

BC Broiler Hatching Egg Commission Newsletter

November 2016

Current Hatchability

Industry Average:

82.16%

Year-to-Date (USA eggs included)

Average Lay Cycle End

59 weeks 2 days

Projected November 2016

Breeder Pricing

Average industry prices:

Female: \$8.78

Male: \$11.45

2016 Audit Stats

Number of premises to be audited

59

Number of audits completed

41

Number of audits with outstanding

Corrective Actions

7

Biosecurity Reminder

Producers are reminded to stay vigilant with their biosecurity measures at this time as we are now in Avian Influenza season and are experiencing challenges with Infectious Coryza in broiler breeders. If possible limit the amount of traffic on and off your premise, make sure all personnel are complying with boot and coverall changes, and that hands are being washed or sanitized before and after entering restricted access zones (bird production areas). If you would like to discuss how to implement higher standards on your premise please contact Sarah Loehndorf at sarah@bcbhec.com or (604) 302-2323.

Avian Influenza Surveillance Program Pilot Project

Please see the attached letter. Producers are being asked to voluntarily participate in an AI Surveillance Program Pilot Project being completed by the BC Poultry Association. If you have any questions or concerns please contact Sarah Loehndorf at sarah@bcbhec.com or (604) 302-2323.

New Biosecurity Signs

The BCBHEC has just received a new batch of biosecurity signs. Producers now have a choice of three different signs. If you require any signs for your premises please contact Sarah at sarah@bcbhec.com or (604) 302-2323. Remember, you require a sign at your barn gate (Controlled Access Zone) and at the entrance to your anteroom and/or at the entrance to your bird production area (Restricted Access Zones).

Save the Date

The Hatching Egg Producers' Award Night & Christmas Evening is being held December 13, 2016 at 7:00 pm at the Quality Hotel in Abbotsford. Please contact Sandra at association@bcbhec.com for more info.



Production Cycles

Period	Start Date	End Date
A-138	July 10, 2016	Sept. 3, 2016
A-139	Sept. 4, 2016	Oct. 29, 2016
A-140	Oct. 30, 2016	Dec. 24, 2016
A-141	Dec. 25, 2016	Feb. 18, 2017
A-142	Feb. 19, 2017	April 15, 2017
A-143	April 16, 2017	June 10, 2017
A-144	June 11, 2017	Aug. 5, 2017

Pricing Orders

Period	Live Chicken	Hatching Eggs	Saleable Chicks	Day-Old Broiler Chicks
A-136	161.28¢/kg	530.99¢/doz	55.31¢/chick	74.23¢/chick
A-137	159.12¢/kg	522.30¢/doz	54.41¢/chick	73.33¢/chick
A-138	162.59¢/kg	528.51¢/doz	55.05¢/chick	73.98¢/chick
A-139	164.67¢/kg	530.79¢/doz	55.29¢/chick	74.22¢/chick
A-140	159.17¢/kg	518.25¢/doz	53.98¢/chick	72.91¢/chick



November 4, 2016

RE: Voluntary Participation in Avian Influenza Surveillance Program Testing

Dear BC Hatching Egg Producers,

The BC Poultry Association (BCPA) is asking for voluntary producer assistance in testing a draft Avian Influenza (AI) surveillance program.

An AI surveillance program is very important to all poultry producers in BC. Early detection of AI is a crucial part of containing an AI outbreak. In addition, future compensation from the federal and provincial governments may hinge upon BC having an AI surveillance program in place.

The BCPA contracted with Dr. Bill Cox to develop a draft BC Poultry Industry Surveillance Program. He worked closely with a technical advisory committee that had industry representation. The surveillance program that has been developed involves a set of production related triggers based on flock observations and flock sheets. The triggers are:

1. Unexplained drop in water consumption
2. Unexplained drop in feed consumption
3. Unexplained drop in egg production
4. Unexplained rise in mortality
5. Any abnormal or unusual behaviour that is observed by the producer

An explained change in any of these triggers may be due to such factors as equipment failure or severe weather changes. The complete details of the triggers are listed at the end of this document.

The BCPA is at the point in developing the program where they need to test the sensitivity of the proposed triggers against production systems to determine if and how many times the triggers could be tripped.

To complete this pilot testing, the BCPA is asking for copies of producer flock sheets/production records from October 1, 2015 to May 1, 2016.

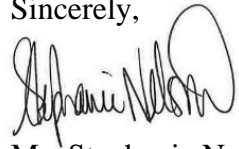
Flocks must be over five weeks of age. Multiple flocks can come from the same farm. All the data will be kept totally confidential. The records can be faxed, scanned or mailed to Sarah Loehndorf the Commission office.

The records will be reviewed to determine how many times the triggers were or would have been tripped resulting in submissions to the lab for AI testing. The pilot is a critical step in developing a long-term surveillance program for AI detection.

Your participation in this voluntary pilot project is greatly appreciated. Please contact Christine Koch at 604-866-7600 or koch.c@telus.net if you have any suggestions, questions or if you would like a copy of the draft surveillance program.

Should you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stephanie Nelson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

Ms. Stephanie Nelson
Executive Director

Early Detection Triggers for Flocks *Greater Than 5 Weeks of Age*

1. *Unexplained Drop in Water Consumption*

- 1.1. All producers will record water consumption daily
- 1.2. Observation of a 5% or greater drop in water consumption sustained over 2 consecutive days will trigger an investigation by the producer
 - 1.2.1. For pullets on restricted diets or skip-a-day feeding, water consumption trends will be recorded over 2 consecutive on-feed days
- 1.3. If a non-infectious explanation for the drop in consumption is found (e.g. equipment failure), then the details will be recorded and no further action will be required.
- 1.4. If no explanation for the drop in consumption is found, then the flock will be tested for AI

2. *Unexplained Drop in Feed Consumption*

- 2.1. All producers will record feed consumption daily
- 2.2. Observation of a 5% or greater drop in feed consumption sustained over 2 consecutive days will trigger an investigation by the producer
 - 2.2.1. For flocks on restricted feeding or skip-a-day feeding, feed consumption trends will be recorded over 2 consecutive on-feed days
 - 2.2.2. For flocks on restricted feeding, time to clean up the day's ration may be the more appropriate measure; if the time to clean up feed rises by 50% or more, then an investigation will be triggered
- 2.3. If a non-infectious explanation for the drop in consumption is found (e.g. equipment failure), then the details will be recorded and no further action will be required.
- 2.4. If no explanation for the drop in consumption is found, then the flock will be tested for AI

3. *Unexplained Drop in Egg Production (this would only be for hatching eggs and layers)*

- 3.1. All producers will record egg production daily
- 3.2. Observation of a 5% or greater drop in egg production sustained over 2 consecutive days will trigger an investigation by the producer
- 3.3. If a non-infectious explanation for the drop in egg production is found (e.g. equipment failure), then the details will be recorded and no further action will be required.
- 3.4. If no explanation for the drop in egg production is found, then the flock will be tested for AI

4. *Unexplained Rise in Mortality*

- 4.1. Mortality collection and records will be done at least once daily by all producers
- 4.2. Observation of a rise in mortality to 0.3% or greater sustained over 2 consecutive days will trigger an investigation by the producer
- 4.3. If a non-infectious explanation for the rise in mortality is found (e.g. equipment failure), then the details will be recorded and no further action will be required.
- 4.4. If no explanation for the rise in mortality is found, then the flock will be tested for AI

5. Any Observation of Abnormal or Unusual Activity Recognized by the Producer

- 5.1. The producer knows his own birds better than anyone, therefore any abnormal or unusual activity by the flock (e.g. abnormal vocalization, abnormal movement patterns, etc.) that concerns the producer may, at the producer's discretion, trigger an investigation
- 5.2. If no explanation for the abnormal activity is observed, then the flock will be sampled for AI