

# Alberta Hatching Egg Producers



September 2015

Circular

## Board News

- **APO Period 44: August 24 – Oct 18, 2015**

The current saleable chick price for APO 44 is \$0.5424 (100% pd)

**Contact Information**

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- **Upcoming APO 45 and Flock Life**

The Price for APO 45 will be released the week of October 12-16 2015 and be effective commencing chicks hatching Oct 19, 2015.

[www.albertahatchingeggs.ca](http://www.albertahatchingeggs.ca)

## In This Issue

- **Atlanta International Poultry Expo**

The AHEP Board and staff are wondering if there are producers interested in attending the Poultry Expo occurring January 26-28, 2016 in Atlanta as a group.

This expo is a world renowned venue for networking, education and product exposure within the poultry industry.

<http://ippexpo.com/>

If you are interested in attending please let the office know ASAP. A trip like this will need time and resources in order to happen, if there is enough interest the office will need sufficient time to procure potential sponsorship.

- *Fall Chick n Chat Meetings*
- *Allocation*
- *Saleable Chick Pricing*
- *Density*
- *Animal Welfare*
- *LAPS Update*
- *Balance of Supply MOU*
- *WCB and OH&S Update*



## **Chick n Chat Meetings**

**The Fall Chick n Chat Meetings have been set for the following dates:**

**November 3, 2015 – Strathmore, AB**

**November 4, 2015 – Edmonton, AB**

**An agenda with topics, locations and times will be circulated closer to the meetings.**

## **Allocation**

Effective August 24, 2015 the Alberta broiler hatching egg industry has moved from 94 % allocation to 100 % allocation. With this comes our industries' obligation to produce this allocation in a planned manner to meet our obligations to the consumer demand and allocations to Alberta for chicken.

As an industry we have many ways to accomplish this obligation domestically or through imported sources. The AHEP board believes that the producers of Alberta should be the ones to meet the market.

## **Saleable Chick Pricing MOU**

The Pricing MOU between the AHEP and Alberta hatcheries had begun on February 9, 2014 and has continued to August 23, 2015. The agreement has expired and the AHEP will move forward on discussing the implementation of the 2015 Serecon COP into future agreements beginning September 11, 2015. The intent of the exercise is to follow the principles of Supply Management in providing our producers a fair return.

## **OBHECC Complain to FPCC**

The Ontario Broiler Hatching Egg and Chick Commission has filed a complaint to Farm Products Marketing Council against the National Agency, the Canadian Hatching Egg Producers (CHEP), for the ongoing structural problems in the current hatching egg marketing system that allow the overproduction of hatching eggs in Canada – eggs that are hatched and some of which are then sent into Ontario displacing the Ontario's allocation.

This concern was discussed at the agency level with member provinces with no resolve and now is being addressed at a tribunal legal level.

## **Density**

Density discussions for breeders in Canada have been an ongoing matter, which will have some closure with the release of the current draft of the new code of practice this October. The updated density requirements will be based on actual bird living space using interior barn measurements. Josh Perryman will continue measuring barns while on farm swabbing for our SE monitoring program for PIE.

## **Animal Welfare**

CHEP staff, together with two CHEP directors, have been working with CFIA and others to develop an updated Code of Practice for the breeder industry. The final draft of this code will be released for a 60-day public opinion and input period later this fall. AHEP will notify all producers when the 60-day period begins. We encourage all producers to review the draft and provide comment through an online forum. Once the code has been finalized and released in the spring of 2016 it will be followed with the auditable national animal welfare program for broiler breeders.

## **LAPS System**

In June 2015 the Low Atmospheric Pressure Stunning system was used to euthanize approximately 1500 mature broiler breeders. This test went very well and we would like to thank Klaas Ijtsma for his cooperation. Complete details and photos will be presented at the upcoming Chick 'N Chat meetings!

## **Balance of Supply MOU**

The AHEP and the AHA have worked to develop a Balance of Supply MOU which had expired February 28, 2014. The document had worked in principle; however did not capture all situations particularly situations where broiler hatching egg product is short on the domestic and import fronts. Given these situations dialogue on the matter has continued this spring and summer with the conclusion of the document to occur by year end.

## **WCB and OH&S**

With the change in government, we suggest that there is a need for more work to complete the initiative through training programs, and development of safety codes via consultation with farmers and ranchers and not through legislation and regulation changes. The AHEP and other boards and commissions plan to meet with our Ag Minister to develop safety programs and safety nets that work for our producers, be it public or private.

**Upcoming Meetings**

1. September 9, 2015 – Chick Quality Meeting
2. September 10, 2015 – Western Poultry Conference Planning Meeting
3. September 11, 2015 – Saleable Chick Pricing MOU
4. September 15, 2015 – Saleable Chick Pricing MOU
5. September 21-24 – PAACO Welfare Training
6. September 24 – Poultry Research Industry Meeting
7. September 28, 2015 – Saleable Chick Pricing MOU
8. October 6, 2015 – Board Meeting
9. October 28 & 29, 2015 – AFAC Crisis Communication Forum
10. October 29, 2015 – CHEP Winnipeg Managers Meeting
11. November 12, 2015 - LAPS Service and Product Utilization Workshop
12. November 17-19, 2015 - CHEP Ottawa Meetings
13. November 24&25, 2015 – Incident Command System Level 200 Training
14. November 27 – Addressing Sustainable approaches to common livestock and crop sectors

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