

MEF's New Entrant Draw | Application Instructions

Manitoba Egg Farmers (MEF) will be accepting written applications to receive two (2) quota allotments of 6,000 (six thousand) laying hens each (a laying hen constitutes one quota unit). Two eligible new entrants will be selected at random by a third-party auditor from the eligible applications received. Completed applications must be postmarked no later than **Friday, November 1, 2024**, and must include the **\$210 application fee**. Incomplete applications and incomplete cheques will not be accepted. MEF cannot process credit cards or online payments.

Applications will be accepted from individuals who are 18 years of age as of **Monday, November 18, 2024**, and from Hutterite Colonies which are fully independent of all other Hutterite Colonies as of **Monday, November 18, 2024**. Only one application may be submitted by an applicant. Applicants must be **current** residents of Manitoba. Partnerships and Corporations are **not** eligible to apply.

Allotment of the quota will be subject to the selected applicant meeting all of MEF's criteria and conditions for registration as a producer. These conditions include the following:

- a selected person must be the sole registered and beneficial owner of the proposed laying hen operation and of the land, facilities, and equipment with which the egg production and marketing business will be carried on.
- the production facility must be suitable for housing laying hens and must be located on or near the same parcel of land as the selected person resides so as to be practical for ongoing hands-on management. Leasing of any production facility will not be approved.
- the production facility must meet the Five Freedoms^[1] of animal care. Facilities with enriched/furnished housing, free-run, or aviary are acceptable.
- Free run enriched/furnished, and aviary facilities must meet the current minimum standards for floor space, ventilation, temperature control, access to feed and water, lighting, manure handling and storage established by the Code of Practice for the Care and Handling of Pullets and Laying Hens (2017) – National Farm Animal Care Council, and Manitoba Egg Farmers' Quality Assurance Program.
- handling and storage of manure must be conducted in compliance with Province of Manitoba regulations.
- a selected person must not have been a registered egg producer at any time. Any person who is a spouse or common-law partner of a registered egg producer or was a partner or a shareholder of an entity that is or was a registered egg producer shall be deemed to have an interest in that registered producer at that time and is therefore ineligible.
- a selected person must be able to finance the cost (alone or with the assistance of a spouse or parent) of a satisfactory laying hen facility and equipment.
- a selected person will be required to pay a "Natural Overrun Fund Fee" (NOFF) per hen every year for a period of 4 years, starting with the year of their first flock. The NOFF rate for 2024 is \$zero/hen and varies from year to year. An option to pay the NOFF at an agreed rate annually until the amount is paid in full is available. This fee is currently a requirement of all regulated egg farmers to support the national industrial egg processing program.

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- a selected person must undertake to become certified in the national on-farm food safety program, Start Clean – Stay Clean® no later than 24 months after becoming a registered egg farmer.
- a selected person must undertake to become certified in the national Animal Care program, no later than 12 months after becoming a registered egg farmer.
- certain limitations will apply to the selected person's status, operations, and production facility for a seven-year period following commencement of production, particulars of which can be found in Manitoba's Laying Hen Quota Order.
- a selected person will be required to meet with MEF to review these criteria and conditions prior to accepting MEF's offer of 6,000 laying hen quota. A MEF farmer mentorship option will also be offered to interested selected persons.

^[1] The Five Freedoms

1. **Freedom from thirst, hunger, and malnutrition** - by ready access to fresh water and a diet to maintain full health and vigor.
2. **Freedom from discomfort** - by providing a suitable environment including shelter and a comfortable resting area.
3. **Freedom from pain, injury, and disease** - by prevention or rapid diagnosis and treatment.
4. **Freedom to express normal behavior** - by providing sufficient space, proper facilities, and company of the animal's own kind.
5. **Freedom from fear and distress** - by ensuring conditions that avoid mental suffering.

How to Apply:

- (1) The applicant must fully complete the application form established by the Board. Application forms are available from MEF's website, www.eggs.mb.ca, or upon request by contacting the MEF Board office by phone at 204-488-4888.
- (2) An application must be accompanied by a **cheque or money order payment of \$210.00 payable to Manitoba Egg Farmers, representing a non-refundable application fee of \$200.00 plus \$10.00 GST (GST#R123049793)**. We cannot accept credit cards or online payments. Post-dated, stale-dated, unsigned, and incomplete cheques will not be accepted.
- (3) Applicants must currently reside in Manitoba and be 18 years of age as of **November 18, 2024**, or Hutterite Colonies, which are fully independent of all other Hutterite Colonies as of **November 18, 2024**. Only one application may be submitted by an applicant.
- (4) Present and former registered egg producers, corporations and partnerships are **not** eligible to apply.
- (5) Adult children of registered producers or former registered producers and fully independent Hutterite Colonies formed from Hutterite Colonies which are registered producers or former registered producers are **eligible** to participate.

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- (6) Applications will be accepted by mail (**postmarked no later than November 1, 2024**). Mailed applications should be marked and sent as follows:

**MEF NEW ENTRANT DRAW
C/O MNP LLP
PO BOX 29015
CITY PLACE PO
WINNIPEG MB R3C 4L1**

- (7) Walk-in applications may be delivered to the Manitoba Egg Farmers office until **4:00 pm on Friday, November 1, 2024**, and will be forwarded to MNP.

While MEF thanks applicants for their interest in our industry, only the successful applicants will be notified.