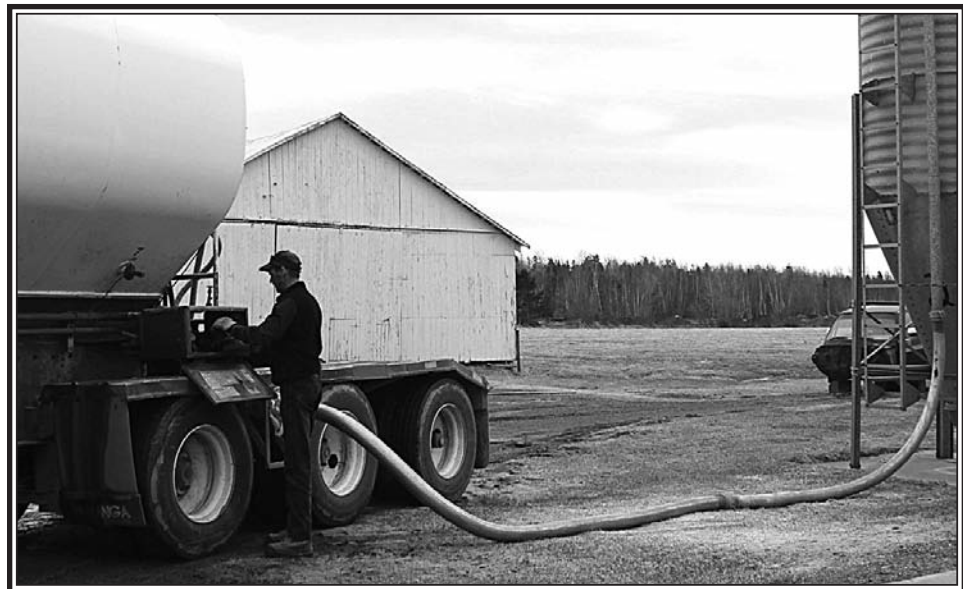




Poultry barns need sufficient ventilation and these fans, supplied by Eric Griffin Agriculture Equipment Ltd., will certainly do the job.



The Co-op Atlantic feed truck makes a delivery to the farm every week.

Eggs and Egg Farming in Nova Scotia

By Patti Wyllie

Eggs are one of four natural products that are regulated under a system known as supply management. The others being dairy, broiler chicken and turkey.

Supply management systems were created in the 1970's by farmers across the country coming together to market their product. The system is run by farmers, with government oversight. Farmers agree to follow a consistent set of rules to promote the highest standards for food safety and farming practices, and receive a fair return for their product. This means in Canada, unlike many countries, there are no tax dollars or government subsidies provided to egg farmers.

In Nova Scotia, the stability provided by supply management ensures that local egg production remains in every province, including ours. Whether you buy your eggs at your favourite local grocery store, or at a large discount retailer, you can be assured that fresh, high quality eggs from local licensed Nova Scotia egg farmers are on the shelves.

Nova Scotia has 23 registered, licensed egg farmers located in most regions of the province. These are largely family farms, such as Bayview Poultry Farm, owned by Glen Jennings and family in Masstown.

Glen has long been a leader in egg farming in Nova Scotia, volunteering as a director with Nova Scotia Egg Producers for many years and serving as Chairman for eight years. He is currently the NS Director on the board of Egg Farmers of Canada. Glen is also a leader in innovation, installing windmills to power his egg production, and now

becoming the first egg farmer in Atlantic Canada to install enriched cage housing for his hens.

Whether or not an egg farmer is registered and licensed depends on how many hens they have. In Nova Scotia anyone with more than 200 hens must have quota and be registered with, and licensed by Nova Scotia Egg Producers. Licensed egg farmers must comply with strict on farm food safety programs which include everything from on-farm inspections, to mandated standards for storage, cleanliness, air quality, feed, record-keeping and more. When you purchase eggs at retail locations in Nova Scotia you can be assured your eggs are locally produced and have passed strict food safety requirements.

For recipes, or to "meet" some Nova Scotia egg farmers, please visit www.nsegg.ca

Patti Wyllie is General Manager, Nova Scotia Egg Producers



NOVA SCOTIA
EGG PRODUCERS

Bayview Farms Still Being "The First"

By Maurice Rees

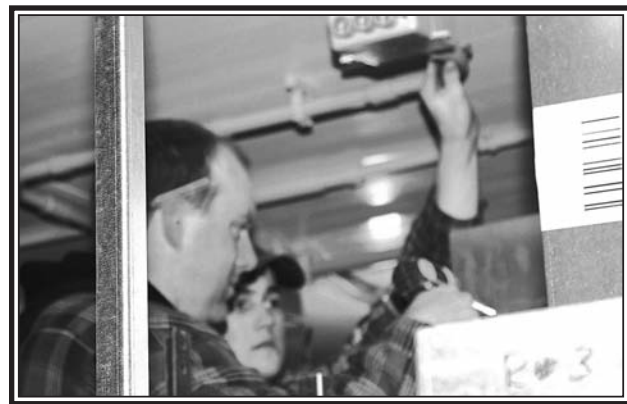
It has taken almost 70 years for the Jennings family poultry farm, Masstown to get where it is today. Known locally as Bayview Poultry Farm Ltd, it has become an icon in West Colchester and a leader in being environmentally.

It's still very much a family operation. Eight-one year old, Cecil Jennings is still active and fully involved helping his son, Glen. Not only is he looking forward to the new enriched system recently installed at the farm, he's also proud his 19 year old grandson, Blake has joined the business.

Cecil's father started the operation in 1947/48 with approximately 3,000 hens, now with the recent expansion the operation will add 1,000 bird bringing the total up to 14,000 laying hens. Nova Scotia boasts of being 100% self-sufficient in eggs with 24 egg producers housing 780,000 laying birds.

Besides egg production, Bayview Poultry Farms Ltd. also grows pumpkins and squash each fall. Blake has operated "Blake's Pumpkin Jungle" each autumn for a number of years and sells pumpkins and squash to a number of retail stores including Masstown Market, Sobeys and Farmer Clems.

In addition to joining the family business, Blake is already catching the eye provincial and gaining national exposure. Nova Scotia Egg Producers chose Blake to represent the province at the Conference, with his trip sponsored by Egg Farmers of Canada.



Electrician Bryce Sherman gets a helping hand from Blake Jennings.

Blake took part in Growing Connections Conference, hosted by Canadian Young Farmers' Forum (CYFF). Egg Farmers of Canada (EFC) sponsored the event, which brought together 160 young farmer leaders from across Canada together in Calgary.

Bayview Poultry Farms Ltd. has never shied away from innovation. Under the direction of Cecil's son, Glen, the farm was the first "Eco-Friendly" egg farm in Nova Scotia and have always strived to be environmentally friendly. Several years ago three wind turbines were installed on the farm, providing 100% of the power to two laying barns.

Glen's son, Blake is the fifth generation to work on the farm.

Bayview Farms used to do their own grading and packaging at the farm until a few years ago and have kept the grading license up to date. Local stores miss having Bayview supply them directly and with a growing trend of "buy local and get to know your farmer" customers also

miss going to the farm chat with the farmer and get their eggs directly. Doing their own grading again is under consideration and the Jennings family also miss meeting directly with customers.

Now that the expansion and construction is complete, the trend of being first continues in 2014. Bayview Poultry Farm is the first egg producer in Atlantic Canada to install the enriched colony system and the first in Canada to install the "Big Dutchman" system which throughout North America houses over 30-million birds.

During the past four years the poultry industry has researched and evaluated several different types of hen housing systems, and since then over 95% of all equipment sold in the United States and Canada has been the enriched colony housing-type system.

Story developed with files from Linda Harrington and conversations with Bayview Poultry Farm suppliers and industry colleagues.


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