

# Alberta Hatching Egg Producers



Summer 2017

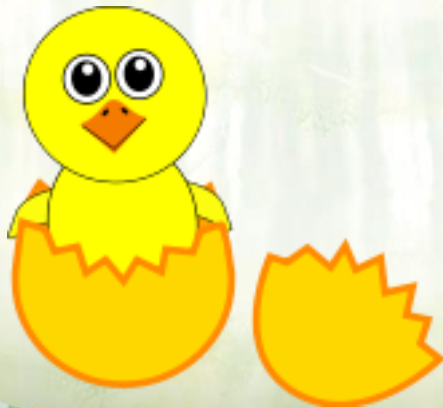
Circular

- **APO Period 57: Aug 21/17 – Oct 15/17**

The current saleable chick price for APO 57 is \$0.5618 (100% pd).

- **Flock Life**

Effective July 6, 2016 flock life was adjusted to 58 weeks.



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## **2017 CHEP Summer Meetings: Jasper, AB**

The Alberta Hatching Egg Producers (AHEP) hosted the annual summer meeting for the Canadian Hatching Egg Producers in Jasper, Alberta from July 17<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup>, 2017. Alberta hosts this event every 6 years, and this year proved to be another great success. Retired CHEP Directors

Dennis Wickersham and Kevin Tiemstra were recognized for their contributions to the national organization.

Notable conclusions from the meeting were positive growth signals from Chicken Farmers of Canada and the Canadian Hatching Egg Producers. This indicates that chicken consumption is still strong across Canada, and continues to support the growth of the chicken and hatching egg industry. The following are some details on the Allocation Advisory held on July 19<sup>th</sup>:

*Dennis and Marlene Wickersham, CHEP Producers of the Year and Robert Massé, Chair of CBHEPA, at the AHEP Opening BBQ.*

*With a life long dedication to their family farm in Linden, Dennis and Marlene continue to champion and promote the hatching egg industry.*



### **Allocation Review (National)**

From the CHEP summer meetings there was a recommendation from the advisory to further raise allocation for 2017 and 2018 as follows:

<b>Organization</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>
CHF	1204 (↑ 4.8%)	1252 (↑ 3.5%)
CPEPC	1204 (↑ 4.8%)	1252 (↑ 3.5%)
CFC	1204 (↑ 4.8%)	1258 (↑ 4.4%)
Ag Canada	1204 (↑ 4.8%)	1246 (↑ 3.5%)
FPPAC	1200 (↑ 4.4%)	1260 (↑ 5.0%)

**CHF**-Canadian Hatchery Federation

**CPEPC-** Canadian Poultry and Egg Processors Council

**CFC-** Chicken Farmers of Canada

**Ag Canada-** Agriculture Canada

**FPPAC** – Further Poultry Processors Association of Canada

From the Advisory meetings the final recommendations for 2017 and 2018 (revised) were as follows:

**2017 –1207 Kilotonnes**

**2018 - 1261 Kilotonnes**

Further, the Alberta Chicken Producers are recommending an increase of 5.2 % for 2017 over 2016 and a further increase of 5.0% for 2018 over 2017 for Alberta.

### **What does this mean for Alberta hatching egg producers?**

**2017-** Initial AHEP domestic egg flows for 2017 indicated that Alberta would be oversubscribed at 58 weeks by 3.7 %, suggesting the need to adjust flock life to 57 weeks during 2017. However, due to a variety of circumstances, many domestic flocks were unable to meet targets and some were shipped out early. As a result, 2017 will be met with the current allocation at a flock life of 58 weeks.

**2018-** AHEP projected supply suggest 2018 should be balanced, barring a disruption in production.

**2019-**AHEP flow projections show that an allocation adjustment increase will be necessary to achieve production, assuming a 3% increase for 2019 over 2018.

The AHEP board met with the AHA (Alberta Hatchery Association) to discuss allocation on August 9<sup>th</sup>, 2017. The consensus from the meeting was that the Alberta hatching egg industry should plan to increase allocations to meet the upcoming targets for 2018 and 2019. The AHEP board will be further reviewing these and other recommendations at their next Board meeting.

## **Broiler Breeder Production Update**

Achieving productivity and benchmarks is dependent on many factors and inputs provided to a breeder producer. These components include: nutrition, feed allocation, breeder chick genetics, hatchery performance and technical support. Broiler hatching egg producers work with these elements and strive to achieve the high quality product expected by growers.

Recently, the breeder industry has been experiencing some challenges with regards to maintaining birds for the designated flock life of 58 weeks. Breeder producers are diligently working towards identifying and remedying these challenges to get back on track to expected production levels.

The AHEP board have drafted a set of regulation amendments to address the growth strategy launched in 2016. Marketing Council has approved the regulation changes, which enable the AHEP to move forward with the planned growth strategy. Allocation will be distributed through a new entrant program, sales, leases, or additional measures after AHEP analyzes current market forces.

There are four hatcheries in the province that require a supply of broiler hatching eggs to match chicken meat production for respective federal and provincial processing plants. However, differences in broiler strain and vaccination protocols between hatcheries currently impedes the inter-trading of product between hatcheries. Thus, to facilitate trade between different hatcheries, vaccination programs and broiler strain are all being reviewed to ensure a balance of supply in the province. Movement of producers from their current hatchery may be necessary in the near future.

## **Trade Update...courtesy of CHEP**

### **NAFTA:**

On June 3rd, 2017, the Government of Canada officially announced the start of public consultations on the renegotiation and modernization of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA). These consultations were launched after the Trump administration took the first formal step on May 18th, through a notice to the U.S. Congress, announcing its intention to reopen the NAFTA. The U.S. administration indicated that as a result of changes in the economy and businesses, many chapters of the pact are outdated and do not reflect modern standards. By doing so, it wants to "modernize NAFTA to include new provisions to address intellectual property rights, regulatory practices, state-owned enterprises, services, customs procedures, sanitary and phytosanitary measures, labor, environment, and small and medium enterprises". The NAFTA was discussed at the first Trilateral Agriculture Meetings in Savannah, Georgia on June 20<sup>th</sup> where Secretary Perdue (U.S.), Minister Lawrence MacAulay (Canada) and Secretary Calzada (Mexico) reaffirmed their mutual commitment to keeping markets open and transparent between their respective countries so that trade can continue to grow.



On August 14<sup>th</sup>, 2017 the first NAFTA negotiating round commenced in Washington. Seven negotiating rounds are to take place by the end of the year/early January. This first round is expected to be "process oriented" with very little negotiating substance. The key issue to watch from the first negotiating round is the negotiating process established for dispute settlement.

**CETA:**

On May 16<sup>th</sup>, the proposed legislation to implement the Canada-EU Comprehensive and Economic Trade Agreement (Bill C-30) received royal assent by the Governor General which means Bill C-30 is officially law in Canada. As a next step, the Canadian government will proceed with the process of reforming Canada's regulation to implement CETA, which will involve passing new regulations and amending existing ones. An implementation date has not yet been confirmed. The agreement is still pending approval of EU national parliaments before it can take effect.

**BREXIT:**

June 19<sup>th</sup>, 2017 marked the beginning of the negotiation between the EU and Britain on the BREXIT. On day one, the two sides agreed on a negotiation timetable by signing the terms of reference for the negotiations that confirm that the talks will be phased, rather than negotiating everything at once. The UK has aligned itself with the priorities set by Brussels on citizens' rights and the financial settlement of London's commitments to the EU. According to Mr. Barnier, the EU's chief negotiator, negotiations will have to be completed around October 2018, leaving time for the European and British Parliaments to ratify the withdrawal agreement, scheduled for the end of March 2019. The UK began negotiations with a minority government after Prime Minister Theresa May's Conservative Party lost its majority in the last election. It was anticipated that a majority government was going to provide more power and freedom to negotiate Britain's exit from the European Union. The Prime Minister has been invited by many politicians, including Conservative members, to relax her Brexit positions.

**TPP:**

On the margin of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) meeting on May 20-21, eleven Trade Ministers (Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Canada, Chile, Japan, Mexico, New Zealand, Malaysia, Peru, Singapore and Vietnam) held a meeting to discuss moving the TPP agreement forward without the U.S. According to the statement released, the Ministers "agreed to launch a process to assess options to bring the comprehensive, high quality Agreement into force expeditiously, including how to facilitate membership for the original signatories". Also, the group indicated that they are open to expand the new TPP to include other economies in the effort to address concerns about protectionism and to contribute to maintaining open markets, strengthening the rules-based international trading system, increasing world trade and raising living standards. In its current form, the TPP agreement cannot be operational without the U.S. since the agreement needs the approval of six countries accounting for 85% of the group combined GDP to enter into force. The new procedures will also seek to bring an amendment to this clause given the withdrawal of the U.S. Trade Ministers instructed their chief

negotiators with preparing an assessment to be completed before they meet on the margins of the APEC meeting on November 10-11, 2017 in Da Nang, Vietnam.

**WTO:**

Recent discussions on agriculture at the World Trade Organization (WTO) covered export subsidies and other export support policies. The committee reviewed agricultural export policies as part of the monitoring of the Nairobi decision export subsidies implementation. According to the information on export support policies circulated during the meeting of June 7th, it appears that members have taken tangible steps to ensure compliance of the Nairobi decision. Canadian dairy policies have been a target at the WTO Agriculture Committee. Australia, New Zealand, and the United States raised concerns about Canada's new milk ingredient class that is part of Canada's National Ingredient Strategy. Some members of the committee were very critical of the Canada's supply management policy and asked to have further information on the policy given the potential effect on international trade.

### **Animal Care Program**

The new Animal Care Program for the hatching egg industry was developed by the Canadian Hatching Egg Producers, to be used by all provinces who are part of CHEP. The Animal Care Program was reviewed extensively, and released to each province in late spring of 2017. Animal Care manuals are being distributed to producers by each provincial board office. Training for the program is set to begin in fall of 2017 for delivery agents, who will then assist producers with program implementation. Third party audits for the program will be commencing as early as 2018 in some provinces. Please contact Jesse at the board office if you have any questions.

### **Canada's Food Guide Consultation**

Canada's Food Guide is under review, and has been going through a lengthy consultation process. CHEP, AHEP and other national/provincial commodity groups participated in the process. Conclusions from the consultation period will be published in a "what we heard" publication in late 2017. You can see the summary of the guiding principals being used to develop the new food guide here

<https://www.foodguideconsultation.ca/guiding-principles-summary>

### **Website Update**

The Alberta Hatching Egg Producers are updating their website. The new site will have more content, pictures of producer families and facilities, as well as a completely new design. If you have any pictures, resources or thoughts for content, please contact [jesse@ahep.ca](mailto:jesse@ahep.ca) with your ideas. The launch date of the website is August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2017. Please take a look after it's launched!

### **Ag-Coalition – Farm Safety**

The AgCoalition recently completed a province-wide consultation process that reaffirmed the agriculture community's commitment to foster a culture of farm safety in Alberta. The agriculture community is motivated to lead the process of developing a safety culture that actually works effectively at the farm and ranch level."

The meetings used a series of workshops to gain specific insights into what will and will not work on a farm or ranch in relation to the five topics being discussed during consultation sessions for the Government of Alberta's Enhanced Protection for Farm and Ranch Worker (Bill 6). Participants also took time to identify current leading on-farm safety practices and discussed implementing a measurement approach to demonstrate improvement in agriculture safety over time. Throughout the workshops, participants expressed that farm and ranch safety should be industry-led and that the AgCoalition is poised to carry out this function.

Farm and ranch safety has always been a top priority for the agriculture community and it was clear during the consultations that the agriculture industry wants to lead the process of building on this culture. Far-reaching representation and producer-led structure, this is an excellent vehicle to deliver the producers message. Meeting insights are currently being compiled to inform key policy perspectives. In-turn, producer representatives who are part of the Government consultation process will bring forward these perspectives to ensure broader agriculture community representation. It is the expectation of the agricultural community that these perspectives be honoured and respectfully considered during the consultation process. The AgCoalition was established on January 22nd, 2016 with a mandate to unify the farm and ranch community in an effort to foster a culture of farm safety in Alberta. - *AgCoalition.ca*

### **AgSafe Alberta launches on-farm advisors program**

To further develop the conversation and initiatives around farm safety, the AgSafe Alberta group has been developed. AgSafe is a collaboration of crop and livestock sector producer groups who aim to create and deliver farm safety management tools, resources and programs for farmers and ranchers in the province. Their goal is to enable farm businesses to further establish practical on-farm safety management programs. The AgSafe Alberta groups hopes to encourage the development of a "safety culture" where safety is a fully integrated part of the farm business. AgSafe Alberta has hired Advisors to deliver on-farm safety consulting services to the province's farmers, as part of a seven-month farm safety consultation pilot project. The AgSafe Alberta Advisors have tools and resources to guide farmers, farm families and employees through an introduction to farm safety. AgSafe Alberta Advisors are available to provide required technical expertise and guidance to all producers.

Contact: Donna Trottier 403-348-9321 or [donna@agsafeab.ca](mailto:donna@agsafeab.ca)

Alberta Farm Producers are encouraged to take advantage of this opportunity to receive guidance and assistance in building their own farm safety programs.

### **SM5 Government Relations Update**

The Alberta Supply Management Groups (collectively known as SM5) is made up of Alberta Milk, Alberta Chicken Producers, Egg Farmers of Alberta, Alberta Hatching Egg Producers and Alberta Turkey. The SM5 group works together to inform elected government members, and decision makers about the uniquely Canadian supply management system that poultry and dairy producers are lucky enough to operate under. Along with face-to-face scheduled meetings with politicians, the SM5 group participates in a variety of events throughout the year; as sponsors and attendees. It is important for the SM5 to educate decision makers on the benefits of Supply Management.



SM5 has been busy in the last couple months with two Premier's Breakfasts and face-to-face meetings with elected officials. On July 10<sup>th</sup>, SM5 sponsored the Premier's Stampede Breakfast in Calgary that is hosted in conjunction with the Calgary Stampede. The event was held downtown at the McDougall Centre, the majority of Alberta MLA's and MP's were in attendance. Producers

had the opportunity to mingle and raise awareness around Supply Management. The Edmonton event was later hosted on July 20<sup>th</sup>, at the Legislature grounds. For both events the SM5 commodities donated eggs, sausage (turkey and chicken) and dairy products. Both events were deemed successful and led to consequential meetings with politicians.



The SM5 team held a face-to-face meeting with Randy Boissonnault, MP for Edmonton Centre, on July 31<sup>st</sup>. As well, a face-to-face meeting was held with Estefania Cortes-Vargas, MLA for Strathcona-Sherwood Park.

AHEP encourages all producers to have positive conversations with their MLA's and MP's about the benefits of supply management. Contact the Board office for messaging and more information on how you can become involved.

### **A Food Policy for Canada**

In May of 2017, Food Secure Canada launched a discussion paper – From Patchwork to Policy Coherence: Principles and Priorities of Canada's National Food Policy. The document is included. On it's website, Food Secure Canada states:

*A national food policy would articulate a set of values, principles and priorities to guide food policy-making, with a clear mandate and an implementation plan across government, using all the tools that the federal government has at its disposal (policies, legislation, regulations, regulatory protocols and directives, programs, educational mechanisms, trade and investment treaties, intergovernmental agreements, taxes or tax incentives).*

Food Secure Canada is an alliance of Canadian organizations and individuals who working toward the advancement of food security and sovereignty. The not-for-profit organization started up following a 2001 conference that addressed providing input into how to secure food for all Canadians.

An excerpt from the Government of Canada website regarding a food policy for Canada states:

#### ***Why does Canada need a food policy?***

*The decisions we make as individuals and as a country about food have a direct impact on our health, environment, economy, and communities.*

***A Food Policy for Canada*** *will set a long-term vision for the health, environmental, social, and economic goals related to food, while identifying actions we can take in the short-term.*

*A food policy is a way to address issues related to the production, processing, distribution, and consumption of food.*

The Canadian Federal Government is seeking input from Canadians from all sectors regarding their vision of the important considerations in developing a national food policy for Canada. This policy will address issues related to production, processing, distribution and consumption of food. The base of this pyramid begins with food production – where and how is our food produced? The government wants Canadians to be able to make healthy, quality food choices and be part of the conversation about food accessibility.

At the crux of this conversation is the desire that all Canadians should have sufficient access to affordable, nutritious and safe food. However, to sufficiently ensure and verify that food is both nutritious and safe comes with a cost. Does this challenge the requirement for affordability, and further, who determines if food is affordable? These are some questions the government would like to answer with help from your input.

Four closely connected themes are being addressed:

- Improving Canadians' access to affordable, nutritious food
- Increasing Canadians' ability to make healthy and safe food choices
- Using environmentally sustainable practices to ensure Canadians have a long-term, reliable, and abundant supply of food
- Ensuring Canadian farmers and food processors are able to adapt to changing conditions to provide more safe and healthy food to consumers in Canada and around the world

It is important that your voice be heard. Follow the link below to provide your answers to the questions provided. As well, there is an opportunity to add your personal comments.

**<http://agr.sondages-surveys.ca/s/v2-a-food-policy-for-canada/?l=en>**

## **SE Swabbing – with Josh Perryman**

With the arrival of August three things come to mind that make this time of the year great: good weather, Game of Thrones is back on TV and most importantly, a new circular! I'm very happy to be able to provide a little update regarding the necessary swabbing program for the PIE program. From the start of April until the end of July, 28 flocks were swabbed across the province. As many of you know I had a busy schedule the last few months and I really appreciate the flexibility of being able to swab a little later in the day - thank you! I have seen some really good things on-farm; from new barns and increased biosecurity, to the obvious compassion and comradery present within the industry. I'm really proud to work for all of you.

As I'm sure you've heard before, Salmonella is a tricky bacterium and can be a real pain to eliminate if it pops up. I imagine having a positive result for Salmonella *enteritidis* can be quite stressful and at times surprising. I want to say that if a barn does test positive, we at the office, are here for you to make the uncertain a little more manageable. I'm happy to know that we are doing everything we can to provide a superior hatching egg but have measures in place to protect farmers should *S.E.* arise.

I look forward to seeing you all again over the next few months! There have been several new barns built, which consequently means changes to pullet transfer schedules. If you have had changes to your schedule, and I have not contacted you yet, please call me so that I can swab prior to the pullets being moved. I might be a little biased, but I think I work for one of the best industries out there.

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