



Cackler

The Latest EFO News

Publication Agr. No: 40068941



get cracking®

Egg Farmers of Ontario

June 2021



Above: Banner from EFO's micromoments page on getcracking.ca



Real Farmers. Real Dads.

EFO celebrates farm dads in June.

MICRO PAGE CELEBRATES EVERY REAL MOMENT

June is a special month for many reasons. Not only is it the start of summer, but it also brings us a day where we celebrate the special men we call dad.

As part of our second year of the *Real Farmers. Real Eggs.* campaign, EFO has created a new micromoments page to mark such occasions as this. The page is updated monthly and has planned moments to share such as Easter, Mother's Day, World Egg Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas.

The page not only includes farm families, but features recipes, activities and farmer stories.

Be sure to check the page monthly for any updates:

<https://www.getcracking.ca/real-moments>.



UPCOMING BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETINGS:

- July 7 & 8 (via Zoom)
- August 5 & 6 (via Zoom)

IN THIS ISSUE

Updates from the June 2 & 3 Board of Directors' Meeting

Updates to Egg Education Trailer

Recipe of the Month: [Egg-in-a-Hole Burgers](#)

Celebrating Local Food Week in Ontario

INFORMATION *update*

Business Highlights from the June 2 & 3, 2021 Board meeting

Egg Market Update

The gradual lifting of COVID restrictions across all provinces including the ratcheting down of Ontario's most recent stay-at-home order is continuing to result in some improvements in egg markets.

These trends, combined with the most recent round of Early Fowl Removal (EFR) in Ontario and removal/offset of all Eggs for Processing (EFP) volumes mandated in all provinces have resulted in removing all egg supplies from storage. The production from the approximately 300,000 Ontario hens removed from production in this third round of EFR is gradually coming back as those flocks are replaced in their next flock cycles.

Moving forward, it is hoped that both shell and processed egg demand will continue to improve with the prospect of the next easing of current restrictions in Ontario scheduled for June 11.

The situation will continue to be monitored closely and our system will continue to use the tools available to balance the market conditions.

Reminder of requirement for pullet farmers to provide copies of day-old chick delivery slips

All pullet farmers are reminded that, when requested by EFO field staff, farmers must provide all the delivery copies of day-old chick reports that were placed including extras and any top-ups due to mortality. This information is an important part of EFO's flock verification process and assists in managing provincial hen inventory.

If this information is not provided, that farm will not be considered to be in good standing and will not be able to participate in any programs including participation on the *Quota Transfer System* (QTS).

Increased risk of Delmarva Bronchitis for pullet farms

Pullet farmers are reminded to be vigilant in biosecurity practices on your farms especially in the first three weeks after day-old placements to help protect bird health.

There is currently an increased risk of the highly-infectious Delmarva strain of Bronchitis that can cause False Layer Syndrome. The disease is known to affect chicks most severely in the first three weeks of the grow cycle. There has been increased incidence of this strain recently in Ontario including reports on broiler chicken farms.

WITH THIS ISSUE

- Poultry Compensation Memo

**denotes to egg & pullet farmers only*

REMINDER: PULLET QUOTAS ON PREMISES WITHOUT FACILITIES

Any pullet quota attached to an approved registered premise that does not have an active approved facility cannot be used in the calculation of annual pullet utilization and cannot be transferred. This approach will ensure pullet quotas remain in active use as intended to fill the market and maintain fair and equitable conditions for all pullet producers. With this motion in place, the Board will conduct a comprehensive review of existing pullet quota policies and administration by July to ensure they are meeting the ongoing needs of effectively managing the Ontario pullet sector.

EGG EDUCATION TRAILER GETS NEW LOOK



Above: Side view of the updated trailer design.
Left: New design of the back of the large education trailer.

Shut-downs and event cancellations may have temporarily taken EFO's Egg Education Trailer off the road, but it hasn't stopped upgrades.

With the province slowly beginning to re-open and vaccination rates growing daily, EFO is taking the opportunity to get the trailer prepared for a return to in-person events.

The trailer was recently given a brand new look on the exterior to reflect the look of the *Real Farmers. Real Eggs.* campaign and to share some key messages as it eventually travels on Ontario roads.

POULTRY AND EGG PRODUCERS CAN NOW APPLY FOR COMPENSATION FUNDS

(Excerpt from *Egg Farmers of Canada update*)

On May 31, 2021, details of the Poultry and Egg On-Farm Investment Program (PEFIP) were released, which was outlined by the Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food, the Honourable Marie-Claude Bibeau in the April 13, 2021 announcement of new programs to deliver CPTPP mitigation. The PEFIP provides funding for Canada's 4,800 chicken, egg, broiler hatching egg, and turkey farmers to make ongoing improvements to their operations and enhance the long-term efficiency and sustainability of their farms.

To view the details of this program, visit (in English):

<https://www.canada.ca/en/agriculture-agri-food/news/2021/05/poultry-and-egg-producers-can-now-apply-for-compensation-funds-to-boost-competitiveness.html>

This PEFIP announcement comes after recommendations brought forward to Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) by the national poultry and egg agencies (SM4). The focus of the poultry and egg sectors was on allowing Canadian farmers to increase their investment in their operations to improve productivity, biosecurity and sustainability, while better responding to consumer preferences of Canadian-raised poultry and eggs.

To view the full statement from Egg Farmers of Canada, see the *Poultry Compensation Memo* attached to this email.

RSS FEED: DON'T MISS OUT ON IMPORTANT UPDATES!

A feature of the farmer website, www.getcracking.ca/members, offers a Rich Site Summary (RSS). This is a format for delivering regularly changing web content.

Egg and pullet farmers who subscribe to this feed will receive any updates to the website via email on a weekly basis.

Please visit www.getcracking.ca/members/member-farmer-news to sign up.

AGSCAPE AND EFO PARTNER ON NEW RESOURCE

AgScape, in collaboration with EFO, recently launched a new, curriculum-based, egg resource called *An Exploration of Egg Farming in Ontario, Teacher's Guide for Grades K-8*.

The resource contains a teacher's guide and three lesson plans that target grades K to 3, 4 to 6 and 7-8 and also provides an overview of egg farming in Ontario. It includes important elements such as how eggs get from the farm to the table, how eggs are part of a healthy diet and careers related to egg farming.

The launch of the resource was timed to coincide with Ontario Local Food Week and was offered to educators as part of the Local Food Week digital resource package. To learn more about AgScape, please visit <https://agscape.ca/index>.

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.

Recent amendments, which were communicated May 25 via email, include *Egg Quota Policy*, *Home Week Policy*, *Special Layer Lease*, *Pullet Leasing Policy* and *Pullet Quota Policy*.

Please check this site frequently.

PRODUCTION STATISTICS

(in boxes of 15 dozen)

Ontario Production (week ending #16)

2021 – 5,867,192
2020 – 5,765,892

Ontario IP (week ending #16)

2021 – 1,000,966
2020 – 1,066,465

Ontario EFP (week ending #16)

2021 – 221,886
2020 – 412,464

US Shell Egg Imports to Ontario (week ending May 15, 2021 - #20)

2021 – 767,381
2020 – 388,821

follow us online!



OFA PROJECT CONTINUES TO GAIN MOMENTUM TO GROW ONTARIO'S AGRI-FOOD WORKFORCE



The Ontario Federation of Agriculture's (OFA) labour project has continued to build momentum over the past year, supporting employers in the agri-food sector. Feeding Your Future supports Ontario farmers and agri-business owners across the province to find, train, and retain the workers they need. This program offers a free job matching service to help employers develop a job posting and review all applicants. Virtual career fairs have also been coordinated on a user-friendly platform to connect employers directly with job seekers. Leading up to the 2021 harvest season, these free virtual career fairs will be held in East/Central/Northern Ontario on August

18, and spanning to Southwestern Ontario on August 25. A province-wide virtual career fair will be held on September 9. All agriculture and food employers seeking workers are encouraged to register for a free booth. To take advantage of these free job postings or register for the career fairs, email feedyourfuture@agcareers.com or call 877-438-5729 ext. 4.

Recently hired new employees on your farm? Online training for new workers is available through the new Ontario Agriculture Worker Safety and Awareness Certificate. This introductory training will help prepare new workers for farm operations across Ontario. Webinars will also be hosted for workers and employers, so stay tuned for updates on our social media pages. For more information on the Feeding Your Future initiative, visit our website at feedingyourfuture.ca. If you are looking for workers, we hope you take advantage of these services during COVID-19 and beyond.

NEW ONLINE PLATFORM AND DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS REGULATION

On June 10, an email was sent to all egg and pullet farmers regarding EFO's authority to work digitally with farmers. This is related to EFO's ongoing improvements related to information systems, processes and associated technology services.

EFO is embarking on a three-year project to transform digitally and the first step was a decision to move the current Flock Management System that houses EFO's data to a stable technology using Microsoft SQL Server (April 2020), as the old Access database was no longer supported by Microsoft.

The second phase of this project will be implemented end of June 2021 with layer allotments communicated digitally to farmers through a new web-based platform called EFOonline and will replace the current Replacement Layer Order Report process. The current link on the getcracking.ca site will be closed to layer farmers and on June 28 and 29, layer farmers will be invited to attend webinars for training on the new system.

The third phase will target pullet growers and hatcheries access to the portal before the end of 2021; this will allow a fully "integrated" digital hen order process. The goal will be real-time visibility of the allotment process in the portal and ensure all pullets being received by Ontario pullet growers having been preplanned and staff authorized on a hen order.

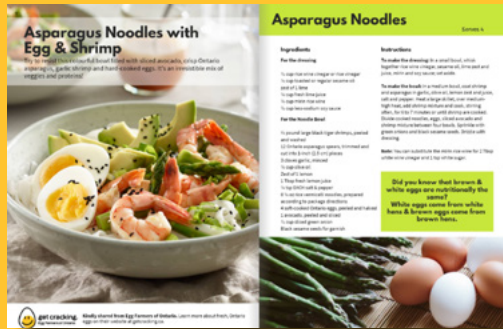
Please call Ray Hinton at 519-943-4334 if you have any questions.

EGGS AND ASPARAGUS; WHAT A COMBO!

EFO once again collaborated with The Yummy Farm and Ontario Asparagus in an e-book to showcase recipes with in-season asparagus and fresh, local ingredients. Contributions to the resource were contributed by chefs and food writers.

Our delicious [Asparagus Noodles with Egg & Shrimp](#) recipe was featured in the resource, along with some fun egg facts.

To view the e-book, visit <https://bit.ly/3c371un>.



Above: EFO's recipe page from the 2021 Ontario Asparagus e-book.

FARMER UPDATES

MENTAL HEALTH FOR FARMERS - TOOL KIT

The Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA) understands that owning and running a farm business may create stresses that can differ from the typical person. Stress can be related to finances, animal welfare, finances or the impact of running a business with family members.

OMAFRA has developed a tool kit of resources available to farmers to provide assistance to those who may be struggling to overcome challenges, whatever they may be related to. What may not seem like a big deal to one person may be overwhelming to another and these resources are available with that in mind. From how to deal with financial losses, difficult situations such as crop loss or animal disease or even identifying if you are under stress, the tool kit provides a wide range of information.

To access the complete list of tools available, please visit <http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/about/mental-health.htm> or to speak to someone for help, call the Mental Health Helpline at 1-866-531-2600.

If you or someone you know is in crisis and needs immediate help, call 911.

Happy Canada Day

Holiday Notice

Please note, EFO staff will be taking July 1, 2021 off to celebrate Canada Day. Enjoy a safe and healthy celebration!

MONTHLY recipe

Egg-in-a-Hole Burgers



Servings: 4 burgers
Prep Time: 10 minutes
Cook Time: 30 minutes

2 tbsp (30 mL) mayonnaise
2 tbsp (30 mL) ketchup
4 green leaf lettuce leaves
4 tomato slices

INGREDIENTS

1.10 lb (500 g) ground turkey
1 tbsp (15 mL) worcestershire sauce
1 tsp (5 mL) dried oregano
1 ½ tsp (7.5 mL) dried thyme
1 ½ tsp (7.5 mL) dried parsley
3 garlic cloves, minced
1 tsp (5 mL) salt
1 tsp (5 mL) pepper
2 tbsp (30 mL) olive oil
4 eggs
½ cup (125 mL) grated Cheddar cheese
4 hamburger buns, toasted

DIRECTIONS

In a large bowl, gently mix turkey, worcestershire, oregano, thyme, parsley, garlic, salt and pepper until combined. Divide mixture into 3 even balls; firmly press down creating a 5-inch (12 cm) round patty. Using a 2-inch (5 cm) round cutter, cut out the centre of each patty. Use the cut meat to make the fourth patty. Place patties on a small parchment-lined baking sheet; freeze for 5 minutes to firm up.

Preheat a 10-inch (25 cm) cast iron pan to medium-high heat. Add 1 tbsp (15 mL) olive oil. Working in batches, cook 2 patties for 6 minutes. Flip and crack 1 egg into each hole. Cook for 4 minutes. Reduce heat to medium low, cover and cook egg until desired doneness, about 3 to 5 minutes. Remove from pan and sprinkle each patty with 2 tbsp (30 mL) cheese. Repeat with remaining two patties.

Spread each bun bottom and top with mayonnaise and ketchup. Place patty on bottom bun, followed by lettuce and tomato slice. Finish with bun top. Serve warm.

“eggs-pert” advice

TIP: Try jazzing it up with different toppings! Make it Greek-inspired by substituting tomato with sundried tomatoes and sliced olives.

EGGS IN THE NEWS

Egg producer praised for contribution

Huron Expositor
June 2, 2021

A Listowel egg producer has been formally recognized for the donation of eggs to the families supported by Community Living Central Huron.

Since April 2020, Tonya Haverkamp has donated over 825 dozen eggs, 180 bags of scrambled eggs and 1,300 hard-boiled eggs.

The eggs and associated egg products were delivered the families' homes by Community Living staff.

Community Living says Haverkamp's donation is an example of the relationships and partnerships that have flourished during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Although much of Community Living's funding is provided by the Ministry of Community, Children and Social

Services and the Ministry of Health, a spokesperson for the organization said it has been fortunate to receive general donations from individuals and business that have desire to support other community members in need of respite.

“A shining example of this is the donation and sharing of eggs - lots and lots of eggs,” said the spokesperson. “The programs of Community Living-Central Huron are extremely grateful to Tonya Haverkamp, Ontario egg producer.”

outreach UPDATES

EFO celebrates the love of local

Local Food Week (June 7-13) is a week-long event designed to rejoice in all the fresh, local food that is grown and produced right here in Ontario. Egg Farmers of Ontario (EFO) collaborated with the Ontario Produce Marketing Association, Ontario Bean, Turkey Farmers of Ontario and Veal Farmers of Ontario to share messages and promote #LoveOntFood. Content was exchanged across social media with these groups who shared egg recipes with their viewers.

To start things off on June 7, Home Economist Emily Richards shared three recipes on CTV *Morning Live* (Ottawa) using local ingredients, including EFO's [Egg-in-a-hole Burgers](#). Emily also appeared on CTV News at Noon (Kitchener) June 9 and [Global News](#)

[Morning](#) (Kingston) June 9. Chef Raquel Fox (IslandGurlFoods.com) was live on [CHCH Morning Live](#) (Hamilton) on June 11 to share two unique recipes she created using local ingredients.

The group also worked with social media influencer Jordana Hart (@ihartnutrition) who shopped for local ingredients to create a dinner that featured Ontario produce and proteins which she shared with her followers in two videos and a photo shoot.

Finally, AgScape, in collaboration with EFO, launched a new curriculum-linked egg resource, *An Exploration of Egg Farming in Ontario, Teacher's Guide for Grades K-8*. This guide was included with the Local Food Week digital resource package which was sent to Ontario teachers.



Above: Emily Richards shares recipes made with local ingredients on CTV Morning Live (Ottawa).

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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, safe, high-quality protein at a fair price.