FARMED ANIMAL HEALTH & WELFARE 2020

# EGG FARMERS OF CANADA

EGG FARMERS OF CANADA'S ON-FARM FOOD SAFETY PROGRAM, START CLEAN-STAY CLEAN<sup>™</sup> WAS MOST RECENTLY UPDATED IN 2018 AND WILL CONTINUE TO BE REVIEWED AND UPDATED REGULARLY

IN 2016, EFC ANNOUNCED AN INDUSTRY-WIDE, COORDINATED TRANSITION AWAY FROM CONVENTIONAL HOUSING TO ALTERNATIVE HOUSING SYSTEMS OVER 20 YEARS



#### FARMED ANIMAL HEALTH AND WELFARE 2020

The original National Farmed Animal Health and Welfare Strategy (2009) was designed to provide strategic direction to farmed animal industry stakeholders to 2015. The renewed Strategy includes revisions to the strategic outcomes and identifies priorities to provide direction for stakeholders to 2020.

The most significant advancement for the 2020 Strategy is the engagement of all stakeholders in contributing to the measurement of progress on the strategic outcomes and sharing the responsibility to report on the achievements of those outcomes in their own words.

### EGG FARMERS OF CANADA

Egg Farmers of Canada (EFC) works across the egg industry and with a range of partners to address challenges and advance opportunities within the sector, and to support causes that matter to Canadian consumers.

# EFC'S PROGRAMS, ACTIVITIES, INITIATIVES, AND OTHER NOTABLE EXAMPLES WHICH REFLECT WORK BEING DONE IN ACCORD WITH:

- "Safe food animal products are accessible to Canadians" [Strategic Outcome]
- "Canada protects the welfare of farmed animals" [Strategic Outcome]
- "Emergency management" [5 Year Priority]

# ACTIVITIES

#### **8 SAFE FOOD ACTIVITIES**

The majority of activities focus on EFC's food safety program, pathogen prevention and control, and antimicrobial use, resistance and surveillance activities.

#### **7 ANIMAL WELFARE ACTIVITIES**

Many of EFC's animal welfare activities focus on reviewing and implementing the Code of Practice, supporting animal welfare research and communicating animal care practices and standards to stakeholders and the general public.

#### **4 EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES**

EFC's food safety and animal care programs incorporate emergency preparedness elements. EFC's other emergency management practices include traceability systems, protocols, and monitoring outbreaks.

## SAFE FOOD

EFC's on-farm food safety program, Start Clean-Stay Clean<sup>™</sup>, is HACCP-based with detailed biosecurity measures. The program is designed to prevent and reduce chemical and biological contamination. As part of the Start Clean-Stay Clean<sup>™</sup> program, farmers record all medications used, the method of administration, Drug Identification Number (D.I.N.), veterinary prescriptions, and withdrawal times.





# ANIMAL WELFARE

SAFE FOOD ANIMAL PRODUCTS

(STRATEGIC OUTCOME)

OF FARMED ANIMALS

(STRATEGIC OUTCOME)

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

(5 YEAR PRIORITY)

ARE ACCESSIBLE TO CANADIANS

CANADA PROTECTS THE WELFARE

EFC initiated the update of the 2003 recommended Code of Practice for the Care and Handling of Pullets, Layers and Spent Fowl, which was released in 2017. Canadian egg farmers take part in a comprehensive on-farm animal care program, administered by EFC. The program is based on the Code of Practice and verifies that farmers follow key animal welfare principles through record keeping, on-farm inspections and third-party audits.



OR THE CARE AND HANDLING OF PULLETS AND LAYING HENS

> The Egg Quality Assurance (EQA) program is an industrywide initiative that will be launched in 2019. EQA will integrate EFC's national animal care and food safety programs under one umbrella certification program for consumers. The EQA mark will inform consumers, right on the egg carton, that their eggs are produced by farmers dedicated to the highest food safety and animal care standards.

### EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

EFC developed a Canadian Egg Industry Traceability System (CEITS) in 2012. The system tracks birds from the hatchery to pullet and layer farms. The program also traces the movement of eggs to retail stores and processing. In the event of a federally reportable disease outbreak, or any other relevant disease challenges, EFC provides support to egg boards in their regional response(s).







