

Newsletter

39 William Street Elmira, ON N3B 1P3 Phone: (519) 669-3350 Fax: (519) 669-3826 info@ontlpc.ca

Issue 37 September 2016

OLPC 2016 Membership Meetings

All meeting dates are Fridays.

- October 14, 2016 at Ontario Pork
- December 16, 2016 at Beef Farmers of Ontario

OLPC Chair: Gord Coukell **OLPC Vice-Chair**: Julie Harlow

Board Representation

If you have an issue you wish the Board to address, please contact your director.

Major Livestock – Mike DeGroot, Ontario Pork mike.degroot@ontariopork.ca

Minor Livestock - Jennifer Bullock, Livestock Alliance jbullock@livestockallinace.ca

Poultry – Albert Visser, Egg Farmers of Ontario avisser@getcracking.ca

Agriculture and Food Associations and Coalitions - Julie Harlow, Angus GeoSolutions Inc. jharlow@agsi.ca

Veterinarian Associations

Steve Wolfgram, Ontario
Swine Practitioners
Association
swolfgram@southwestvets.ca

Individual Agri-Business -Jane Carpenter, Precision Strategic Solutions janecarpenter@rogers.com

Enhancing the Capacity for Emergency Management in Canada's Livestock & Poultry Industry

The Canadian Animal Health Coalition (CAHC) launched their national animal health emergency management project on August 2, 2016. This goal is to enhance the livestock industry's capacity for managing sector-wide disease related emergencies. Funding for this project is provided by Growing Forward 2.

Organizations will be invited to participate in the project after an initial survey of the industry has taken place. Participating organizations will be involved in creating a plan outlining their roles and responsibilities in an emergency, along with developing a set of guidelines for producers in the sector. In conjunction with Matt Taylor, one of the project leaders, the OLPC organized a meeting of interested Ontario livestock and poultry commodity groups on September 20, 2016.

Rabbit Haemorrhagic Disease in Quebec

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) is investigating a local outbreak of Rabbit Haemorrhagic Disease (RHD) in small hobby farms in Eastern Quebec. Rabbit Haemorrhagic disease is highly contagious and often deadly to affected rabbits. It is a virus that spreads between rabbits through secretions including saliva, runny eyes and nose, urine, feces and contaminated bedding, food and water. It can also be spread accidentally by humans, wildlife and insects or on infected meat or fur.

Ontario Horse Tests Positive for West Nile Virus

On September 15, 2016 Equestrian Canada reported that a horse from the Toronto area had tested positive for the West Nile Virus. This is the first equine case of West Nile Virus this year in Ontario. The virus is transmitted when an infected mosquito bites a horse. Owners are encouraged to discuss WNV prevention plans with their veterinarian and take steps to reduce mosquito populations around their farms.

Avian Influenza Update

On July 7, 2016 CFIA confirmed that a low path (H5N2) strain of avian influenza was found on a duck farm near St. Catherine's. On July 10th, a three kilometer control zone was placed around the infected premises and all poultry operations within the zone were quarantined. The cleaning and disinfection was completed August 31st on the positive premises. The 21-day fallow period then began followed by a 90-day post-outbreak surveillance period. Once the surveillance period has passed without further positive test results, Ontario can regain its Avian influenza free status. This will occur around November 30th – December 1st.

National Farmed Animal Health and Welfare Council Forum 2016

Forum 2016 will be held November 29th and 30th at the Courtyard Marriott Hotel, Ottawa. There is no cost to participate in this event, however participants are asked to register by November 2, 2016. Further information on Forum 2016 is available at: http://www.ahwcouncil.ca/ or by contacting nfahwcouncil@animalhealth.ca.

Newly Released Documents

- Emergency Management Framework for Agriculture in Canada This Framework sets out to improve Canada's ability to address risks and emergencies along the continuum from prevention to recovery.
- Draft Code of Practice for the Care and Handling of Pullets and Laying Hens This draft Code is a guideline for the care and handling of pullets and laying hens..

To view these and other documents visit: http://www.ontlpc.ca/news.php

Our Mission

Provide a forum to facilitate the development and coordination of an Ontario strategy to deal with foreign animal disease and other transmissible livestock and poultry diseases.