

# THE CHICKEN FARMER

## New Study Unmasks the Latest Super Food – Canadian Chicken (Part I)

**Consumers want to know they are making smart choices when they put food on the table for their families.**

Chicken has been seen as a healthy choice for years, but now Chicken Farmers of Canada has the most up-to-date nutrient information to support health claims.

In 2013, CFC commissioned Silliker Inc. laboratory based in Markham, Ontario to test 15 cuts of chicken from broilers (both organic and non-organic) to determine their nutrient composition. These cuts included:

- Regular and Organic Chicken Breast (skinless)
- Regular and Organic Chicken Breast (with skin)
- Regular and Organic Chicken Thighs (skinless)
- Regular and Organic Chicken Thighs (with skin)
- Regular and Organic Chicken Legs (skinless)
- Regular and Organic Chicken Legs (with skin)
- Regular and Organic Chicken Wings
- Regular Breast with skin on and removed after roasting

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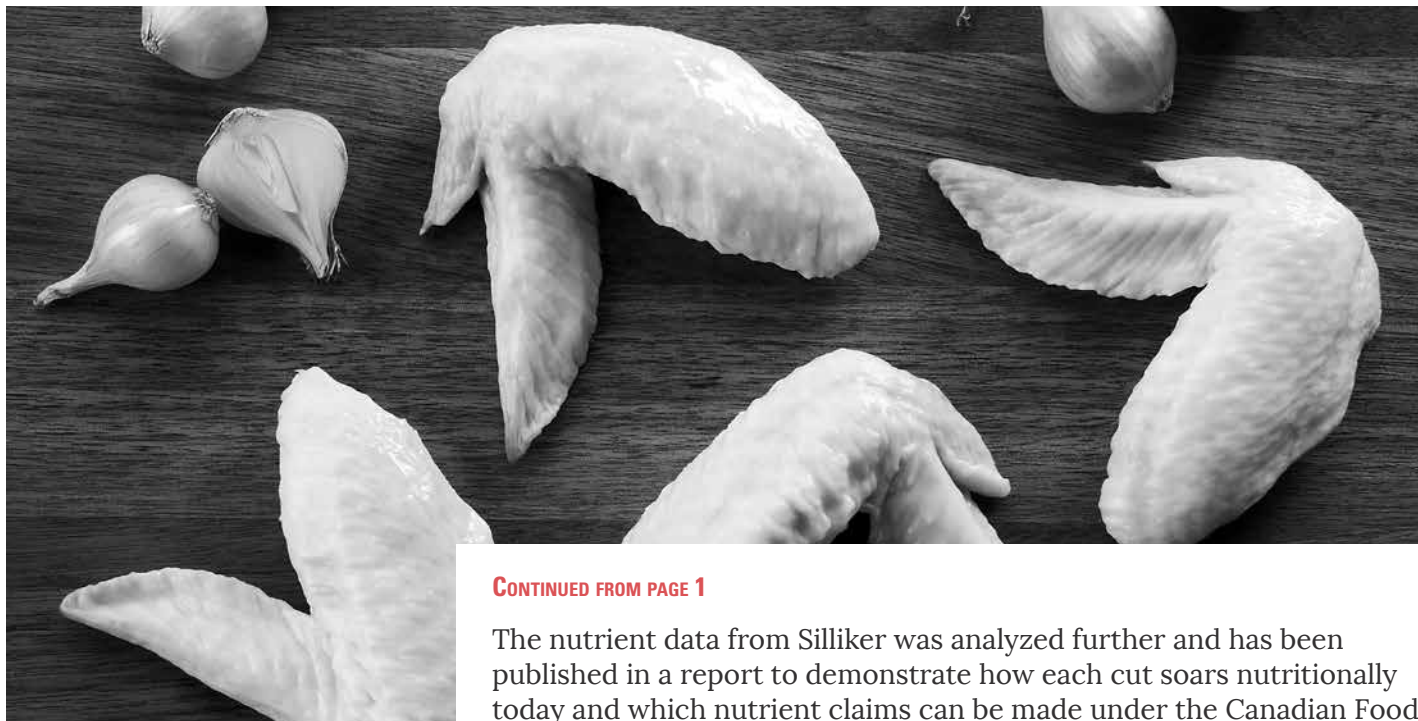
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The nutrient data from Silliker was analyzed further and has been published in a report to demonstrate how each cut soars nutritionally today and which nutrient claims can be made under the Canadian Food Inspection Agency regulations. The report is available at [www.chicken.ca](http://www.chicken.ca). Here's a sneak preview of the key findings.

Chicken has been seen as a healthy choice for years, but until now Chicken Farmers of Canada did not have the most up-to-date nutrient information to support health claims.

All cuts of chicken, both regular and organic, are eligible for multiple nutrient claims under the Canadian Food Inspection Agency regulations. The report lists eligible claims for regular cuts; the most widely purchased cuts by Canadian consumers.

Main nutritional differences are seen when chicken is cooked with its skin on vs. skinless. Whereas all cuts of chicken can carry the nutrient claim “excellent source of protein” independent of whether or not they have skin on, a “lean” or “extra lean” claim cannot be made for any cut when the skin is on.

When comparing regular & organic cuts with skin, the primary difference is the fat content; the skins of regular cuts have more fat than organic. Once the skin is removed, however, the fat content of meat only is similar across most cuts for both organic and regular chicken.

When comparing white & dark meat, chicken breast has more niacin (vitamin B3) and less fat (including saturated fat) than dark meat. Dark meat, however, contains higher amounts of zinc and vitamin B12 – almost three fold more B12 or about 47% of an adult's recommended daily value (DV).

A breast of chicken cooked with skin on and then removed has less fat and calories and more moisture than a skinless breast. This means that consumers can cook their chicken with the skin on, retaining all the moisture and flavour they love, and then remove it prior to serving to achieve the same health benefit, and a lower fat count, as a skinless cut.

Will this new study prove chicken to be a super food, taking its rightful hierarchy amongst other super foods, like the avocado? It sure will. Stay tuned for Part II of this series and we'll show you how. **CF**

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Canadian Federation of  
Agriculture – Derek Janzen (BC)

National Farm Animal Care  
Council – Rudy Martinka (SK)

National Farmed Animal Health  
and Welfare Council – Marc  
Cormier (NB alternate)

# Flock Sheet Makeover

The Flock Information Reporting Form, more commonly referred to as the “Flock Sheet”, has received a facelift and will be unveiled for use by farmers in May 2014.

The Flock Sheet has been in use since 2002 to meet the requirements of the Canadian Food Inspection Agency as stated in Chapter 19.3.4 of the Meat Hygiene Manual of Procedures.

The new version of the Flock Sheet has been modified to address concerns around the ease of completing the form, to clarify the information that is required, and to add an information piece around the on-farm preventive use of Category I antibiotics.

A question about the preventive use of Category I antibiotics has been added to ensure that there is accurate reporting of use throughout the chain of production. The specific antibiotics in question are Ceftiofur® and Baytril®. For their part, hatcheries will also be making a declaration on the chick bill of lading to indicate that Category I antibiotics have not been used in a preventive manner. The same question will be added to Form 3 for chicken farmers in Ontario.

This addition to the Flock Sheet is directly related to the poultry industry’s policy relative to the preventive use of Category I antibiotics. See the April issue of *The Chicken Farmer* for more detailed information on this policy, or go to [chicken.ca](http://chicken.ca) for more information on Chicken Farmers of Canada’s overall antibiotic use strategy.

With the new version of the Flock Sheet being released in May, an electronic version of the flock sheet will also be made available for farmers interested in this option. This form will be able to be filled in electronically with the intent that it can be e-mailed directly to the processing plant.

The use of the electronic Flock Sheet will require acceptance by both the Canadian Food Inspection Agency and the processing plant; CFC will be working on having this form approved and will release it as soon as it is ready.

The new Flock Sheet uses a set of seven questions about antibiotic and vaccine use at the hatchery and at the farm. An example of the new form is shown here to demonstrate how the flock sheet needs to be completed. **CF**

## TIPS FOR COMPLETING THE NEW FLOCK SHEET

- 1 Indicate if your farm is certified on the CFC OFFSAP.
- 2 These letters will guide you as to which columns need to be filled in for each question.
- 3 Make sure to include the veterinary prescription for all antibiotics used extra-label.
- 4 Question 6 refers specifically to the preventive use of medications.
- 5 New Question!! This question is asking about the preventive use (without clinical signs or disease diagnosis) of Category I antibiotics.
- 6 Record the question number in this location so the answer can be easily referenced.
- 7 Note: All vaccines have a 21 day withdrawal period.
- 8 Consider adding an extra day to be confident about the marketing date.
- 9 Don’t forget to sign your initials indicating the flock has recovered.
- 10 If no withdrawal time has been provided, be sure to put a stroke through this question, or record “NA”.
- 11 A space has been provided so that producers can record any important observations about the flock (e.g. health status or catching conditions).





## Flock Information Reporting Form



Producer/Enterprise Name: ABC Farms Producer Code/Quota: A15B

Barn #: 2 Species: Chickens Category/Sex: Female Age of Birds: 38 days

# Birds Placed: 8,500 # Birds Shipped: 8,260 Mortality Rate (%): 2.8 Kg/Bird: 2.1 kg

1 CFC OFFSAP/TFC OFFSP Certification: ☒ Yes ☐ No Grow-out density: 28 ☒ kg/m<sup>2</sup> ☐ lb/ft<sup>2</sup> ☐ kg/ft<sup>2</sup>

### Section A - Medication and Vaccine Information

If yes:

1) Were medications or vaccines administered at the hatchery? ☒ Yes ☐ No A, D, E \* 2

2) Were vaccines administered on-farm? ☒ Yes ☐ No A, B, D, E

3) Were any diseases or syndromes diagnosed during the flock? ☐ Yes ☒ No G

4) Were any medications administered for treatment? ☒ Yes ☐ No A through C 3

5) Did the rations prior to shipment in the last 7 days for chickens or in the last 14 for turkeys have any feed medications with a withdrawal period? ☐ Yes ☒ No A, D, E \*

4 6) Were any extra-label medications used in the feed? ☐ Yes ☒ No A, D, E \*

7) Were any Category I medications (e.g., ceftriaxone - Excenel™, enrofloxacin - Baytril™) used on-farm in a preventive manner? ☐ Yes ☒ No A through F \*

\*Attach prescriptions for all extra-label medication use

Record any "Yes" answers in the table below (use the guide above to fill in the columns):

Question # (i.e. 1-7 above)	(A) Medication or Vaccine Name	(B) First treatment date	(C) Last treatment date	(D) Withdrawal Period (days)	(E) Safe marketing date (if any)	(F) Dose	(G) Disease or Syndrome & flock recovery (initials)
6 #1	Marek's			7 21	8 03/06/1A		
#1	Lincomspectin			5	02/18/1A		
#2	Bronchitis	02/16/1A		21	03/10/1A		
#4	Paracillin-SP	03/06/1A	03/10/1A	2	03/13/1A	20 mg/kg	Respiratory infection SS 9

### Section B - Feed Withdrawal and Loading Information

Planned catching time:	M 03	D 21	10:30 Time AM PM	Actual start of catching:	11:00 Time AM PM
Planned processing time:	M 03	D 22	8:00 Time AM PM	Time of last access to water:	10:30 Time AM PM
Was the feed supply disrupted in the last 48 hours?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No			Feed withdrawal time provided by the processor:	6:30 Time AM PM 10
Time feed was no longer accessible:	M 03	D 21	6:30 Floor #1 Time AM PM	Floor #2 Time AM PM	Floor #3 Time AM PM

Provide any additional comments on flock condition during the brooding/grow-out period and/or the catching process on a separate sheet of paper if desired.

Additional Comments: Healthy flock, birds in good condition 11

I confirm that, to the best of my knowledge, the information contained on this flock information reporting form is accurate and complete and that any diseases that were diagnosed in the flock as a result of laboratory tests and/or readily observable clinical signs have been identified and reported on this form.

Producer's Signature: [Signature]

Note: This information is confidential between the producer and the processor.

Version 6.0

# News From the Hill

## Minor Cabinet Shuffle and Shadow Cabinet shuffle

On February 18<sup>th</sup>, the Honourable Jim Flaherty, MP, former Minister of Finance, announced that he was resigning from Cabinet. He stated that he would stay on as a MP until the next election while he prepared to go to work in the private sector. The Prime Minister replaced Flaherty with the Honourable Joe Oliver MP, former Minister of Natural Resources, and tasked him with continuing to follow the Economic Action Plan.

Note: The Honourable Jim Flaherty, MP, passed away suddenly on April 10 and a state funeral was held for him in Toronto on April 16.

With the resignation of Olivia Chow, MP and critic for Transport, The Honourable Thomas Mulcair, NDP Leader and Leader of the Official Opposition, took the opportunity to make some changes to his 'shadow cabinet', which are meant to reflect the minor Cabinet shuffle announced by the Prime Minister.

- Peter Julian (Burnaby—New Westminster) former critic of House Leader has been appointed to the position of Opposition House Leader
- Nathan Cullen (Skeena—Bulkley Valley) former House Leader becomes the Finance critic
- Peggy Nash (Parkdale—High Park) former critic for finance will take over the Industry portfolio
- Chris Charlton (Hamilton Mountain) will be responsible for Energy and Natural Resources



- Hoang Mai (Brossard—La Prairie) has been promoted to Transport critic
- Matthew Kellway (Beaches—East York) is replacing Mai as deputy critic for Transport

## Joint Annual Reception

This year's Joint Annual Reception of the four national poultry agencies – CFC, Canadian Hatching Egg Producers, Egg Farmers of Canada and Turkey Farmers of Canada – took place on March 19<sup>th</sup>, at the Fairmont Château Laurier in Ottawa.

Turkey Farmers of Canada celebrated the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary since it was founded. On hand to celebrate were Laurent Pellerin, Chairman of Farm Products Council of

Canada (FPCC), members of FPCC, key political and departmental staff, key stakeholders from other non-supply managed commodities, as well as many of our industries suppliers.

The Joint Annual Reception is an event that offers our farmers and industry stakeholders an opportunity to discuss important issues, such as spent fowl, trade, food safety to name a few, with decision makers in the government and those involved in working with our industries. As always, the reception featured an excellent selection of dishes prepared with Canadian chicken, turkey and eggs. **CF**



## Pathogen Reduction Initiative

The Federal-Provincial-Territorial (FPT) Ministers have tasked their Deputy Ministers with developing an action plan to reduce pathogens in both meat and poultry. The Pathogen Reduction working group consists of representatives of the Canadian Food inspection Agency (CFIA), Health Canada, the Public Health Agency of Canada, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada and provincial ministries of agriculture and health.

In Canada, there are no domestic pathogen reduction performance standards in raw poultry, whereas other countries have been moving forward with mandated performance standards for *Salmonella* and *Campylobacter*. Canada needs national representative baseline information to set performance targets. The last baseline survey was performed in 1997-1998. The government pathogen reduction priorities are for *Salmonella* and *Campylobacter* in chicken, *E.coli* O157:H7 and other verotoxigenic *E.coli* (VTEC) on beef carcasses, ground beef and trim, and *Listeria monocytogenes* in ready-to-eat meats.


In the past year, the CFIA has collected data on prevalence and enumeration of *Salmonella* and *Campylobacter* in broiler flocks, carcasses and retail chicken meat product. The samples were collected by CFIA from 37 federally-registered abattoirs and from 33 census metropolitan areas for the retail samples. The flock samples (caecal content) were taken at the abattoirs at the flock arrival. The CFIA are in the process of finalizing the data analysis. CFC will be invited to work closely with the CFIA to look at the best on-farm practices to help minimize the contamination of poultry meat.

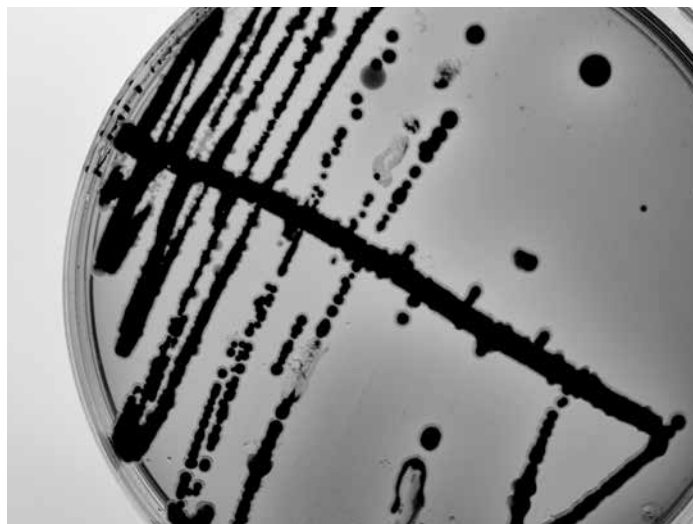
## The National *Salmonella* Enteritidis working Group

The Canadian *Salmonella* Enteritidis Control Symposium and Workshop was held in 2010 in Vancouver. At the symposium, Public Health Agency Canada data presentation showed that over the last few years there has been an increase in human SE incidence and a three-fold increase in the proportion of salmonellosis caused by SE. The major strains associated with human infection have been recovered from poultry-sourced isolates from farm, abattoir and retail.

To address this issue in Canada, a task oriented National *Salmonella* Enteritidis Working Group comprised of CFIA, PHAC, HC, AAFC, provincial health and agriculture ministries, and poultry organizations (CFC, EFC, CHEP, CPEPC, TFC and CHF) was formed in March 2012.

The SE working group is working on developing a National Strategy plan to reduce the burden of SE diseases in Canadians. The strategy will highlight a set of recommendations for the government and the poultry industry sector on how the incidence of SE in poultry meat can be reduced. The *National Strategy for the Control of Poultry-Related Human Salmonella Enteritidis Illness in Canada* will be released on Health Canada's website in September 2014.

Internationally, there has been great effort to reduce the incidence of SE in poultry. The European Commission adopted two regulations to reduce and control SE in eggs and poultry at all production levels by setting up national control programs unique to each member state. 







## WTO: Post-Bali Agenda

If you're up to date on your trade news, you may have heard talks about the WTO's post-Bali agenda and the attempts to restart the Doha round of negotiations. Following their ability to reach at least a small agreement at the ministerial meeting hosted last December in Bali, Members of the WTO are looking to carry this momentum forward in the year to come.

In anticipation to the WTO's General Council on March 14<sup>th</sup>, a number of developing countries pressed for the completion of unfinished business in the Doha Development Agenda (DDA). They asked that the negotiations be based on a single undertaking and focused on agriculture and development as the center of the post-Bali WTO work program. Developing countries have the most to gain from completing this agenda, as their economic development is strongly dependent on agriculture, particularly with respect to the three pillars of the negotiations: market access, trade-distorting domestic subsidies and export competition. Other Members also acknowledged that there was a need for a "balanced approach" among the three pillars.

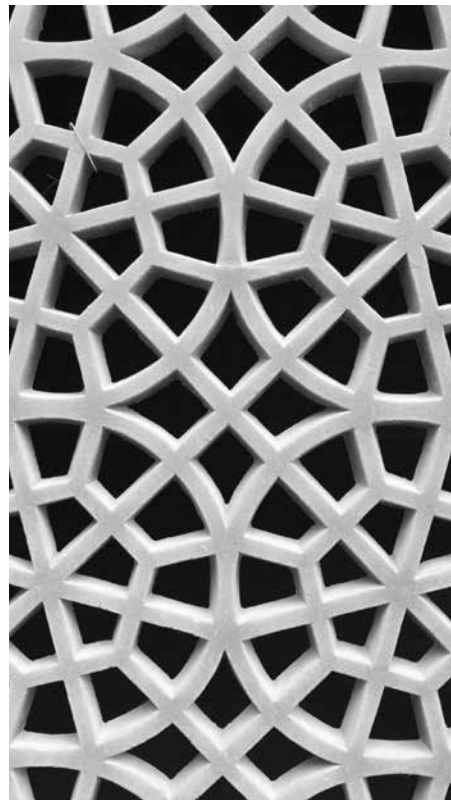
The Director General, Roberto Azevêdo, made it clear that his first priority was to deliver on the 'blood, sweat, and tears' that they had put in the Bali Package by implementing the decisions and agreements that were reached there. Whether Azevêdo is able to make Members implement the negotiated outcomes will be a real test to demonstrate that the WTO is able to bring real benefits to the people it is there to serve.



## An initial round of negotiations in the WTO on how to advance the Doha round revealed that Members agree that core issues of agriculture, industrial tariffs and services need to be tackled together.

The director's second priority is to prepare a clearly defined work program to conclude the DDA – and to do so by the end of the year! In laymen's terms, the goal is to come with a plan on how to take on the future negotiations in hope that they will eventually take place. An initial round of negotiations in the WTO on how to advance the Doha round revealed that Members agree that core issues of agriculture, industrial tariffs and services need to be tackled together. Despite showing a willingness to move forward however, many are still struggling with fundamental questions on how to do so.

The main sticking points in the creation of a clear work program for the end of 2014 is the level ambition in each of the three core issues and the extent to which future discussions should be based on the Doha round texts. While some Members believe that too much work has already gone into the Doha round to be pushed aside, others emphasize the fact that the global trade environment



has changed and that a global trade agreement should take on these changes.

Agricultural, industrial products and services, for example, should no longer be negotiated separately but rather simultaneously to

allow for trade-offs across sectors. Differing views on the definition of “commercially meaningful access” and the value of concessions are other examples of sticking points that are holding back discussions on the level of ambition which should be targeted. While every Member has showed an interest in re-entering negotiations, it is clear that expectations for these are still far out of line.

Despite Azevêdo's wishes, we are still some ways from entering a new round of negotiations and even further away from an agreement that would directly impact Canadian agriculture and its supply management system, with most of the trade initiatives directed at bilateral and regional trade agreements such as the Trans Pacific Partnership. With this said, it is still important for Chicken Farmers of Canada to monitor developments in Geneva, as the Doha round of negotiations which was put on life-support for the past few years, has now been ‘plugged back in’ and is likely going to be revived in the future. 



# Canadian Poultry Research Council Update

## Call for Proposals 2014

CPRC put out its annual call for research proposals in April. This year's research areas include food safety and animal health products, as well as genetics, poultry health and poultry welfare. CFC's specific topics that are being requested for proposals this year include the following:

- Management practices to help reduce antibiotic use
- Pathogen reduction, especially *Salmonella Enteritidis* and *Campylobacter*
- Vaccine development for necrotic enteritis
- *Campylobacter* transmission
- Density standards for roasters



In addition to these, CFC has issued an additional request for proposals for the first time this year for research on field trials of alternatives to antibiotics. CFC is wishing to examine the practical application of antibiotic alternatives to further reduce antibiotic use in the chicken industry.

CPRC and CFC's call for proposals are aligned with the priority areas identified in the National Research Strategy for Canada's Poultry Sector. CPRC prepared this document based on a number of workshops, conferences, discussions with industry members, and input from its member organizations. The strategy represents a consensus of needs by the poultry industry and reflects major industry priorities and research target outcomes. A full copy of the strategy can be found here from the CPRC website: ([www.cp-rc.ca/2010\\_Update/attachments/National\\_Research\\_Strategy\\_for\\_Cdn\\_Poultry\\_Sector.pdf](http://www.cp-rc.ca/2010_Update/attachments/National_Research_Strategy_for_Cdn_Poultry_Sector.pdf)).



Since 2001, CPRC has allocated over \$2.9 million to foster poultry research and these funds have been leveraged to over \$14 million.

## Annual General Meeting

At CFC's 2014 Annual General Meeting, Director Ed O'Reilly (Newfoundland and Labrador) was re-elected for a second year as the Canadian Poultry Research Council (CPRC) representative. Ed was also re-elected to the CPRC executive committee, along with Chairman Roelof Meijer (Turkey Farmers of Canada) and Vice Chairman Helen Ann Hudson (Egg Farmers of Canada).

CPRC's Board of Directors remain unchanged, with Brian Bilkes (Canadian Hatching Egg Producers) and Erica Charlton (Canadian Poultry and Egg Processors Council) also being re-elected. **CF**



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