

# April 24<sup>TH</sup> Open House

The Open House at Bayview Poultry Farms Ltd. was a great success with over 75 producers from all over the Maritimes in attendance, along with industry people and suppliers, who stopped by to get a look at the newly installed system.

"There has been tons of

interest in what we have done here, since this is what the industry needs to move towards as people retool or build new," says Glen Jennings, who was very pleased with how well the overall installation of equipment took place. "We were 22 days, 10 days with 8 people

and then we stepped down to 5 people for the rest."

Everything went according to plan and the "move in" date was right on target. "We are really looking forward to getting the birds in and seeing how they perform," Glen says with a smile.

Glen's parents, Doty and Cecil Jennings, were looking over the new equipment and thinking back through their year's in the business. Cecil's father started in the egg business in the late 1940's, with a small fraction of the 14,000 birds Bayview Farms can now house. "It was all hands-on work back then," says Doty, as she recalled some of her memories. They live right next door and are still very much involved in the poultry farm.

Minister of Agriculture, Keith Colwell and Colchester North MLA Karen Casey visited later in the week, taking time to view this state of the art enriched system and congratulate Bayview Poultry Farms Inc. on the huge expansion.



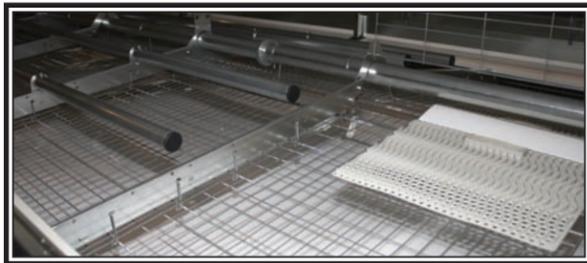
Glen Jennings looks over some of the completed 5ft x 12ft cages, the new enriched system for housing poultry.



Glenholme Ready Mix supplied the cement for the footings and the floor.



Automated water nipples are available in each cage.



The chickens will have access to scratch pads, nesting boxes and perches in the new cages.



Clint Verheul helps put the finishing touches on some of the equipment. Clint Verheul Construction Ltd. was the main contractor for the new expansion.



The white Trusscore wall and ceiling liner along with the ceiling ventilation system was supplied by Eric Griffin Agriculture Equipment Ltd.

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"We are the first ones in Atlantic Canada to put in this new enriched system and the only farm in Canada to have this particular system," says Glen Jennings, of Bayview Farms.

The new system gives chickens twice as much living space; cages are 12 feet by 5 feet, for a total of 117 sq. inches which exceeds the current code of practice regulated by Egg Farmers of Canada. Improvements such as an automated wire release egg saver will help prevent cracked eggs.

"This is state of the art poultry equipment, exceeding all regulations for bird management" says Big Dutchman's Field Service Rep Gary Peters. "We have taken into account vast improvements for the betterment of the birds. They can roost, spread their wings, walk around, lay their eggs in a nest box and use a scratch pad. The eggs never come in contact with manure, which is removed automatically."

The newly enlarged building will house an additional 1000 birds, which will require Bayview Farms to lease more quota. They currently have quota for 13,000 and with this additional space will be able to house 14,000 birds.

The building was quiet during the open house but with move in day scheduled for May 5th, the place will soon be squawking. "There are 7000 pullets ready to start lay eggs in this new building," says Glen, "We are excited to get them into their new home and see the system in operation."

It has been a busy few months at Bayview Farms, with many local contractors and companies involved in the renovations.

Nick Redden and the crew at Masstown Hardware drew up the blueprints for the renovations. "I sat down with Glen and we discussed what was required to fit the specifications of the new

equipment," says Nick. "We were able to custom design the expansion, incorporating the existing structure." Masstown Hardware supplied most of the building materials including the Vic West steel siding and roofing, lumber for studding the walls and the insulation.

Culgin Construction brought in their 'dirt movers' for the initial site preparation for the foundation.

D. Putnam & Son Limited installed the footings and floor, with cement supplied by Glenholme Ready Mix. Dan MacEachern, of D.J.S. Concrete Foundations Ltd., Belmont, installed the walls.

Clint Verheul Construction Ltd. was involved with the

overall expansion beginning the middle of January, and they were still on site helping finish up equipment installation in April.

The complex electrical components were supplied by Liteco, with licensed electrician Bryce Sherman, Maitland completing the hook-up and wiring.

The Trusscore wall and ceiling liner, ventilation (attic vents, ceiling and wall inlets, and Performer series fans) and the GSI Electronics V-Max controller were supplied by Eric Griffin Agriculture Equipment Ltd., Kentville. This amazing controller handles all ventilation, lighting and run times for egg belts and feeding on the cages.

Deadline for the June issue of **The Shoreline Journal** is May 20

And the entire system wouldn't be complete without a proper waste management system. The 24" conveyor belt was supplied by Northumberland Silo, Truro, which automatically removes the manure away from the cages.

The egg production overall operation should be less labor intensive with the upgrades and improvements in automation. "Everything will be computer controlled from climate, feed and water, egg collection, to waste removal," says Glen. "With this system, the farmer will be able to monitor the conditions from afar using a cell phone or computer, and be alerted 24/7 if there is a problem."



**Congratulations to Glen Jennings, his family, and a successful farming operation. We are pleased to be the supplier of choice.**

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