

STRATHFIELDSAYE. #771

9th July, 1982.

Mr. C. L. Jefferson,
Secretary,
The Victorian Egg Marketing Board,
P.O. Box 141,
NOBLE PARK. 3174

Dear Mr. Jefferson,

At our recent Conference I was instructed to write to you on the following matters:-

- (1) Our Association is not happy with the present print out of egg consignments to the grading floors, and we request that an improved method be devised showing clearly all charges relevant at dozen rate, so that producers can fully understand their return. As the Board takes almost 1/3 of the value of each consignment back in charges, we feel that this is little to ask.
- (2) Re the 19% quota cut in August, we suggest that this is too hard for producers to manage such a large reduction of quota at one time, It would be more satisfactory to have 2 or possibly 3 cuts during the 6 month period not commencing before August. Producers will be able to step down their numbers gradually and you will find that this will eliminate over quota birds which would result from one large cut.
- (3) This Association requests that for the good of the industry as a whole that there be more stringent control of quality on farm packed eggs; i.e. weight, yolk colour, shell quality and internal quality, with particular attention of farm to distributor channels, because so often Board eggs are knocked, when they may be farm packed eggs being sold at that outlet and not those graded by the Board.
- (4) We believe that the 4 week "Use By" date stamp is too long in summer months, we recommend that 3 weeks would be more suitable. At a time when the housewife demands a top product, we must maintain a high standard of quality of our eggs and in this day and age if we can't grade, distribute and sell our eggs in 3 weeks our quality must surely suffer.

(5) Another issue that was discussed at the conference was the Gippsland trial of the premium price for brown eggs, we would like to know who gets the premium price ~~and~~ suggest that ~~it~~ because of implications and complications that this plan should be discontinued. We suspect poor candling and the fact that a possible 4 extra grades of eggs competing on the market would help no-one.

(6) We request that in future all correspondence concerning this Association for all deputations and meetings, be sent to the Secretary, and that minutes of these meetings be taken and distributed to those concerned.

(7) And finally on behalf of this Association I would like to request a deputation with all members of the Board at a date convenient to you as soon as possible.

Hoping to receive a reply regarding these above matters in the near future,

Yours sincerely,

K. Fitzgibbon.
SECRETARY.