

# BC BROILER HATCHING EGG COMMISSION

# AUGUST 2019 NEWSLETTER

## INDUSTRY STATISTICS

### YTD Hatchability

83.9%

### Average Lay Cycle End

58 weeks

### Average Breeder Price

Female: \$10.45

Male: \$14.04

### 2019 Audit Stats

Total Premises to Audit: 70

Premises Completed: 43

## Hatching Egg Tips

Click the link below to read an informative article on maximizing the potential of your broiler breeder hens

[https://www.cobb-vantress.com/en\\_US/articles/prepare-your-breeder-hens-for-optimum-production/](https://www.cobb-vantress.com/en_US/articles/prepare-your-breeder-hens-for-optimum-production/)

## ANIMAL CARE PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

Please ensure that the Commission office has received the makes and models of your barn equipment, this is important to ensure we have the right placement numbers for this quota cycle.

## ANIMAL CARE PROGRAM – AUDITS AND RECORDS

The CHEP Animal Care Program Audits will begin in August 2019. Fillable versions of the records are available on the producer side of the website.

## BUSINESS MANAGEMENT EVENTS SURVEY

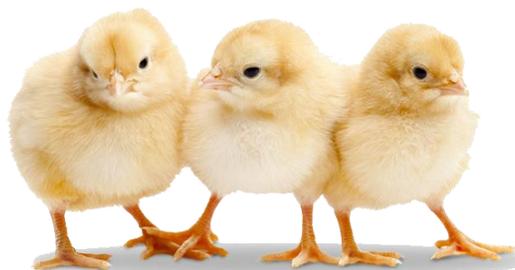
The B.C. Hatching Egg Producers and the Ministry of Agriculture are working together to develop business management learning events, tailored specifically for hatching egg producers. Your feedback is IMPORTANT. Please complete this short survey to let us know what topics would be of interest to you. The survey should take less than 10 minutes to complete. All responses will remain strictly anonymous. <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/D2GTM8Z>

## SPIKING MALE UPDATE

See attached letter and supporting documents

## CHEP AGRISKILLS

Please see attached document on the new CHEP Agriskills learning platform.



### Pricing Orders

| Period | Live Chicken | Hatching Eggs | Saleable Chicks | Day-Old Broiler Chicks |
|--------|--------------|---------------|-----------------|------------------------|
| A-152  | 1.659 \$/kg  | 544.00 ¢/doz  | 56.67 ¢/chick   | 75.60 ¢/chick          |
| A-153  | 1.645 \$/kg  | 536.11 ¢/doz  | 55.84 ¢/chick   | 74.78 ¢/chick          |
| A-154  | 1.629 \$/kg  | 532.52 ¢/doz  | 55.47 ¢/chick   | 74.41 ¢/chick          |
| A-155  | 1.651 \$/kg  | 545.36 ¢/doz  | 56.81 ¢/chick   | 75.75 ¢/chick          |
| A-156  | 1.645 \$/kg  | 551.34 ¢/doz  | 57.43 ¢/chick   | 76.37 ¢/chick          |
| A-157  | 1.647 \$/kg  | 556.20 ¢/doz  | 57.94 ¢/chick   | 76.87 ¢/chick          |

### Production Cycles

| Period | Start Date   | End Date     |
|--------|--------------|--------------|
| A-152  | Sep 2, 2018  | Oct 27, 2018 |
| A-153  | Oct 28, 2018 | Dec 22, 2018 |
| A-154  | Dec 23, 2018 | Feb 16, 2019 |
| A-155  | Feb 17, 2019 | Apr 13, 2019 |
| A-156  | Apr 14, 2019 | Jun 8, 2019  |
| A-157  | Jun 9, 2019  | Aug 3, 2019  |



July 5, 2019

Good afternoon,

Please find attached the proposed Spiking Male Farm Plan package that the BC Broiler Hatching Egg Commission is considering putting into effect in order to mitigate the risks in transferring spiking males between premises.

The Spiking Male Farm Plan Package consists of two documents:

1. The Spiking Male Work Action Plan which has been updated to reflect the work of the Spiking Male Committee and the Commission; and
2. A Spiking Male Farm Plan form.

The purpose of the Spiking Male Farm Plan form is to inform the Commission of what each premises is doing to mitigate the risks involved with spiking male movement. The Commission's intention is to add this document to your annual updates along with your license and contact information.

Commission staff are continuing to investigate funding opportunities for producers who are still considering the option of building a spiking male facility. If you are still considering building and would like to be a part of the funding process, please advise Naylene at the office.

Please advise Commission Staff if you have any comments or concerns regarding the Spiking Male Farm Plan package.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stephanie Nelson".

Stephanie Nelson, Executive Director  
BC Broiler Hatching Egg Commission

Attach.

## Spiking Male Review: Work Action Plan

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### Purpose:

- To confirm interim regulations and registration protocols as the BC Hatching Egg Commission (“the Commission”) transitions away from premise to premise spiking male movement.
- Consider the long-term plan to eliminate the disease transfer by the movement of spiking males<sup>1</sup>

### Stakeholders:

- BC Hatching Egg Producers
- BC Broiler Hatching Egg Producers’ Association (BCBHEPA)
- BC Chicken Growers’ Association (BCCGA)
- BC Chicken Marketing Board (BCCMB)
- BC Egg Hatchery Association (BCEHA)
- Canadian Hatching Egg Producers (CHEP)
- BC Ministry of Agriculture (BCMA)
- BC Farm Industry Review Board (BCFIRB)
- BC Poultry Veterinarians

### Glossary of Terms:

- **Spiking:** Movement of males from lay house to lay house to increase fertility in a lay house
- **Spiking Male:** A male moved between premises from lay house to lay house for the purposes of spiking.
- **Lay house:** The Production area of a broiler breeder operation that houses both male and female birds
- **Pullet:** An immature female chicken
- **Male Pullet:** An immature male chicken

### Outcome:

- Consider the interim strategy and ensure it allows for a transition to non-movement of spiking males while;
- Ensuring the Industry risk is mitigated thorough a criteria and registration process.
- Orderly Marketing and Sound Marketing Principals are upheld.
- Hatching Egg Producers have an efficient transition time to work through the long-term initiative of no movement of spiking males by 2020.

### Process:

1. Interim measures put in place effective October 1, 2017.
2. Steering Committee to work through the Work Action Plan by February 2018.
3. Commission to review material provided and consider long term solutions for the elimination of spiking male movement between premises by year end 2020 decision to be made by April 2018.

## **Background:**

The BC Broiler Hatching Egg Commission (“the Commission”) is currently considering a long-term plan of regulation eliminating the movement of spiking males between premises.

Currently spiking males move from one premises to another with a recommendation from the Commission to Producers to ensure that the birds entering their flock have been tested for specific diseases.

In 2014 two premises were infected directly with Avian Influenza as a result of spiking male movement. In 2016 five premises were infected with Coryza as a result of spiking male movement.

The Commission recognizes the Biosecurity concerns by both the Hatching Egg Producers and Industry stakeholders as a result of this practice and has established short term risk mitigating strategies.

The purpose of these strategies is to provide short term relief to the Hatching Egg Producers while plans are developed to be able to self-spike. Additionally, the Poultry sector can spend resources on other emergency planning as the Commission Staff will be able to trace the movement of spiking males through a criteria and registration process.

## **Phase 1:**

***Consultation and Research Phase- conducted by a Steering Committee comprised of two BCBHEPA directors, two Commission members and supported by ministry veterinarians, staff and funding.***

## **Approach:**

- Develop a questionnaire for Hatching Egg Producers on their historical spiking male practices including: how often they are spiking, what testing is conducted and what/ if any quarantine procedures are in place.
- Consult with a third-party veterinarian to review the testing schedule to ensure the biosecurity expectations for transfer are addressed.

## **Expected Outcome:**

- Transparent engagement with Industry Stakeholders.
- A clear concept of how Producers are using spiking males.

## **Deliverables:**

- A confirmation that the interim steps are sound and can ensure Biosecurity while long term plans are introduced to the Hatching Egg Sector – **Completion date anticipated by October 30, 2017**  
**COMPLETED**

## **Phase 2:**

### ***Options Development Phase***

## **Approach:**

- Review quarantine concept
- Review self-spiking options

- Develop a cost model through a feasibility study for the removal of premise to premise spiking males for potential inclusion into the cost of production model

#### Expected Outcome:

- Consideration of the Spiking Male Steering Committee's recommendations to the Commission.
- An evaluation of all options considered and the long-term plan evaluation considering the Commission's strategic plan and the feasibility study report.
- Consultation of the long-term plan by the Commission with its listed stakeholders.
- Producer Farm Plan guidelines development

#### Deliverables:

- An Industry update for stakeholder review and engagement – **Completion date anticipate February 28, 2019 COMPLETED**

#### Phase 3:

#### ***Engagement of Regulation, policy change or testing template requirements-***

#### Approach:

- Train Hatching Egg Producers on new expectations on movement of spiking males for the interim timeline.
- Develop Producer Farm Plans to address long term mitigating strategies
- Compile Cost benefit analysis using the Feasibility study report.
- Work with Producers on the long-term plan including possible grants and reserve fund opportunities

#### Expected Outcome:

- No uncontrolled spiking male movement between premises by year end 2020.

#### Deliverables:

- Implementation of Regulated movement and a long-term planning developed. - **Completion date anticipated July 1, 2019**

## Interim Steps for On Farm Biosecurity starting October 1, 2017

- Monitoring of males for spiking purposes between premises while the Steering Committee works through the work action plan.

### Interim Protocol Checklist:

1. Spiking Males Checklist must be completed and registered through the Commission Office.
2. Checklist must be dated with testing date, shipping date and expiry date.
3. Spiking males must originate from the same source flock.
4. Spiking males cannot exceed 30 weeks of age.
5. Males cannot be moved more than one than once for spiking purposes.
6. There must be a minimum of 14 days between spikes
7. Spiking Males must be sampled and tested with test results attached to the checklist application.
8. Testing of birds must include but is not limited to the following:
  1. Avian Influenza
  2. Salmonella Enteritis
  3. Coryza
9. Spiking males must be moved in the timeline outlined in the Checklist- Maximum of 10 days.
10. Spiking males must be moved in clean and disinfected crates<sup>2</sup>.
11. Spiking males to be introduced into the lay house in a manner that reduces stress.
12. Spiking males must be easily identified and monitored.
13. Any unusual circumstances with the flock post spike must be reported to the Commission Office.

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<sup>2</sup> <http://www.inspection.gc.ca/animals/terrestrial-animals/humane-transport/transport-requirements/eng/1363748532198/1363748620219>

Producer Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Producer Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Farm Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Glossary of Terms

**Spiking Male:** A male moved between premises from lay house to lay house for the purposes of spiking

**Lay House:** The Production area of a broiler breeder operation that houses both male and female birds

**Spiking:** Movement of males from lay house to lay house to increase fertility in a lay house

**Pullet:** An immature female chicken

**Male Pullet:** An immature male chicken

**This form must be completed annually for office information purposes**

Criteria List – Ensure that you check off all that apply

### ***Do you use off-site males for spiking purposes?***

- **No**
  - I move males from my spiking male barn to my lay flock
  - I move males from lay flock to lay flock
  - I move males from a pullet barn to my lay flock
  - I move males from a pullet barn to my spiking male barn to my lay flock
  - **What is your back-up plan if you cannot spike on your own site, with your own birds?**
    - I will not spike at all
    - I will spike from offsite – please complete “Yes” section
- **Yes**
  - I register my spiking male movements with the Commission office
  - I ensure my spiking male registration is complete before submission
  - Every spike contains males from one source flock
  - My spiking males are less than 30 weeks of age at transfer



# Spiking Male Farm Plan 2019

## Yes – Continued

- My spiking males are only used in one lay house
- There is a minimum of 14 days between spikes
- My birds are tested for Avian Influenza, Salmonella Enteritidis, Coryza – completed test results are attached to the application<sup>1</sup>
- My spiking males are moved within 10 days of receiving my test results. If not, the birds will be re-tested.
- My spiking males are moved in clean and disinfected crates
- I introduce my spiking males in a low stress environment
- My spiking males are marked, and I monitor the flock post spike
- I report all unusual activity within my flock post spike to the Commission; and pay careful attention post spike.

| Date | Name | Signature |
|------|------|-----------|
|------|------|-----------|

### -Office Use Only-

Date Commission Office received: \_\_\_\_\_

Commission Receiver Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Commission Receiver Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Farm Plan Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Staff comments:

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<sup>1</sup> The Commission reserves the right to add diseases

## CHEP Agriskills

This comprehensive course has been developed for hatching egg producers and their employees.

Based on real-world best practices used on farms across Canada, this simple, practical training package ensures that even the busiest farms can successfully train their workers quickly and with no down-time.

This course was developed in consultation with hatching egg producers and industry experts across Canada. The training is based on National Occupational Standards, which are national employee benchmarks that define the knowledge and behaviours required for job success.

The modules cover important broiler hatching egg basics such as egg and chick quality, feed, lighting, flock health, and flock uniformity. You will learn why these practices are important, and how they fit with your day-to-day tasks.

– Canadian Hatching Egg Producers

For questions and to sign up for CHEP Agriskills, please contact Kaitlyn Loewen by phone (604-850-1854) or email ([kaitlyn@bcbhec.com](mailto:kaitlyn@bcbhec.com)) to have an account created for you.