



British Columbia Chicken Marketing Board Update for April 2010

1. A-99 allocation.

The allocation for period A-99 was set by the CFC Board of Directors in Ottawa on March 24, 2010 at 1.5% over base for a total of **204,786,492 kilograms live weight.**

BC's share of the allocation is:

Domestic	29,926,055 kilograms live weight
Market Development	2,740,000 kilograms live weight
Total	32,666,055 kilograms live weight

Allotments to growers for this period are:

Domestic	94.59%	pro rata
Market Development	60.85%	of requests

2. Board membership update.

BCCMB.

The current term of Mr. Keith Fuller expired on March 31, 2010. Keith has served as member of the BCCMB for seven consecutive years and has held a number of positions in that time including:

- Vice Chair of the BCCMB
- Member of various BCCMB committees
- CFC Alternate
- CFC Director
- Member of the CFC Executive Committee
- Chair of the CFC Production and Policy Committee

The Board would like to acknowledge and thank Keith for his years of service to the BCCMB and to the BC chicken industry and to wish him and his wife Zelda the best in their future endeavors.

BRITISH COLUMBIA CHICKEN MARKETING BOARD

On March 19, 2010 Mr. Rick Thiessen was reelected by the grower membership to his second three-year term on the Board that will expire in March 2013.

Later that day during internal Board elections, Dave Janzen was reelected as BC's CFC director and Rick Thiessen was elected as BC's alternate to CFC.

The Board wishes to acknowledge and thank Council of Marketing Boards staff members Jack Wessel and Dianne Driessen for their assistance in facilitating and organizing the 2010 BCCMB election process. Jack and Dianne looked after all of the election mail outs and manned three advance polls and three final polls.

CFC

Following the CFC annual general meeting held on March 24, 2010 the board of directors of CFC held their annual internal elections.

Mr. Dave Janzen was elected as member at large to the CFC Executive Committee.

Mr. Rick Thiessen was elected as a member of the CFC Policy Committee and was subsequently elected as chair by his fellow committee members.

These are both very high profile positions within CFC and the BCCMB looks forward to a continued strong presence at the CFC table for the next year.

3. A-97 live price.

The live price for period A-97 (marketings from March 28 to May 22, 2010) has been set by the BCCMB at **\$1.4502** per kilogram live weight.

This price represents a **decrease** from period A-96 of **\$.0297** per kilogram and is \$0.0592 over the Ontario posted price for the period.

In the absence of an agreement by the PPAC the BCCMB used the same methodology for setting the A-97 live price that has been used since period A-90.

Calculations done by Serecon to establish the price linkage between live chicken and hatching eggs for A-97 have produced the following numbers:

	<u>Price</u>	<u>Change from A-96</u>
Live chicken	\$1.4502 per kg	Down \$0.0297 per kg
Hatching eggs	\$4.7333 per dozen	Down \$0.0982 per dozen
Day old chicks	\$0.6625 per chick	Down \$0.0102 per chick

Cost recovery parity between the BCCMB and BCBHEC for A-96 is achieved at **100.18%** at these prices.

4. Current market conditions. (With thanks to CFC Chicken Fax)

- Up to February 28, 2010 **185.9 Mkg** of fresh chicken was available for the Canadian market, **1.1% less** than during the same period in 2009.
- Year-to-date production has reached **164.2 Mkg, 0.6% or 0.9 Mkg less** than during the same period in 2009.
- Year-to-date imports have reached **21.7 Mkg, 11.7% or 2.9 Mkg lower** than last year.
- Frozen chicken inventories on March 1, 2010 were **35.5 Mkg, 0.1 Mkg lower** than the previous month and **0.3 Mkg lower** than on March 1, 2009.
- Production in January and February of this year was **1.2 Mkg lower** and **2.2 Mkg higher**, respectively, compared to the same months in the previous year.
- Imports (as reported by AAFC) were **11.9 Mkg in January** and **9.8 Mkg in February, 1.3 Mkg and 1.6 Mkg lower** respectively than in the same months of the previous year.
- Producer prices in period **A-97 are 3.0 cents lower** than those of period A-96 in most provinces. On average, the Canadian live price in **A-97 is 5.3 cents lower** than in the corresponding weeks of the previous year.
- **Canadian Wholesale Chicken Prices. (cents/kg)**

<u>Product</u>	<u>Feb. 10</u>	<u>Feb. 09</u>	<u>Change</u>
Market composite	332.1	316.5	4.90%
Whole bird complex	323.6	316.7	2.20%
Breast complex	482.6	451.0	7.00%
Wing complex	505.2	515.5	-2.00%
Leg complex	266.9	247.9	7.7%

5. BCCMB Financial Statements and Strategic Plan.

The BCCMB is hosting a grower meeting that will be held at the Ramada Inn in Abbotsford on May 12, 2010 beginning at 7:00 PM.

The agenda for the meeting has not been finalized but it is the intention of the Board to:

- Present the BCCMB 2009 financial statements. Representatives of the Board's auditing firm Myers, Norris, Penny LLP will be present to answer questions.
- Present the BCCMB 2010 operating budget.
- Provide an overview of the BCCMB 2009 Strategic Plan.
- Other timely issues will be discussed if time permits.

An information package containing further information including copies of the 2009 BCCMB Annual Report and the 2009 BCCMB Strategic Plan will be circulated by mail well in advance of the meeting.

Reminder

The BCCMB Strategic Plan can be accessed on our website at www.bcchicken.ca. Anyone not having internet access or wishing to receive a hard copy can do so by calling our Administrative Assistant, Aarti Devi at the Board office at 604-859-2868.

6. Appeals Update.

South Alder Holdings Ltd:

South Alder Holdings Ltd has appealed a decision of the Board to deny its request for relief of A-89 under produced allotment beyond the 6% tolerance.

The appeal was originally scheduled for January 21, 2010; however FIRB required that date to complete the FIRB Supervisory Review.

The appeal has now been scheduled to be heard on **April 20, 2010** from 9:30 to 4:30 at the Ramada Inn in Abbotsford (Summit Room)

Pricing Appeals

All pricing appeals have been adjourned pending the outcome of the BCFIRB Supervisory Hearing.

The appeals filed with respect to BCCMB pricing orders are as follows:

- A-90 – by PPPABC
- A-91 – by PPPABC
- A-92 – by BCCGA
- A-93 – by PPPABC & BCCGA
- A-94 – by BCCGA & PPPABC
- A-95 – by BCCGA & PPPABC
- A-96 – by PPPABC & BCCGA

Jayne Rossworn, MGR Farms Ltd.

Jayne Rossworn, an applicant in the BCCMB's New Entrant Grower program in the Interior Region appealed the January 6, 2010 decision of the BCCMB denying a further extension to meet the requirements of the program. A pre-hearing conference call was held on February 15, 2010. A second pre-hearing conference call was held on March 29, 2010. The appeal was originally scheduled to be heard on April 7, 2010 but has been rescheduled for May 26, 2010 at a time and location to be announced.

7. Bio Security Signage. REMINDER.

CFC has developed new aluminum signs for the primary entrance (gate) to the Controlled Access Zone for each of our farms. These new signs are considerably more durable and are to replace the yellow plastic Bio security signs that we have used for the past several years. As CFC will only supply one sign per premise at no cost, growers will still need to use the yellow bio security signs for all other areas such as barn entrances. Growers also have the option of purchasing further aluminum signs through our office at a cost of \$20.00 each. We have a limited amount of extra signs that are available for growers to purchase.

Please contact a member of the BCCMB Inspection staff to make arrangements to receive your new aluminum sign or to purchase additional signs from the Board.

8. Third Party Animal Welfare Audits.

It has been brought to the attention of the Board that a number of companies such as Safeway, Overwaitea, Sysco Systems, Wendy's, A&W and Gordon Food Services (GFS) are requiring third party animal welfare audits at the processing plant and farm level. These audits are performed by Silliker Labs, are scheduled ahead of time and are paid for by the processor. The Silliker Labs auditor is accompanied by a representative of the processor at all farm visits. These audits are a requirement if the processor wishes to be or to continue to be a supplier to these companies. A number of these audits have already taken place and the Board encourages all growers to cooperate fully with requests that may come from their processor.

Any grower that wishes to have a BCCMB auditor/inspector present during a Silliker Labs animal welfare audit should call Brian Hoven at the BCCMB office to make arrangements. The Board has been advised that though the on-farm visits will be fairly few, the timing, notice periods and designated grower choices may become less controlled and predictable.

Growers agreeing to participate in a third party audit are fully within their rights and responsibilities to require these visitors to conform to all aspects of the BC Bio Security Program that are in place at their farm.

The Board intends to invite a processor representative to speak to this issue at the meeting that will be held on May 12, 2010 at the Abbotsford Ramada Inn.

Growers that have questions or concerns are encouraged to speak with their processor or to call the BCCMB General Manager at the Board office.

9. Poultry Health Technical Bulletin. (Provided by the BC Ministry of Agriculture and Lands)

Spring is soon to be upon us and with that comes the specter of ILT. In the spring of 2006, 2007, and 2009 we were hit with outbreaks that caused significant impact, particularly on broiler production, but layer and breeder pullets were not exempt. Our experience with this nasty disease has taught us some lessons that might help us prevent a similar outbreak in 2010.

We know that the most likely route by which the virus moves is on the wind from contaminated manure or infected flocks being moved. But there are many other potential contributing factors. Every producer will want to do everything possible to prevent the ILT virus from infecting their flock. And equally importantly, there are many things that can be done to prevent the spread to a neighbor's flock.

Things to do to prevent ILT in your flock:

- Maximize your bio security practices.
- Restrict visitors.
- Make sure any essential visitors follow your bio security procedures.
- Make sure any equipment or vehicles entering your farm are thoroughly cleaned and decontaminated.
- Make sure any equipment entering the barn is thoroughly cleaned and disinfected.
- Heighten and follow proper entry procedures every time you, your staff, and visitors enter the barn.
- Consider heat treating the barn before removing manure (40°C for 3 days).
- Thoroughly clean and disinfect your barn between flocks.

Things to do to minimize the risk for your neighbours:

- Heat treat manure (as above) before removing from the barn or store the manure for at least 3 weeks before moving it from the farm.
- Don't move manure out of the barn on a windy day.
- Make sure loads of manure, whether in a truck or wagon, are covered for transport, even if you think it is safe from ILT virus.
- Avoid spreading manure during windy conditions.
- If you are spreading or moving manure, notify your neighbouring poultry producers.
- Minimize the use of CEO vaccine.
- If using CEO vaccine, apply preferably by eye drop; don't spray.
- If you are moving pullets vaccinated against ILT (especially CEO vaccine) from another location, plan a route that minimizes the number of poultry farms passed.
- Talk to your veterinarian about your vaccination program, especially if you are in the so-called "hot zone" between Abbotsford and Chilliwack.

If you suspect ILT in your flock:

- Immediately activate self-quarantine.
- Contact your veterinarian and confirm the diagnosis.
- Advise your suppliers and service people.
- Contact your Board.
- Advise your live haul company and processor; advise a route that minimizes the number of poultry farms passed by the trucks (for broiler chickens, the BCCMB will assist with this).
- Heat treat manure before removing it from the barn. ILT is a nasty disease that can have a significant welfare impact and cause economic loss, especially among broiler flocks. With the approach of the warm, dry, windy spring and summer days that seem to be so conducive to the spread of this disease, it is up to all of us to do everything we can to keep our flocks healthy and prevent ILT from moving from one flock to another.

10. Improved Manure Handling and Storage Funding.

This message from ARDCorp was circulated last week by e-mail to all growers.

As you may already know, the BMP Category 01 – Improved Manure Storage & Handling for the Environmental Farm Plan Program had been scheduled to cease at the end of this program year (March 31, 2010).

It has extended for one more program year for producers to apply for funding in 2010-2011. There was a \$300,000 category cap placed by the Management Committee and the decision was made the extension would be for the one additional year only.

The ARDCorp Board and staff have been working very hard to determine the best course of action to deliver this category of the program in the most transparent and fair manner to producers from all commodities and regions.

The ARDCorp Board has made a decision that for BMP Category 01 – Improved Manure Storage & Handling only we will accept applications from April 1st, 2010 to April 9th, 2010 to ensure producers from all regions have equal opportunity to be considered for funding. We will review all applications to determine their eligibility, and once that has been established, the funding will be prorated to the eligible projects to ensure the most producers can benefit from the program.

Thank you for your patience while we have been diligently working to find a fair solution to this unique situation. Please be assured that this will not affect funding for any other BMP categories. If you have any questions on the determination of eligibility, please contact our office and ask for Veronica, Heather or Reg.

Sincerely,

Heather Carriere
Program Manager

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REMINDER: The new bcchicken.ca website is now up and running. If you require a user name to access the growers only side of the site, please contact Katie Lowe at 604-859-2868 or by e-mail at katielowe@bcchicken.ca

The British Columbia Chicken Marketing Board monthly update is published by BCCMB staff and forwarded by e-mail and fax to all growers and a number of industry stakeholders on our contact list. Should you have any questions or suggestions regarding the content of any monthly update, please contact me directly at:

Phone 604-859-2868 or E-mail billvanderspek@bcchicken.ca

Bill Vanderspek
General Manager
British Columbia Chicken Marketing Board

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