

The Victorian Egg Marketing Board

Cnr. Chandler & Kirkham Roads, Keysborough, 3173

8504.37v



Postal Address
P.O. Box 141
Noble Park, 3174
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Telephone
798 7077

Registered Telegraphic Address
"BOARDEGG", NOBLE PARK, 3174

25th February, 1981

The Secretary,
Commercial Egg Producers Association
Symonds Street
GOLDEN SQUARE 3555

Attention: Mr. M. Jackman

Dear Sir,

In reply to your letter of 11th February, 1981, in reference to your association's objections to the Board's decision to charge producers filler maintenance. The Board decided that each individual producer must bear the cost of maintaining his own packing material, and pooling this cost penalizes the efficient producer.

You raised the point that producers may re-use the unserviceable packing material when it is returned to them. If this problem is repeated the floor will have to take steps to see that this situation does not continue by either - branding the unserviceable packing material with an identifiable die so that it will be easily recognizable; or by removing the unserviceable packing material and replacing it with new packing material and charging the producer concerned.

The second point you made that producers are not receiving back their own packing material has been covered by the Board's Circular No. 5/81 (copy enclosed) and if producers still have a problem with the return of their packing material from their individual grading floors, would they please contact me so that I can correct the problem.

I cannot agree with your statement that the greater part of damage occurs at grading floors and not at the farm. All grading floors have been notified to take particular care in handling producer packing material and if a filler is damaged at the grading floor, the grading floor must bear the cost of replacement; that does not mean if eggs are cracked and sticking in the filler that these fillers will be replaced. They will only be replaced free of cost to the producer if for some reason in the mechanical handling at the floor the filler is damaged.

Because of large scale buying the ex factory price to the Board of new filler is slightly less than 10.7¢ each charge made to producers. The difference relates to handling costs and freight.

Yours faithfully,
THE VICTORIAN EGG MARKETING BOARD,


G. HUDSON
Operations Manager

The Victorian Egg Marketing Board

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Postal Address
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"BOARDEGG", NOBLE PARK, 3174

3rd February, 1981

CIRCULAR NO. 5/81

TO: ALL PRODUCERS

Re: Producer Filler Maintenance

As the Board and its Agents now have sophisticated automatic equipment for grading and handling eggs, which helps reduce handling costs, it is important that the packing material used by producers is suitable for the safe transportation of ungraded eggs to grading floors, and through the automatic equipment.

As from Monday 9th February, 1981, if producers consign unserviceable fillers to grading floors with their egg consignments, the grading floor concerned has been instructed to separate unserviceable fillers from the useable fillers and return them to the producer in a separate tied bundle with a tag attached indicating that the bundle is unserviceable.

New packing material is available from your grading floor in sets of 7 key fillers at a cost of 75¢ per set.

The Board has received a number of complaints from producers that they are not receiving their correct quantity of fillers returned in their trolleys or cases. Grading floors have been advised that they must ensure that the correct quantity of fillers are counted on to each individual case or trolley prior to returning them to the producer.

If you have a similar problem after the 9th February, 1981, would you please contact the undersigned. Your cooperation in this matter would be appreciated.

THE VICTORIAN EGG MARKETING BOARD,

G. HUDSON
Operations Manager

Commercial Egg Producers Association.
Bendigo & South Bendigo Branches

Lyons St
Goldbra Square. 3557
11-2-81

The Secretary
Victorian Egg Marketing Board
P.O. Box 141
Hoble Park. 3174.

Dear Sir, At a meeting of producers in the Bendigo district on Monday 9th Feb, strong objections were voiced on the new system of filler maintenance. These objections and observations are listed below

1/ Producers feel that the former system should remain in. Damaged and soiled fillers returned to floor and exchanged for new ones on a one for one basis. This system ~~enables~~ enables producers to keep a serviceable stock of fillers so that the ~~former~~ automatic grading machines are able to operate satisfactorily. Damaged fillers can be taken out of service before having eggs put on them. The cost is then shared equally by all producers. If producers are required to purchase stocks of new fillers, we feel that unserviceable packing material will be reused to a larger degree than at present.

2/ Producers often do not receive their own fillers. Automatic machines make this difficult at the beginning and end of a consignment.

3/ The charge proposed for fillers does not seem to bear any relationship with the actual cost of manufacture. You may recall that filler prices were raised to equate with dozen cartons to facilitate administration of P.A. sales. Also we note there is no reduction in either grading

charge or wholesale margin the
extra cost being foisted on to individual producers.

4. The greater part of damage to fillers occurs at grading
floors and not at producer farms.

5. The producers feel that the VEB floor and administration
efficiency leaves a lot to be desired, and if costs are to
be contained, the Board must improve its own operations,
bearing in mind that the Inquiry into Egg Marketing report
could show far reaching effects if shortcomings are revealed.

We would be pleased if this letter could be presented
to a Board meeting and an early reply would be
appreciated.

Yours faithfully

Dr. J. J. J.
Brand Secretary.

TELEPHONE 651 7011
166 WELLINGTON PARADE
EAST MELBOURNE



MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE

13 Jan 1981

POSTAL ADDRESS:
BOX 4041, G.P.O.
MELBOURNE, VIC. 3001

13 JAN 1981

Mr M. Jackman,
Secretary,
South Bendigo Branch,
Commercial Egg Producers Association
of Victoria,
Symonds Street,
GOLDEN SQUARE, Vic. 3555

Dear Mr Jackman,

I refer again to your letter of November 12, which the then Minister of Agriculture acknowledged on November 24.

In relation to the availability of meat meal, advice from the Meat Meal Advisory Sub-Committee, which met in December, has been conveyed by my Director General to the Regional Director of the Commonwealth Department of Primary Industry. That Department is responsible for administration of the regulations governing exports.

The Sub-Committee noted that supplies had fallen substantially in Victoria but expressed even more concern that changes in the seasonal rate of slaughterings may reduce supplies even more. The Sub-Committee will continue to monitor supplies and is seeking to develop more effective methods of doing so.

Seasonal supplies of meat meal are likely to continue to vary and sections of the industry may have to consider the need to hold stocks bought when supplies are high and prices lower.

I have noted your comments on increases in the price of wheat and the possible implications of this for egg prices.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Tom Austin'.

(TOM AUSTIN, M.P.)
MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE