

Alberta Hatching Egg Producers



Spring 2017

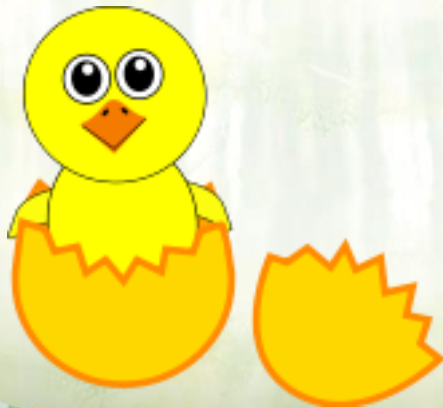
Circular

- **APO Period 54: March 6/17 – April 30/17**

The current saleable chick price for APO 54 is \$0.5427 (100% pd).

- **Flock Life**

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



Contact Information

#301, 8925-51 Avenue
Edmonton, AB T6E 5J3
Phone: (780) 434-8414
Fax: (780) 434-9552

www.ahep.ca

In This Issue

- 2017 AGM
- New AHEP chair
- CHEP Summer Meeting
- New AHEP Board meetings
- New AHEP Staff member
- CHEP Meeting - Ottawa
- API Emergency Management
- SM-5 Meeting with Rural Caucus
- AG-Coalition
- AFAC AGM

Inserts

- March 2017 ILWG Update
- NRCB Fact Sheet
- AI Town Hall Notes
- AFAC Media Release

2017 AHEP AGM

The 2017 AHEP Annual General Meeting was held on Tuesday February 28, 2017 at the Sheraton Hotel Red Deer. A huge thank-you to all the producers and industry partners that attended the meeting. Below you will find a list of your 2017 Board of Directors.

Gary van Klei: Chair; CHEP Director

Cora Scheele: Vice-Chair

Natasja van der Rijt: Director

Jeff Notenbomer: Director, CHEP Alternate

Brian Wassink: Director

Greetings from the Chair

Hello everyone. As your new chair I would like to use this opportunity to introduce myself. My wife, Christie, three children, and myself live in the Lethbridge area.

I look forward to working with industry stakeholders, government, and most importantly all producers to continue to grow the industry. In these years of growth, I believe it is important to have policies that continue the growth, meet the demand for our product, and to defend supply management.

I believe communication is important and would like to hear from any producer that has questions or concerns. Feel free to send an email or give me a call.



Regarding the initiatives for 2017, your board has set forth three major priorities which include:

1) Manage Production Principles

Quota Allocation
Leasing policy
New Entrant Policy/Program
Production Alignment
Placement distribution
Import schedule
Policy Review and Development
Balance of Supply
Imbalance Preparedness
Market share distribution
Producer balance
Hatchery balance

2) Producer Services/Support for Continuous Improvement

Small Egg Program
OFFSAP/ACP Support
Functional Website
Education/Tech Transfer
Data collection
Information benchmarking
Social license/consumer confidence

3) Leadership Development

Structured Strategic Planning
Recruiting and preparing future leaders

Gary Van Klei

CHEP Summer Meeting

Alberta is hosting the CHEP summer meeting in 2017. The meeting will be held July 18th to July 20th in Jasper Alberta. The meeting will cover off business matters with respect to:

- Updated Allocation Review
- National Research matters
- Animal Care Program
- Alberta Producer of the Year

Alberta Producers are encouraged to attend the open board meetings and committee meetings in Jasper. Feel free to contact the Board office for details.

New Directors: Jeff Notenbomer and Brian Wassink

Jeff Notenbomer



My name is Jeff Notenbomer. I am a second-generation broiler breeder owner, farming near Lethbridge, AB. I moved to our farm with my parents and sisters when I was eight and started farming full time when I was nineteen. I have been married to my fabulous wife, Melinda for 21 years and together we have three great kids, Tianna (19), Caleb (16) and Madilyn (14). I truly enjoy the lifestyle and the challenges that our broiler breeder operation gives to our family and workers. We greatly appreciate the hard work and vision of my parents, which started, persevered and encourages us forward as we continue this amazing farming opportunity. In my spare time, I enjoy running, golfing, travelling, camping, boating, playing guitar, watching movies and many other activities with family and friends. I enjoy learning and using technology, computers and gadgets. I am also very involved in many aspects of our church, including council, tech committee and praise team, all which I really enjoy. I am excited to be on the Alberta Hatching Egg Board. I am eager to learn, share and to move forward as a quality industry. An industry that is healthy, growing and sustainable. An industry that will be strong and secure for new farmers and maybe for the 3rd generation of Notenbomer broiler breeder farmers in Alberta.



Brian Wassink



Hello everyone, my name is Brian Wassink and I am one of two new Alberta Hatching Egg Producers Board members. My family moved to Alberta from B.C. shortly after I was born to start dairy farming, but in 1998 we transitioned to broiler production. In 2012 we bought an existing hatching egg farm near Ponoka and I have been involved with the breeders since that day. In October, 2015 my wife Roeline and I were married and we now reside on the hatching egg farm. I am looking forward to being on the AHEP Board; and learning about a new side of my industry from the existing Board members. It really is exciting to be able to do my part and ensure that the Alberta hatching egg industry is around for generations to come.

New AHEP Staff – Jesse Hunter

Hi there everyone!

I grew up on Salt Spring Island, British Columbia, which is an island of about 10,000 people off the coast of Vancouver Island. I was in 4H for 10 years which gave me a reason to raise fancy chickens, ducks and turkeys and show them at fairs across Vancouver Island. These early interactions with poultry fostered a love of chickens that has lasted to this day!

I left Salt Spring and attended the University of Alberta for my undergraduate degree in science. I majored in Biology, and had a minor in Agriculture. When the opportunity arose at the end of my degree to pursue a MSc in poultry, I had to take it. My research investigated foot pad dermatitis in Alberta broiler chickens. I had two experiments, the first of which took place on 8 different commercial broiler operations in Alberta. I enjoyed interacting with the producers and going on-farm (plus I got to be with chickens again!) and discovered that I really liked working with industry. My second experiment took place at the Poultry Research Centre with 2800 broilers in October of 2015. I successfully defended and completed my MSc in Poultry Science and Welfare in September, 2016. If you are interested in knowing more about it, I'd be happy to talk about it, and we are working on publishing the papers now.

Since September, I have been lucky to work in the AHEP office, and am planning to help with the rollout of the new animal care program and other producer programs. My other part-time job is at the Poultry Research Centre, where I'm the current coordinator for the Heritage Chicken Program. Currently, I live in Edmonton, near the University with my boyfriend and sing in the Greenwood Singers choir in my spare time. I am super passionate about chickens and I look forward to meeting all of you!



YP Male Management

Just a reminder that there is a bulletin released by Aviagen on the YP (Yield Plus) male. Nancy from the office has sent out the document for your consideration and awareness.

We encourage producers to contact your hatcheries on further management details on this Broiler Breeder Male.

CHEP March Meeting: Ottawa

Alberta representatives attended the CHEP meetings held in Ottawa during the week of March 20th through to the 23d. Highlights of the meeting included the National allocation review, animal care program update and the MP's reception.

Allocations Review National

With respect to the National Allocations review, this is conducted in November, March and finalized in July of every year. The Advisory allocations review meeting includes several National organizations which include:

- CHF (Canadian Hatchery Federation)
- CPEPC (Canadian Processors and Egg Processors Committee)
- Ag Canada
- FPPAC (Further Poultry Processors Association of Canada)
- CFC (Chicken Farmers of Canada)
- DFAIT (Department of Foreign Affairs International Trade)

The group met on March 22nd to review and revise the 2017 and 2018 projections and recommended the following increases nationally:

- 1196 Kilo tonnes of eviscerated chicken for 2017 vs. initial 1188 Kilo tonnes – 6.7 % increase
- 1232 Kilo tonnes of eviscerated chicken for 2018 over 2017 Up 3.0%

As a result of consultations and review the revised projections on chicken have risen over the November 2014 initial estimates.

Animal Care Program

The expected timeline related to the distribution, roll-out and implementation of the CHEP Animal Care Program (ACP):

- Early April 2017
 - CHEP letter to provincial boards / commissions announcing the launch of the CHEP ACP.
- Late April 2017
 - Printing and distribution of the CHEP ACP to provincial boards / commissions.
- Fall of 2017
 - CHEP ACP training #1 – two sessions: one in English (location to be determined) and one in French (in Quebec). Participants will include CHEP staff, provincial staff and auditors.
- During the course of 2017
 - Communication with broiler hatching egg producers, as required.

- CHEP staff will be available to attend provincial and/or producer meetings, as required.
- Beginning in March 2018
 - Provincial boards / commissions will initiate the first CHEP ACP audit process with their broiler hatching egg producers.
- Fall 2018
 - CHEP ACP training #2 – two sessions: one in English (location to be determined) and one in French (in Quebec). Participants will include CHEP staff, provincial staff and auditors.
- Beginning in March 2019
 - Third party auditing component of CHEP's ACP will commence.

Further information on the program can be sought by contacting Jesse Hunter at your AHEP office.

MP's Reception

A MP's reception was held on March 22ndth with the SM4 National Agency Directors, Alternates and General Managers. This year's event hosted our new Liberal Government Ag Minister Hon. Lawrence McCauley and several new Liberal and Conservative MP's.

Jason Born and Bob Smook met up with Shannon Stubbs MP (Lakeland) constituency and had an opportunity to discuss matters on trade, animal care, consumer awareness and food safety in Canada.

Shannon is deputy critic for natural resources with the Conservative party.



The Alberta Poultry Industry Incident Command Structure and Emergency Management

The Alberta Poultry sector has been approved to develop a Industry Incident Command Structure and Emergency Management plan for our producers. The program is funded by the Federal Government and Growing Forward programs, as well as in-kind matching from our industries.

The project is to be rolled out over the next two years and has a budget of \$819k.

The project has 7 key activities, namely:

1. Project Management
2. Emergency Response Plan
3. Crisis Communication Plan
4. Personal Protective Equipment Program
5. Geo Fencing, Alerting/Notification and Mapping
6. Depopulation and Disposal Program
7. Project Reporting

We will be bringing out the details of the program in the upcoming Spring Chicken Chat meetings.

If any producers want to discuss the program in more detail, please call the office.

SM5 Meeting with Alberta Rural Caucus

The Alberta SM5 met with the NDP Rural Caucus on February 17th. The meeting was attended by the Chairs and General Managers of the SM5 with several members of the NDP Rural Caucus.

The meeting covered off four major discussions, namely:

- Supply Management Pillars
- Alberta's Carbon Tax and its impacts to producers
- Municipal Government Levy Structure and Municipal Taxation
- Diversification and innovations in Agriculture

The meeting provided an opportunity to reach out to the provinces elected representatives and encourage them to work with us to attract new investment and provide diversification in our renewable industry.

The Ag-Coalition

In follow-up to Bill 6 legislation, the Government of Alberta announced the formation of six consultation tables to review various aspects of the intended legislative framework. The table topics included employment standards, labour relations, two tables on OH&S codes, best practices and education. The newly formed AgCoalition responded with an intent to meaningfully participate in the consultation process, and fielded 23 nominees who joined a total of 72 participants at the six consultation tables.

The AgCoalition provided an unprecedented capability for Alberta agriculture to respond as an industry with informed inputs into the consultation process that reflected producer feedback gathered from around the province. AgCoalition nominees were provided with this feedback to guide table discussions with agricultural sector inputs that reflected industry positions on the various topics discussed.

To date the consultation tables focused on employment standards and labour relations have completed their work, and the Government of Alberta has recently posted these reports with an invitation for feedback on the table conclusions from the public at large. The invitation for feedback also provides the agricultural industry with another opportunity to ensure that producer inputs and positions are clearly understood, to in turn inform the design of practical regulatory frameworks that make sense at the farm and ranch level.

This notice was sent to producers with a report feedback form. We encourage producers to fill out the form and send it back to the AHEP office c/o Chelsea@ahep.ca

As well the AgCoalition met on March 1st and have agreed and are launching an industry lead safety association. The intent of an industry led program is that there is support from the Labour sector with our current government which will potentially lead to an outcome based program.

Alberta Farm Animal Care – AFAC – Livestock Care Conference

Alberta Farm Animal Care (AFAC) is a multi-species welfare organization dedicated to promoting best practices in farm animal care and handling. AHEP continues to support AFAC as we believe there is value in working together and learning from each other's successes and mistakes when it comes to ensuring a good life for any farm animal entrusted to our care.

Each year AFAC organizes and hosts a Livestock Care Conference (LCC). This event brings together industry experts, stakeholders and producers to discuss current issues and topics related to the care and welfare of farm animals. This year, the conference was held in Leduc Alberta on March 21 and 22. Dr. David Mellor, a researcher from New Zealand, opened the conference on Tuesday with a mini workshop on Painful Procedures. His presentation was very enlightening



regarding human and animal perceptions of pain. Dr. Mellor highlighted that assessing pain in animals is difficult as the animal is unable to verbally communicate their pain. We must use other indirect indicators by observing behavior and measuring physiological responses. There has been a shift in attitude over the last few years, with urban thinking affecting the veterinary profession. Also, both the public and NGO's are becoming very vocal in their opinions and have easy access to large numbers of people

through social media. Furthermore, farmers themselves are now thinking much more about painful procedures imposed on their animals and are looking for alternatives as well as methods to alleviate pain. While it may be unrealistic to omit pain completely, it may also not be completely desirable. When experiencing pain, cortisol is released, and cortisol is known to reduce and control inflammation, which is a crucial component of the healing process. As an animal industry, will continue to strive for incremental improvements by avoiding certain procedures, finding alternatives that are less painful, choosing to perform procedures at younger ages and using pain relieving drugs to reduce discomfort.

The afternoon of March 21 involved time spent with students from the Universities of Alberta, Calgary and Lethbridge as well as Olds College and Lakeland College. Students and industry representatives shared an afternoon of introductions and conversation opening the doors for future contact between the two. AHEP was pleased to sponsor two students for this as well as the LCC conference the following day.

For more information regarding the LCC held March 22, 2017, please refer to the AFAC Media Release.

SM-5 Update

The SM-5 group is currently planning a farm tour for all NDP MLA's. We are hoping to co-host the tour with MLA Jessica Littlewood (Fort Saskatchewan – Vegreville). Continuing to reach out and educate policy makers is key in garnering positive support and understanding from these important influencers. As always, we encourage producers to reach out to their MLA and have positive, educational conversations with them.

Staff

Bob Smook, General Manager
bob@ahep.ca

Nancy Robinson, Assistant Manager
nancy@ahep.ca

Chelsea Kamprath, Communications and
Office Coordinator
chelsea@ahep.ca

Jesse Hunter, Producer Programs
jesse@ahep.ca

Josh Perryman, Poultry Risk Program
josh@ahep.ca

Board of Directors

Chair: Gary Van Klei
Coaldale, AB
garyvanklei@gmail.com

Vice-Chair: Cora Scheele
Linden, AB
corasch64@gmail.com

Directors

Natasja van der Rijt
Bowden, AB
vanderrijt@xplornet.com

Jeff Notenbomer
Monarch, AB
jeffnote@gmail.com

Brian Wassink
Ponoka, AB
brianwassink@hotmail.com