

BC BROILER HATCHING EGG COMMISSION

APRIL 2025 NEWSLETTER



INDUSTRY INFORMATION

2025 BC Poultry Conference and AGM:

We would like to extend a big thank you to everyone who joined us for this year's 2025 Poultry Conference and BCBHEC AGM. Your participation made it a remarkable event with an incredible turnout.

Upcoming Election – Independent Elections Officer (IEO) Message:

The 2025 BC Broiler Hatching Egg Commission Election will begin on April 8th. Watch your email for the Notice of Election, Nomination Form and Voting Producer Form. If your notice isn't in your inbox, please check your spam/junk folder before calling the IEO.

Any questions regarding this year's election can be sent to the IEO at office@bccoga.ca or by calling 778.242.0285.

BCBHEC Coffee Meetings April 15th and 16th:

We are hosting three coffee meeting sessions focused on the Cost of Production (COP) and its update. **Registration is required** as spots are limited. The meetings will take place at the BCBHEC office, located at 1848 McCallum Road, Unit 210, Abbotsford. To register, please email Michaela at admin@bcbhec.com.

Meeting Dates and Times:

- Tuesday, April 15 – 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM
- Tuesday, April 15 – 1:30 PM to 4:00 PM
- Wednesday, April 16 – 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Save the Date – Producer Meeting June 17, 2025:

Please join us in the Mt. Baker Room at the Clarion Hotel, located at 36035 N Parallel Rd, Abbotsford, for an informative session featuring Dr. Gigi Lin, DVM, Diplomate ACPV. Dr. Lin will be presenting on Salmonella Enteritidis, a topic of significant importance to our industry. Your participation is valued, and we look forward to seeing you there!

CHEP Submission on U.S. Tariffs:

Please see the attached below the submission for the Canadian Hatching Egg Producers (CHEP) regarding the Government of Canada's proposed countermeasures in response to U.S. tariffs.

CHEP 2024 Annual Report:

Please visit our [website](#) to view the Canadian Hatching Egg Producers' 2024 Annual Report.

On-Farm Program Summer Student:

Please join us in welcoming Allie Janzen back for her second year with the On-Farm Team! Allie will be rejoining us in May and working alongside Kaitlyn and Amy once again. She brings valuable poultry experience from her family's layer and broiler farm and is excited to continue learning about the hatching egg industry and connecting with producers on farm.

2024 Annual Report:

If you haven't already, please take a moment to review our annual report on the [website](#). The On-Farm Team Report was recently updated to reflect previously omitted information.

CBHEPA 2024 Student Research Reports:

The 2024 student research reports and presentation from this year's CBHEPA grant recipients are now available on our [website](#). We invite you to take a look.

PRICING

Pricing Orders				
Period	Live Chicken	Hatching Eggs	Saleable Chicks	Day-Old Broiler Chicks
A-191	2.1805 \$/kg	739.91 ¢/doz	77.07 ¢/chick	99.07 ¢/chick
A-192	2.1722 \$/kg	755.86 ¢/doz	78.74 ¢/chick	102.15 ¢/chick
A-193	2.1636 \$/kg	754.97 ¢/doz	78.64 ¢/chick	102.05 ¢/chick
A-194	2.1758 \$/kg	736.69 ¢/doz	76.74 ¢/chick	100.15 ¢/chick

PRODUCTION

Year-To-Date Hatchability:
82.3%

Average Lay Cycle End:
60.3 Weeks

Production Cycles		
Period	Start Date	End Date
A-191	Aug 25, 2024	Oct 19, 2024
A-192	Oct 20, 2024	Dec 14, 2024
A-193	Dec 15, 2024	Feb 8, 2025
A-194	Feb 9, 2025	Apr 5, 2025

Placement Date / Number Changes: Production staff want to note that increasing placeable hens or changing placement dates can be challenging and usually must be done at least six months out (currently into October 2025).

ON-FARM

2024 Audit Stats

Total Premises to Audit: 52
Premises Completed: 47/52

2025 Audit Stats

Total Premises to Audit: 48
Premises Completed: 10/48

Hatching Egg Tip

This interesting [article](#) addresses post-peak hen fertility and production.

Biosecurity Status: RED

Industry is to function under the **red** status of biosecurity. The **red** biosecurity status is attached.

HPAI Update:

All active zones have been revoked. Permits are no longer required for bird or product movement offsite.

Confidential Biosecurity Assessment for Producers:

Broiler Hatching Egg Producers are invited to complete a confidential biosecurity questionnaire and SE testing for this CHEP research survey. Your input will support a national overview, and you will be provided with a personalized biosecurity assessment. Details attached below.

Barn Specifications Reminder:

Please let On-Farm staff know if you are or will be renovating your barns. The ACP requires most up to date barn specifications on file as these numbers affect your flock sizes.

CHEP Agriskills Course:

A reminder that CHEP offers a comprehensive online modular course on Broiler Breeder production. 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. Please contact Kaitlyn at kaitlyn@bcbhec.com to register you or your employees.

Stay Informed:

Check our [website](#) frequently for the latest updates on webinars and valuable guides. Find essential resources and presentations on important industry topics to keep yourself ahead in your field.



SAVE THE DATE PRODUCER MEETING

Date: June 17, 2025

Time: 7:00 PM

Location: Mt. Baker Room, Clarion Hotel
36035 N Parallel Rd, Abbotsford

Join us for an informative session with Dr. Gigi Lin, DVM, Diplomate ACPV, presenting on Salmonella Enteritidis. We look forward to seeing you there!



March 20, 2025

International Trade Policy Division (U.S. Tariff Consultations)
Department of Finance
90 Elgin Street, 14th Floor
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0G5

By email: consultations@fin.gc.ca

Re: Canadian Hatching Egg Producers' Submission on U.S. Tariff Consultations

The Canadian Hatching Egg Producers (CHEP) appreciate the opportunity to provide comments regarding the Government of Canada's Notice of Intent to Impose Countermeasures in Response to United States Tariffs on Canadian Goods.

CHEP represents 237 broiler hatching egg producers across Canada. In 2024, Canadian broiler hatching egg farmers produced over 891 million hatching eggs, valued at more than \$510 million, supporting over 9,700 jobs. Our farmers produce high quality broiler hatching eggs and chicks to meet the needs of the chicken industry that contributes to a steady supply of safe, high quality and nutritious chicken to Canadian consumers and the food service industry. The stability provided by supply management also enables CHEP to invest in research, including continued improvements in productivity, egg quality, bird health, bird welfare and food safety.

Supply management was created in response to chaos in the poultry and egg sector—a time when provinces were at odds with each other, surplus product flooded markets, and farmers were forced to sell at unsustainable prices.

These tariffs threaten to undo decades of stability, returning Canada to a time of volatility, price swings, and market uncertainty. This isn't just about trade policy—it's about preserving the foundation of our domestic food system.

While CHEP understands and supports Canada's efforts to respond to unjustified U.S. tariffs, imposing countermeasures on breeder hatching eggs and chicks would be counterproductive—punishing Canadian farmers instead of protecting them. We strongly urge the government to remove the following in-quota items from the proposed list to prevent significant disruptions:

- **Breeder hatching eggs** (HS code **0407.11.91**: *Birds' eggs, in shell, fresh, preserved or cooked. Fertilized eggs for incubation*)
- **Breeder chicks** (HS code **0105.11.10**: *Live poultry, that is to say, fowls of the species *Gallus domesticus*, ducks, geese, turkeys and guinea fowls*)



Additionally, while specific HS codes are not listed, we request that certain chicken feed ingredients be removed from the tariff list. Some feed ingredients, such as dicalcium phosphate, corn and soybean meal, are occasionally imported from the U.S., and increased costs for these items could raise production expenses for farmers and potentially impact consumer prices.

Key Concerns & Negative Impacts:

Hatching eggs (fertilized eggs for incubation) and live chicks are highly perishable, making long-distance imports from alternative suppliers unfeasible: Hatching eggs must be incubated within a limited timeframe—extended transit times significantly reduce hatchability rates, leading to substantial losses.

Live chicks have a narrow survival window—longer transportation increases mortality rates, especially when delays occur in transit.

Strict temperature, humidity, and biosecurity controls are required for viability, and not all countries have the infrastructure to meet these standards.

Only the United States meets Canada's stringent biosecurity standards, increasing the risk of disease outbreaks and supply chain disruptions if sourcing is forced from alternative markets.

The U.S. remains the only viable supplier due to proximity, regulatory alignment, and established trade relationships.

Expanding tariffs to in-quota products in our sector risks severe supply chain disruptions, food security concerns, and increased consumer prices. At a time when grocery bills are already a major concern for Canadians, these tariffs will only make it harder for families to access affordable, locally produced food. More broadly, we believe that food items should not be subject to tariffs to help keep costs lower for consumers.

The impact of these tariffs isn't just measured in dollars—it's measured in the stress felt by producers who are now faced with uncertainty about their farm's future, their ability to pass their farm down to the next generation, and their role in feeding Canadian families.

Many of our producers operate multi-generational farms, where grandparents, parents, and children all work together to ensure a strong, domestic supply of hatching eggs. The introduction of excessive tariffs threatens this legacy and places additional strain on rural communities that rely on the stability of supply management.

Canadian
Hatching Egg
Producers



Les Producteurs
d'œufs d'incubation
du Canada

We appreciate the opportunity to provide input on this critical issue and welcome further discussions to ensure Canada's countermeasures are effective while minimizing unintended risks to supply chains, food security, and Canadian farmers and consumers. We call on the government to protect—not weaken—Canada's supply-managed poultry sector at this critical moment.

Please do not hesitate to contact us for further information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Teddy Markey". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Teddy Markey
Executive Director
Canadian Hatching Egg Producers

CC: Garen Afarian, Senior Economist & Trade Advisor

Enhanced Biosecurity “Red”



These measures are in addition to your “Green” and “Yellow” biosecurity protocols¹ and should be implemented on farms in a region where a disease or other threat is suspected or present.

Controlled Access Zone (CAZ)

- Inform all family, friends, staff, service personnel, and allied trades of your enhanced biosecurity measures
- Keep your CAZ barrier locked at all times
- *Limit visits to only essential visitors. They must make an appointment and they must follow individual farm’s biosecurity requirements. Wherever possible, meet off the farm. (revised)*
- Implement your vehicle wash station at the entrance to your CAZ
 - Remove all organic debris with pressurized water
 - Disinfect tires, wheel wells, and under-carriages of vehicles
 - Disinfect the floor mats, pedals, steering wheel, and door handles of the interior of the vehicle with disinfecting wipes or a small spray bottle and paper towel
- Make sure garbage bins (dumpsters) are outside of the CAZ and reduce pick-ups as much as possible

Restricted Access Zone (RAZ)

- Keep all exterior barn doors locked at all times when not occupied by personnel
- When entering the RAZ change into barn specific coveralls and RAZ specific boots as well as Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) as per WorkSafe BC requirements
- When exiting the RAZ leave all biosecurity gear on the RAZ side of the CAZ/RAZ demarcation
- Wash and or sanitize your hands before entering or exiting the RAZ
- Shower before and after completing your daily barn chores
- Restrict contact between commercial poultry and wild birds & wild bird droppings

Conducting Business

- Whenever possible conduct all activities through non-contact methods such as telephone, email, or fax
- *Ensure proper biosecurity protocols are implemented while attending and returning from any common public gatherings. (revised)*

¹ These are not all of the BC Biosecurity Program requirements; please refer to your producer manual for more information. Note if your commodity’s On-Farm Food Safety Program requires more stringent biosecurity measures please follow them instead. The measures above are minimum requirements.

CALLING ALL BROILER HATCHING EGG PRODUCERS! – RESEARCH SURVEY –

Help prevent *Salmonella* and HPAI

What's the issue?

The Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) has listed *Salmonella* as one of the most important foodborne disease-causing agents in Canada, and poultry has been identified as a reservoir for *Salmonella*. *Salmonella* and risk factors for highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) are important national research priorities for CHEP.

What is CHEP doing?

CHEP is funding a research project with Université de Montréal and the Swine and Poultry Infectious Diseases Research Center (CRIPA) entitled *Contribution of management factors to the evolution of Salmonella spp. genetic diversity and to the presence of Salmonella Enteritidis in broiler breeder flocks in Canada*, which is designed to *Salmonella* diversity on-farm, the associated risk factors for *Salmonella* and HPAI, and potential interventions such as improved autogenous vaccines.

This work is being led by Dr. Marie-Lou Gaucher, associate professor at the Université de Montréal, in collaboration with Dr. Manon Racicot, adjunct professor at the Université de Montréal, who will be responsible for the questionnaire part of the study.

What am I being asked to do?

Broiler hatching egg producers across Canada are being asked to complete a confidential, online questionnaire on their current on-farm biosecurity practices. The responses will be used to create a current picture of management practices on broiler hatching egg farms and a personalized biosecurity report will be generated for each participant.

Contact: marie-lou.gaucher@umontreal.ca



What's in it for me?

You will receive a **personal biosecurity assessment** tailored to your farm at no cost to you.

Your responses will improve current knowledge about risk factors for both *Salmonella* and HPAI, as well as better interventions on-farm.

The more responses, the better. The litter of your participating barn will be sampled twice during the study as part of the existing *Salmonella* Enteritidis (SE) monitoring program in your province, and a duplicate of this sample will be shared with the research team that will document the *Salmonella* diversity.

How will my personal information be protected?

The project numerically codes participant information and sampling results.

The research team will have access to the key that links the code and your identity during the data collection.

The research team only will have access to the data of the research. Your provincial organization will know your identity so that they can forward the litter samples collected to the research team.

However, neither these representatives nor CHEP will have access to the data collected during your participation or to your individual results.

After the end of the data collection, the key will be destroyed, so your data will be anonymized. This ensures your personal information always remains confidential.

Participation is voluntary. You can withdraw at any time, no questions asked.

Please note that once the collected data have been anonymized or once the publication process has started, they will no longer be withdrawn from the study.

Project updates will be available regularly. For more information, please contact your provincial board, or contact CHEP.

Should you be interested in taking part of this study, please contact the research team (marie-lou.gaucher@umontreal.ca).

