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Partner Profile: Egg Farmers of Alberta

Submitted by Egg Farmers of Alberta

Organization Overview

Egg Farmers of Alberta (EFA) is a not-for-profit organization that was incorporated in 1968, for the purpose of providing effective promotion, control and regulation of the marketing of eggs in Alberta. EFA represents the province's more than 170 registered egg farmers, who are dedicated to providing Albertans with a stable supply of fresh, high quality, nutritious, locally produced eggs.

The Egg Farmers of Alberta Board of Directors is comprised of six elected egg producers, who focus their collective time and energy on setting the strategic direction for the organization, in a manner that is congruent with the Board's core values.

Alberta's egg industry operates under the provincial *Marketing of Agricultural Products Act – Egg Farmers of Alberta Plan Regulation (258/97)*, *Egg Farmers of Alberta Board Authorization Regulation (279/97)* and *Egg Production and Marketing Regulation (293/97)* – which is supervised by the Alberta Agricultural Products Marketing Council, a government agency charged with overseeing all agricultural marketing boards and commissions in Alberta.

EFA's Vision: Healthy Food, Healthy Farms, Healthy Families

EFA's Mission: Cultivating a sustainable egg industry together with farmers, consumers and other stakeholders.

Alberta Egg Industry Snapshot: 2015 stats

Registered producers: **177 egg farmers**

Total egg production: **52,605,664 dozen eggs**

Average flock size: **12,250 hens**

Alberta Egg Industry Economic Contribution: 2013 stats

Farm cash receipts: \$78 million

Gross Domestic Production (egg farmers): \$72 million

Total number of jobs created directly/indirectly by egg farmers: 1,542

Feed purchased by egg farmers: 70,756 tonnes

Total annual economic activity: \$337 million

EFA's Agri-Environmental Initiatives

Egg Farmers of Alberta developed a comprehensive sustainability strategy in 2014, which encompasses everything we do and enables us to more effectively tell our story. For Alberta egg farmers, sustainable egg production is socially responsible, environmentally sound and economically viable. The sustainability strategy identified EFA's key pillars:

HEALTHY BIRDS

HEALTHY FARMS HEALTHY EGGS

HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

In addition to managing the provincial implementation of the Canadian egg industry's on-farm animal care and food safety programs, which are mandatory requirements for being licensed to produce eggs in Alberta, EFA launched Canada's first on-farm environmental program in 2014. Portions of PEEP were derived from the Environmental Farm Plan. EFA believes that the key to effective environmental management is through a systematic approach to planning, controlling, measuring and improving environmental performance.

The Producer Environmental Egg Program (PEEP) is intended to help egg farmers better identify their impacts on the environment and facilitate the use of best practices. PEEP provides information about impacts of on-farm activities and helps establish goals for improvement. The PEEP assessment is focused on key impact areas such as energy use, water consumption and manure management, which helps farmers identify and address environmental risks and opportunities, to improve their carbon footprint.

EFA also initiated an egg environmental footprint project in 2012, to better understand and quantify the environmental impact of egg production in Alberta, through Life Cycle Assessment (LCA). The first of its kind in Canada, the study involved collecting data from egg farmers covering the life cycle stages of an egg, from feed production to grading. The infograph created to share the environmental and nutritional contribution of one serving of eggs can be found on the EFA website.

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