



Cackler

The Latest EFO News

Publication Agr. No: 40068941



get cracking®
Egg Farmers of Ontario

December 2020



Above: Double-page spread from *Horizon Magazine*; and (right): the December front cover of *City Parent* magazine.



‘Tis the season to Get Cracking!

Cracking eggs for delicious holiday cooking and baking was the highlight of December outreach.

EFO SHARES DELICIOUS WAYS TO ENJOY THE HOLIDAYS

The festive spirit was in the air with with EFO recipes featured on both television and in print advertisements as part of our holiday outreach.

In December, delicious [Maple Cinnamon Rolls](#) were showcased in full-page ads in *City Parent*, *Foodism*, and *Horizon* magazine. The Laver family and Colin Vyn were part of the ads using *Real Farmer. Real Eggs.* campaign assets. To round out the content, digital ads were placed on www.foodism.to along with a week-long takeover of banner ads on their website and *Horizon* magazine gave EFO additional ads on elevator screens throughout the GTA and their new wrap-around screen at Dundas Square.

Mom in the Know, Julie Findlay, demonstrated EFO’s delicious [Meringues](#) for a segment with [CTV Ottawa](#) on November 22, where she also shared fun activities for the holidays.



UPCOMING BOARD OF DIRECTOR’S MEETINGS:

- January 6 & 7 (via teleconference)
- February 4 & 5 (via teleconference)

IN THIS ISSUE

Business Highlights from the December 2 & 3 Board Meeting

COVID-19 Protocols

Recipe of the Month: [Maple Cinnamon Rolls](#)

Lindsay Ag Society Hosts Live Event with Egg Farmer

INFORMATION *update*

Business Highlights from the December 2 & 3 Board meeting

Early Fowl Removal and Egg Market Update

Egg market conditions continue to be extremely volatile with the number of COVID-19 cases in Ontario trending up and more areas of the province returning to lockdown conditions. Processed egg demand, that had only recently returned to close to pre-COVID levels in September, is now down again significantly.

Shell egg sales remain very strong, but the downturn on the processed egg side of the market means that the overall market is down and eggs in storage are trending upwards again.

To manage the egg supply, a national decision has been made to require another round of Early Fowl Removal (EFR), which began in December and continues through March. This is needed to address the increasing number of eggs in storage and the decrease in demand in the food service and processed egg markets. Arrangements have already been made for early removal of more than 300,000 birds in Ontario by the end of December. The maximum number to be removed to meet Ontario's commitment in the national program will peak at more 500,000 birds in January before ramping down again February and March.

November Zoom Update

A November Zoom Update, in place of the traditional Egg and Pullet Farmer Workshop, was

held Thursday, November 26. Over 130 farmers attended this virtual update. Reports from Egg Farmers of Canada and pullet representatives were provided. In addition, updates were given on EFO's quota simplification project, 2020-2022 strategic plan, Public Affairs Department activities and the information technology project (FMS 2.0).

Pullet Industry Meeting

A pullet industry meeting was held November 24. This meeting was an opportunity for discussion on a number of matters relating to growing pullets in Ontario between EFO's board, hatcheries and other industry stakeholders.

FMS 2.0

The Board was provided an update on EFO's technology transformation project. Staff is targeting the January Board meeting for approval of phase two scope of work. This phase anticipates 2022 allotments (allowables) will be communicated digitally to layer farmers through a personalized web portal, at which time, the replacement layer order report will no longer be required. A process will be developed for farmers who apply as non-digital farmers for religious reasons as discussed at the recent farmer workshop. This will be the first significant change in how EFO conducts its business with layer farmers as we move towards a fully integrated digital process involving pullet farmers, hatcheries and other industry stakeholders.

Pullet Audits

Discussions continue with Egg Farmers of Canada staff to take on the pullet program audit. EFO's Board will be establishing a working group to help establish the framework and work plan, including measurement and sign off on all capacities and densities. In the meantime, pullet growers are reminded to continue to keep records up-to-date (as per the Record Binder previously distributed).

Zone Annual Meetings and Elections

As Ontario remains in a State of Emergency, Zone Annual Meetings and elections will be held virtually early 2021. EFO's Board and staff are working through logistical details regarding the election process and will communicate information to egg farmers and pullet growers in the coming weeks.

EFO Increases Food Bank Donations for Q1 2021

The Board has approved a recommendation to increase food bank donations in 2021. Similar to what occurred early in 2020, Egg Farmers of Ontario will be donating 18,000 dozen small and medium eggs, over and above our monthly donation of 11,000 dozen per month, to Feed Ontario. Each Zone will also be receiving an additional \$2,500 to increase donations to local food banks for the period January-April 2021.

IN THE

Zone

A place to share the success of local activities and events

Zone 4 egg farmers have been working hard to supply fresh eggs to those in need, especially during 2020.



Above: The Cayuga Foodbank order eggs as-needed, one or two boxes at a time. Charlotte Huitema proudly shows the eggs for donation that arrived on the egg truck.



Left: Chris Mullet Koop dropping egg donations at The Wellington Centre 4 Women; and (above) at the Village of Hope. These deliveries mark the second of 10 scheduled from now until March 2021.

**Coming up next month:
Zone 5 activities**

SECURITY FROM TRESPASS AND PROTECTING FOOD SAFETY ACT, 2020 PROCLAIMED

The Ontario government announced the proclamation of the *Security from Trespass and Protecting Food Safety Act, 2020* which became effective December 5. The Act protects farmers, the agri-food sector and livestock transport drivers from the impacts of trespassing.

This act respects the right to peaceful public protest while giving the justice system the tools it needs to help protect farms, farmers, livestock, abattoirs, meat processors, and

the food supply from trespassing and harassment.

Egg Farmers of Ontario is thankful for the hard work and support of Minister Hardeman and the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs in bringing about this legislation.

For more information about the Act, visit <https://news.ontario.ca/en/release/59493/ontario-adopts-new-law-to-protect-public-safety-and-food-supply>.

POLICY AMENDMENTS

Egg and Pullet Quota Policies

The Board has removed the requirement for a 10% deposit when submitting “QTS Form 2-14 Buy Bid”. Successful buyers of quota will be required to make payments in full to the Board office by wire transfer or bank draft not less than 10 business days prior to the effective date of the quota transfer.

Both quota policies and the Good Standing Policy now include provisions outlining the implications for buyers defaulting on QTS bids and / or late payments.

The Egg Quota Policy now incorporates the “use it or lose it” principle currently found in the Pullet Quota Policy. The expectation of the Board is layer farmers place their pullets (allotments) as issued by staff.

The recently issued Flock Allotment Policy effective January 1st, 2021 has been updated to clarify the eligible time period to convert the layer leasing program birds. Farmers have 10 years to expand capacity in their commercial operations to house these birds followed by a 5 year conversion period (in total a maximum 15 year period).

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. Please check this site frequently.

If further information or clarification on any matter is required, farmers should contact EFO's office.

DIGITAL UPDATE

Consumer expresses her gratitude for farmers

In a time where it has become normal to share negative thoughts, it makes it even nicer when a kind thought or word is sent along.

When our digital newsletter *Eggs & Bakin'* was recently sent out, a subscriber sent us the following message:

Hi Folks –

Just to let you know you and your work is appreciated. Without you and other great farmers like you, people like me in Toronto and elsewhere would be starving. I also appreciate your generosity in forwarding your super great and amazing recipes.

From someone who cares and appreciates YOU!!!!

Regards

Dorothy.

follow us online!



PRODUCTION STATISTICS

(in boxes of 15 dozen)

Ontario Production (week ending #40)

2020 – 14,584,664
2019 – 14,175,091

Ontario IP (week ending #40)

2020 – 2,675,662
2019 – 3,040,941

Ontario EFP (week ending #40)

2020 – 878,846
2019 – 945,524

US Shell Egg Imports to Ontario (week ending November 14, 2020 - #46)

2020 – 1,337,239
2019 – 2,650,770

WITH THIS ISSUE

- Tribute to Anita Stewart
- Media Release: Security from Trespass and Protecting Food Safety Act, 2020
- COVID-19 and Farm Employees

OMAFRA COVID-19 PROTOCOLS

Someone on my farm tested positive for COVID-19 – now what?

Of course nobody wants this to happen, but the best way to deal with a potential emergency is to be prepared. That's why the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA) has developed a resource with the steps you need to take if someone who works on your farm tests positive for COVID-19.

This resource outlines the six necessary steps that must be followed related to a positive test result as well as links to helpful resources.

To view the OMAFRA resource, see the attached *COVID-19 and Farm Employees* document with this edition of *The Cackler*.

REMINDER: EGG AND PULLET FARMERS MUST CLEAR SNOW AND ICE FROM LANEWAYS AND YARDS

Egg Farmers of Ontario (EFO) reminds all egg and pullet farmers of the requirement to keep your farm laneways and yards clear of snow and ice. This is a critical safety issue for grader drivers picking up your eggs, industry / EFO staff coming onto farms to perform required tasks and all potential farm visitors.

In addition to the safety issues, maintaining safe and easy access also reduces costs.

Providing safe conditions for egg pickup is more than a courtesy – it is every farmer's obligation under the applicable sections of the Ontario Occupational Health and Safety Act. In addition, EFO's On-Farm Visitor and Inspector Safety Policy for Egg and Pullet Farms states "General areas around the home, barn yard and buildings need to be safe from trips, slips, falls and collisions (ice, snow, vehicle and farm equipment traffic)."

A TRIBUTE TO ANITA STEWART

"On October 29, 2020 a compelling and eloquent voice for Canadian food and farmers was silenced."

Those are the words of past EFO Chair Carolynne Griffith, who was a very good friend of Anita Stewart, who passed away in October.

Anita will be remembered as many different things to many people, but to read more about how she touched the lives of those in Canadian agriculture, see the attached insert "A Tribute to Anita Stewart" that is attached to this edition of *The Cackler*.



Egg Farmers of Ontario would like to extend our sympathy to the Morden family.

Carolyn Morden, the wife of past EFO Chair Gerald Morden, passed away on November 23, 2020.

Mrs. Morden leaves behind her husband of 63 years, their four children, 6 grandchildren and a great-granddaughter.

Our thoughts and prayers are extended to her family during this difficult time.

FARMER UPDATES

FOR SALE: Attention all egg and pullet farmers

Looking to sell parts or equipment OR need to purchase an item but just can't find it? Place a buy or sell ad in *The Cackler*. To place your ad, please contact Pam (ppasserino@getcracking.ca).

EGG TEAM UPDATE

Lee Hickey, EFO Director of Finance, recently announced she will retire from her position. Her last day will be December 22.

All EFO staff and Board of Directors, would like to thank Lee for her contributions as part of the EFO team for the past 13 years.

We wish Lee all the best for the future.



EFO staff will be taking Friday, December 25 to Monday, January 4, 2021 to celebrate the holidays.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, the EFO office remains closed to the public. When possible, EFO staff will continue to work remotely in the New Year until Public Health advisories change.

Wishing everyone a very safe, happy and healthy holiday!



MONTHLY recipe

MAPLE CINNAMON ROLLS

Servings: 8 rolls
Prep Time: 2 hours 20 minutes
Bake Time: 35 minutes

INGREDIENTS

Dough:

1 cup (250 mL) buttermilk
1 pkg. (8 g) active dry yeast
4 cups (1 L) all-purpose flour, plus extra for surface dusting
1 tsp (5 mL) ground nutmeg
½ tsp (2 mL) salt
½ cup (125 mL) pure maple syrup
2 tsp (10 mL) maple extract
2 eggs
½ cup (125 mL) unsalted butter, softened and divided

Filling:

½ cup (125 mL) brown sugar
1 tbsp (15 mL) ground cinnamon

Maple Icing:

1 pkg. (250 g) plain cream cheese, at room temperature
½ cup (125 mL) icing sugar, sifted
2 tbsp (30 mL) pure maple syrup, at room temperature

DIRECTIONS

Dough: In microwavable measuring cup, warm buttermilk (100°F/38°C). Sprinkle yeast over top of milk; let stand for 10 minutes or until frothy.

In a stand mixer with the paddle attachment, stir together flour, nutmeg and salt. On low speed, quickly add buttermilk mixture, maple syrup, maple extract, eggs and ¼ cup of the butter. Increase speed to medium and beat until ingredients are thoroughly combined, about 2 minutes. Switch to the dough hook attachment and knead on medium-high speed until dough is slightly sticky, smooth and comes away from sides of bowl, 2 to 5 minutes. If you find the dough is sticking to the sides of the mixer gently push dough towards the centre.

Turn dough onto lightly floured surface and knead by hand for 5 minutes until smooth and elastic. Place in lightly greased large bowl, turning to grease all over. Cover with plastic wrap and a tea towel. Let rise in warm place for 1 hour or until doubled in size and impressions remain when fingertips are pressed into dough.

Filling: In a small bowl, stir together sugar and cinnamon; set aside.

Lightly butter 13 x 9-inch (33 x 23 cm) glass baking dish.

Turn dough out onto lightly floured surface. Using a flour-dusted rolling pin, roll out into 12 x 15-inch (30 x 38 cm) rectangle (about ½-inch/1 cm thick).

Evenly spread remaining ¼ cup (60 mL) of butter over dough and sprinkle with sugar mixture. Starting at the long side, tightly roll up into a log. Cut into 8 slices. Place, cut sides down, in prepared dish, leaving space for dough to rise. Cover with plastic wrap and a tea towel; let rise in a warm place for 30 minutes or until doubled in size.

Preheat oven to 350°F (180°C).

Bake for 30 to 35 minutes until lightly golden. Let cool until warm.

Maple Icing: In a medium bowl, using an electric mixer, beat cream cheese, icing sugar and maple syrup until smooth. Evenly spread each bun with maple icing while warm.

TIP: If you do not have buttermilk, add 1 tbsp (15 mL) white vinegar or fresh lemon juice to a 1 cup (250 mL) glass measuring cup. Add milk to the 1 cup (250 mL) line; stir and let stand 10 minutes.

“eggs-pert” advice

EGGS IN THE NEWS

Encouraging Canadians to buy and cook with local ingredients this season

Food in Canada
December 11
Source: Dairy Farmers of Canada

Canada's dairy, poultry and egg farmers, through their joint 'Canadian Comfort' campaign, are encouraging Canadians to buy and cook with locally produced ingredients this season. Dairy Farmers of Canada, Chicken Farmers of Canada, Turkey Farmers of Canada, Egg Farmers

of Canada and Canadian Hatching Egg Producers are teaming up to help consumers better understand the value of high-quality local agricultural products produced right here in Canada.

Four handpicked social media influencers from across the country will help drive awareness for this initiative by sharing online how they cook their favourite recipes at home using Canadian dairy, chicken, turkey and eggs. Through weekly videos posted on Instagram and Facebook, these influencers will showcase their mastery of the quarantine kitchen with locally produced ingredients.

From the dedication of farmers to the stringent production standards focused on animal care, food quality and

sustainable practices, more and more Canadians are recognizing the value of producing more of our food within our own borders.

Farmers' contribution to both the economy and the farm-to-fork ecosystem are instrumental to the livelihood of rural communities, which in turn are an integral part of our national identity. To help support Canadian agriculture and, in turn, the more than 365,000 jobs supported by Canada's supply-managed sectors, we are encouraging Canadians to buy local ingredients whenever possible and share their culinary creations on social media using the hashtag #CanadianComfort.

outreach UPDATES

Lindsay Ag Society hosts live event with local egg farmer

by Alisha Mills,
EFO Outreach Coordinator

On December 10, Hubert Schillings (Zone 8) in Oshawa, Ontario hosted an event on Facebook Live called “Live! With an Egg Farmer at White Feather Farms” as part of the Home Grown Farm Tours series presented by the Lindsay Agricultural Society.

During his live farm tour, Hubert described what a typical day on the farm looks like for him as an egg and pullet farmer and gives a behind the scenes look at his new barn featuring enriched colony housing, anticipated to be ready for use June 2021.

In addition, during his tour Hubert describes raising pullets and keeping laying hens, technology used in the barn and the process of collecting and grading eggs. Hubert’s farm tour was accessed by 87 live viewers and has since been viewed over 600 times, including by

teachers in the Lindsay area who are incorporating the agricultural series into their virtual and hybrid classroom lesson plans.

The Lindsay Agricultural Society has also partnered with several commodity groups to create the Agriculture Education Hub, a resource educators can utilize to access the various farm tours and supporting materials.

All videos from the Home Grown Farm Tour series can also be found on the Lindsay Exhibition Facebook page or IGTV.

To view the Schillings farm tour in HD, click [here](#).

To access the Agriculture Education Hub, click [here](#).



Top: Lindsay Ag Society promotion of the live event; and Above: Hubert Schillings live from his farm.

Zone	Director	Email Address	Phone
1	Scott Helps	shelps@ymail.com	519-464-2744
2	Lorne Benedict	lbenedict@eastlink.ca	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	Tonya Haverkamp	tutzhaverkamp@hotmail.com	519-274-2574
7	Scott Brookshaw	sbrookshaw7@gmail.com	519-671-7568
8	George Pilgrim	georgepilgrim@hotmail.com	905-376-6869
9	Craig Hunter	chunter@burnbraefarms.com	613-341-2006
10	Marc Bourdon	marc@bourdon.ca	613-551-5071
Pullet	Alvin Brunsveld	brunsvelda@gmail.com	519-319-1874

DECEMBER QUOTE

“I will honour Christmas in my heart, and try to keep it all the year.”

- Charles Dickens



7195 Millcreek Drive,
Mississauga, ON L5N 4H1

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.