

NEWS REVIEW

A SPECIAL SUPPLEMENT TO THE JULY ISSUE OF THE VICTORIAN EGG PRODUCER

Egg Board Members

Geelong Egg Producer, Mr Don Foster, has been appointed a producer member of the Victorian Egg Marketing Board.

Mr Foster replaces Mr. J. Musgrove who was the nominated member of the Egg Producers Association.

Mr Foster, who is the Victorian Farmers and Graziers Association's Egg Poultry Group Senior Vice-president, and is also Senior Vice-president of the Australian Council of Egg Producers, takes up his appointment on July 1.

The Board now comprises of Mr. P. J. Carter, Chairman, from 1.7.82 to 30.6.83, and Mr. J. W. Pratt, Deputy Chairman, from 1.7.82 to 30.6.1983.

Other members are Mr. R.L. Baillieu 1.7.80 to 30.6.1983, Mr. F. S. Wrigley from 1.7.1981 to 30.6.1984 and Mr. J. P. Y. Steiner 1.7.1981 to 30.6.1984.

Pack to Order

The rapid expansion of farm grading has created problems in ensuring that eggs graded on the farm are packed according to the market requirements.

Some eggs packed for manufacture have had to be re-graded and packed for sale and some eggs packed in 15 dozen cartons have had to be transferred to retail trolleys or to manufacture.

All these problems cost money and it has therefore become essential to re-organize the pack to order system to make sure that these problems are eliminated.

1983 Quota Restoration

Expected surplus egg production in 1982/1983 could be as high as 10% if the 19% spring cut is fully restored in February 1983.

The Board will, of course, be making an all out effort to reduce this expected surplus through increased egg sales and this will remain our first priority in the coming year.

In addition to this effort on the sales side, it is also essential that expected production be reduced in 1983 and the Board has recommended to Mr Kent, the Minister of Agriculture that 50% of the present spring quota cut be restored to producers on the 2nd February 1983. ..P2

Effective Thursday 1st July, the following conditions will apply for all pack to order eggs delivered to the Board.

1. "Pack to Order" as the title suggests, means that an order must be obtained in advance.

(a) For Pack to Order deliveries of less than 300 dozen per week (including all grades) all producers will have a standing order to pre-pack any grades into 15 dozen cartons.

(b) For all other Pack to Order deliveries, Producer Agents must telephone the Board's distribution office on 798 72 45 or 798 6621 on Thursday each week from 7.00am to 3.00 pm to receive an order for the following week.

Each Producer Agent will be given an exact order as to quantity and the type of pack and a order number. Each order will be confirmed in writing to avoid any misunderstandings.

2. If any graded eggs are received at Keysborough without an order then the Board will have no option but to treat the consignment as ungraded and re-grade and re-pack the eggs concerned.

3. To enable Producers to change types of packing as required, they must ensure that all types of packing mat-

erial are held in stock at all times, for example, 20 dozen plastic crates and all grades of pre-packs and filler packs outers and inners. Also minimal stocks are required to be held for packing eggs for manufacture, for example 360 dozen transfer trolleys and 30 dozen field carts.

4. Retail trolleys are in very short supply and only producers large enough to supply economic quantities will be eligible to participate in this scheme.

5. Date coding of "Use by" dates will also be strictly adhered to. Please refer to Circular No. 19/81 dated the 16th March 1981. Your co-operation in this matter is vital to ensure that the best possible product is available to the retail trade.

If there are any queries please contact the Operations Manager, Mr Gordon Hudson.

CHIEF INSPECTOR'S MESSAGE

STABILIZATION VERSUS HEN LEVY ACTS

Producers should note that pullets become part of your hen flock on the day they reach six months of age from the date of hatch. This date may be a number of days before they become leviable under the Commonwealth Levy Acts. This means that a flock of pullets reaching six months of age on a Friday after a "count day" could make you "over quota" from that Friday, even though they do not become leviable under the "Levy Acts" for another 13 days (i.e. the next count day) Remember

the two acts are completely separate, one being Commonwealth Legislation and the other State.

CALCULATION OF AGE

The correct method of calculating the date on which pullets become part of the hen flock, is to return to the date of hatch, then forward six calendar months. Simply adding eighth weeks to an 18 week old date may not always give the correct result, depending on which months are involved.

QUOTA RESTORATION

continued from page 1 If this request is agreed to, producers will receive a 10% quota increase on 2nd February 1983.