

BC BROILER HATCHING EGG COMMISSION

SEPTEMBER 2026 NEWSLETTER



INDUSTRY INFORMATION

Save the Date – Producer Meeting | October 8, 2026:

Please save the date for our upcoming Producer Meeting, taking place on Thursday, October 8, 2026, at 7:00 PM in the Mt. Baker Room at the Clarion Hotel. The meeting will include an open session, and industry participants are encouraged to attend that portion of the evening. Further details regarding the agenda and timing of the open session will be provided closer to the meeting date.

CanNAISS Program Update:

The CFIA has updated the Canadian Notifiable Avian Influenza Surveillance System (CanNAISS), effective April 2026. The updated program includes fewer samples overall while expanding surveillance to additional poultry production types.

The CFIA is currently contacting producers regarding participation. Please see the attached letter and updated brochure for more information.

BC Avian Influenza Producer Study:

The BC Centre for Disease Control and University of British Columbia are conducting a study to better understand how BC commercial poultry and egg producers receive, interpret, and respond to information about Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI).

Commercial poultry and egg owners, operators, and managers are invited to participate in a one-hour interview, available in person, by Zoom, or by phone. Findings will help improve HPAI communication and prevention efforts in BC.

Interested in participating? Contact Sherry at sherry.khoddami@bccdc.ca or 778-317-2673.

Please see the attached study advertisement and consent form for more information.

Research Participants Wanted – Rodent Management Study:

The University of Alberta is seeking Fraser Valley producers to participate in a research study exploring the challenges and successes of rodent management in British Columbia and Alberta. Participation includes two interviews (one in 2026 and one follow-up in 2027) and an optional on-farm tour to better understand rodent management practices. If you are interested in participating, please refer to the attached recruitment materials below for additional information.

BC Agriculture Council Member Programs:

The BC Agriculture Council (BCAC) offers programs to help support B.C. farmers, including the BC Farmer ID Card and the BCAC Employee Benefits Plan. Learn how these programs can help you save money and access valuable benefits. Please see the attached promotional materials for more information.

Poultry in Motion – Summer Update:

It's been a busy summer for Poultry in Motion, with school presentations, community events, educational initiatives and new program development keeping the team on the move. Check out the attached summer update for a look at what they've been up to and what's ahead this fall!

PRICING

Pricing Orders				
Period	Live Chicken	Hatching Eggs	Saleable Chicks	Day-Old Broiler Chicks
A-200	2.2159 \$/kg	782.18 ¢/doz	81.48 ¢/chick	109.41 ¢/chick
A-201	2.2931 \$/kg	779.18 ¢/doz	81.16 ¢/chick	109.09 ¢/chick
A-202	2.2416 \$/kg	773.52 ¢/doz	80.58 ¢/chick	108.20 ¢/chick
A-203	2.2708 \$/kg	801.99 ¢/doz	83.54 ¢/chick	110.85 ¢/chick
A-204	2.3121 \$/kg	840.68 ¢/doz	87.57 ¢/chick	114.57 ¢/chick



PRODUCTION

Year-To-Date Hatchability:
80.6%

Average Lay Cycle End:
58.0 Weeks

Production Cycles		
Period	Start Date	End Date
A-200	Jan 11, 2026	Feb 28, 2026
A-201	Mar 8, 2026	May 3, 2026
A-202	May 3, 2026	Jun 27, 2026
A-203	Jun 28, 2026	Jul 22, 2026
A-204	Aug 23, 2026	Oct 17, 2026

Under or Over-Placement Communications:

Producers are reminded to notify both the hatchery manager and Commission staff of any under or over-placement of hens. Depending on the situation, additional hens may be sourced or mortality monitored to achieve the correct net placement.

Annual Utilization Memos:

Annual utilization memos, updated Quota & Placement Sheets, and additional updates were distributed between February and April 2026. These were again updated and distributed in June for the opportunity sleeves. For ACP and barn specification questions, contact Kaitlyn at kaitlyn@bcbhec.com. For Quota & Placement Sheet and placement questions, contact Riesa at production@bcbhec.com.

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 March 2027).

PRS Portal Access – Login Information Distributed:

Information on how to access the Producer Reporting System (PRS) portal, including login details and passwords, has been distributed to producers. If you require assistance gaining access, please contact Michaela at admin@bcbhec.com.

Quota Billboard Reminder:

Producers are encouraged to regularly review the [Quota Billboard](#) for current opportunities related to quota leasing, purchasing, or selling.

ON-FARM

2026 Audit Stats

Total Premises to Audit: 55
Premises Completed: 34

Hatching Egg Tip

Viruses can have a significant impact on a breeder flock.
Read more on Avian Reovirus [here](#).

Biosecurity Status: GREEN

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

Processing Obligations Reminder:

Producers are required to submit Load Out Reports to the Commission following flock processing. Please submit these reports to Riesa at production@bcbhec.com.

A reminder that all medications, inclusive of medicated feed, administered within 120 days of processing are required to be reported on Spent Broiler Breeder Flock Sheets. Please ensure you review your feed schedule and ensure proper administration and documentation.

Barn Specification Update Reminder:

If you are building, renovating, or installing equipment within a barn and have not been in contact with the On-Farm team, please contact Kaitlyn at kaitlyn@bcbhec.com. A reminder that producers are responsible for ensuring barns are inspected by Commission staff a minimum of 6 weeks prior to the next flock placement in the airspace as this may impact your placement number.

Cobb Academy:

Interested in learning more from Cobb technical experts? Sign up for [Cobb Academy](#) and dive in to access free educational resources.

Spiking Male Reminder:

Producers are reminded that spiking males transferred premises to premises, between lay houses, must be tested and registered through the Commission office. Contact Kaitlyn at kaitlyn@bcbhec.com or Rae at onfarmtech@bcbhec.com for more information.

Canadian Notifiable Avian Influenza Surveillance System (CanNAISS)



Why sampling your flocks matters

CanNAISS is **essential** for maintaining international trade in poultry and its associated products and by-products. It is recognized internationally as Canada's avian influenza surveillance program in poultry.

What is CanNAISS?

CanNAISS is an ongoing surveillance program of avian influenza in Canadian poultry populations. It is led by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) in collaboration with industry and Canadian farmers. The goal of this collaboration is to detect the presence of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) virus through clinical surveillance and to make sure there is no H5 and/or H7 subtypes in Canada's domestic poultry flocks within disease-free zones through serological surveillance.

CanNAISS provides information about avian influenza by sampling domestic poultry flocks across Canada to show trading partners that infections are not overlooked and that poultry from disease-free areas are safe for export. Samples are taken by private veterinarians or technicians contracted to perform the sampling. CFIA veterinarians or inspectors collect the samples only when no private veterinarian has been identified.

The participation and cooperation of Canada's poultry farmers in CanNAISS is vital to the program's success in achieving a sufficient sample size to meet trade requirements set by the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) (formerly OIE) and Canada's trade partners.



Canadian Food
Inspection Agency

Agence canadienne
d'inspection des aliments

Canada

How to participate

- CFIA randomly selects commercial poultry farms by province based on targets by species and production type. To avoid repeat testing on the same farm, many different farms are selected in a year. This means no farm can be selected for CanNAISS serologic testing twice in the same year.
- Farmers may be asked to provide assistance and information while sampling is being performed.
- Farmers will receive the report of analysis with serological result.

Q: How are samples collected?

A: Samples are collected by contracted private veterinarians or technicians. In cases when one cannot be identified, a CFIA veterinarian or inspector may perform sampling instead. Blood samples are taken for testing to detect the presence of antibodies that indicate exposure to avian influenza.

A total of 20 birds in one barn from the selected farm will be sampled.

Only one barn needs to be tested for each selected poultry farm location.

Q: How are my birds protected during sampling?

A: Anyone conducting sampling for CanNAISS must follow strict biosecurity procedures to protect the health and safety of the flock. Veterinarians and technicians are also required to respect any additional on-farm measures set by the producer.

Q: Is there a cost to farmers for sample collection and testing in this program?

A: The CFIA will bear the costs for private veterinarians related to sample collection and testing.

Q: How will farmers know the status of their flocks?

A: The CFIA will contact farmers directly to inform them of the sampling results.
If positive, the farmer will be notified immediately by the CFIA.

Q: What can I do to help?

A: The participation and cooperation of farmers is vital to the program's success:

- Participate in CanNAISS sampling if your farm is selected by the CFIA.
Participation is mandatory under Section 38 of the *Health of Animals Act*.
- Provide requested data to CanNAISS officials in a timely manner.

Contact the provincial or national association for your industry to learn more or visit the CFIA website.



Communication to the poultry industry and veterinarians

Upcoming changes to the Canadian Notifiable Avian Influenza Surveillance

Since 2008, the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA), in collaboration with the industry, has been conducting serological surveillance of avian influenza (detection of antibodies in blood) on commercial chicken and turkey farms to support trade by demonstrating the absence of the disease in free zones. An updated surveillance approach will be implemented in April 2026.

Why is avian influenza surveillance changing?

- To better target testing to species at greater risk of infection
- To improve the efficiency of avian influenza surveillance
- To maintain market access in disease free zones

What will change?

- Starting in April 2026, farms will be randomly selected by species, production type, and province, based on risk and distribution of the industry. This risk-based approach is meeting trading partners' requirements.
- For private veterinarians, changes include the reduction in the number of farms to test, new species to sample, and new contracts with updated reimbursement fees. Sampling procedures will also be updated and shared.

How will avian influenza surveillance change?

	Between 2008 and 2026	Starting April 2026
Number of targeted farms across Canada per year	825 commercial poultry farms (to detect 1% of farms infected)	331 commercial poultry farms (to detect 5% of farms infected)
Targeted population	825 long-living chicken and turkey farms (8250 samples)	42 farms of turkey breeders, 29 layer breeders, 60 broiler breeders, 60 table-egg layers, 60 turkey-meat, 80 duck farms (3310 samples)
Farm selection	Based on slaughter schedules	Random selection
Timing of testing	End of production cycle	• Any time during production (minimal age 4 weeks) • At least 3 weeks prior to a known movement • Sampling should be combined with other sampling events (e.g. <i>Salmonella</i>, <i>Mycoplasma</i>, etc.) to reduce biosecurity risks and increase availability of veterinarians/technicians

Canadian Notifiable Avian Influenza Surveillance System

Summary - Starting in April 2026

Objectives



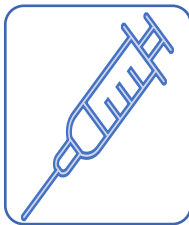
- Assess the circulation of Low Pathogenicity Avian Influenza (LPAI) subtypes H5 and H7, and High Pathogenicity Avian Influenza (HPAI) - reportable diseases in Canada
- Support trade by demonstrating the absence of the diseases in free zones (i.e. outside of Primary Control Zones)
- Detect 5% farm level prevalence (i.e. 5% of Canadian commercial poultry farms infected)

Farm Selection for Serological Surveillance



- Farms are randomly selected by species, production type, and province, based on risk and distribution of the industry
- A farm can only be selected once per year
- Farms in Primary Control Zones are not eligible for serological surveillance as they are subject to virological surveillance
- If selected, producers have the obligation to participate

Sampling and Testing



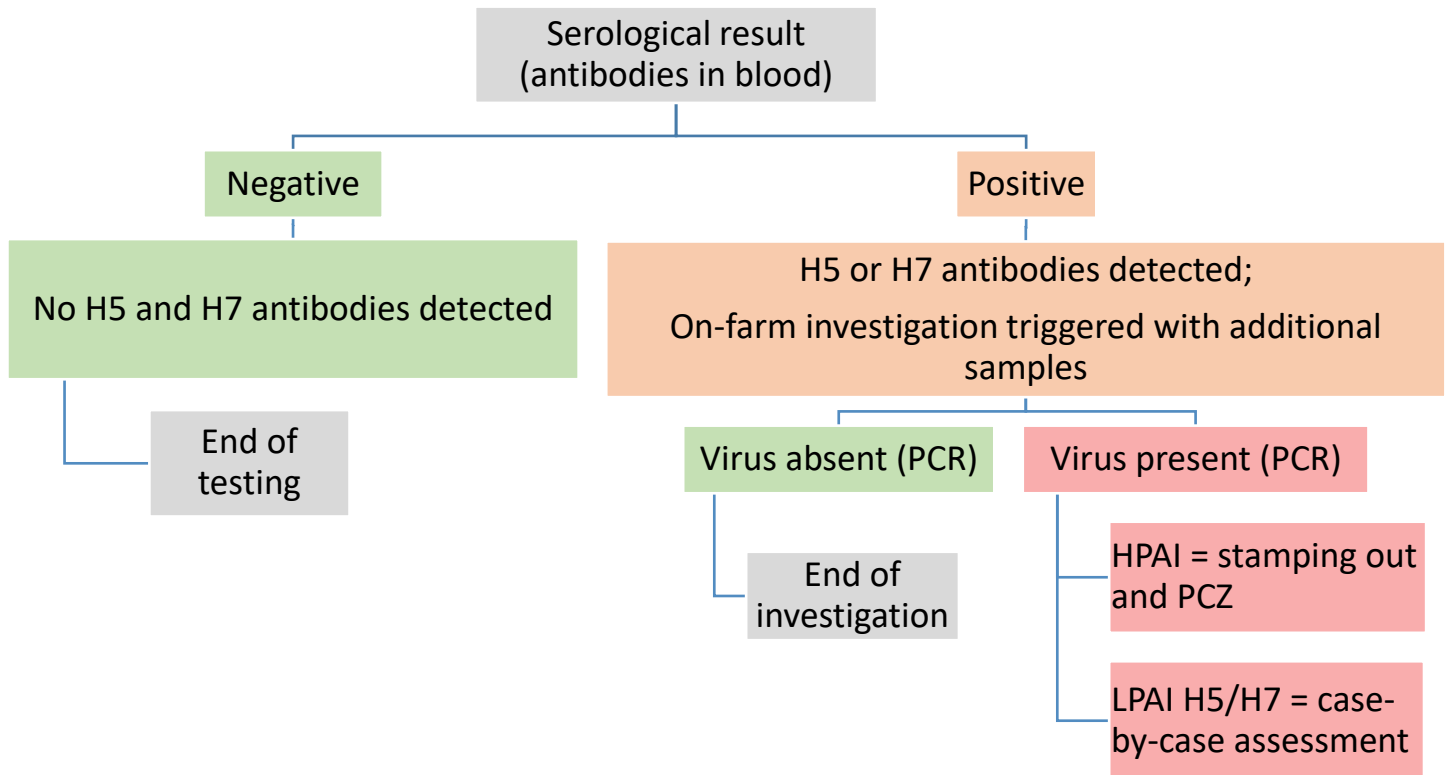
- Blood samples are collected by private veterinarian/technician
- 15 to 20 birds are sampled per farm (one barn), 10 are tested
- Samples are sent to the National Centre for Foreign Animal Disease for serological testing to detect antibodies

Results



- CFIA coordinators share the testing results
- If antibodies are detected, an on-farm investigation will be triggered to gather additional samples (swabs) to be tested in virology (PCR) to detect the virus

Reminder: What to expect if the serological result is positive



Note: HPAI and LPAI H5/H7 are [reportable diseases](#) in Canada. However, only HPAI is [notifiable](#) to WOA.

H5/H7 = Hemagglutinin at the surface of the virus
PCR = Polymerase Chain Reaction, a virological test
HPAI = High Pathogenicity Avian Influenza
LPAI = Low Pathogenicity Avian Influenza
PCZ = Primary Control Zone
WOAH = World Organisation for Animal Health

Bird Flu Messaging: Too much? Too little? Not the right information to act on?

Help shape better bird flu communication for
BC poultry producers

- Our study will help to improve BC's avian influenza surveillance and risk communication systems.
- Share your opinions about how information is generated and shared in a **confidential** interview.

Participants must be:

- ✓ **Current owner, operator, or manager of a commercial poultry or egg farm in BC, and at least 18 years old.**

Interviews are about 1 hour and can be conducted over Zoom, telephone, or in-person.

- Participants will receive **\$75** for their time.
- If interested, please email, call, or text to participate.



sherry.khoddami@bccdc.ca



(778) 317-2673



THE UNIVERSITY
OF BRITISH COLUMBIA



BC Centre for Disease Control

REB #H26-02021
Principal Investigator:
Dr. Shannon Russell





Interview Consent Form

Study Title: BC Commercial Poultry Producers' Perceptions of Avian Influenza Information, Risk, and Prevention Measures

Principal Investigator: Dr. Shannon Russell, Senior Scientist, BC Centre for Disease Control; Clinical Assistant Professor, University of British Columbia (shannon.russell@bccdc.ca)

Research Team:

- Dr. Kaylee Byers, Assistant Professor, School of Population and Public Health, University of British Columbia
- Dr. Chelsea Himsworth, Clinical Professor, School of Population and Public Health, University of British Columbia
- Ms. Sherry Khoddami, Research Assistant at the BC Centre for Disease Control and University of British Columbia, MSc

Primary Contact: Sherry Khoddami (sherry.khoddami@bccdc.ca)

Invitation and Study Purpose: Our research team is conducting a study to explore British Columbian commercial egg and poultry producers' perspectives on Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) to better inform the prevention, management, and response to outbreaks. The purpose of this project is to better understand how producers receive, interpret, and act on information about HPAI or bird flu. Specifically, we are interested in understanding your risk perception of bird flu, what factors, stakeholders, and previous experiences impact this perception, and your perspectives on preventative measures for protecting your farm from bird flu. The findings will help inform how bird flu information is communicated to producers and support prevention efforts in British Columbia.

You are invited to participate in this study because of your expertise as an owner, operator, or manager of a commercial egg/poultry farm in British Columbia. We are asking for your assistance by participating in a one-time confidential interview with us for research purposes. Interviews are expected to take one hour and your identity will remain confidential with the interviewer (Sherry Khoddami).

Sponsor: This study is being funded by Genome British Columbia.

Voluntary Participation: You are under no obligation to participate and can withdraw your consent at any time during the interview without consequence. If you choose to participate, you are providing consent for us to use the information you provide in our study.

Study Procedures: If you have indicated interest in participation, the interviewer, Sherry, will contact you to schedule a convenient time for an interview. Interviews can be conducted either in person on your farm, virtually using Zoom, or by phone call, and will take approximately one hour. We will share the transcript of the conversation with you within two weeks, and you may



make any changes after two weeks of receiving the transcript. If you are interested, the study publication and an infographic summary of the results will be shared with you once published.

- **In-Person Interview:** The interviewer will travel to your farm to conduct the interview in a quiet location, such as an office or other suitable area. The conversation will be audio-recorded using a hand-held recording device and transcribed after.
- **Virtual Interview:** The interview will be conducted on Zoom. We will send you an email reminder with a Zoom link before the interview. The interview audio will be recorded and transcribed by Zoom to ensure an accurate record of the discussion. You may log in using a nickname to further protect your confidentiality, and keep your camera off during the interview.
- **Phone Interview:** The interviewer will phone you at the scheduled time using the number you have provided. Alternatively, you may choose to call Sherry within a time frame that you indicate. The audio of the call will be recorded and transcribed to ensure an accurate record of the discussion.

Payment: As compensation for your time, we will provide \$75 for your participation in this study unless you choose to decline the honorarium. You may choose to receive the honorarium either by e-Transfer or an Amazon gift card. Your name, email, date of payment, and purpose of payment will be shared with University of British Columbia's Finance Office in order to process your honorarium. Participants who attempt the interview but leave early will still be compensated.

Risk: This interview is about understanding your perspectives and opinions and there are no foreseeable risks associated with your participation. You may choose not to answer any question for any reason. By consenting to participate, participants have not waived any rights to legal recourse in the event of research-related harm.

Benefits: The information you share in the interview will be used to better understand how you receive, interpret, and act on bird flu information, to improve communication with BC producers about bird flu prevention and management.

Confidentiality: The interview will be audio-recorded and transcribed. All transcripts will be reviewed by the interviewer, Sherry, and any identifiable data that may be linked to you or your farm (e.g., names) will be removed. If you wish to receive the study findings, your email will be retained for the purpose of sharing the published study and summarized reports, after which time it will be deleted. Alternatively, you may choose to not receive the findings from the study, which we will confirm your preference of at the end of the interview.

The audio files will be automatically transcribed for Zoom and phone call interviews, and using MacWhisper software for in-person interviews. All transcripts will be de-identified by the interviewer and shared with you to allow for any changes for up to two weeks. The de-identified transcripts will be stored and shared securely among team members using UBC-hosted Microsoft OneDrive. The de-identified transcript will be analyzed using Nvivo software and stored



securely on UBC OneDrive for 5 years after publication, only accessible by the research team members. After 5 years, the transcripts will be securely destroyed by the principal investigator.

Any quotations that may be used from your interview when sharing the findings of this study will not contain names or any other identifiable information.

Data Access: Research team members will have access to the transcript of your interview, which will be stored in UBC Microsoft One Drive, which is password-protected and encrypted. This data will then be de-identified so that it cannot be traced back to you. Only the Principal Investigator will retain identifiable data on a password-protected and encrypted UBC One Drive folder until the study is completed and shared with participants. We will retain the de-identified transcripts for five years on Microsoft One Drive after publication to allow for analysis and publication. After this five-year period, the transcript will be destroyed.

Withdrawal: You may decide to remove your data from the study within two weeks of receiving the transcript by writing (contact and email).

Study Results: The information you provide in this interview will be analyzed and the findings will be shared in several ways. We may use quotations from the interview when sharing the findings of this study in reports or academic publications. These quotes will be de-identified so that they are not attributable to you. We may provide a demographic table that includes aggregated data of the numbers of participants by poultry farm type. You may also sign up to have a report of the findings emailed directly to you. Study findings will also be shared with the academic community, government agencies, and poultry industry/marketing boards in an open accessed peer-reviewed publications, through conference presentations, infographics, and other creative forms of information sharing. Therefore, once data are made publicly available, they cannot be withdrawn.

Conflict of Interest: There are no perceived conflicts of interest in this study.

Contact for Information About the Study: The principal investigator for this study is Dr. Shannon Russell. If you have questions about this study, please contact **Dr. Shannon Russell** (Shannon.russell@bccdc.ca).

Contact for Ethical Concerns Information: If you have any concerns or complaints about your rights as a research participant and/or your experiences while participating in this study, contact the Research Participant Complaint Line in the UBC Office of Research Ethics at 604-822-8598 or if long distance e-mail RSIL@ors.ubc.ca or call toll free 1-877-822-8598.

In verbally consenting to participate in this study, I acknowledge that:

- I have read and understood the information in this consent form.
- I have been able to ask questions and have had satisfactory responses to my questions.
- I understand that all of the information collected will be kept confidential and that the results will be used for scientific purposes and sharing study findings which may include de-identified quotes.



- I understand that my participation in this study is voluntary.
- I understand that I am not waiving any of my legal rights as a result of signing this consent form.

Taking part in this study is entirely up to you. You have the right to refuse to participate in this study. If you decide to take part, you may withdraw your information up to two weeks after your interview has been conducted.

Have you encountered rats? Do you manage rodents?

A RESEARCH PROJECT

ARE YOU OVER THE AGE OF 18?

WOULD YOU BE WILLING TO SHARE YOUR EXPERIENCES?

If you answer “yes” to these questions, please contact Darcie DeAngelo, an Assistant Professor at the University of Alberta, the PI of the study, : An Anthropology of Rodent Management, (REB ID Pro00155483), to discuss her research and see if you would like to contribute. If you agree to be interviewed for the study, you will be asked to participate in two 30-90 minute interview about your encounters with rodents (one in the summer of 2026 and a follow up via phone the next year). If you agree, you can also allow a 30-60 minute tour of your farm where the researcher will see how you conduct rodent trappings, rodent infestation searches, etc. This will involve a tour of your farm and the researcher asking you questions about why rodents are a problem, which rodents are a problem, and how you solve these problems.

Title of Study: An Anthropology of Rats and Rodent Science Communication: A comparative study of pest knowledge producers in British Columbia and in Alberta

Principal Investigator:

Dr. Darcie DeAngelo
Assistant Professor
Faculty of Arts
Department of Anthropology
University of Alberta
Edmonton, AB
[780-492-3879](tel:780-492-3879)
deangelo@ualberta.ca

EMAIL: deangelo@ualberta.ca

Participation is entirely voluntary, confidential and anonymous.

Short Description of the Study

*The goal of this study is to explore the challenges and successes of rodent management in two different provinces with different rodent management needs. The researchers want 1) to **understand** frictional encounters between humans and rats; 2) to **analyze** how knowledge producers navigate and address these frictional encounters through pest management and science communication; and 3) to **assess** the efficacy of their navigation through follow ups with the people who have those encounters and through rodent wildlife data.*

The people who manage rodents and the people who encounter rodents have the expertise to give us this information. We know that oftentimes, these people are not listened to and we want to create a space where their expertise can be heard.

Short Description of the Principal Investigator

Darcie DeAngelo is an assistant professor at the University of Alberta in the Department of Anthropology. She is conducting research to understand rodent management in two provinces, Alberta and British Columbia. Dr. DeAngelo has over a decade of experience in multispecies social science, focused on a domesticated companion species, landmine detection rats. Her first book, *How to Love a Rat*, published by the University of California Press, received the Julian Steward Prize from the American Anthropological Association in 2025 for the best environmental ethnography. Her second book, due out in with W. W. & Norton in 2027, focuses on rat and human encounters across space and time, featuring her research on rodent management in Washington, D.C. In 2023, she received a yearlong fellowship to conduct preliminary research on rats as pests. For the year 2023-24, she conducted preliminary research with pest management stakeholders across North America. This new project represents an important response to her previous studies where she discovered gaps in the research. While much scholarship explores lab rats, little attention is given to the pests at our feet. Her research demonstrated a need for social science inquiry because producing knowledge about rats is a “social question” in that sociocultural values condition its research and pests also exert social agency over these values. In 2025, she was awarded an SSHRC Insight Development Grant for this new research on rats. Her research will attend to how people on the ground manage rodents and their rodent management needs by asking them about their practices and knowledge when it comes to the rodents they encounter.



UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

PARTICIPANT CONSENT FORM

Title of Study: An Anthropology of Rodents and Rodent Science Communication: A comparative study of pest knowledge producers in British Columbia and in Alberta

Principal Investigator:

Dr. Darcie DeAngelo
Assistant Professor
Faculty of Arts
Department of Anthropology
University of Alberta
Edmonton, AB
[780-492-3879](tel:780-492-3879)
deangelo@ualberta.ca

You are being invited to take part in a research study. Before you take part, a member of the study team is available to explain the project and you are free to ask any questions about anything you do not understand. You will be given a copy of this form for your records.

Why am I being asked to take part in this research study?

You are being asked to take part in this research study because you have expressed interest in sharing your stories about your encounters with rodents and you are over 18 years old. You also may be a rodent manager in British Columbia or in Alberta.

*The goal of this study is to explore the challenges and successes of rodent management in two different provinces with different rodent management needs. The researchers want 1) to **understand** frictional encounters between humans and rodents; 2) to **analyze** how knowledge producers navigate and address these frictional encounters through pest management and science communication; and 3) to **assess** the efficacy of their navigation through follow ups with the people who have those encounters and through rodent wildlife data.*

The people who manage rodents and the people who encounter rodents have the expertise to give us this information. We know that oftentimes, these people are not listened to and we want to create a space where their expertise can be heard.

What is the reason for doing the study?

This study exists in part because pest species are on the rise due to climate change. As the historically rat-free province of Alberta and its bordering rat-populated province, BC, both have increasing urbanization and human population growth, the danger for rodents as an invasive species and zoonotic disease vectors is especially concerning. Rodents are nuisance animals that cause harm to humans and, yet, are drastically understudied. Understanding both the frictional encounters between rodents and humans as well as how rodent managers navigate and intervene in them will help pest management become more effective as well as reduce the harm rodents cause humans.

What will I be asked to do?

You will be taking part in two interviews, an initial interview about your experiences with rodents and a follow-up six-twelve months later. If you consent, the interviews will be audio-recorded without any identifying information included. If not, the researcher will note your answers on a questionnaire. The interview can take 30 minutes to 1.5 hours, depending on how much detail you go into regarding your rat encounters.

If you are a rodent manager, you will also have researchers follow along with you during professional activities, taking observational notes while you conduct rat trappings, rat infestation research, professional meetings, etc. This will involve a tour of your farm and the researcher asking you questions about why rodents are a problem, which rodents are a problem, and how you solve these problems.

Notes and interviews will be transcribed onto a secure server and completely separate from any identifying information.

Anything you do not want to be included in the study will be excluded, at your word. Anything you want to be included will be included. Any time you do not want to answer a question, you can say that you do not want to answer. You are free to withdraw from the study at any time and your data will be expunged from the study if you want.

With your consent, anonymized data study information will be stored in a secure data repository to facilitate future research.

What are the risks and discomforts?

There is a risk of some discomfort when recounting your experiences with rodents. Some people may experience bad feelings when describing rodents and their encounters with them. If you need to take breaks during the interviews or if you would rather not describe things that make you uncomfortable, feel free to skip questions or stop the interview at any time.

It is not possible to know all of the risks that may happen in a study, but the researchers have taken all reasonable safeguards to minimize any known risks to a study participant.

What are the benefits to me?

This study intends to take note of two groups of people who have expertise on rodents: 1. Those who have encounters with them and 2. Those who have to manage them as professionals. You may feel a sense of pride of having your knowledge included as expertise.

In addition, your expertise will benefit a wider goal of knowledge about rodent management and rodent science communication. 1. For academic audiences and scholarly associations, researching rodents addresses gaps in both sociological and biological fields. By researching the sociocultural issues that condition rat knowledge production, scientists will better know how to navigate the norms and barriers to their research and anthropologists will better know how to integrate commensal nuisance creatures, also reframing human beings as generalist pest species; 2. For practitioner circles in pest industries, the research will provide evidence for best practices when it comes to effective pest management, navigating stigmas around pest management, and pest science communication; 3. For policymakers in BC and AB, the research provides evidence on how policies should address the frictional encounters between humans and rodents and what potential barriers and solutions may arise; and 4. For the public, the research will result in better science communication about rodent management.

Do I have to take part in the study?

Being in this study is your choice. If you decide to be in the study, you can change your mind and stop being in the study at any point. To withdraw from the study please let someone on the research team know—this can be at any point during data collection, even during the interview itself. Data collection will last until May 30, 2027. You will receive reminders of this and updates regarding data collection in case you want to withdraw from the study.

If you would like all or some of your data expunged from the study, your data will be deleted. Even if you remain in the research study, you may choose to withdraw some or all of your responses by contacting anyone on the research team by the end of the data collection in May 2027. We are unable to remove your answers after that time because we will anticipate data outputs (such as publications) to be drafted after that date.

You may refuse to answer questions that you do not want to answer.

Will my information be kept private?

During this study we will do everything we can to make sure that all information you provide is kept private. No information relating to this study that includes your name will be released outside of the researcher's office or published by the researchers unless you give us your express permission. Sometimes, by law, we may have to release your information with your name so we cannot guarantee absolute privacy. However, we will make every legal effort to make sure that your information is kept private.

When your interview is transcribed, we will assign a pseudonym (fake name) to protect your identity. If you would like to choose your own fake-name or if you choose to use your real name, please indicate this on the last page of this document.

All identifying information will be kept on a separate physical hard drive from the data we collect. De-identified data will be kept on a Gmail server with the University of Alberta and password protected. Because gmail servers are located outside of Canada, the data information is stored outside of Canada and it may be subject to the privacy legislation of those territories which may include access by governmental agents.

During research studies it is important that the data we get is accurate. For this reason, your data, including your name, may be looked at by people from the Research Ethics Board.

After the study is done, we will still need to securely store your data that was collected as part of the study. The data will be stored in a password protected server with the University of Alberta gmail drives. At the University of Alberta, we keep data stored for a minimum of 5 years. Identifiable data (like the physical hard drive of consent forms) will be destroyed after the 5-year minimum, but the anonymized/de-identified data will be kept indefinitely for the purpose of research re-use.

After the study is done, study data will be stored in a secure data repository, in a gmail drive with the University of Alberta to facilitate re-use of the data by approved researchers. Any personal information, such as your first and last name that could identify you will be removed or changed prior to sharing study data with other researchers. Any researcher who wants to use this data must have the new project reviewed by an ethics board and sign an agreement ensuring your confidentiality and restricting data use only to the approved project. Your data may be linked with other data for research purposes only to increase the usefulness of the data, as subject to scientific and ethical oversight as mentioned above.

What if I have questions?

If you have any questions about the research now or later, please contact Dr. Darcie DeAngelo at deangelo@ualberta.ca.

If you have any questions regarding your rights as a research participant, you may contact the University of Alberta Research Ethics Office at ethics@ualberta.ca or (780)492-2615 and quote Ethics ID Pro00155483. This office is independent of the researchers.

The study is being conducted/sponsored by the Social Science and Humanities Research Council's Insight Development Grant. The Institution and Principal Investigator are getting money from the study sponsor to cover the costs of doing this study. You are entitled to request any details concerning this compensation from the Principal Investigator.

How do I indicate my agreement to be in this study?

By signing below, you understand:

- That you have read the above information and have had anything that you do not understand explained to you to your satisfaction.
- That you will be taking part in a research study.
- That you may freely leave the research study at any time.
- That you do not waive your legal rights by being in the study
- That the legal and professional obligations of the researchers and involved institutions are not changed by your taking part in this study.
- That you agree to the data being stored as part of a data repository (where applicable)

SIGNATURE OF STUDY PARTICIPANT

Name of Participant

Pseudonym

Signature of Participant

Date

SIGNATURE OF PERSON OBTAINING CONSENT

Name of Person Obtaining Consent

Contact Email or Number

A copy of this consent form has been given to you to keep for your records and reference.



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Adventures at the Chicken Trailer: Poultry in Motion Summer Update

Poultry in Motion has had a busy summer! We ended the school year on a high note, visiting nineteen schools in the last twenty-two days of school—more than April, May, and June of last year. While a good portion of these schools have hosted our presentations before, we added quite a few new schools to the list, and have already booked more presentations next year!

With school presentations behind us for a couple of months, our focus shifted to new opportunities for growth and development. Most exciting was our partnership with Ag in the Classroom to develop new lesson plans and material for educators. On July 22nd we presented the Poultry in Motion program and its new material, to teachers at the Ag in the Classroom Summer Institute. Our presentation garnered fresh interest in our program from a new audience.

In addition to the AITC Summer Institute our Mini Barns have kept busy developing new material for our other summer projects. In July, we had the opportunity to present to youth interested in agriculture, at the AITC Summer Camp and 4-H Food for Thought events. Throughout the summer, our staff have also worked hard creating new media to enhance our curriculum, show more of what growers and producers do, and improve how we educate the public on the poultry industry. We plan to update our website in September.

Outside of these initiatives, our events calendar has remained booked full every weekend, with local fairs and festivals. The Vancouver PNE is currently underway, with two more weeks of interacting with the public, and educating consumers on how they get their chicken. Even with the summer heat coming to an end, we are looking forward to many more events this fall!









Regular Biosecurity “Green”

(Approved by the BCPA September 21, 2023)



These are the measures outlined in the BC Biosecurity Program¹ and must be followed on a daily basis. These measures must be in place to prevent the introduction and spread of diseases.

Ensure that all personnel entering your premise follow your biosecurity protocols and sign in on your Visitor Log. Ensure there is enough room for personnel to park off road ways without entering your CAZ. The CAZ and RAZ zones must display proper biosecurity signage on barn doors and CAZ barriers (gates or chains) are to be kept closed when not in use.

Controlled Access Zone (CAZ)

- Identify your CAZ
- Maintain a secure physical barrier (gate or chain) at the CAZ entrance
- Restrict movement in and out of your CAZ
- Have the ability to wash and disinfect vehicles or equipment entering and exiting your CAZ
- Regularly maintain your CAZ – Keep vegetation low, clean up debris, and grade driveways to avoid standing water

Restricted Access Zone (RAZ)

- Identify your RAZ
- Maintain a permanent and visible demarcation (a physical barrier is highly recommended)
- Only allow essential personnel into your RAZ
- Any equipment entering the RAZ must be free of visible organic matter

Farmers and Employees Accessing the Restricted Access Zone (RAZ)

- Wash and sanitize your hands or wear disposable gloves
- Change foot wear
- Clothing worn in the RAZ should be changed before going out in public

Visitors Accessing the Restricted Access Zone (RAZ)

- Must wash and sanitize their hands or wear disposable gloves
- Must wear premise specific coveralls and RAZ specific boots.

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.