

## Congratulations!

### University of Guelph honours Egg Farmers of Canada CEO

Tim Lambert received the 2018 alumnus of honour award from the University of Guelph. Lambert - CEO of the Egg Farmers of Canada - is a Guelph graduate and long-time leader, advocate and change-agent in Canadian agriculture. He has driven tremendous growth for Canadian egg farmers and was the leading force in establishing the International Egg Foundation.

[Full Article](#)

### Poultry Science Association 2018 award winners

Three Canadian researchers were honoured at the 2018 annual meeting of the Poultry Science Association. Peter Hunton - a UK scientist who spent most of his career in Canada - was awarded the American Poultry Society Historical Award. University of Alberta researcher Martin Zuidhof received the Novus International Inc. Teaching Award, and University of Saskatchewan's Karen Schwean-Lardner was awarded the Early Achievement Award for Research.

[Full Article](#)

## Making News

### Saskatchewan opens Centre of Excellence for livestock and forage

The University of Saskatchewan recently opened a unique research and teaching facility that focuses on cow-calf production, intensive livestock production, as well as forage, pasture and grazing management. The Livestock and Forage Centre of Excellence is located near Caveat, Saskatchewan.

[Full Article](#)

### New funding for ovo-sexing technology

US-based Foundation for Food and



## Research and Innovation Driving Livestock Sector Success

### Research Snapshots

#### Feed: Shifting crop production indoors as a greener option

A new German study has estimated, for the first time, the economic and environmental potential of feeding microbial protein to pigs, cattle and chickens on a global scale. The study found that replacing 2% of animal feed with protein-rich microbes, generated in industrial facilities, could decrease agriculture's greenhouse gas emissions, global cropland needs and nitrogen losses by more than 5%.

[Full Article](#)

#### Alternative protein: Scientists work to build a better burger

The US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has taken the first step toward rules for growing meat in labs, not farms. In July 2018, the FDA convened a first public hearing to discuss federal regulation of food grown from cells. There are two groups of scientists exploring ways to change how meat is made - growing just the edible parts of the animal or stimulating meat with plant-based materials only.

[Full Article](#)

#### Alternative protein: Insects aren't catching on

A Dutch sociologist explores why insects haven't become a popular new food, citing that people's willingness to try new flavours and ingredients is about more than just making the food available. Taste, flavour and appearance play a significant role in acceptance of new foods.

[Full Article](#)

#### Poultry: Vaccines can help reduce antimicrobial use

Using vaccines to control certain viral diseases on

Agriculture Research has announced up to \$6 million in funding to develop technologies that can accurately and quickly determine the sex of layer chick eggs before they hatch. Ovo-sexing would eliminate unnecessary and costly incubation of male chicks that impacts animal welfare, food waste, farm profitability and energy consumption.

[Full Article](#)

## LRIC Update

Any questions can be directed to [info@livestockresearch.ca](mailto:info@livestockresearch.ca)

## Coming events

**Nov 21, 2018:** PIC Eastern Regional Poultry Conference, St Isidore, ON,

[Details Here](#)

**Nov 27, 2018:** Big Bug Day, Stratford, ON,

[Details Here](#)

**Nov 27, 2018:** Healthy Calf Conference, Stratford, ON,

[Details Here](#)

**Nov 29, 2018:** Healthy Calf Conference, Maxville, ON,

[Details Here](#)

**Dec 4, 2018:** Group sow housing and management seminar, Stratford, ON,

[Details Here](#)

**Dec 5, 2018:** Poultry Industry Council Producer Updates, Belleville, ON,

[Details Here](#)

**Dec 12, 2018:** Poultry Industry Council Producer Updates, Brodhagen, ON,

[Details Here](#)

**Jan 8 - 10, 2019:** Banff Pork Seminar, Banff, AB,

[Details Here](#)

**Feb 6, 2019:** Poultry Industry Council Producer Updates, Jordan, ON,

[Details Here](#)

**Feb 12 - 14, 2019:** International Production and Processing Expo, Atlanta, GA,

[Details Here](#)

**Feb 19 - 22, 2019:** 17th International Exhibition of Equipment & Technologies for Livestock Farming, Dairy and Meat Production, Moscow, Russia,

[Details Here](#)

poultry farms can reduce the need for on-farm use of antimicrobials. A number of immunosuppressive diseases and viral infections can leave birds more susceptible to secondary bacterial infections, and the proper diagnosis and use of vaccines can reduce the frequency and quantity of antimicrobials needed in poultry production.

[Full Article](#)

## Poultry: New on-board sensors improve transportation

Transport Genie is an innovative new sensor that helps livestock transport managers and drivers make better decisions about environmental conditions in trailers. Poultry transport is a potential risk for animal welfare, and good monitoring of truck conditions can prevent harm to the birds and the sector's image. The new real-time feedback system, developed in Canada, maintains animal welfare during transport by monitoring humidity and temperature, and will help producers determine if chickens should be transported.

[Full Article](#)

## Swine: Gene-edited pigs able to resist PRRS virus

Scottish researchers have produced pigs that can resist Porcine Reproductive and Respiratory Syndrome (PRRS) by changing the animal's genetic code. PRRS is one of the world's most costly diseases, and researchers used gene editing to remove a small section of a gene that enables the PRRS virus to infect pigs. Genetically modified animals are banned from the food chain in Europe, and it is unclear what regulations would apply to gene-edited animals.

[Full Article](#)

## Swine: Pigs bred with genetic resistance to TGEV

A team of US researchers have successfully bred pigs that are resistant to Transmissible Gastroenteritis Virus (TGEV). They used gene editing to produce pigs that are genetically resistant to this virus that commonly infects the intestine of pigs and causes nearly 100% mortality in young pigs. TGEV is a coronavirus - viruses known for being highly contagious, widespread and responsible for a variety of deadly intestinal diseases in livestock.

[Full Article](#)

## Swine: Carcasses provide animal welfare insights

**Feb 20, 2019:** Poultry Industry Council Producer Updates, Mount Brydges, ON,  
[Details Here](#)

**Feb 20 - 21, 2019:** Beef Farmers of Ontario annual general meeting, Toronto, ON,  
[Details Here](#)

**Feb 20 - 22, 2019:** Alberta Beef Industry Conference, Red Deer, AB,  
[Details Here](#)

**Feb 26, 2019:** Poultry Industry Council Producer Updates, Mount Forest, ON,  
[Details Here](#)

**Apr 3 - 4, 2019:** Canadian Dairy XPO, Stratford, ON,  
[Details Here](#)

**Apr 4 - 5, 2019:** National Poultry Show, London, ON,  
[Details Here](#)

**Jun 19 - 20, 2019:** Ontario Pork Congress, Stratford, ON,  
[Details Here](#)

**Oct 5 - 9, 2019:** Anuga, Cologne, Germany,  
[Details Here](#)

**Oct 8 -11, 2019:** Process Expo, Chicago, IL,  
[Details Here](#)

## Quick Links to Our Partners, Friends & Members

[Beef Farmers of Ontario](#)

[Ontario Pork](#)

[Poultry Industry Council](#)

[Agricultural Adaptation Council](#)

[Agricultural Research Institute of Ontario](#)

[Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada](#)

[OMAFRA](#)

[University of Guelph](#)

A new research study indicates that assessing carcasses - including carcass lesions and weight - provides useful information about an animal's lifetime welfare status. Carcass weight can be negatively associated with persistent tail injuries that may be acquired early in the pig's life but are not necessarily visible on the live animal later.

[Full Article](#)

### **Beef: Australia building solar-powered abattoir**

Australia is set to break ground on its first solar-powered abattoir - a facility with 95 hectares of solar panels that will supply the country's growing demand for beef. Built by Asia Pacific Agri-Corp, the processing, packing and export facility is expected to be operational by 2021 and will include the latest technology for meat processing including robotics.

[Full Article](#)

### **Beef: Carcass defeats costing Canadian beef industry**

The National Beef Quality Audit has released a new video on the cost of carcass defects to the Canadian beef industry. Carcass defects amount to an estimated \$85/head on fed cattle - a 15% increase over previous estimations, and \$47/head on non-fed cattle - a 5% increase. Defects that include bruising and lesions add up to nearly \$110 million/year in losses from less usable meat and more labour required to remove defects from carcasses.

[Full Article](#)

### **Beef: Sustainable ranching also good for wildlife habitat**

New research in the US reveals a clear link between the economic wellbeing of western ranches and the ability to maintain habitat for the greater sage grouse. The new study found that policies restricting grazing on public lands may have unintentionally contributed to sage grouse habitat loss. The researchers stress that ranchers must practice sustainable grazing to support habitat for grouse and maintain forage availability for their cattle.

[Full Article](#)

### **Dairy: NZ technology tracks processing plant losses**

A new device to reduce processing losses could save millions of dollars for New Zealand dairy plants and prevent pollutants from entering waterways. The automated biosensor known as Milk-Guard uses a lactose-specific enzyme to measure the percentage of dairy products in waste streams and processing

[Turkey Farmers of Ontario](#)

[Ontario Sheep Farmers](#)

[OBHECC](#)

[Chicken Farmers of Ontario](#)

[Egg Farmers of Ontario](#)

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lines, automatically providing information for managers to adjust production processes as needed.

[\*\*\*Full Article\*\*\*](#)

### **Dairy: Evaluating alternative forage sources**

Four alternative forages were evaluated by researchers around the world for suitability to dairy cow diets. An Ohio State University study added corn stover and wheat straw to mid-lactating dairy cow diets as a source of fibre. Chinese researchers evaluated the optimal combination of ensiling sorghum and alfalfa. Minnesota researchers used five sprouted grains (barley, oats, wheat, rye and triticale) to produce fresh forage. And Danish researchers evaluated the effect of dairy cow performance when ensiled sugar beets partially replaced corn silage.

[\*\*\*Full Article\*\*\*](#)

### **Dairy: Danish farmers on top of biosecurity**

To gather firsthand insights about biosecurity on dairy farmers, Danish researchers interviewed 16 farmers to find out their perceptions and attitudes towards biosecurity. The study included conventional and organic farmers from across Denmark who may or may not be required to comply with specific biosecurity legislation. The study found that Danish dairy farmers are adopting biosecurity practices in their herds.

[\*\*\*Full Article\*\*\*](#)

### **Whatever next?!? A look at the weird and wacky**

#### **Gruesome flavour featured in free Finnish burger**

A Finnish restaurant recently served up free burgers in a public square. But these burgers came with a deadly twist - a distinct human flesh flavour. It was all part of a bizarre promo for the ninth-season premiere of The Walking Dead TV series.

[\*\*\*Full Article\*\*\*](#)

#### **Bach build bigger pigs**

A Brazilian researcher believes pigs grow better with Bach. When a group of young pigs was played Bach's cello suite No.1, they exhibited better behaviour and had higher feed conversion. The research suggests classical symphonies can contribute to animal welfare and improve zootechnical indexes.

[\*\*\*Full Article\*\*\*](#)

