

# BC BROILER HATCHING EGG COMMISSION

# AUGUST 2020 NEWSLETTER

## INDUSTRY STATISTICS

### YTD Hatchability

83.3 %

### Average Lay Cycle End

56 weeks

### Average Breeder Price

Female: \$11.71

Male: \$15.56

### 2020 Audit Stats

Total Premises to Audit: 59

Premises Completed: 33 / 59

### Hatching Egg Tip

Click the link below to watch an informative video on chick brooding. There are many helpful tips listed that could get overlooked.

[http://en.aviagen.com/assets/Tech\\_Center/BB\\_Resources\\_Tools/Video-Chick-Start-EN-19.pdf](http://en.aviagen.com/assets/Tech_Center/BB_Resources_Tools/Video-Chick-Start-EN-19.pdf)



### UPDATE: COVID-19 EARLY PROCESSING COMPENSATION

Please see the attached letter from Stephanie Nelson, Executive Director.

### BCBHEPA CORRESPONDENCE – JULY 30, 2020

Please see the attached letter from Stephanie Nelson, Executive Director to Bryan Brandsma, President of the BCBHEPA.

### CPRC – CANADA'S SALMONELLA SITUATION

Please see the attached flyer from CPRC regarding salmonella.

### CLEAN FARMS 2020 – UNWANTED PESTICIDES

Please see the attached flyer regarding unwanted pesticides and other medications.

### ABC RECORDS BINDER

Please see the attached memo regarding the ABC Records Binder to assist you with your Schedule 5 Program Audit Paperwork.

### WE HAVE MOVED!

Please see the attached flyer for the new address.

Due to COVID-19 we are not currently accepting visitors.

### 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-159	1.707 \$/kg	574.59 ¢/doz	59.85 ¢/chick	78.77 ¢/chick
A-160	1.697 \$/kg	598.71 ¢/doz	62.32 ¢/chick	81.26 ¢/chick
A-161	1.694 \$/kg	600.92 ¢/doz	62.55 ¢/chick	81.49 ¢/chick
A-162	1.694 \$/kg	602.95 ¢/doz	62.76 ¢/chick	81.70 ¢/chick
A-163	1.697 \$/kg	605.64 ¢/doz	63.03 ¢/chick	81.97 ¢/chick
A-164	1.707 \$/kg	610.09 ¢/doz	63.49 ¢/chick	82.43 ¢/chick

Production Cycles

Period	Start Date	End Date
A-159	Sep 29, 2019	Nov 23, 2019
A-160	Nov 24, 2019	Jan 18, 2020
A-161	Jan 19, 2020	Mar 14, 2020
A-162	Mar 15, 2020	May 9, 2020
A-163	Mar 10, 2020	Jul 4, 2020
A-164	Jul 5, 2020	Aug 29, 2020



July 30, 2020

VIA EMAIL

B.C. Hatching Egg Producers

Dear Producers,

**RE: FOLLOW UP TO JUNE 1, 2020 LETTER RE COVID-19 COMPENSATION FOR EARLY FLOCK REMOVAL**

The Commission members reviewed the compensation situation at their July 23, 2020 meeting and have instructed me to update all producers on the status of COVID-19 compensation.

COVID-19 has substantively impacted the Commission financially. The Commission has already exhausted its contingency fund to facilitate dumping eggs and rendering of flocks due to the 15% set reduction for second half of period A-163 and the continued reduction in allocation for periods A-164 and A-165. Concerns of a second wave have also weighed heavily on the Commission's consideration of compensation. COVID-19 is not yet finished with us.

Operationally and financially, the Commission is stretched for resources, commencing with the removal and/or rendering of flocks due to Superior Poultry Processors Ltd.'s plant closure. Immediate relief was sought by removing eggs from production to ensure that orderly marketing prevailed and that the industry could be sustained pending recovery, which remains the priority.

The decreases in allocation required an immediate reduction in sets. The downturn in the processed egg market and restriction placed on those processors limited the number of eggs to the breakers. Processing plant issues created shortages in shackle space (when available at all). Consequently, the Commission recognized that operational decisions had to be made in an expedited timeframe resulting in producers being processed early.

The Commission has examined options about the many flocks impacted with early processing dates due to the set reductions caused by COVID-19. This review included: producers' flocks that were rendered and received no compensation for fowl; producers who received the adjusted fowl price; and flocks processed under 56 weeks.

Due to the outstanding decision on the financial relief application, AgriRecovery, currently under review at the federal government level, the Commission has decided that compensation will be dealt with in stages. The first stage is compensation for the producers whose flocks were rendered with no compensation for fowl; these producers will receive the interim \$0.20 per kilogram rate.

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**B.C. Broiler Hatching Egg Commission**

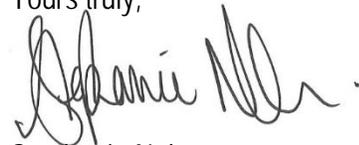
#210 – 1848 McCallum Road, Abbotsford, BC V2S 0H9 • [www.bcbhec.com](http://www.bcbhec.com)

CHEP's final revision to the allocation for 2020 resulted in the loss of production for B.C. This allocation decision impacts on current processing dates as communicated with producers on July 17, 2020, and negatively impacts remaining processing dates in 2020. With that unknown, the Commission has decided to compensate producers who were impacted with an early processing date up to 54 weeks. These producers remain eligible for the end of year processing date review that the Commission has conducted over the past two years.

The Commission will continue to manage its reserves so that it can respond to further issues arising from COVID-19. However, it will also continue to assess the status of compensation on an ongoing basis and will consider further interim compensation options if and when possible.

Please feel free to call me directly with any questions or concerns.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stephanie Nelson", written over a light grey rectangular background.

Stephanie Nelson  
Executive Director

cc: Commission website  
Commission newsletter



July 30, 2020

VIA EMAIL

Bryan Brandsma, President  
BC Broiler Hatching Egg Producers' Association  
P.O. Box 191  
Abbotsford, BC V4X 3R2

Dear Bryan,

### **FOLLOW UP TO JULY 10, 2020 CORRESPONDENCE**

The Commission members reviewed the BCBHEPA's correspondence at their July 23, 2020 meeting and have instructed me to respond to you with the following update.

The Commission requested evidence to support the processors' request to reduce the fowl price in January 2020. To date, the Commission has not received that requested information and, unless compelling information is provided, the interim COVID-19-related price for fowl will revert to \$0.40 kgs for period A-165. A letter of reminder to the processors is attached for your reference. It should be noted that any future change to the fowl price will be again referred to the Pricing and Production Advisory Committee before any decision by the Commission is made.

The Commission notes your concerns regarding the requested hatchery margin. As you know from other correspondence related to the pricing supervisory review, the hatchery margin is but one component of a comprehensive look at pricing in the BC chicken industry. It has been some time in coming but this review represents an important opportunity to affect a new approach to pricing in BC. It is critical that all hatching egg sector pricing and pricing-related concerns are identified and included in this review. The Commission will be working with the BCBHEPA and the BC Egg Hatchery Association to ensure the interests of both producers and hatcheries are addressed.

More specifically, and as discussed during our June 23 meeting, the Commission believes the BCBHEPA can assist in matters such as supporting the timely collection of information from producers in the upcoming COP survey.

Yours truly,

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

Stephanie Nelson  
Executive Director

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**BC Broiler Hatching Egg Commission**

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Enclosure

cc: Commission website  
Commission newsletter



July 30, 2020

VIA EMAIL

To: All BC Hatcheries and BC Processors

## PRICING OF SPENT FOWL DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION

Under the British Columbia Broiler Hatching Egg Scheme, regulated product “means a broiler hatching egg, a saleable chick or a broiler breeder”. Section 26 of the BC Broiler Hatching Egg Commission Consolidated Order governs the marketing of broiler breeder (fowl) flocks. Section 30 states that payment for fowl will be at the base price set out in Schedule 2 of the Consolidated Order.

On March 12, 2020, the Commission wrote in response to February 20, 2020 and February 28, 2020 letters from Pollon Express Ltd. and Sofina Foods Inc., respectively, about fowl pricing. In that letter, the Commission requested further information regarding the issues raised by Pollon and Sofina in their correspondence. To date, insufficient substantiating information has been provided to the Commission.

As a result of COVID-19 and the subsequent negative impact on chicken pricing, Processors requested a short-term adjustment of the fowl (hen) price from \$0.40 per kilogram live weight to \$0.20 per kilogram live weight. The Commission determined initially that the price of fowl (hens) should be amended to \$0.20 per kilogram live weight on a temporary basis, until the end of Period A-163.

At the request of processors, the Commission extended the interim pricing for a second period as market conditions had not yet improved.

The interim reduced price will remain in effect only until the end of Period A164 (August 29, 2020), at which time it will revert to \$0.40 per kilogram live weight as previously communicated. A further interim extension will only be considered by the Commission if substantive, evidence-based rationale is provided by the processors by August 13, 2020 so that the Pricing and Production Advisory Committee and the Commission can consider it prior to the end of the Period. Please be advised also that due to the connection between the \$0.40 kg fowl price and the current hatchery margin, the Commission is now including the issue of longer-term fowl pricing in the upcoming supervisory review of pricing in the BC chicken industry.

Regards,

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

Stephanie Nelson  
Executive Director

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BC Broiler Hatching Egg Commission

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cc: Bryan Brandsma, President  
BC Broiler Hatching Egg Producers' Association

Ryan Whitmore, President  
BC Egg Hatchery Association

Harvey Sasaki, Chair  
BC Chicken Marketing Board

Blair Shier, President  
Primary Poultry Processors Association of BC

Commission Website

# Canada's *Salmonella* situation

For more than 50 years, the Canadian poultry industry has been working to reduce, and ultimately eliminate *Salmonella* in Canada – a major cause of human foodborne illnesses. *Salmonella* enteritidis is the most prevalent and challenging type, and Martine Boulianne, Full Professor, Chair in Poultry Research, Faculté de médecine vétérinaire, Université de Montréal, has dedicated most of her research career over the past 25 years to studying the bacterial disease.



**Martine Boulianne**

“Reducing the incidents of *Salmonella* has generated a lot of interest over the years, beginning in Canada in the 1970s when the federal government wanted to make Canada *Salmonella*-free,” explains Boulianne. “We’re not there yet, but over the years, research into eliminating and controlling the bacteria has evolved and we’ve seen some success in vaccinations and control programs.”

During the 1996 *Salmonella* outbreak in Quebec, Boulianne participated in the surveillance program, providing support to the provincial egg industry. As a result, monitoring programs and control measures to eliminate infected laying flocks were put into place in Quebec in 1997 and have since been nationalized. “That means it’s safe to eat sunny side eggs in Canada,” notes Boulianne.

Since then, various prevention and traceability programs have been implemented across Canada as control measures against *Salmonella*. Food recalls are now easier with traceability programs and ongoing research has led to the development of vaccines to reduce bacterial excretion in live animals. “We haven’t found a silver bullet solution to stop animals from excreting and spreading *Salmonella* yet,” says Boulianne. But progress continues – a recent federal study revealed that approximately 15 per cent of Canadian broiler chickens currently test positive for *Salmonella*. “The good news is that vaccination can reduce the levels of *Salmonella*. It’s also worth noting, that even though Canadian flocks aren’t *Salmonella* free, there is minimal risk to people consuming poultry or egg products that are handled and cooked properly.”

## Taking control

For years, government monitoring programs have surveyed geographical and temporal trends in *Salmonella* infections and serotypes in Canada. The recent use of whole genome sequencing can establish the chronology of an outbreak and even trace sources of contamination. “Years of research has shown us how the bacterial disease is transmitted, how to monitor it and how to control it. Now public health officers and researchers have access to genomic tools which can not only confirm transmission schemes but eventually lead to the development of new control methods,” says Boulianne.

When it comes to controlling *Salmonella*, there are currently two opportunities in poultry production: pre- and post-harvest control measures. Any prevention or reduction measure taken before an animal is slaughtered, like vaccination, is considered pre-harvest. Foodborne pathogens occur post-harvest, but there are treatments available at the slaughter stage to control *Salmonella*. Boulianne says that it is essential control measures are taken at both pre- and post-harvest stages to reduce foodborne illness in Canada.

The Canadian poultry industry is working closely with researchers, government and public health officials to set new *Salmonella* targets and regulations.

## A global perspective

Canada isn’t the only country tackling *Salmonella*. Many countries are taking their own approach to reduce the bacteria entering the poultry value chain. Boulianne notes that the European Union restrict post-harvest treatments and is focusing on pre-harvest prevention. “Sweden has long been a leader and is constantly working to produce *Salmonella* free flocks in their country,” she says.

The Canadian poultry industry is working closely with researchers, government and public health officials to set new *Salmonella* targets and regulations. Boulianne is part of a national working group to reduce infection rates over the next five years.

“There is still plenty of research to be done on identifying bacterial proteins and improving vaccine delivery.”

### The road of research

Bringing years of experience and historical knowledge to *Salmonella* research, one of Boulianne's recent research projects focused on the development of a *Salmonella* enteritidis vaccine for layers and breeding hens. Funded through the Canadian Poultry Research Council, the results saw the development of preventative tools that, with further research and development, could reduce the excretion of *Salmonella*. Through her research, Boulianne

developed a new vaccine delivery method for laying hens by inoculating the birds early in their growth stage. She also selected several protein candidates that could be used in the development of new vaccines. While nothing has been commercialized, these results offer new insight and building blocks to expand the development of new *Salmonella* vaccines and delivery methods.

Looking ahead, Boulianne says there is still plenty of research to be done identifying bacterial proteins and improving vaccine delivery. “And we can't forget other control measures like monitoring, testing and traceability – they are just as important and can be improved.”

Boulianne has invested much of her professional career to *Salmonella* research, and while she's seen significant progress in reducing the incidents of foodborne illness and number of infected flocks, she says there's still work to be done. “With proper measures in place and the joint efforts of industry, government and academia, we have a good chance of controlling the bacteria, but we still have many questions to answer.”

*This research was part of the Poultry Science Cluster which was supported by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada as part of Growing Forward, a federal-provincial-territorial initiative.*



**British Columbia**



## **Cleanfarms 2020 Unwanted Pesticides & Old Livestock/ Equine Medications Collection**

# **Farmers! Got unwanted pesticides or livestock/equine medications?**

Safely dispose of unwanted or obsolete agricultural pesticides and livestock/equine medications – **no charge!** Take them to the following locations on the dates noted between **9 a.m. and 4 p.m.**

**Check for Event Locations & Dates here:**

### **Vancouver Island**

#### **CUMBERLAND**

**October 5**

Comox Valley Waste Management Centre  
250-336-8083 x 226

#### **DUNCAN**

**October 6**

Bings Creek Recycling Centre  
250-746-2540

#### **VICTORIA**

**October 7**

Capital Regional District - Hartland Landfill  
250-360-3318

### **Fraser Valley**

#### **ABBOTSFORD**

**October 16**

Terralink  
604-864-9044

#### **DELTA**

**October 13**

Nutrien Solutions  
604-940-0290

#### **LANGLEY**

**October 15**

Professional Ag Distribution Inc.  
604-768-5602

- Next Cleanfarms collection in these areas in fall 2023.
- COVID social distancing measures may be in place.
- For collection dates in other BC regions, go to: [cleanfarms.ca/materials/unwanted-pesticides-animal-meds/](https://cleanfarms.ca/materials/unwanted-pesticides-animal-meds/)

Partner



**Cleanfarms.ca**

[info@cleanfarms.ca](mailto:info@cleanfarms.ca) [@cleanfarms](https://twitter.com/cleanfarms)



*Given the current situation, please call ahead to collection sites for instructions on delivering empties.*



# We Have Moved!



As of July 22, 2020

BC Broiler Hatching Egg Commission's New Office is located at:

#210 - 1848 McCallum Road, Abbotsford BC, V2S 0H9

*Due to COVID-19 we are not currently accepting visitors*

Phone: 604-850-1854

Website: [www.bcbhec.com](http://www.bcbhec.com)

Email: [naylene@bcbhec.com](mailto:naylene@bcbhec.com)

## CHEP Agriskills

This is a comprehensive online course that 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.

This course is free of charge and can be completed at the student's leisure.

There are 21 modules in all. Each module covers a topic which consists of a learning portion with information and a quiz on that topic. Quizzes only advance once the correct answer is selected for each question.

After each completed module and corresponding quiz there is a certificate awarded showing the student has completed that module topic.

Modules usually take between 10-40 minutes to complete depending on the student, topic, and size of module.

This is a great opportunity for employers and employees to further their knowledge in the industry.

To sign up, please send Kaitlyn:

1. Full Name of student
2. Email address of student

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.