

NEWS RELEASE

Productivity up across the country for Canada's egg industry

OTTAWA, June 5, 2006 — Canada's regulated egg industry continues to show strong gains in efficiency and productivity, according to a new survey unveiled recently by the Canadian Egg Marketing Agency (CEMA).

The latest Cost of Production (COP) survey, conducted by Vancouver-based chartered accountants Meyers Norris Penny, reveals significant increases in three key industry productivity factors. Since the industry's last survey in 1999, hens' rate of lay has increased 2.4%, the amount of feed required to produce a dozen eggs has decreased 4.8%, and the number of labour hours required to produce a dozen eggs has decreased 17.7%.

Farmers will be pleased to learn that their efforts to streamline on-farm egg production are yielding positive results. The study also reflects well on an industry that continues to invest in poultry research.

"We are working hard in this industry to improve productivity, so this is very welcome news for all egg producers right across Canada," said Fred Krahn, an egg producer from British Columbia and Chair of CEMA's COP Committee. "The rate of lay increase, for instance, is really the result of two factors—the way we as producers treat our birds, and the amazing strides our research partners are making in poultry science."

Conducted every five years, the COP survey measures the average cost of producing a dozen eggs nationally. Taken from a sample of 104 producers holding quota of at least 5,000 hens, the new survey is a statistically representative cross-section of egg farmers operating under Canada's national supply management system. It will also help determine what producers are paid for production over the next several years.

The Canadian Egg Marketing Agency was established in 1972 to provide Canadians with a stable supply of high-quality, delicious eggs at reasonable prices, and to ensure egg producers fair compensation for their labour and investment. In addition to its traditional markets, CEMA also seeks to develop newer markets for eggs. The Agency's first COP survey was issued in 1975.

For more information, please contact:

Gregory Kampf
Communications Officer
Canadian Egg Marketing Agency
(613) 238-2514 ext. 238
gkampf@canadaegg.ca



1501 – 112, rue Kent St.

Ottawa, Ontario

K1P 5P2

☎ (613) 238-2514

☎ (613) 238-1967

✉ info@canadaegg.ca
info@oeufcanada.ca

www.canadaegg.ca
www.oeufcanada.ca