



## Home Week Policy – Egg Farmers

amended May 2021

### **PURPOSE AND INTENDED OBJECTIVES:**

Egg Farmers of Ontario (“EFO”) has determined that a Home Week (“HW”) is required for each producer to enable the Board to effectively manage quality, supply and orderly marketing of eggs in Ontario and to work effectively with producers, hatcheries, grading stations, transport companies and catchers to ensure a predictable and reliable supply of eggs to consumers and industry stakeholders. The required length of the production cycle for laying hens supports the integrity of the Egg Quality Assurance program.

Each producer has a Home Week which designates when a producer is required to place their flock in an egg production facility pursuant to the quota fixed and allotted to that producer. Birds are ideally intended to be in production for fifty-one (51) weeks with one (1) week of downtime between flocks.

### **ADMINISTRATION:**

#### **Home Week Placement**

To provide flexibility, placements can be made up to one week before or following the producer’s designated Home Week. These two weeks are referred to as the Exemption Weeks. All stakeholders should, however, target placement in their Home Week to ensure an even distribution of bird’s week-to-week.

- Flocks placed outside this three-week window without Board Approval may be issued a penalty of 10-cents per bird per day based on the number of birds delivered at placement and the number of days in laying facility outside Exemption Week, including a review of the mandatory seven days downtime between flocks.
- Per Bird Levy charges will begin when the replacement flock turns 19-weeks or at placement date if birds are placed after the 19-week date.
- Situations requiring the placement of birds older than 21-weeks must be brought to the Board for approval prior to placement. A producer not notifying the Board of this event will be considered not in Good Standing.

#### **Length of Flock**

Requests for an extended production period must be pre-approved by the Board. If approved, a 30-cent per leviable dozen assessment on production after 52-weeks will be invoiced to the layer farmer as the cost of the pullet would have been fully recovered.

- If an exemption is approved by the Board then the producer must adhere to the Home Week Policy on their following year’s flock placement.

#### **Changes in Home Week**

The Home Week applies and remains in effect year-to-year. Any producer wishing to change their Home Week, or assign a Home Week to a new barn, must seek Board approval by submitting an Application for Change in Home Week.

- All applications for Changes in Home Week must be received by EFO office prior to EFO issuing the Allotment for the flock changing Home Weeks and prior to pullets being ordered.
- Applications may be approved or denied at the discretion of the Board, in particular when the even distribution of birds is negatively impacted by a proposed Home Week Change.
- If the producer requests a Home Week change to a later Home Week that results in the barn being empty for greater than 14 days, Quota Credits may be issued.
- In all cases the seven (7) day mandatory downtime between layer flocks applies.

#### **Compliance:**

Producers are responsible for ensuring birds are placed and removed from their facilities in accordance with the Home Week Policy. The Board recognizes that circumstances do arise which would delay flock removal or delivery. Producers are required to advise the Board as soon as these situations are known for a timely review and to arrange a Board-approved plan to resolve the issue(s).



**EXAMPLE:**

A producer places their new flock outside of their Home Week and Exemption Weeks and has not respected the mandatory seven days downtime between flocks.

<b>Early Exemption Week - #5</b>			Ends Saturday February 1, 2020			Ends Saturday January 30, 2021	
<b>Home Week - #6</b>			Ends Saturday February 8, 2020			Ends Saturday February 6, 2021	
<b>Later Exemption Week – #7</b>			Ends Saturday February 15, 2020			Ends Saturday February 13, 2021	
<b>Flock #</b>	<b>Placement Date</b>	<b>Placement Week #</b>	<b>Delivery Inventory</b>	<b>Disposal Date</b>	<b>Disposal Week #</b>	<b>Flock Life (days/weeks)</b>	<b>Downtime</b>
1	Feb 6, 2020	6	5,125	Feb 15, 2021	8	375 days / 53.57 weeks	
2	Feb 18, 2021	8	5,250				3 days

Number of days in laying facility outside of Exemption Week:

Feb. 13, 2021 to Feb. 18, 2021 = 5

Number of mandatory downtime days not adhered to:

7 – 3 = 4

In this example, the assessment would be calculated as follows:

$\$0.10 \times 5,250 \text{ birds} \times (5 + 4) \text{ days} = \$4,725.00$