023 HPAI Update* sent with this issue of *The Cackler* for more information and resource links.

POLICY NOTICE: Registered Premises Standards Policy

Egg Farmers of Ontario recently shared via email the introduction of the new *Registered Premise Standards Policy*, effective immediately. This replaces the *New Production Facilities or Renovated for the Use of Egg Production or for Raising Pullets* policy.

This policy update is to address the challenges in the value chain and provide farmers with guidance for barn design and construction. Our aim is to support our farming community in adapting to industry changes and ensuring the continued success of Ontario's egg production sector.

Please thoroughly review this new policy, paying particular attention to the following critical changes:

1. Driveway and Loading Area Requirements (Sections 6 & 7): These revisions have been informed by substantial input from feed mills, catching crews, egg grading stations and processing plants. Given the rapid evolution of the transportation industry, these updates are aimed at ensuring a safe working environment for all industry personnel, promoting the safe and efficient movement of vehicles and establishing consistency across all farms.
2. Loading Docks or Mechanical Lifts for Egg Shipment (Sections 9 & 11): By December 31, 2028, all layer farms will be required to have loading docks or mechanical lifts for egg shipments. This change is a response to extensive feedback from the egg grading sector, which has indicated that the operation of a lift gate service is no longer a sustainable method for egg pick-up in Ontario.

Review the full policy [here](#). Should you have any questions please contact Ryan Trim, Director of Operations at rtrim@getcracking.ca or 905-464-6590.

REMINDER: ACCESS INFORMATION ONLINE

Have you ever missed an issue of *The Cackler*? Don't worry, it's always available online and you can access it [here](#).

In addition, did you know that if you sign up to receive EFO's RSS feed, you will receive weekly alerts of any new information that is posted online, including *The Cackler*.

To sign up for the RSS feed, visit <https://www.getcracking.ca/members/operations-quota> and subscribe under newsletters.

HARVEST COBB SALAD



Servings: 4 to 6
Prep Time: 20 minutes
Cook Time: 7 minutes

INGREDIENTS

Apple Cider Cranberry Dressing:

½ cup (125 ml) cranberry sauce
⅓ cup (75 ml) **each** apple cider vinegar and olive oil
1 tbsp (15 ml) Dijon mustard
½ tsp (2 ml) **each** rosemary and sage
½ tsp (2 ml) **each** garlic powder and onion powder
½ tsp (2 ml) each salt and pepper

Salad:

4 eggs
4 cups (1 L) chopped romaine lettuce

4 cups (1 L) shredded kale
2 cups (500 ml) sliced cooked turkey
2 cups (500 ml) cubed roasted squash
½ cup (125 ml) sliced red onion
½ cup (125 ml) crumbled blue cheese
½ cup (125 ml) chopped candied pecans
6 slices crisp cooked bacon, coarsely chopped
1 avocado, sliced

DIRECTIONS

Apple Cider Cranberry Dressing: Combine cranberry sauce, vinegar, olive oil, Dijon, rosemary, sage, garlic powder, onion powder, salt and pepper in a blender cup and blend until emulsified and only small granular bits of cranberry remain. Set aside.

Bring a small pot of water to boil over high heat. Add eggs and cook for 7 minutes. Remove and soak in cold water; peel and cut each egg in half.

Arrange romaine and kale on a large serving platter. Top with turkey, squash, red onion, blue cheese, pecans, bacon, avocado and eggs. Serve with dressing.

“eggs-pert” advice

TIP: Makes about 1 cup (250 mL) of dressing. Store leftover dressing in an airtight container for up to 2 weeks to use as marinade or meat glaze.

EGGS IN THE NEWS

Fort Erie council clucks no to backyard hen pilot project

Niagara Falls Review
October 4, 2023
by Sarah Ferguson

A majority of Fort Erie’s members of council called fowl on the possibility of launching a backyard hen pilot project in the community.

Town staff prepared a report outlining options for a potential pilot project to permit hens in Fort Erie’s rural area, that could later expand into urban areas of the community.

The report comes following a request from a resident, made during the Aug. 28 council

meeting, asking council to consider the pilot project allowing hens in urban areas.

Presented at the Oct. 2 council-in-committee meeting, the report was defeated following much discussion.

Mayor Wayne Redekop kicked off the conversation by explaining why he wouldn’t support a backyard hen pilot project.

Redekop explained he felt staff resources could be put to better use, and allowing residents to have chickens could cause conflict between neighbours.

Coun. Tom Lewis said he shared Redekop’s concerns, and added that avian influenza, a serious disease that can kill birds, is something to think about because it would be difficult to track the amount of birds in the community.

Coun. George McDermott said he wouldn’t support the report either.

“I’ve had complaints from residents in my ward; people have had chickens and it’s basically the same complaint where chickens attract rodents and such,” he said.

The only one to speak in favour of the pilot project was Coun. Ann-Marie Noyes, who suggested opinions from the public should be gathered about the pilot project.

Let’s get some public input. If the mayor is correct, then listen to the public and say, ‘No, it’s not such a good idea.’ But if there’s a demand for it and the public indicates there is a demand for it, I think perhaps we should listen and look at the pilot project,” Noyes said.

OUTREACHupdate

World Egg Day Outreach

Lorne Benedict, Zone 2 Director, visited Lord Elgin Public School on WED to present a cheque for \$85,000, the first installment of a \$255,000 three-year commitment to Student Nutrition Ontario (SNO). According to SNO, nearly one million children across Ontario, aged 3 to 18 access Student Nutrition Programs each and every day.

EFO is proud to support this program that provides students access to nourishing food.

For more information about Student Nutrition Ontario, visit studentnutritionontario.ca/.

In addition to the contest, WED outreach was supported by two influencers that used the theme of *It's Egg O'Clock Somewhere* and created unique egg recipes that reflected their individual ethnic background. Influencer @milkofthykindness shared Indonesian eggs with chilies dish and @minoomakesstuff made a traditional Persian egg dish that was paired with a 3-ingredient flatbread.





Attn: Egg Ambassadors!

We need your help to fill in three remaining shifts for the RAWF:

- Saturday, November 4 (9 am to 3 pm)
- Thursday, November 9 (3 pm to 8 pm)
- Sunday, November 12 (9 am to 6 pm)

If you are helping out, please contact **Kwesi Jacob** (kjacob@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
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

REMINDER: Flu vaccination recommendations for poultry workers

The Ontario Ministry of Health recently sent a letter to remind poultry stakeholders to be sure to get you and your family vaccinated against influenza this year.

For more information, please see the *Letter to Poultry Industry 2023* that was sent as an attachment with this newsletter.



EGG FARMERS OF ONTARIO MISSION STATEMENT

To lead a progressive and thriving egg sector committed to high-quality eggs, consumer choice and sustainable practices.