

BC BROILER HATCHING EGG COMMISSION

OCTOBER 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.

Upcoming Lunch & Learn Series:

Join us for our upcoming lunch & learn series, offered via Zoom, featuring practical topics focused on broiler breeder management, health, and performance. Please contact Michaela at admin@bcbhec.com to register for any of the upcoming sessions.

October 21, 2026 – Feeding Today’s Broiler Breeder
Managing growth, uniformity, and performance.

November 25, 2026 – Lighting Today’s Broiler Breeder
Managing growth, maturity, and performance.

January 20, 2027 – From Rearing to Lay
Protecting bird health through the transition.

Advance Payments Program:

The Advance Payments Program (APP) provides agricultural producers with access to low-interest cash advances to help support cash flow. For 2026, the first \$250,000 is interest-free, with up to \$1 million available in total advances.

Applications are open year-round. Visit the [Advance Payments Program webpage](#) for eligibility and application details.

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. 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 seeking poultry and egg producers to participate in a one-hour interview about HPAI communication and prevention. Interested? Contact Sherry at sherry.khoddami@bccdc.ca or 778-317-2673. See the attached study information for details.

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.

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:
80.9%

Average Lay Cycle End:
58.6 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 April 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: 41

Hatching Egg Tip

Feathers are a major organ of the avian anatomy which provides physical protection, insulation, and thermal control. Read more on the importance of female broiler breeder feathering [here](#).

Biosecurity Status: RED

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

DBS Bin Distribution:

Producers who have recently built or are currently building barns will be receiving new labeled Dead Bird Surveillance bins. These bins will be distributed at the October producer meeting. Please contact Rae at onfarmtech@bcbhec.com if you are unable to attend the meeting and would like to arrange an alternate pick-up date.

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 Rae at onfarmtech@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.

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



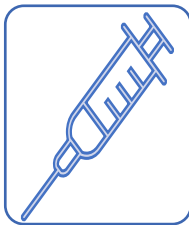
- Assess the circulation of Low Pathogenicity Avian Influenza (LPAI) subtypes H5 and H7, and High Pathogenicity Avian Influenza (HPAI) - reportable diseases in Canada
- Support trade by demonstrating the absence of the diseases in free zones (i.e. outside of Primary Control Zones)
- Detect 5% farm level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



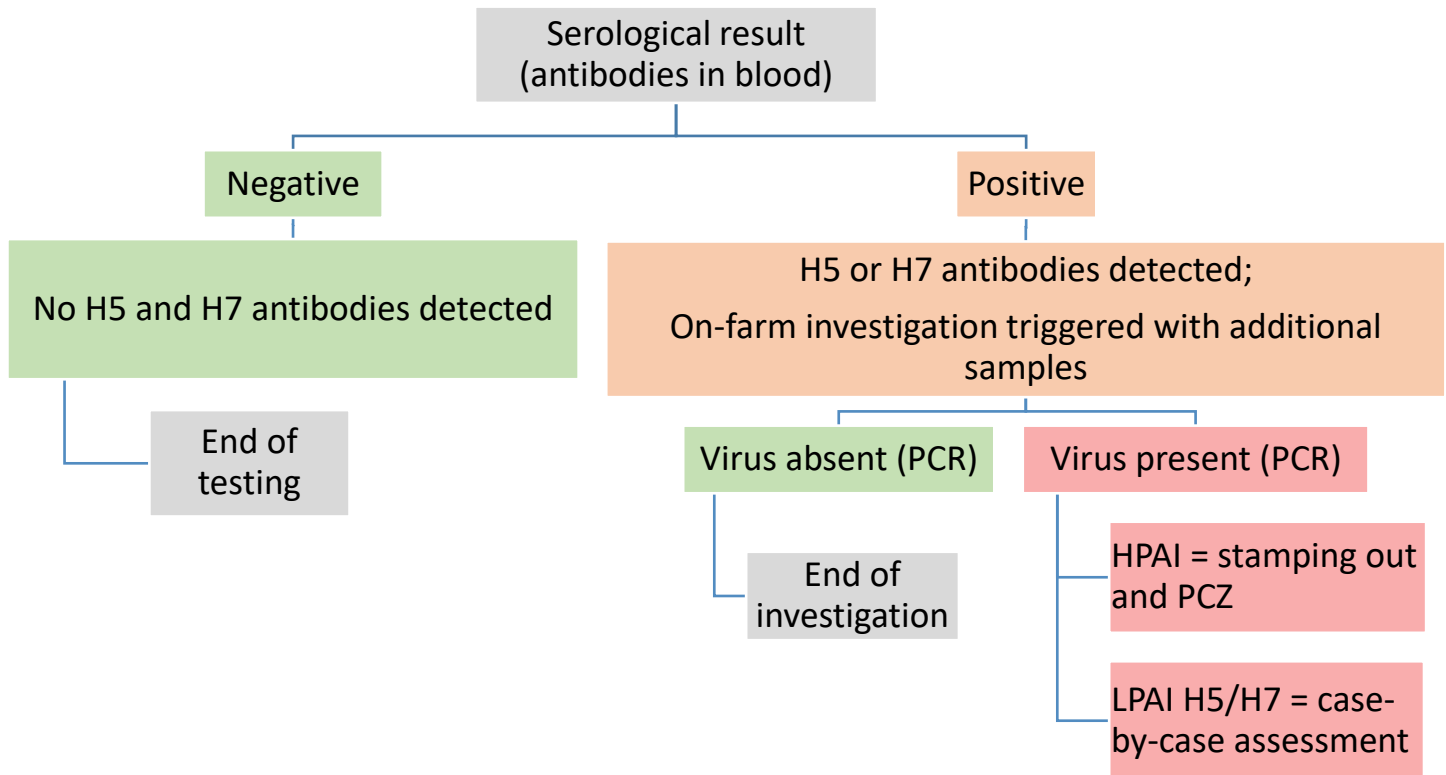
- Blood samples are collected by private veterinarian/technician
- 15 to 20 birds are sampled per farm (one barn), 10 are tested
- Samples are sent to the National Centre for Foreign Animal Disease for serological testing to detect antibodies

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



Save time & money with the BC Farmer ID Card – Apply Today!

Don't miss out on the opportunity to streamline your farm operations and unlock exclusive savings with the **BC Farmer ID Card** - the only provincially recognized card for **PST exemptions** on qualifying farm purchases.

Why Apply?

- **Instant tax savings** at point of sale on farm supplies, equipment, coloured fuel, & more
- **Proof of farm status** whenever its needed
- **Exclusive discounts** from trusted partners like Mark's, Co-operators, WALI, and others



The BC Farmer ID Card is your essential tool for saving time, cutting costs, and staying connected to the agricultural community. Exclusively available through **BC Agriculture Council**.

Special Member rates available! [Click Here to Apply or Renew](#)

Enhanced Biosecurity “Red”

Revised September 2023



*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.