

# Chook Chat

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

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## Special Interest Articles

Are we being led up the garden path? See the article on page 2, *Making a Hash of it*.

Strawberry soufflé for that hot Summer lunch. Find the recipe on Page 3

Have you got something you want to Sell or buy. Check out our CHOOK TRADER in this issue.

**As at this date, no decision on the Cage issue has been reached**

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## Report from the Chair

I wish you all *A Happy and Prosperous 2007*

There isn't a great deal to report after the festivities of Christmas and the New Year period. The QEFA executive committee met this month and you can read their report on the association's page.

The FRPAQ executive committee will be meeting bi monthly from 2007 with the first meeting to be held on 5<sup>th</sup> February 2007

We will be continuing working with the Government and State bodies to finalise the Egg and Egg products standards this year together with ongoing endeavours to finalise the cage issue prior to the end date Jan 2008.

We are still corresponding with the Minister and DPI&F re the application (both method and numbers) for the Newcastle Disease Vaccine. We will advise as soon as we come to a mutual agreement.

I would like to remind those of you who are in drought affected areas that you should be applying for financial assistance now. The money is there to be used.

A proposal has been put to the Qld government re composting bins for hen mortalities. Discussion between the catchment areas, Industry and Waste Collection companies is ongoing and we will let you know the

outcome.

Remember, Safe Food is now out and about. Make sure you are in compliance.

One idea I would like to share with you is that apathy is the friend of the Government. Unless we all share and support each other with our applications to Government for improvements in the Industry, we will not achieve our goals.

Let's make 2007 a great year and make our voices count for something.

*J. Inwood*



## Making a Hash of It

Remember how we sighed with relief when Peter Beattie announced his government's intention to preserve our farming areas.

That relief has been short lived for some broiler farms where the local council's interpretation of the initiative is in conflict with local farmers. Issues such as "loss of visual amenity" and approval only for

'farming activity that is in character with the area' is causing areas of concern.

The interpretation seems to apply not only to new farm proposals but to long term existing ones.

This article is brought to your attention as some of our cage egg producers will be exiting the industry prior to the deadline Jan 2008. Are they

going to be penalised by these short sighted councils as to what farming industry they would change to?

Gary Sansom, Company Secretary of the Australian Chicken Growers' council is the person to contact as he has been quite busy holding dialogue with local councils and relevant state governments over these issues.

### Food for Thought

As well as eggs having a code stamped on its surface; UK inspectors use UV lights to see whether the egg shells have line markings from cages for standard eggs, marks from nest boxes or marks from Astroturf surfaces for free-range eggs.



Article taken from Poultry World Dec 2006

### Quotable Quotes

A hen is only an egg's way of making another egg.

**Samuel Butler**

Love is.....we've all been there!

Some one had opened the chook shed door, despite the rather large notice that the shed was to remain closed for a few days due to the hens having been moved from their old shed that was due for repairs.

It was a full moon when the couple went round to close the shed doors for the night. They were anxious to see if the 'girls' would return to their temporary shed, but were sorely disappointed.

Sure enough, around the old shed, snuggled as close to the outside walls as possible, stood over 500 of the reprobates.

The next three and half

hours were spent on all fours trying to catch, coax and cajole hens into the van to transport back to their new shed.

After numerous trips, the last of the girls was safely locked in

They stood there, dog tired, both covered from head to toe in hen's poop. She looked down at herself then at him and started to laugh.

He grinned at first, then threw back his head and joined in.

Still chuckling, they linked hands, and headed for home.

**Q. What did the egg do when the other egg told it a joke?**

**A. It cracked up!**



## International Joke

### Human Nature

It's good to see that Aus is not the only place with egg fraud problems. The UK arrested 3 people in Nov 06 over alleged breaches of egg marketing rules.

One day the Emperor of China announced, "Today I will eat a hundred year old egg. This egg must be exactly one hundred years old." His courtiers scoured the countryside looking for an egg that was precisely one hundred years old.

"Well?" said the Emperor, "Where is my egg?"

One of the nobles prostrated himself before the Emperor. "We have failed you, your Majesty," he said, "The oldest egg we have found is fifty years old."

"Bah!" said the Emperor. "You know I hate fast food!"

### Worm Regularly

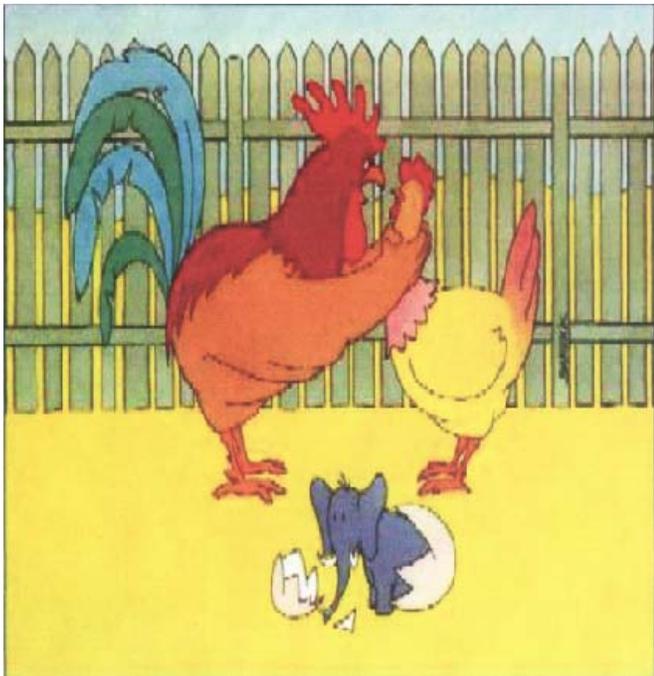
According to a SAC Veterinary Services Survey, Free Range Poultry Flocks that are not wormed at least every 12 weeks stand more than an 80% chance of being infected with worms, thereby leading to reduced egg output and quality.

[www.sac.ac.uk/research/avianresearch](http://www.sac.ac.uk/research/avianresearch)



## Snippets

The Industry, CRC and Farmbiz have been working together to develop a training needs analysis document for the Industry. What needs to be kept in mind is the level of training that is required by farmers and their employees. We already have Students at Universities such as UNE studying for Bachelor degrees in Rural Science which incorporate poultry science units. These people will be coming into the industry but not at the farming level, they will not be gathering your eggs nor managing your poultry. We must make it clear at the onset those skills that are required at the ground level so if you are invited to a meeting to address these issues, try to make the time to attend.



## Drought support Extension for Farmers

The Prime Minister announced in Oct 2006 an extension of the drought support for farmers to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2008. He also committed an additional \$350 million.

Many farmers may think it's all too difficult to apply but there are departments whose Job is to assist you with assessment and

completing application forms.

There have been advertisements on TV and in Newspapers. It's now up to you.

Your local Centrelink office can assist you or phone Centrelink's National Drought Helpline on 13 23 16 or download information from the internet on [www.daff.gov.au](http://www.daff.gov.au)

## Strawberry soufflé omelette

Want a taste tingler to refresh your appetite during the hot weather?

Try this microwave recipe.

### *Soufflé*

3 eggs, separated  
3 tablespoons milk  
1/2 teaspoon cinnamon :

### *Filling*

1/2 cup sliced Strawberries  
1 tablespoon orange juice:  
2 tablespoons brown sugar



### DIRECTIONS

#### Omelet

1. Beat egg whites until stiff.
2. Mix together egg yolks and milk.
3. Fold 1 tablespoon egg white into yolk mixture, gently fold through remaining whites.
4. Very lightly grease a 23 cm pie dish. Pour in mixture and cook elevated on MEDIUM (50% power) for 3 minutes. Rotate then cook for a further 2 minutes on MEDIUM (50% power).
5. Place filling over half of omelet, carefully fold in half, sprinkle with cinnamon and slide onto a serving plate.

Serves 2.

Alternately preheat a 21 cm browning dish on HIGH (100% power) for 4 minutes. Add 1 teaspoon butter, swirl over base, pour in omelet and cook on HIGH (100% power) for 1 1/2 minutes.

#### Filling

Combine sliced strawberries, orange juice and brown sugar. Mix Well.

# EMS Update

All industry participants in the Condamine Area have received their initial draft. They have been visited by Marg and should have received their final documents

by this time. The SEQ catchment area participants should have received their initial draft and be expecting a visit by Ms Will in the near future. Anyone who has not received their

documentation or have a query about the procedures can contact Marg on (07) 4637 2600 or email [ofc@organicfoodchain.com.au](mailto:ofc@organicfoodchain.com.au)

## FRPAQ and QEFA Committee Members

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## Report from QEFA meeting 15<sup>th</sup> January

- The chairperson gave an update on Safe Food Qld.
- The committee discussed the ND Vaccine and raised the question why the agreement with DPI has not been honoured.
- EMS spending approval was discussed and funding for environmental improvements for participants farms was approved.
- The committee discussed the consequences re; the non conforming Cage exit 2008 Victoria regulations which have been extended to 2015.
- CRC Training project – discussion re Focus meetings the chairperson attended. The Project is working within its timelines with the Focus committee developing a Matrix detailing the Training Needs for the industry as agreed by participating members. The next step will be formulating training modules and trainers for delivery. The chairperson will keep the committee updated.



# Chook Trader



## For Sale

### Second hand egg production equipment

3 brooda Heaters	\$ 100.00 each
2 Brooda Sheds	\$2000.00 each
1 Laying Shed	\$2000.00
9 igloo Sheds	\$1000.00 each
(All igloos are complete with laying Boxes and waterers)	
20 blue feeders	\$ 20.00 each
1 only Egg Box	\$ 200.00
This is the laying box and is brand new	
2 Feeders	\$ 220.00 each
Egg Grader	\$1000.00
(Model SA5204B-P)	
Carousel Egg Washer	\$ 500.00

For further information of purchase please contact  
Clayton Sargood on 0427 549 201 or Jackie Sargood on 0427 093 410 a/h 4696 7500

If you have something in your garden shed that isn't earning money, why not advertise it for sale in the Chook Trader. For a small fee of \$10.00 your item gets coverage all over Queensland. Phone Suzanne on (07) 4696 7545 or email [pa\\_admin@pentu.com.au](mailto:pa_admin@pentu.com.au). Photos can be included for the same cost.