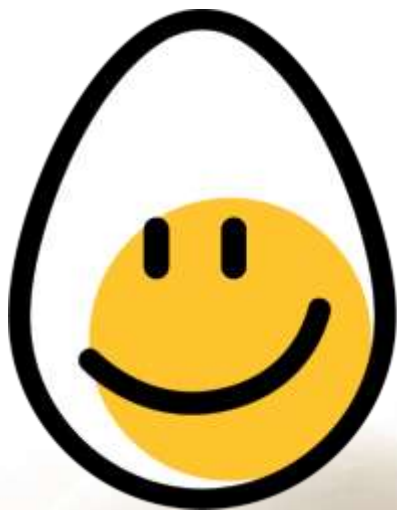


# Egg Farmers of Ontario

## 2020-2022 STRATEGIC PLAN

*November 4, 2021*



**get cracking®**  
Egg Farmers of Ontario



## Vision - We strive for...

A sustainable and progressive egg sector providing consumers their choice of high-quality, fresh eggs, produced by family farms committed to animal care and the environment.

## Mission

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.

## Means of Delivery

- Manage pullet and egg production within national supply management guidelines using a variety of approved housing systems.
- Manage the production and pricing of eggs through a cost of production system.
- Ensure strict food safety and animal care standards through the *Egg Quality Assurance* (EQA) program.
- Stimulate market demand for eggs through promotion, innovation and research.

# VALUES

## Egg Farmers of Ontario believes in:

### 1. Food Safety & Animal Care

- Providing safe and high-quality eggs using world-class food safety and animal care standards.

### 2. Fair Farm Pricing System

- The national supply management of eggs ensures the sustainability of our sector for future generations through fair farm pricing.

### 3. Sustainability

- Ensuring programs, policies and procedures support environmental and financial sustainability.

### 4. Our People

- Supporting a dedicated and professional staff team who act with integrity to ensure efficient and effective operation of our organization.

### 5. Accountability

- Serving the egg and pullet farmers of Ontario effectively through policies that are equitable, transparent and meet domestic market requirements.

### 6. Relationships

- Maintaining professional working relationships with all stakeholders in our sector.

### 7. Leadership

- Providing supportive leadership to other agricultural organizations.

# SUMMARY OF KEY DANGERS & OPPORTUNITIES

The following are key dangers & opportunities impacting Egg Farmers of Ontario we heard from farmers at the regional meetings in April 2019.



# STRENGTHS:

The following is a summary of farmer feedback from the regional meetings when asked: “What are the biggest strengths Egg Farmers of Ontario can build on as a sector?”



## Focus Areas

1. Promoting a Fair Farm Pricing System
2. Managing Supply and Meeting Demand
3. Improving On-Farm Operations and Productivity
4. Maintaining Consumer Confidence and Trust
5. Ensuring Good Governance and Effective Farmer Communications

### 1. Promoting a Fair Farm Pricing System

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#### OBJECTIVES:

- 1.1 Advocate with all levels of government for fair farm pricing achieved through a stable national supply managed system and minimize the impacts of free trade agreements.
- 1.2 Increase consumer understanding of the benefits of the fair farm pricing for eggs, including food security.
- 1.3 Continue to take a leadership role in policy development and communications to support the national and provincial systems.

### 2. Managing Supply and Meeting Demand

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#### OBJECTIVES:

- 2.1 To fill the Ontario market with as many Ontario/Canadian eggs as possible, while working within directives from Egg Farmers of Canada.
- 2.2 Improve the function and operations of the *Quota Transfer System* (QTS) and ensure its viability with respect to fair access and transparency for all farmers.
- 2.3 Review and formalize the strategy to improve quota access for small size farmers.
- 2.4 Strengthen the flock verification process for alternative housing systems and investigate technology to support this process through the Production Management Committee.
- 2.5 Maintain an up-to-date forecast database of planned future capacity for all layer and pullet farms by housing type.

- 2.6 Work with the federal government and industry stakeholders to ensure new Tariff Rate Quota allocations allow the sector to manage the increased access smoothly and ensure market disruptions are minimized.
- 2.7 Work with Egg Farmers of Canada to take action on their ability to collect marketing levies on imported product.
- 2.8 Work with Egg Farmers of Canada to enforce and strengthen current import regulations on blended products (e.g. breakfast sandwiches).
- 2.9 To collaboratively work with Pullet Growers of Canada and other provincial pullet agencies representing the interests of Ontario pullet growers and work towards promoting Ontario grown pullets.

### 3. Improving On-Farm Operations and Productivity

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#### **OBJECTIVES:**

- 3.1 Ensure year-round compliance with the *Egg Quality Assurance* program and other regulations.
- 3.2 Continue to support collaborative inspector/auditor and farmer working relationships and foster a culture of consistency and continuous improvement.
- 3.3 Work with Egg Farmers of Canada, graders and the Canadian Food Inspection Agency to ensure robust processes are in place to facilitate testing for Salmonella Enteritidis.
- 3.4 Ensure a robust approach to compliance and investigations to maintain the integrity of the supply management system.
- 3.5 Work with farmers and industry stakeholders to identify and address challenges with coordinating a more even distribution of hen placement volumes and dates while meeting grader and consumer demands.
- 3.6 Streamline and simplify farm operations and improve internal operational efficiency and productivity through the implementation of EFOne.
- 3.7 Work with Egg Farmers of Canada to ensure clear interpretation of standards and timelines for implementation of the Code of Practice.
- 3.8 Maintain strong, consistent biosecurity practices on farm at all times.
- 3.9 Ensure that the poultry sector has strong disease outbreak and emergency response plans and capacity.
- 3.10 Stimulate innovation and continuous improvement of animal care, on-farm management and egg quality by supporting/investing in research.
- 3.11 Support research and innovation through the redevelopment of the Arkell Research facility.

- 3.12 Investigate options that could provide access to and awareness of wellness and mental health resources for the egg community.

## 4. Maintaining Consumer Confidence and Trust

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### OBJECTIVES:

- 4.1 More consumers choosing Ontario eggs daily.
- 4.2 Continue to meet world-class food safety and animal welfare standards.
- 4.3 Increase public trust by promoting a positive image of egg and pullet farm families.
- 4.4 Investigate opportunities to work with other agriculture commodity organizations on “whole plate” food advocacy communications to increase public trust with consumers.
- 4.5 Demonstrate Egg Farmers of Ontario’s commitment to social responsibility and sustainability.
- 4.6 Enhance knowledge of sustainable farming practices and housing systems to support informed consumer choices.

## 5. Ensuring Good Governance and Effective Farmer Communications

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### OBJECTIVES:

- 5.1 Maintain effective farmer communications through continuous improvement.
- 5.2 Continually improve Board effectiveness.
- 5.3 To review, on an annual basis, Terms of Reference, governance policies and work plans for each Board Committee.
- 5.4 Continue to gather farmer feedback regularly through Zone, regional and general farmer meetings.
- 5.5 Continue to offer and make available French language services and materials, where appropriate.
- 5.6 Continue to schedule regular consultations as needed with the *Egg Industry Advisory Committee*, Farm Products Marketing Commission and industry stakeholders/partners to maintain and improve opportunities for input and working relationships.
- 5.7 To evaluate, on an annual basis, the role and service of Egg Farmers of Ontario Board Members representing Ontario egg farmers’ interests on the boards of Egg Farmers of Canada, Pullet Growers of Canada and other stakeholders (i.e., Poultry Industry Council, Ontario Federation of Agriculture, Farm & Food Care, etc.).