Eggfinder EU/UK Version Addendum

The Eggfinder system is now available in the 869 MHz frequency range to be compliant with EU/UK regulations as specified in ETSI Class 1i. Specifically, the frequencies for the EU/UK version are 869.425, 869.525, and 869.625 MHz with a bandwidth of 25 KHz.

The Hope RF HM-TRP module in the Eggfinder TX transmitter is pre-programmed when shipped to one of these frequencies. If you purchase the Eggfinder RX "dongle" receiver, it is also pre-programmed to the same frequency. If you purchase the Eggfinder LCD receiver, it is programmed with an EU/UK version of the firmware and you can select any of the three 869 MHz frequencies; you do not need to purchase a separate Eggfinder LCD receiver if you are using more than one frequency in your rockets. The default frequency will be 869.525 MHz. Eggfinder LCD version 1.06 or above is required for EU band support.

Modifications to the Eggfinder Instructions for the EU/UK Version

Because the frequency is slightly lower than the standard 915 MHz version, the antenna must be a little bit longer. Therefore,

CUT THE WIRE ANTENNA TO 84mm FROM THE BOARD EDGE,
INSTEAD OF THE 80mm AS SPECIFIED IN THE ASSEMBLY GUIDES.

The wire as shipped is plenty long enough, so you shouldn't have any problems with it.

If you are using an external antenna with a board-edge RP-SMA connector, make sure that you get an antenna that is designed for the 868 MHz band, with 50 ohm impedence. Wide-band antennas (860-960 MHz, typically) are not the best fit for this application, get one that is specific to the 868 MHz band and has its lowest SWR within +/- 5 MHz of 869 MHz. Highly recommended is Linx Technologies p/n ANT-868-CW-HWR-RPS, it runs $10-$12 from suppliers like Mouser or DigiKey. Beware of the cheap antennas that you see on eBay, most of them are wide-band antennas designed for dual-band celluar use and won't work any better than the wire antenna, maybe worse. We recommend that you do not buy an antenna unless you can see the SWR and beamwidth pattern documentation for it; if they don't have it, then look elsewhere.