

The Cackler

The latest EFO news



Industry Updates:
AAC, FCC, LRIC,
OFA, PIC & more



**Board Officers,
Committees and
Representatives**



**Recipe of the
Month:**
Bruschetta Sheet
Pan Eggs



Outreach Update:
**OMHA
Championships**



Above (left to right): Josiah visits CTV Kitchener; winning Community Tree entry; and Stephanie Nanne shares ideas at Rogers Daytime.

#EasterTreeContest

Eggs Farmers of Ontario brought back the fourth annual #EasterTreeContest where Ontarians were asked to decorate a tree for a chance to win!

The contest ran March 8 to 31 and entries were judged in one of three categories – Indoor, Outdoor or Community. Participants submitted photos by tagging @EggFarmersOnt using the hashtag

#EasterTreeContest on Instagram or Facebook. Photos could also be submitted via email for those not on social media.

The contest received 70 entries, which were judged by egg farmers Josiah Mullet Koop (Zone 4), Stephanie Nanne (Zone 9) and Joanne Hayes (Zone 3).

Easter outreach was further supported by TV segments with Josiah Mullet Koop

on [CTV News](#) (Kitchener) and [CHCH Morning Live](#) (Hamilton). Stephanie Nanne was featured on [Global News Morning](#) (Kingston), [CTV Morning Live](#) (Ottawa) and [Rogers Daytime](#) (Ottawa). Both farmers highlighted the #EasterTreeContest and shared a variety of egg decorating tips.

Upcoming Board of Directors Meetings: May 8th; June 4th-5th

With this issue: Poultry and Egg On-Farm Investment Program Data, Pullet Contract Template

INDUSTRY UPDATES

Agricultural Adaptation Council (AAC)

The *Increasing Deadstock Capacity Initiative* is a \$1.5 million initiative funded by the Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership (SCAP). It will run for up to two years or until the funding has been fully distributed. Click [here](#) to learn more.

Farm Credit Canada (FCC)

Recent FCC Knowledge included a mental health update on [Addiction and mental health: Know the warning signs](#). This helpful article includes the warning signs of addiction and ways to provide help and support.

The *2023 Farmland Values Report* has been released by FCC. This report looks at regional land value trends in Canada in price per acre. Click [here](#) to view the report.

Farm Products Council of Canada (FPCC)

FPCC created a video on supply management, which was also presented during EFO's annual meeting. The video is now posted on YouTube and can be viewed [here](#).

Ontario Livestock and Poultry Council (OLPC)

Membership meetings will be held virtually on August 16 and December 13,

2024. Virtual meetings will be held at Beef Farmers of Ontario on June 14 and October 11.

Bill 171, *Enhancing Professional Care for Animals Act, 2024* has passed Second Reading and is at committee. If passed, the act would define the scope of practice for veterinarians and align the profession with other self-regulated Ontario professions. This Act would also bring vet technicians under the same regulatory college as veterinarians.

Ontario Federation of Agriculture (OFA)

A new OFA survey shows that farmers are feeling the impact of inflation, high interest rates and taxes. As a result, many are putting off major projects and making large investments in technology and equipment. For more information about survey results, read the full [Viewpoint here](#).

Agriculture Wellness Ontario provides mental health support for farmers and the agricultural sector. For more information about programs, training and more, visit [AgricultureWellnessOntario.ca](#).

For more information on upcoming events, current issues and more, visit [ofa.on.ca/](#).

Poultry Industry Council (PIC)

PIC has several events lined up for spring. Research Impacts Day is coming May 15th! Find out the latest in poultry research and learn how research can influence farm practices, quality and animal welfare. For more information or to register, click [here](#).

Poultry Health Day will be held on June 19th in Stratford. This session includes a range of topics to improve the health and performance of your flock! For more information, or to register, click [here](#).

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) and Canadian Animal Health Surveillance System (CAHSS) have developed a new HPAI Dashboard tool that reports data collected to fight the spread of highly pathogenic avian influenza. For more information, visit <https://cahss.ca/cahss-networks/poultry-new>.

Save the date for PIC's 2024 golf tournament, which will be held on Wednesday, September 4th.

Egg Team Update

Egg Farmers of Ontario is pleased to welcome Brian Yuen to the Egg Team!

Brian joined EFO in the role of Industrial Product and Quota Unit Manager for the Policy and Strategic Initiatives department on April 15th, 2024.

Brian brings with him a wealth of experience from the retail grocery sector, having spent 13 successful years at Loblaw Companies Limited. During his tenure there, he demonstrated remarkable growth, progressing from Pricing Manager to Senior Pricing Manager and finally to Grocery Pricing Lead. Brian also spent six years at Shoppers Drug Mart as a Promotions Analyst prior to joining Loblaw.

His proficiency in analytics, data modelling and visualization, coupled with his proven track record in leading high-performing teams, will undoubtedly be invaluable assets to the PSI team. As we continue to contribute to the execution of the 2024-2026 Strategic Plan, Brian's insights and leadership will play a pivotal role in our success.

Farmer Updates

For Sale:

Farmer Augomatic Eco 2 enriched cages, six years old. 4 rows, 4 high, 6,656 bird capacity.

Call Tom: 519-955-5258

For Sale:

170 ft of 14 inch Farmer Automatic egg conveyor. I have 2 double-drive units - can be all one conveyor length or 2 separate conveyors.

Contact Dan: 519-801-5216

Wanted:

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

Contact James:
519-608-3829

PRODUCTION STATISTICS

(in boxes of 15 dozen)

Ontario Production (week ending #4)

2024 - 1,522,350

2023 - 1,501,368

Ontario IP (week ending #4)

2024 - 218,544

2023 - 226,388

Ontario EFP (week ending #4)

2024 - 104,256

2023 - 102,536

US Shell Egg Imports to Ontario

(week ending February 17,
2024 - #7)

2024 - 154,859

2023 - 245,760

Follow us online!





EFO's Board of Directors, 2024-2025

Board Officers, Committees and Representatives

April 1, 2024 - March 31, 2025

Chair

Scott Helps

Vice Chair

Dan Veldman

Egg Farmers of Canada Representative

Scott Brookshaw

Egg Farmers of Canada Alternate

Marcel Jr. Laviolette

Executive Committee

Scott Helps, Dan Veldman, Scott Brookshaw, Marcel Jr. Laviolette

Audit Committee

Scott Helps, Dan Veldman, Lorne Benedict

Egg Industry Advisory Committee

Scott Helps, Dan Veldman, Scott Brookshaw, Marcel Jr. Laviolette, Alvin Brunsveld

Finance Committee

Scott Helps, Marcel Jr. Laviolette, Ian McFall, George Pilgrim, Sally Van Straaten

Production Management Committee

Scott Brookshaw, Scott Helps, Marcel Jr. Laviolette, George Pilgrim, Sally Van Straaten, Dan Veldman

Public Affairs Committee

Scott Brookshaw, Ian McFall, George Pilgrim, Sally Van Straaten, Dan Veldman

Pullet Committee

Scott Brookshaw, Alvin Brunsveld, Marcel Jr. Laviolette, Dan Veldman

Research and Innovation Committee

Alvin Brunsveld, Brian Miller, George Pilgrim, Michele Guerin, Dr. Mike Petrik

Farm & Food Care Ontario Representatives

Janelle Cardiff, Sally Van Straaten

Farm & Food Care Alternate

Alvin Brunsveld

Ontario Federation of Agriculture Representative

Sally Van Straaten

Poultry Industry Council Representative

Sally Van Straaten

Pullet Growers of Canada Representative

Alvin Brunsveld

Pullet Growers of Canada Alternate

Marcel Jr. Laviolette

Treasurer

Michael Barun

Secretary

Jennifer Correa

**EFO's Chair serves as an ex officio Member on all EFO Committees.*



HOUSING TRANSITION

EFO would like to remind all farmers not to wait too long before implementing the necessary steps to transition housing units. Remember - builders, equipment and permits all take time to schedule.

The following dates should also serve as a reminder to get started on plans:

- **July 1, 2031** – capacity changes from 67/75 sq in/bird to 90 sq in/bird.
- **July 1, 2036** – no conventional housing will be allowed

As soon as your building plans are known, please let Pam Kuipers (pkuipers@getcracking.ca) know about the equipment specifications that show the anticipated capacity. If you have any questions, contact Pam Kuipers or your EFO Inspector.

Pullet Contract Template

In 2022, EFO formed a working group of farmers and industry representatives to evaluate pullet contracting practices, aiming to create a Pullet Contract Template as a reference for industry.

After several productive meetings, the template was finalized and submitted to the Pullet Committee in early 2024. Subsequently, upon the committee's endorsement, the EFO Board approved its publication.

The Pullet Contract Template is offered as a recommendation and guide, although its adoption is not mandatory. This document will be posted on [EFOOnline](#).

EFO encourages industry input and remains open to revising the template as necessary. To provide feedback, please email James Corpuz, Director of Policy and Strategic Initiatives at jcorpuz@getcracking.ca.

Please see The Pullet Contract Template - March 2024 that was sent as an attachment with this issue of *The Cackler*.

Egg Masters Promotion

EFO's foodservice promotion gets cracking!

The *Egg Masters* promotion officially launched on April 8th and the entries are piling up!

Between April 8 to May 17th, diners at one of 40 participating restaurants can order a featured egg dish, submit a photo of it and review online at eggmasters.ca.

One lucky winner from each participating restaurant will be selected to win three month's worth of eggs!

Want to see if your favourite place to eat eggs is on the list? Check out the list of [participating restaurants](#) by city!

Don't forget to check out the entries and find your favourite at eggmasters.ca, but be warned - it will make you crave eggs!



Clockwise, from above: Table card promoting Egg Masters from a participating restaurant; a hearty contest entry on the eggmasters.ca website features Eggs Benedict; and classic sunny side up are a favourite in this review.



Egg farmers provide nutrition to local students

Zone 6 egg farmer Gary West recently shared these pictures of students enjoying eggs that were donated through the Nutrition for Learning program to schools in Kitchener-Waterloo and the surrounding area.

With high-needs schools requiring more support than ever, these egg donations are critical in ensuring that students have access to high-quality eggs and the essential nutrients that help them grow and learn.



Students enjoy eggs provided to them through the Nutrition for Learning program and Zone 6 egg farmers.

Bruschetta Sheet Pan Eggs

Servings 4

Prep Time: 20 minutes

Cook Time: 7 minutes

- ½ cup (125 ml) ricotta cheese
- ¼ cup (60 ml) julienned basil
- ¼ tsp (2 ml) kosher or sea salt
- ¼ tsp (2 ml) pepper
- 4 plum tomatoes, diced
- ½ red onion, minced
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- 2 tbsp (30 ml) each olive oil and balsamic glaze
- 8 eggs
- ¼ cup (60 ml) grated Parmesan cheese
- salt and pepper to taste
- basil leaves to garnish
- ciabatta or focaccia bread to serve

DIRECTIONS

In a small bowl, mix ricotta, basil, salt and pepper until well combined.

On a large baking sheet, toss tomatoes with onion, garlic, olive oil and balsamic glaze. Spoon small dollops of ricotta mix all over tomatoes. Make 8 wells and crack an egg into each well.

Bake in preheated oven at 400°F (200°C) for 6-7 minutes or until eggs are cooked to desired doneness.

Sprinkle with Parmesan cheese, season all over with salt and pepper to taste and garnish with basil leaves. Serve with bread.

Nutrients per serving (1/4 recipe*): 340 calories, 23 g total fat, 8 g saturated fat, 415 mg cholesterol, 500 mg sodium, 400 mg potassium, 12 g carbohydrates, 1 g fibre, 8 g sugars, 20 g protein.

Nutrition Update: Inspired Eggs webinar with Elis Halenko



Above: During the webinar, Elis shared tips for preparing beautiful egg flowers.

On Monday, March 25, Registered Dietitian (RD) and social media influencer Elis Halenko (@thefoodstylistrd) hosted a workshop for dietitians and nutrition experts. The workshop's theme was *Inspired Eggs for Everyday* and had more than 90 people registered.

Participants received a kit with EFO nutrition resources including *Meal Plan*

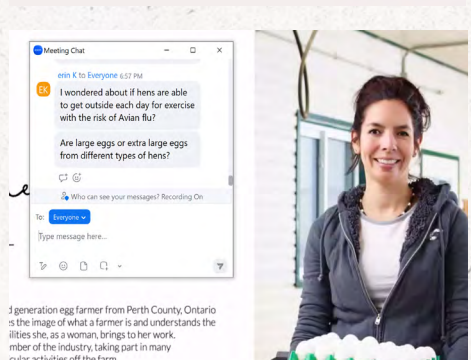
Like a Pro, Eggs a Natural Choice and 6 Simple Ways Eggs Make Meals Better.

Egg farmer Tonya Haverkamp joined in the conversation, where she shared her farm story and was available to answer questions.

As part of the 2024 nutrition strategy, EFO will continue to work with Elis on three campaigns from March to September. Each will feature a unique egg recipe, blog post and Instagram reel in spring, summer and fall.

In the spring campaign that was launched in March, Elis featured a family-friendly but nutrient-packed brunch menu that showcased delicious egg-inspired tea sandwiches and a Dutch Baby recipe.

To see her take on these recipes, visit <https://www.instagram.com/reel/C4xwXSQrZot/>.



Top: Elis introduces Tonya Haverkamp to the group.

Above: Participants ask Tonya egg questions in the chat.

Security Reminder

Protect your farm from unwanted visitors

With the warm weather approaching, time in the field can often distract from our usual routines and procedures. This can also make it a good time for break-ins, theft and trespassers.

With that in mind, EFO wants to remind everyone to always maintain a high-level of awareness and security to protect your farm, flock and family from unwanted visitors.

Good fencing and lighting, proper use of locks and no-trespassing signs are all ways to ensure you are not an easy target.



Trespassers will look for a simple way in and will tend to avoid well-lit, fenced off locations with extra security such as locks.

Remember, not all activity takes place during the day when you are around to see it.

Follow farm security and visitor protocols at all times and in particular, when any work is being done on your property.

As part of this, ensure all employees are educated on the process for checking in and escorting visitors. As an additional precaution, visitors can be requested to sign a waiver prohibiting them from taking photographs and/or video.

Be aware of what is going on both on and off of your property and remind your

neighbours to notify you of any suspicious activity.

If you have unwanted people on your property, inform them they are trespassing and ask them to leave. If they don't consent, contact police immediately to let them know you feel there is a risk to you, your family and your birds.

Do not confront or interact any further with any trespassers.

In the event that you encounter suspicious activity, contact your local police detachment and notify Donna Lange, Director of Public Affairs at 705-715-7380/dlange@getcracking.ca or Pam Passerino, Communications Team Lead at 905-537-9768/ppasserino@getcracking.ca.

WEEKEND LOADING

EFO will be closed on Monday, May 20th for Victoria Day.

In case of emergency, please contact Pam Kuipers at 519-827-6856 or Ryan Brown, EFO Chief Executive Officer at 519-831-1500.

Wishing everyone a happy and safe Victoria Day!



EFO[®] ONLINE

Did you know?

You can easily find the details of your production quota history online!

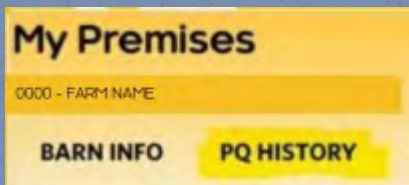
Step 1:

Go to your homepage and click on "view" as highlighted in the image on the right.



Step 2:

Click on PQ History and you will find the details of all changes in your PQ!



Still need help?

Don't worry - you can simply call us at:

1 (800) 387-8360

Outreach Update

EFO scores another successful Championship with OMHA

The Ontario Minor Hockey Association (OMHA) Championship weekends, sponsored by EFO, have now come to a close, with events taking place from March 22nd through to April 7th. Locations included Brampton, Kingston, Newmarket, Halton Hills, Oakville and Whitby.

Over 660 games took place during the Championships with more than 350 teams participating.

Egg farmers across the province participated at the events, where they were on-hand to present medals and red hats to winning teams and MVP's of each game.

For more information about the 2024 Championships, visit omha.net/news/article/show/1305361.

Education Update: video filming underway

Filming recently took place at Matt and Jill Denys (Zone 5) egg farm for the creation of a video that will support EFO's education program. The video will highlight the Deny's boys and share with Ontario students the activities and responsibilities of kids growing up on an egg farm.



A second video showing students a behind-the-scenes look at kids on a farm with enriched housing will be filmed in June.



Above: Chris Mullet Koop (Zone 4) stops for a selfie at the Halton Hills Championships.



Above: Denver Sleep and his mom Candace Phoenix (Zone 8) had fun helping out in Whitby.
Below: Tonya Haverkamp (Zone 7) gets a stack of gold medals ready to hand out.



Board of Directors

Zone 1 - Scott Helps (Chair)
shelps@ymail.com
519-464-2744

Zone 2 - Lorne Benedict
lornebenedict@outlook.com
519-281-3321

Zone 3 - Dan Veldman (Vice Chair)
dveldd@gmail.com
519-801-5216

Zone 4 - Roger Pelissero
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Zone 5 - Brian Miller
bwmiller@quadro.net
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Zone 6 - Sally Van Straaten
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Zone 7 - Scott Brookshaw
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Zone 8 - George Pilgrim
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Zone 9 - Ian McFall
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613-498-8526

Zone 10 - Marcel Jr. Laviolette
marcel@falaviolette.com
613-806-2847

Pullet - Alvin Brunsveld
brunsvelda@gmail.com
519-319-1874

REMINDER: ACCESS INFORMATION ONLINE

Have you signed up to receive EFO's RSS feed yet? Receive weekly alerts of any information that is posted to EFO's member website, including monthly issues of *The Cackler*.

The Cackler
The latest EFO news

60 A promising future built on a proud past.
1964 - 2024 · EGG FARMERS OF ONTARIO

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Mississauga, ON L5N 4H1

EGG FARMERS OF ONTARIO MISSION STATEMENT

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