



June 02, 2014

Livestock, Poultry and Seed Program

TO: Shell Egg Graders

FROM: Roger L. Glasshoff
National Supervisor, Shell Egg Staff 

SUBJECT: Export Requirements for Shell Eggs Destined for Mexico (Table Eggs)

This instruction outlines specific animal health testing, certification, labeling, and shipping requirements prescribed for shell eggs to be exported to Mexico as table eggs.

I. Product Requirements

All shell eggs must originate from the United States and from flocks that were tested for Avian Influenza (AI) with negative results.

Testing Requirements:

- Hatching Eggs, Chicks, and Poultts must originate from flocks participating in the National Poultry Improvement Plan (NPIP) administered by the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).
- Flocks must be under a continuous AI testing program monitored by APHIS, USDA with negative results.
- Product must be processed and packed under USDA supervision in shell egg facilities utilizing either USDA's continuous voluntary resident or temporary grading service.

II. Grade Requirements

Eggs must be graded and certified as U.S. Grade A or AA as outlined in the United States Standards, Grades, and Weight Classes for Shell Eggs. Grade certification may be determined by online or stationary lot grading procedures.

III. Flock Testing Procedures

To be eligible for export to Mexico, shell eggs must originate from a flock(s) that has been tested utilizing one of the following methods:

Option I. A flock(s) must be under a continuous AI testing program whereby a minimum of 59 random samples are taken (test results valid for a 3-month period) from the flock(s) and tested utilizing the ELISA test according to the guidelines established by World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) or the agar gel immunodiffusion test (AGID) with negative results for avian influenza.

Option II. A flock(s) is participating in the National Poultry Improvement Plan (NPIP), under continuous avian influenza virus testing (highly pathogenic AI) for egg laying flocks.

Questions pertaining to the AI testing protocol are to be directed to the APHIS, Area Veterinarian in Charge (AVIC), for the State(s) in which the flock(s) is located. Producers participating in the NPIP, Avian Influenza Testing Program that are not on the list of production sites maintained by the NPIP must request their respective company veterinarian with oversight of the testing program to contact:

USDA, APHIS, National Poultry Improvement Plan
1498 Klondike Road
Conyers, GA 30094
Telephone: (770) 922-3496

IV. Verification of Flock Testing Procedures

Option I. Producers who elect to utilize Option I (see item III. Flock Testing Procedures, Option I, listed above) must provide AI test results and the completed "Certification of Avian Influenza Testing: Checklist" (See Exhibit I) to the AVIC. Additionally, a copy of Form, VS 9-3, Report of Sales of Hatching Eggs, Chicks and Poult (Exhibit II) must be submitted to the AVIC for each flock, and include the flock identification information, the name and address of the shell egg facility, and where the eggs will be processed. For intrastate movement, where the Form, VS 9-3 would not be issued, producers must provide the AVIC an invoice listing their NPIP approval number for each flock.

After review of the documentation and confirmation of negative AI test results of a flock, the AVIC will facsimile a copy of the completed "Certificate of Avian Influenza Testing Checklist" to the applicable Regional Director. The Regional Director is to forward a copy of this information to the National Office, Shell Egg Section and the applicable Federal-State Supervisor who will provide it to the grader.

Option II. Producers who elect to utilize Option II (see item III. Flock Testing Procedures, Option II, listed above) the number of samples and frequency for testing a flock(s) at a production site will be prescribed by the APHIS, AVIC. Producers must provide AI test results to the AVIC. Plant management is responsible for maintaining records of the flock(s) tested, the number of sample tests per flock, the frequency of testing, and the results. These records are subject to review upon request by a USDA representative. APHIS will post an updated list of approved production facilities at the following hyperlink:

www.poultryimprovement.org

- Select "H5/H7 Avian Influenza Monitored Program" drop down.
- Click on "Shell Egg Layer Flocks/Plants Approved for Export."

USDA graders at facilities that do not have internet connections may call, at the plant's expense, their supervisor for confirmation that the facility has been approved. Producers using Option II that do not appear on the APHIS website at the time of packing product are ineligible for exporting shell eggs to Mexico.

Plant management must establish a flock identification system and, when applicable, a detailed procedure to assure segregation of eggs during storage for the grader to use when verifying eligibility of shell eggs from approved flocks.

Graders are required to document each approved flock on the Log of Approved Flocks Tested for Avian Influenza (Exhibit III). If a previously approved layer flock is removed from the NPIP List of Commercial Layer Flocks, the grader will remove the applicable flock information from the log. The reference log is to be kept in "file folder 2" of the graders' official files. Graders are to contact their supervisor for questions concerning the eligibility of a flock. During routine plant visits, Federal-State Supervisors are to review the referenced log and company records to assure compliance with these guidelines.

V. Packing, Packaging, and Stamping

All corrugated fiber and pulp filler flats used for packing and packaging material must be new, showing no evidence of previous use. Any non-manufactured wood material used to stabilize the eggs on pallets must be new or certified by an independent party as complying with the International Phytosanitary Standard (ISPM-15).

Wooden pallets, constructed with non-manufactured wood material, certified as treated in accordance with the ISPM-15, Phytosanitary Standard as a measure to reduce the risk of introduction or spread of insect larvae or pests will be branded with the letters IPPC (Exhibit VII).

Please Note: Manufactured wooden material, such as compressed particle board, plywood, and corrugated fiberboard are exempt from this standard.

When IPPC certified pallets show evidence of repair(s), for example, new wood cross members, the pallet or treated wood must be re-certified and branded (IPPC). The original "IPPC" brand may be obliterated and a new brand applied to the pallet. However, for verification purposes, plant management is responsible for maintaining certification documents for all non-manufactured wood material.

Upon arrival at the processing facility, plant management is responsible for identifying and segregating the new materials, certified non-manufactured wood materials and/or pallets, and advising the USDA grader of the location of the certified materials to be used for export of table eggs to Mexico. The USDA grader will verify that the pallets are certified (IPPC brand) prior to production of a shipment of eggs to be certified for export to Mexico.

Each shipping case must be identified with the USDA Graded for Export Stamp with the applicable certificate number (Exhibit IV).

VI. Shipping Case Label

Please refer to Exhibits VIII and IX, which illustrates the bilingual labeling requirements. The applicant is responsible for providing the appropriate language listed on the shipping case label. Any additional information placed on the shipping case label shall not intervene with the required labeling statements listed in the exhibits.

VII. Transport Containers

Transport containers used to export table eggs to Mexico must be clean and disinfected prior to loading. Plant management may elect to clean and disinfect the transport container(s) or provide a CoC from an independent party stating that the transport container(s) has been cleaned and disinfected.

Graders are to confirm the cleanliness and disinfection of the transport container(s) and document the information on Form, PY-75 or 211, as applicable.

Plant management will maintain the certificate of conformance (CoC) document or company disinfection procedures for the transport container with the processing facility's production records relative to the export shipment(s). These records shall be retained by plant management for a period of two years and are subject to review during an official foreign government audit.

When unsanitary condition(s) are observed in transport container, the grader will notify a responsible plant official of the condition(s). Product is not to be loaded onto the container until the unsanitary condition(s) has been corrected. When this occurs, the grader will document the condition including the name of the processing facility official notified on the applicable worksheet.

Transport containers must be sealed (company seal) prior to departure from the processing facility. The seal number(s) must appear on the Form, PY-210S.

VIII. Certification

Upon confirmation of compliance with the AI monitoring program, eligible shell eggs shall be certified on Form, PY-210S, for export to Mexico.

All certificates (Form, PY-210S) and Disease Free Statements must be typed and signed in blue ink.

Plant management must notify the USDA grader of pending export orders, each certification request, and provide the grader the following information:

- Name of Producer
- Size of lot to be certified
- Flock identification and location information
- If applicable, date product will arrive for processing
- When product is to be graded and shipped

The disease free information must be presented with the Form, PY-210S at the border entry point. The current Disease Free Statements for Mexico (Table Eggs) can be found in E-03e, Exports, in the Supervisors/Resident Graders Shell Egg Index.

- **THE FORM, PY-210S (SEA format) MUST BE USED FOR EXPORT SHIPMENTS.**
- **THE EXPORT DOCUMENTS COVERING EACH SHIPMENT (Form PY-210S, any amendment issued, and the Disease Free Statements) MUST BE STAMPED (USDA Graded for Export) USING BLUE INK.**
- **THE LOT NUMBER WILL REMAIN THE CONSECUTIVE DAY OF THE YEAR BUT MUST NOT BE REFERENCED AS A JULIAN DATE.**

- **ALL DATES RECORDED ON THE EXPORT DOCUMENTS COVERING SHELL EGGS DESTINED FOR MEXICO MUST BE TYPED IN THE GREGORIAN FORMAT (day/month/year – DD/MM/YYYY).**
- **THE NET WEIGHT OF THE SHIPPING CASE WILL BE QUALIFIED WITH THE NUMBER OF INDIVIDUAL EGGS PER CASE (for example, 30-dozen case=360 eggs per case or 15-dozen case=180 eggs per case).**
- **ONLY AMEMDMENTS MAY BE ISSUED FOR CORRECTION OF ITEMS ON ORIGINAL CERTIFICATES PREVIOUSLY ISSUED. A CERTIFICATE SUPERSEDING THE ORIGINAL CERTIFICATE IS NOT ACCEPTABLE. REFER TO EXHIBIT X, FOR AN EXAMPLE OF AN AMEMDMENT TO THE FORM PY-210S ISSUED ON USDA LETTERHEAD STATIONERY.**
- **THE FORMAT OF THE EXPORT CERTIFICATES (FORM PY-210S, Disease Free Statements, and any amendment) CANNOT BE CHANGED. APPLICANTS AND BROKERS CANNOT REQUEST ADDITIONAL INFORMATION TO BE INCLUDED ON THE CERTIFICATE.**
- **MINIMUM LABELING REQUIREMENTS HAVE BEEN DESCRIBED ABOVE AND ARE ILLUSTRATED IN EXHIBITS VIII AND IX. THE LABEL IS BILINGUAL AND THE APPLICANT IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE APPROPRIATE LANGUAGE.**
- **REFERENCING A JULIAN DATE(S) IS NOT ACCEPTABLE. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION MAY BE INCLUDED ON THE LABEL, HOWEVER, SUCH INFORMATION SHOULD BE PLACED BELOW THE REQUIRED INFORMATION ILLUSTRATED IN THE EXHIBITS.**

THIS SPECIFICATION IS EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 23, 2013, FOR ALL SHIPMENTS OF SHELL EGGS PRESENTED AT THE BORDER ENTRY POINTS TO MEXICO.

File these instructions as E-03, EXPORTS, in the Supervisors/Resident Graders Shell Egg Index.



Certification of Avian Influenza Testing: Checklist
(For eligibility to export eggs to Mexico)

1. Name and address of flock:

2. Destination(s) of eggs from flock (Processing facility name and address):

(Reference attached list is necessary: _____.)

3. Date last results collected (59 tests per flock):

4. Do all layers in the flock originate from NPIP flocks? Yes No
(Please circle)

(Signature of Accredited Veterinarian)

(Date)

Expiration date of results _____
(3 months after the date of sample collection on the attached laboratory reports)

(Signature of Veterinarian in Charge)

(Date)

Forward Copies to:

- 1. AMS Regional Office
- 2. VS Regional Director



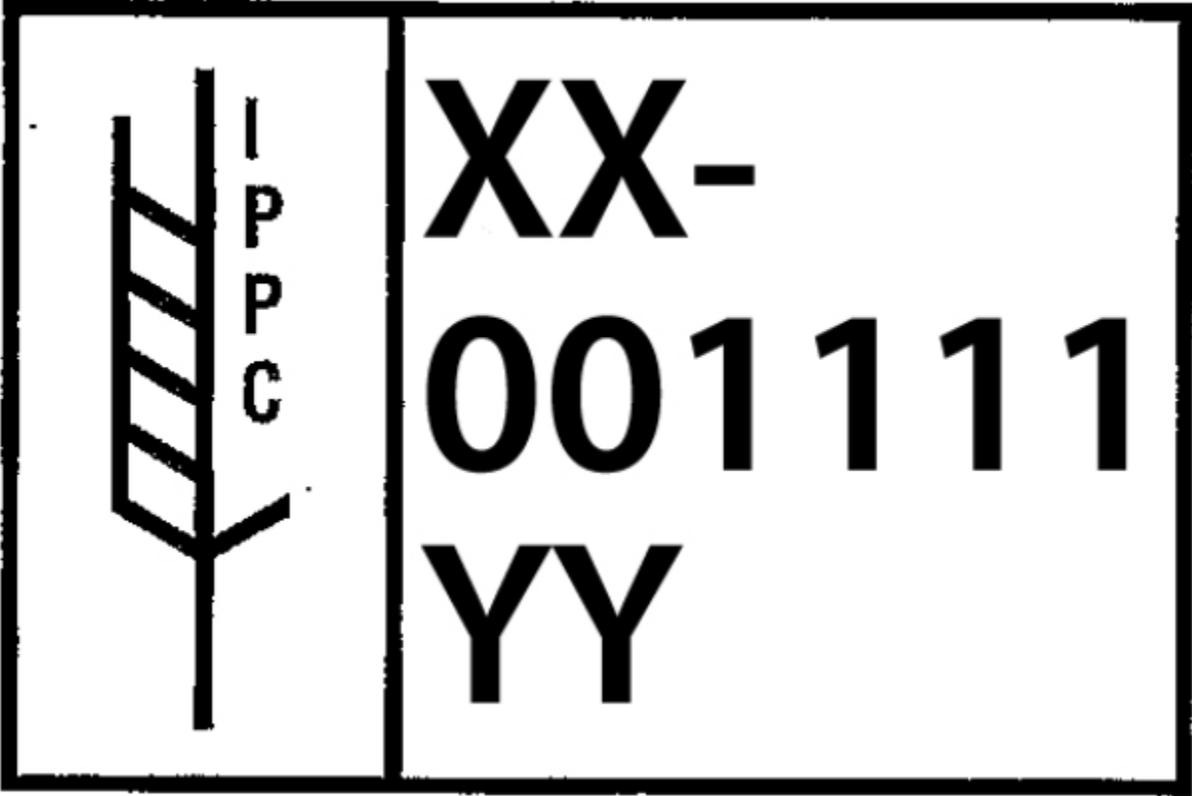
Safeguarding American Agriculture

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Federal Relay Service
(Voice/TTY/ASCII/Spanish)
1-800-877-8339



Example of the IPPC Brand



Example of 30-Dozen Case End Label

Importer Name:
Nombre del Importador:
Importer Address:
Direccion del Importador:
Importer City, State, Zip Code:
Ciudad, Estado y Codigo Postal:

Exporter Name:
(Bilingual Exporter Name:)
Exporter Address:
(Bilingual Exporter Address:)
Exporter City, State, Zip Code:
(Bilingual Exporter City, State, Zip Code:)

Lot Number: 213
Lote Numero: 213
Production Date: 01/08/2013
Fecha de Produccion: 01/08/2013
Expiration Date: Lot 213 = 30/08/2013
Fecha de Caducidad: Lote 213 = 30/08/2013
Official Plant Number: P-1234
Numero del Establecimiento Oficial: P-1234

Size: Extra Large, Large, Medium, or Small
(Bilingual Size:)
Grade: AA or A
(Bilingual Grade:)
Quantity: Total number of eggs per case. (i.e. 360)
(Bilingual Quantity:)
Product of USA
(Bilingual Product of USA)
Keep Refrigerated
(Bilingual Keep Refrigerated)
Eggs for Human Consumption
(Bilingual Eggs for Human Consumption)



Example of 15-Dozen Case End Label

Importer Name:
Nombre del Importador:
Importer Address:
Direccion del Importador:
Importer City, State, Zip Code:
Ciudad, Estado y Codigo Postal:

Exporter Name:
(Bilingual Exporter Name:)
Exporter Address:
(Bilingual Exporter Address:)
Exporter City, State, Zip Code:
(Bilingual Exporter City, State, Zip Code:)

Lot Number: 213
Lote Numero: 213
Production Date: 01/08/2013
Fecha de Produccion: 01/08/2013
Expiration Date: Lot 213 = 30/08/2013
Fecha de Caducidad: Lote 213 = 30/08/2013
Official Plant Number: P-1234
Numero del Establecimiento Oficial: P-1234

Size: Extra Large, Large, Medium, or Small
(Bilingual Size:)
Grade: AA or A
(Bilingual Grade:)
Quantity: Total number of eggs per case. (i.e. 180)
(Bilingual Quantity:)
Product of USA
(Bilingual Product of USA)
Keep Refrigerated
(Bilingual Keep Refrigerated)
Eggs for Human Consumption
(Bilingual Eggs for Human Consumption)





United States
Department of
Agriculture

Livestock, Poultry and Seed Program
Agricultural Marketing Service

1400 Independence Ave. SW
Washington, DC 20250-0258

29 June 2014

United States Department of Agriculture
Agricultural Marketing Service
Livestock, Poultry and Seed Program
Quality Assessment Division
1400 Independence Avenue SW
Washington D.C. 20250-0258

This amendment is to be attached to Shell Egg Grading Certificate Number, SEA-1136265, dated 28 June 2014.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Shell Egg Grading Certificate Number, SEA-1136265, dated 28 June 2014, applicant, John Doe and Company, Newton, Iowa, covering shell eggs graded at John Doe and Company, Newton, Iowa, is amended as follows:

Original Certificate:

Official grade and size U.S. Grade A, Large

Amended to:

Official grade and size U.S. Grade AA, Large

Jennifer Grader

Jennifer Grader (Printed Name)

