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Welcome

Thanks for becoming a member of Egg Farmers of Australia.

Our organisation has five voluntary board directors and two fulltime staff who work hard to make representations on your behalf and ensure continual improvement of the egg industry.

- *Chair and NSW Director, Bede Burke*
- *QLD Director and Company Secretary, John Coward*
- *SA/TAS Director, Dion Andary*
- *WA Director, Ian Wilson*
- *VIC Director, Brian Ahmed*
- *CEO, Melinda Hashimoto*
- *Administration and Engagement Officer, Kylie Jackson*

Benefits of Egg Farmers of Australia membership

Representation by way of:

- Egg Farmers of Australia monthly board meetings where Directors bring issues from state organisations and individual members.
- Directors representing EFA members with farming, corporate and biosecurity expertise
- Policy Development
- Internal Egg Farmers of Australia surveys
- Attendance at Government Hearings
- Liaising with Federal and State Government Ministers' and Advisers'
- Good Egg Guide e-booklet for Advisers' and Departmental Staff
- Annual Departmental and Advisers' briefing opportunity
- Submissions to Federal and State Government Inquiries and Reviews
- Advocacy on the Australian Animal Welfare Standards and Guidelines
- Advocacy in relation to international egg issues (OIE)
- Advocacy at Food Authority Meetings
- Addresses by EFA CEO and Board Directors at State Farming Organisation Egg Committee Meetings
- Consultation with Australian Eggs in relation to research that is undertaken for use in advocacy
- Opportunity for all Egg Farmer of Australia members to attend the EFA Annual General Meeting (AGM)
- Quarterly EFA newsletter including EFA, state reports, vet advice and other relevant egg industry news with the inclusion of members' logos
- Quarterly EFA and State Organisation meetings
- Monthly articles in National Poultry News
- E-updates and biosecurity notifications
- Members E-booklet (outlines key information as a quick reference) – Forwarded to all members when joining or on renewal.
- Two full time staff working for Egg Farmers of Australia members that are Livestock Liaison Industry accredited

- Assistance to members and industry during biosecurity responses
- EFA is an organisation run on a streamlined budget and fiscally responsible
- EFA prides itself in a small staff, flexible, nimble and without red tape

Membership Types

To existing members, thank you for your ongoing support, and to those who are joining EFA for the first time, welcome!

Egg Farmer membership

The annual membership is \$55 and the voluntary levy for advocacy services and operational running costs are based on 4.5 cents per layer bird per financial year.

Personal Membership

Personal memberships encompass retired egg farmers and industry associates such as Veterinarians and Academics. The membership is \$55 per financial year.

Corporate membership (per financial year)

Silver Membership
\$2,500

- Receive E-updates
- Receive Quarterly Newsletters displaying company logo as a Silver member
- Inclusion of an advertisement in the EFA Newsletter
- Inclusion of company logo on the EFA website
- Display of pull-up company banner at AGM
- Opportunity for meeting with CEO
- Attendance as an observer at EFA AGM meeting

Gold Membership
\$5,000

- Receive E-updates
- Receive Quarterly Newsletters displaying company logo as a Gold member
- Inclusion of an advertisement in the EFA Newsletter
- Inclusion of company logo on the EFA website
- Display of pull-up company banner at AGM
- Opportunity for meeting with CEO

- Attendance as an observer at EFA AGM meeting
- Opportunity to attend EFA board meeting yearly
- Specialist support advice to provide a contact point for engagement with government

Platinum Membership

\$10,000

- Receive E-updates
- Receive Quarterly Newsletters displaying company logo as a Platinum member
- Inclusion of an advertisement in the EFA Newsletter
- Inclusion of company logo on the EFA website
- Display of pull-up company banner at AGM
- Opportunity for meeting with CEO
- Attendance as an observer at EFA AGM meeting
- Opportunity to attend EFA board meeting yearly
- Specialist support advice to provide a contact point for engagement with government
- Networking opportunities for the platinum member to meet with EFA members when the EFA board is visiting that state/attendance at dinner
- Digital ad incorporated into EFA AGM presentation

The role of Egg Farmers of Australia and Australian Eggs

There are two national egg industry bodies: **Australian Eggs** and **Egg Farmers of Australia**. The two organisations have different mandates but work collaboratively to provide services to, and representation for, Australian egg farmers.

Australian Eggs undertakes research and development and marketing activities to support the long-term prosperity of Australia's egg industry. But its funding agreement with the Federal Government prevents it from engaging in agri-political activity.

That's why **Egg Farmers of Australia** exists as a national representative body for eggs and the voice of Australian egg farmers. It was formed to do all the things **Australian Eggs** can't do, such as lobby politicians, provide a united voice on policy decisions affecting the industry and advocate for egg farmers.

In the table below the different but complementary roles of **Australian Eggs** and **Egg Farmers of Australia** are explained.

		
<p>Under its Statutory Funding Agreement with the Federal Government, Australian Eggs is unable to put forward industry policy positions.</p>	<p>EGG INDUSTRY POLICY POSITIONS</p>	<p>Egg Farmers of Australia consults with all levels of government and provides input and feedback on policy. It brings together all the state-based farmer organisations that represent egg farmers through a national voice.</p>
<p>Australian Eggs invests in research projects and marketing activities to improve the long-term sustainability of the egg industry.</p>	<p>SUPPORT FOR FARMERS</p>	<p>Egg Farmers of Australia speaks publicly on important topics such as welfare policy, trespass laws and the retail price of eggs.</p>
<p>Australian Eggs provides information about eggs through television, radio, websites, social media, agricultural shows, virtual reality experiences, and resources for teachers and healthcare professionals.</p>	<p>PROMOTION OF EGG FARMING</p>	<p>Egg Farmers of Australia provides information about egg farming and industry practices through the media, government submissions, parliamentary hearings and meetings with ministers and members of parliament.</p>
<p>Research focus areas are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Biosecurity and flock health <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Animal welfare ➤ Food safety ➤ Feeding and nutrition ➤ Environmental sustainability 	<p>RESEARCH AND EXTENSION</p>	<p>The research findings developed by Australian Eggs are used by Egg Farmers of Australia in advocacy activities</p>
<p>Australian Eggs runs marketing campaigns to increase egg consumption in Australia.</p>	<p>MARKETING</p>	<p>Egg Farmers of Australia does not undertake marketing activities.</p>
	<p>FUNDING</p>	
<p>Marketing 32.5 cents per chick compulsory levy.</p>		<p>\$55 membership</p>
<p>Research 13.5 cents per chick compulsory levy with 50 cents of matched government funding for every \$1 of research levy raised.</p>		<p>4.5 cents per layer hen voluntary levy.</p>

To become an Egg Farmers of Australia member or corporate sponsor, please contact info@eggfarmersaustralia.org

Advocacy and Achievements

Area of Strategic Plan	Topic	Task	Actioned
POLICY EFA	STRATEGIC PLAN	Egg Farmers of Australia Strategic Plan 2021 – 2022. Note: The next strategic plan to be developed in December 2022 will be a 5 year plan.	✓
POLICY EFA	EFA POLICY POSITIONS	Update of the website to include Egg Farmers of Australia policy positions	✓
POLICY POLITICAL	STANDARDS & GUIDELINES	Egg Farmers of Australia Submission to the Standards and Guidelines Panel and Member Zoom meetings in relation to the submission	✓
POLICY POLITICAL	STANDARDS & GUIDELINES	Engagement with Federal and State stakeholders (S&G Panel, Ministers’/Advisors’ and Departments) re: Australian Animal Welfare Standards and Guidelines	✓
POLICY POLITICAL	GOOD EGG GUIDE	Creation of the Good Egg Guide for key Departmental staff and Ministerial Advisers assisting their Minister with responsibility for the egg industry.	✓
POLICY POLITICAL	INDUSTRY UPDATE	Industry update provided to Federal and State Ministers in July 2021 noting current conditions and also work of Australian Eggs re: traceability and the Sustainability Framework	✓
POLICY POLITICAL	SUBMISSION	Submission to Queensland Animal Care and Protection Act Review	✓
POLICY AHA	EADRA	Engagement with Australian Chicken Meat Federation (ACMF) and Australian Duck Meat Association to finalise the arrangements of the EADRA compensation arrangements through AHA	Ongoing
POLICY	EGG INDUSTRY DIRECTORY	Creation of an egg industry directory including key decision makers and departmental contacts	✓
POLICY EFA	MEMBERS BOOKLET	Development of 2021-2022 Members Booklet outlining policy positions	✓
POLICY EFA	RETAILERS	Revised policy position in relation to major retailers	✓
POLICY	CROSS INDUSTRY ENGAGEMENT	Cross Industry Engagement with a range of industries groups including Stockfeed Manufacturers Council of Australia (SFMCA), Australian Chicken Meat Federation (ACMF) and Australian Duck Meat Association.	✓
POLICY	MEMBERS/ STAKHOLDERS	Egg Farmers of Australia have both State Departmental Staff and staff from state farming organisations attend EFA Board meetings throughout the year to provide updates on work for the egg industry	✓
POLICY	TRACEABILITY	Engagement with NSW, VIC and TAS re: egg stamping exemptions	Ongoing
POLICY	TRACEABILITY	CEO member of the Australian Eggs Traceability Project Stakeholder Group	Ongoing
POLICY	BIOSECURITY	Development of an AI handbook for egg industry LLIs and 6 monthly communication with industry LLIs.	✓
POLICY	BIOSECURITY	Provision of funds for the CEO to undertake the LLI role in an emergency animal disease response	✓
POLICY	BIOSECURITY	Development of AHA Handbook outlining tasks undertaken by Egg Farmers of Australia	✓
POLICY	BIOSECURITY	Animal Health Australia engagement on biosecurity issues on behalf of Australian Eggs Limited	✓
POLICY BACKYARD HENS	BIOSECURITY	Engagement with state governments’ in relation to backyard hens	Ongoing
POLICY SPENT HENS	BIOSECURITY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advocacy with State Governments’ in relation to the spent hen policy and development of the spent hen factsheet 	✓

Area of Strategic Plan	Topic	Task	Actioned
POLICY LLI	BIOSECURITY	In the event of an emergency animal disease response	✓
ENGAGEMENT	MEMBERS	Regular e-updates, quarterly newsletters and phone calls to members	✓
POLICY INTERNATIONAL	EXPORT	Development of an Export brief focused the countries that egg farmers export	✓
GOVERNANCE	BUDGET	Ratification of the Egg Farmers of Australia 2021/2022 Budget	✓
GOVERNANCE	STAFF REVIEWS	Undertaking of Staff Performance Reviews and Contract Finalisation	✓
GOVERNANCE MEMBERSHIP	FINANCE	Revised membership and advocacy fund fees	✓
GOVERNANCE	FINANCE	Approval of Shared Services Arrangement	✓
GOVERNANCE	DECLARATION OF INTERESTS	All Egg Farmers of Australia Board Members provided a Declaration of Interests form.	✓

Policy Positions

- [Egg Production Systems and Consumers](#)
- [Supermarkets](#)
- [Export](#)
- [Australian Animal Welfare Standards and Guidelines](#)
- [Emergency Animal Disease Response Agreement \(EADRA\)](#)
- [Egg Farmers of Australia Strategic Plan](#)
- [Engagement with Members](#)
- [Members Quick Reference Guide](#)
- [Members' Survey](#)
- [Engagement with Government](#)
- [Government Submissions](#)
- [Engagement with key stakeholders](#)
- [Egg stamping exemptions](#)
- [Traceability](#)
- [Biosecurity](#)
- [Avian Influenza](#)
- [Spent Hens](#)
- [Backyard Egg Producers](#)
- [ACCC Competition and Consumer Act 2010](#)
- [Declaration of Interests](#)
- [Egg Farmers of Australia Constitution](#)
- [Egg Farmers of Australia Directors and Nominees](#)
- Historical – [Free Range Definition](#) and [Animal Welfare Policy Statement](#)

Egg Production Systems and Consumers

Egg Farmers of Australia support cage, barn and free range egg production systems and believe that consumers should have the right to choose the eggs they wish to consume.

Egg Farmers of Australia believe that the consumer should drive demand of the eggs that they wish to eat and egg farmers will supply accordingly.

Supermarkets

Egg Farmers of Australia engage with supermarkets annual through either meetings or correspondence.

Export

Egg Farmers of Australia export brief outlining export for the previous year is updated annually in August each year.

Strategic

Australian Animal Welfare Standards and Guidelines for Poultry

Egg Farmers of Australia's position is to ensure caged egg production can continue in existing conventional cages **until 2046** and that new facilities from 1 July 2022 be furnished as outlined below.

All caged-based housing facilities installed after 1 July 2022 need to be a furnished cage at 750cm² per bird which includes *a scratch rail or pad and nesting area within the usable space*.

For existing infrastructure built prior to 1 July 2022, caged based housing facilities (conventional cages) can continue to operate with the repair or replacement of cages until **2046**.

For stranded assets, if egg farmers are required to exit the industry prior to 2046 then provision of a government structural adjustment package will be necessary.

Once the Standards and Guidelines have been endorsed by AGMIN, it will then be the responsibility of state farming organisations to assist governments with any queries as the standards are placed into state legislation.

Emergency Animal Disease Response Agreement (EADRA)

Egg Farmers of Australia, in conjunction with the approval sought from Australian Eggs have provided correspondence to Animal Health Australia pertaining to a deed agreed by poultry industries (eggs, chicken and duck) pertaining to the arrangements for the sharing of expenses in an EADRA disease response.

Egg Farmers of Australia Strategic Plan

The next Egg Farmers of Australia strategic plan will be developed in 2022 and be a 5 year plan.

Stakeholder Engagement

Engagement with Members

Egg Farmers of Australia is supported by members for members. Members of our organisation receive quarterly newsletters, e-updates on important topics and staff touch base with members by phone. Egg Farmers of Australia work hard to provide value for

money to our members and appreciate those members who pay levies in order to ensure a national body for egg farmers exists.

Members Quick Reference Guide

Members are provided with this quick reference guide outlining a range of useful information, contacts and policy positions of Egg Farmers of Australia. Provided annually from 2021, policy positions are updated prior to the commencement of each financial year and the guide is provided to new members or continuing members on renewal of their membership each July.

Members' Survey

Egg Farmers of Australia have the opportunity to provide feedback to the Egg Farmers of Australia board through a survey conducted prior to the AGM meeting each year.

Engagement with Government

Egg Farmers of Australia engage with Federal and State Government Ministers, Policy Advisers and government agencies regularly to progress issues such as the Standards and Guidelines, to progress industry policy and to receive updates from government on disease outbreaks or policy work undertaken.

Egg Farmers of Australia are committed to providing a briefing to Advisers and Departmental staff at the end of each year when Parliament's rise following the provision of the *Good Egg Guide* a handbook created for government officials assisting the egg industry.

Government submissions

Egg Farmers of Australia provide submissions to government and consider joint submissions with state farming organisations where appropriate.

Engagement with key stakeholders

Egg Farmers of Australia engage with other industry organisations such as the Australian Chicken Meat Federation and Australian Duck Meat Association as required.

Current Egg Industry issues

Egg Stamping exemptions

Egg Farmers of Australia continue to work with the remaining three states who have egg stamping exemptions. Egg Farmers of Australia are keen that all eggs sold are stamped.

Traceability

Egg Farmers of Australia are supporters of the research work being undertaken by Australian Eggs and that an example traceability operating procedures paper is available on the Egg Farmers of Australia's members website.

Biosecurity

Egg Farmers of Australia undertake a range of biosecurity, Animal Health Australia activities on behalf of Australian Eggs.

Avian Influenza

In 2019, the industry experienced the largest outbreak of Avian Influenza in Australia's history.

Egg Farmers of Australia in conjunction with Australian Eggs developed an AI checklist for farms.

<https://www.australianeggs.org.au/dms/4598-Avian-Influenza-checklist.pdf>

In the event of an Avian Influenza Disease Response, Egg Farmers of Australia are committed to liaising with Australian Eggs in order to ensure that industry support can be made available to the control centre.

Communication with Livestock Liaison Industry (LLI) Officers is provided through emails twice yearly.

Spent Hens

Egg Farmers of Australia's position is that spent hens should not be on sold or given away due to biosecurity risks and lack of traceability.

Egg Farmers of Australia continue to work with Governments and have provided a spent hen factsheet so that officials can understand the risk to the industry by the on selling of spent hens.

Egg Farmers of Australia continue to monitor the development of technology for hens to be processed into other products.

Backyard Egg Producers

Egg Farmers of Australia understand that the number of backyard producers are increasing. For this reason, a backyard flyer has been developed with the aim of joint promotion with governments to provide further information in relation to the importance of backyard producers understanding their responsibilities as hen owners.

Governance and Planning

ACCC Competition and Consumer Act 2010

Egg Farmers of Australia commence all board meetings with noting the importance of compliance obligations under the Competition and Consumer Act 2010.

Egg Farmers of Australia Board of Directors adhering to the following protocols relating to commercially sensitive information and competition:

- no discussion of pricing;
- no discussion of dealings with customers, suppliers or other stakeholders;
- no cost sharing information; and
- no discussion surrounding restricting or limiting supply.

Declaration of Interests

Egg Farmers of Australia Board of Directors and Staff must provide a Declaration of Interests before each AGM meeting. Should a significant change in interests occur through the year, an amendment to the Declaration of Interests is required to be made.

Egg Farmers of Australia Constitution

Egg Farmers of Australia's constitution is available to members for viewing on the members only site.

Egg Farmers of Australia Directors and Nominees

Egg Farmers of Australia Directors and Nominees are to be ratified at the first meeting of the Board following the AGM.

Historical

Free Range Definition

Egg Farmers of Australia liaised with government on the definition of free range farming. Legislation came into effect in early 2018. Under the law, eggs labelled as 'free range' must come from hens that are able to roam and forage outdoors for at least eight hours each day.

The maximum outdoor stocking density for free range egg farming is 10,000 hens per hectare of land or one hen per square metre. Each egg farm must state its outdoor stocking density on egg cartons.

Animal Welfare Policy Statement

Egg Farmers of Australia developed and launched an animal welfare policy statement in relation to: farming practices, animal welfare science, community consultation and education, animal protection legislation, enforcement and compliance, and consumer choice.

Egg Farmers of Australia Directors and Staff Contact details

The EFA CEO and Administration and Engagement Officers details are listed below.



Melinda Hashimoto

CEO

0434 999 600

ceo@eggfarmersaustralia.org



Kylie Jackson

Administration & Engagement Officer

0413 750 585

info@eggfarmersaustralia.org

The EFA Directors are listed below for each state.

NSW



Bede Burke AM
Chairman
0427 606 270
bedeburke@bigpond.com



NSW Farmers

QLD



John Coward
Deputy Chair & Secretary
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CEO
Qld United Egg Producers

SA/TAS



Dion Andary
Treasurer
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Chair
Commercial Egg Farmers Association
of SA & TAS

WA



Ian Wilson
Director
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dualcidium@westnet.com.au



Chair
Commercial Egg Producers
Association of WA

VIC



Brian Ahmed
Director
(03) 9742 1526
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Egg Group Chair
Vic Farmers Federation

Engagement with Members

The Egg Farmers of Australia provide a quarterly newsletter to members in January, April, July and October.

E-updates are provided regularly in relation to biosecurity or key industry issues.

The Administration and Engagement Officer and CEO of Egg Farmers of Australia also make contact with members by phone.

Due to the ever changing restrictions in relation to COVID, it has been difficult for EFA Staff and Board to meet with our members face to face and carry out personalised visits to your farms, nor has it been possible to hold our state dinners to interact with you. Therefore we have implemented regular zoom meetings where we can update our members on activities currently being undertaken and seek your feedback and input.

We hope to see you soon.

Contributions to National Poultry News

Egg Farmers of Australia contributes a monthly article to National Poultry News.

National Poultry news subscribers are over 1400 hardcopy and 1600 soft copy.

If you are a producer you can subscribe at the link below.

<http://poultrynews.com.au/subscribe-to-national-poultry-newspaper/>

AGM and Annual Report

Egg Farmers of Australia provide an annual report and notice of AGM meeting 21 days prior to the meeting.

The notifications are forwarded by post and email.

General

Be sure to add the emails in the booklet to your safe senders list to ensure you don't miss any communications from the EFA team. Should you require any assistance with this please don't hesitate to contact us.

As an EFA member you will have access to the members only section of our website where you can access all previous copies of our newsletters, egg farming history for each state, talking points on topical issues and any other documentation developed for our members. To access this you will need to register on our website and create a user name and password. If you require any assistance with this please contact us.

If any of your or your organisations contact details change, please ensure you notify us so we can update your membership details and records.