

Chook Chat

A joint publication of
The Free Range
Poultry Association of
Qld Inc. and the Qld
Egg Farmers
Association Inc.

April 2007
Volume 6, Issue 1

Special Interest Articles

See items for sale in the
Chook Trader

A taste of the Far East – our
delicious recipe in this
edition

NIMBYism – Not In Our Back
Yard

Individual Highlights

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Report from the Chair

By the time this newsletter goes to press I will have returned to continue my travels in Europe but not before I attended a few meetings during the two weeks I was back in Oz.

The first meeting was with Condamine Alliance to sign off on the extra \$40,000 for EMS funding to supply 15,000 Trees. So those of you, who have included trees in your request, put your orders in now.

The meeting with Rick Simmonds on the 23/04 was well attended by 15 growers. Discussion on the cage issue was unresolved. The Industry is waiting for NSW to make a decision. Vic and SA to move to 2015 before the new cages

become legislated. Qld will proceed with the 2008 decision.

In the afternoon we attended a meeting with Megan McKenzie to discuss who was considered the peak body. It was a good meeting with QEFA reinforcing their status in the Industry

Egg stamping is definitely in with some prosecutions all ready taking place. Safe Food Qld has prosecuted under the Egg Food Safety scheme. In Qld, the pulping of eggs must be pasteurised.

The next day I attended a meeting at Redlands with the FarmBis steering committee to discuss the next two milestones; mapping the identified skills and competencies the committee has identified as necessary

for the Industry against existing resources.

The steering committee members are all looking forward to the day when relevant training will be made available to the Industry.

Congratulations to Fraser Coast for the outstanding article in the Poultry News & Rural Weekly.

I will be away for 5 weeks and only hope and pray that by the time I get back the rain will have fallen and our paddocks – green again.



Editorial: NIMBYism

At the end of the day it is up to us to convince everyone that the reality is not as bad as the perception

NIMBYism (Not In My Back Yard) is one of the most difficult neighbour concepts that rural people have to address. The answer to this is planning and education.

As more and more urban dwellers move to the country they want the countryside to remain as their ideal; lush fields, sun shine and in the far, far distance a couple of cows happily munching grass. They don't want (and in most cases are not prepared to accept) the smell of fertiliser being spread, the noise of the machinery as the farmer works into the night to get his crop cut and in before the weather goes against him, or the smell of cattle grazing across the road.

And when it comes to farming hens and producing eggs, major battle lines are drawn. Well, we are working on this. QEFA has

been working with egg farmers all over Queensland to establish Environmental Management Systems; addressing such problems as dust, noise, smell, flies and heavy transport.

They have successfully applied for a further grant to give trees to those farmers willing to plant and beautify their properties.

As egg farmers we have taken the first step to keeping life in the country as amenable to our neighbours and the environment as possible, or have we?

What else can we do when we present extension plans to council and a group of dissenters lobby against us.

It is becoming increasingly important that farmers re-act sensibly. Objectors need to be educated, not vilified. Objectors need to be shown how a good egg

production farm works – one that can be environmentally sound. The planning authorities and councils also need to be shown well run egg farms so they can knowledgeably address questions and concerns put up by the public.

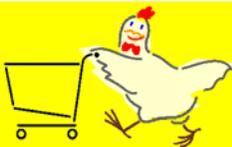
So, when you decide you need to expand, make an early start and plan your campaign.

Assume that you are going to receive objections. Advise your neighbours before you make your application. Try to convince them that their worries are groundless.

Let them know you have an environmental management system in place to protect their peace of mind as well as the environment.

Of course this is not foolproof but it will give you a fighting chance.

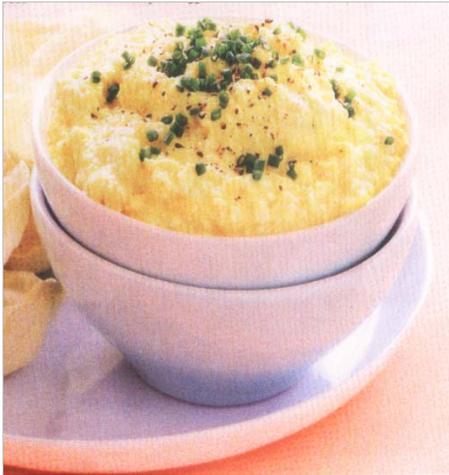
At the end of the day, it is up to us to convince our elected councils and neighbours that the reality is not as bad as the perception.



Snippets

An age old question is '*how to peel fresh hard boiled eggs successfully*'. The best way is to use eggs that are a least a week old but most of us don't decide to boil eggs until we need them that day or the next. If you leave eggs out of the fridge for at least one day, this equals a week In the Fridge. You then have perfect eggs for hard boiling and there is no difficulty peeling off the shells leaving perfect eggs for you to do with as you wish. White Eggs also peel better than brown ones.

PS. Look at our delicious recipe for this edition – they also have a remedy for perfect to peel eggs using ice cubes.



Curried Egg Dip 3

Ingredients

- 6 eggs at room temperature
- 8 Ice Cubes
- 2 Tblsps whole egg mayonnaise
- ½ cup low fat cottage cheese
- ¼ cup plain yoghurt
- 2 tblsps sweet mango chutney
- 2 tsps curry powder
- Cracked pepper, to taste
- 2 tblsps chopped fresh chives
- Mini pappadums, to serve



“A taste of the far east for that special evening’s entertainment”

Congratulations to Frank Pace (NSW) on his recent birthday. The party was well attended by several Qld egg producers who had a great time.

And more from the UK

A DEFRA investigation has led to the conviction of an egg packer, who packaged “poor quality eggs” as Class A and extended the ‘best before date’ on a batch of eggs.

The person was fined £2,100 (just over AUD5,000) for seven offences, plus £1,000 in court costs in February.

Method

- 1 – Place eggs in a saucepan in a single layer. Cover with 3 cm of water and bring to boil over a high heat. Remove from heat and then cover saucepan. Stand for 12 minutes. Fill a bowl with 4 cups cold water and

add ice cubes. Using a slotted spoon, transfer eggs to the iced water. Stand for 5 minutes. Drain.

- 2- Crack eggs on a chopping board, creating small cracks all over the surface of the shell. Peel shell away from eggs.

- 3 – Process eggs,

mayonnaise, cottage cheese, yoghurt, chutney and curry powder until ingredients are just combined. Transfer the dip to a service bowl and sprinkle with cracked pepper and chives.

- 4 – Serve dip with pappadums.

And at Home – all eggs are still in short supply

News from Overseas. Articles taken from Poultry World

Sainsbury’s, one of the big four supermarkets in the UK is to stop selling cage eggs ahead of the 2012 EU cage ban, earning itself an award from Compassion in World Farming. They are working with suppliers to achieve 100% UK cage free eggs as soon as possible.

The continuing DEFRA investigation, which has been going on for a long time, into egg-labelling fraud has revealed that up to 1m dozen “suspect” Free Range eggs were allegedly imported into the UK over a 10 week period in 2005-2006. DEFRA is now looking at trading in suspect eggs from two other European countries, but could not specify which countries these were for legal reasons.

Egyptian poultry flocks have tested positive to H5N1 avian flu despite being vaccinated against the virus.

According to an Animal Health official, 12 different locations in Egypt have had outbreaks in 2007 but the question mark is whether the procedures for inoculation are inadequate rather than a resistance to the vaccination.

Chook Trader



Grade Floor Items for Sale

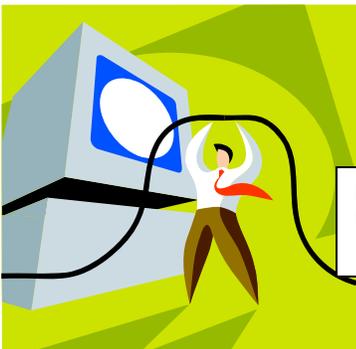
In Line Washer & Moba 1500 grader **\$5,000**

In line washer has 4 brand new brushes plus 2 new spares
Both motors are new – worked for 12 months

New motor on the Egg Grader plus custom made tray.

Owners going out of the egg trade.

Phone Juliana on 4935 7202 any time during the day.



If you would like to place an advertisement in the Chook Chat, send your information by email to lamascot@pentu.com.au or fax a copy of your advert to 4696 7602. A small charge is determined by content and whether photos are to be attached.

Laughter – the best medicine



Did you ever wonder?

- ✚ Why does sour cream have an expiration date?
- ✚ Why do Psychics have to ask you your name?
- ✚ How come abbreviated is such a long word?

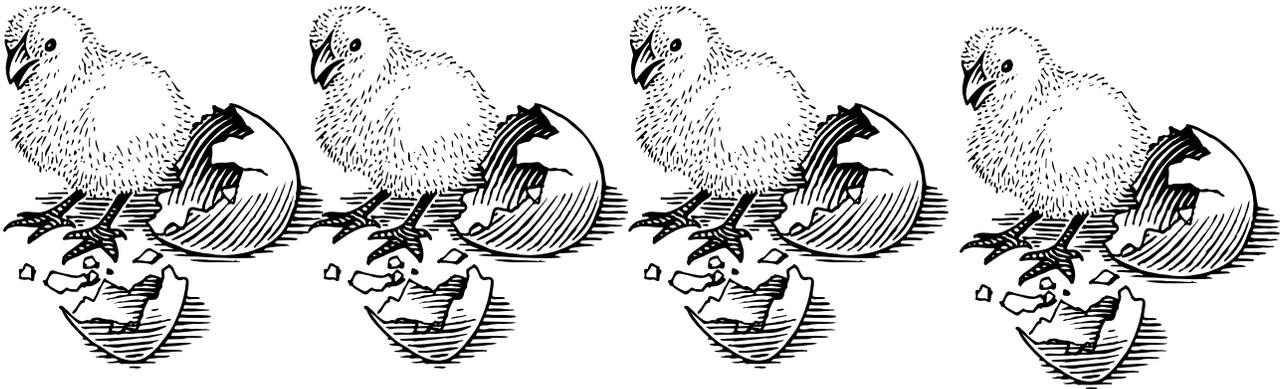
One fine day a chicken walked into a library and said BUCK, so the librarian gave the chicken a book. The next day the same chicken came back to the library and said BUCK BUCK, so the librarian gave her two books. The next day the same chicken came back to the library and said BUCK BUCK BUCK, so again the librarian gave her three books, but this time the librarian decided to follow her to see what a chicken wanted with three books. He saw the chicken come to a stop at the edge of a pond, and pass all the books to a frog who passed them back saying, REDDIT, REDDIT, REDDIT.



The best thing about animals is they don't talk much.

Thornton Wilder, Playwright

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For information on joining FRPAQ or QEFA please email lamascot@pentu.com.au
New Clients are welcome to attend the Free Range bi-annual growers meetings.
For anyone interested in Free Range, an information kit is available for sale.