



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Agricultural
Marketing
Service

1400 Independence Ave. SW
Washington, DC
20250-0258

November 30, 2010

TO: Shell Egg Graders

FROM: Roger L. Glasshoff
National Supervisor, Shell Eggs

SUBJECT: Export Requirements for Shell Eggs Destined For Singapore

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

I. Export Eligibility Requirements

The requirements established by the Singapore Agri-Food and Veterinary Authority are extensive and include prior approval for registration by Singapore of each production site. The registration certificate for each production site will be provided to Poultry Programs by Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) and listed, by company, in Exhibit I.

All shell eggs must be non-fertile (verified by AMS) and originate from the United States and from flocks that were determined by APHIS, USDA, as free of the presence of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI). The layers must originate from breeder flocks tested in accordance with the National Poultry Improvement Plan (NPIP) administered by APHIS certifying the layers as free of *Salmonella pullorum*, *Salmonella gallinarum*, *Mycoplasma synoviae*, and *Mycoplasma gallisepticum*. The farm from which the eggs originate must also participate in a State Egg Quality Assurance Program accredited by the Singapore Agri-Food and Veterinary Authority and monitored by U.S. government authorities (currently New York and Pennsylvania are accredited).

Company management is responsible for providing a notarized affidavit (on company letterhead) to the National Office certifying that the layers originated from NPIP-certified breeder flocks, the production site(s) participates in a State Quality Assurance Program for Egg Laying Flocks, and that the flock(s) are not vaccinated for *Salmonella enteritidis* (Exhibit II). Product must be processed and packed under USDA supervision in shell egg facilities utilizing either USDA's continuous voluntary resident or temporary grading service.

Companies interested in becoming eligible to export to Singapore should contact the National Center for Import and Export, APHIS (telephone 301-734-3277).

II. Grade Requirements

The shell eggs must be graded and certified as U.S. Grade B or better as outlined in the United States Standards, Grades, and Weight Classes for Shell Eggs.

III. Flock Testing Procedures

To be eligible for export, the State Egg Quality Assurance Program must be submitted to Singapore authorities for review and include monitoring of a layer flock(s) for the following avian diseases:

Salmonella enteritidis (SE)
Infectious bronchitis
Infectious laryngotracheitis
Avian encephalomyelitis
Infectious bursal disease
Egg Drop Syndrome (EDS'76)
Mycoplasma gallisepticum
Mycoplasma synoviae
Salmonella other than SE (including S. Pullorum)

Results of any diagnostic tests conducted under the quality assurance program (Exhibit VI) and certification will be provided by State authorities (Exhibit VII) to the National Office and distributed to the appropriate Regional Director.

IV. Verification

Management at the packing facility is responsible for providing to the USDA grader a copy of the registration letter for the production facility(s) issued by Singapore. The USDA grader will verify that the eligible production site(s) in the registration letter appear in Exhibit I attached to this instruction. The notarized affidavit referenced in Item I (provided on an annual basis) must be signed by the registered farm owner/company manager and the company veterinarian and will be distributed to the USDA grader through the appropriate Regional Director. The affidavit must certify that the farm participates in the NPIP program for certified breeder flocks, does not vaccinate for SE, the flock(s) is determined clean from SE under the State Quality Assurance Program, and records supporting the statement are maintained.

Upon receipt of registration for a production site(s), an AMS Poultry Programs representative will verify, on a fee basis prior to certification, that the layers are caged or that confined barn flocks are free of cockerels for the production of non-fertile eggs. For caged layers, a total of 36 random cages will be observed as identified (random number generated using a programmable hand held calculator). Identification of cockerels is associated with larger combs and/or larger physical characteristics than that of pullets/hens.

For confined barn flocks, the entire flock will be examined while walking through the layer house. Biosecurity measures as prescribed by company management must be followed. A record of the examination of a registered farm(s) and the production capacity (30 dozen cases of eggs) will be provided to the USDA grader. This onsite verification will be conducted on an annual basis while a farm remains eligible for export to Singapore.

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

All information and documents relative to the eligibility of a farm shall be kept in folder "2" of the graders official files. The grader will contact their supervisor with any questions concerning the eligibility of a farm. During routine plant visits, Federal-State supervisors must review the file and certification procedures to assure compliance with these guidelines.

V. Labeling Requirements

The Agri-Food and Veterinary Authority (AVA) Singapore has informed USDA that the pre-registration process for each egg producer/packer proposing to export table eggs packaged for retail sale (direct to the consumer) must meet established prepackaged food labeling regulations. To assure that retail packaged eggs destined for Singapore comply, plant management at the egg packing facility is responsible for submitting the proposed label (printers proof) to the National Supervisor, Shell Eggs **regardless if the label contains the USDA grade shield or not**. Plant management is responsible for declaring the country of origin on the printers proof as well. Additionally, plant management at the egg packaging facility is responsible for submission of supporting documentation for any marketing and nutrient content claims or logo(s) declared on the label. The label and any supporting information will be forwarded to the AVA in Singapore for comment. The following are examples (not all inclusive) of labeling and marketing claims which require supporting documentation:

- Animal Welfare Logo (Website to access animal husbandry guidelines)
- Nutrient Content Claims (High in Omega-3, 25% more Vitamin D)
- Organic (Explanation of program)
- Production Practices (Cage Free, All Vegetarian Diet, No Antibiotics, etc.)

Plant management must recognize that the label review process with AVA officials may encompass an extended period of time and should plan accordingly.

VI. Packing, Packaging, and Stamping

All packing and packaging material must be new, with no evidence of damage. The USDA Graded for Export Stamp with the applicable certificate number must be stamped on each case (Exhibit III). Each egg must have the applicable farm code number assigned by Singapore authorities printed on the shell surface or the eggs may be packed in a tamper-resistant primary container with the farm code printed on the carton seal.

A shipment may consist of eggs originating from more than one registered farm (more than a single code).

VII. Transport Containers

Transport containers used to export eggs to Singapore must be clean. Graders are to document the cleanliness of the transport vehicles on the PY Form 75 or 211, as applicable. When unsanitary condition(s) are observed in transport vehicles, the grader will notify a responsible plant official of the condition(s). Product is not to be loaded onto the vehicle until the unsanitary condition(s) have been corrected. When this occurs, the grader will document the condition including the name of the plant official notified on the applicable worksheet.

Transport vehicles must be sealed (USDA or plant seal) prior to departure from the processing facility. The seal number(s) must appear on the PY Form 210S and the Disease Free Statement.

VIII. Certification

Upon verification of compliance for a production/processing facility with these requirements, eligible shell eggs may be certified for export to Singapore. Plant management must notify the USDA grader of pending export orders, each certification request, and provide the grader with the following information:

- Name of producer(s)
- 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 statement (Exhibit V) must be attached to the PY Form 210S, Shell Egg Grading Certificate. The current disease free statement for Singapore can be found in E-04 Exports, Supervisors/Resident Graders Shell Egg Index.

The transport container seal number(s) must be recorded in the remarks section of the certificate as well as on the Disease Free Statement.

See Exhibit IV for an example of a completed grading certificate. Note, the PY-Form 210S (SEA format) must be used for export shipments.

File these instructions and exhibits as E-04, EXPORTS in the Supervisors/Resident Graders Shell Egg Index.

Enclosures
(Exhibits I-VII)

Facility Registration

Export of Shell Eggs to Singapore

Company Name	Accredited State Egg Quality Program	Production Site (name and address)	Farm Code	Date Registered
RW Sauder Lititz, PA	PA Egg Quality Assurance Program (PEQAP)	Robert Keller Farm 952 Temperance Hill Lititz, PA 17543	CEU001	May 2006
RW Sauder Lititz, PA	PA Egg Quality Assurance Program (PEQAP)	Maplehofe Dairy 224 Blackburn Road Quarryville, PA 17566	CEU002	May 2006
RW Sauder Lititz, PA	PA Egg Quality Assurance Program (PEQAP)	Jerome Rhoads 856 Kirkwood Pike Quarryville, PA 17566	CEU003	May 2006
Krieders Farms Mount Pleasant, PA	PA Egg Quality Assurance Program (PEQAP)	Kreiders Farms 1400 Mr. Pleasant Road Lebanon, PA 17402	CEU004	April 2007
RW Sauder Lititz, PA	PA Egg Quality Assurance Program (PEQAP)	Ben Beiler Farm 171 Newport Road Leola, PA 17540	CEU005	May 2009

Company Letterhead

To: USDA, AMS

Re: [Farm name]
[Farm approval code]
[Farm address]

The following statements apply to the above named farm:

1. Replacement chicks/poults are obtained from NPIP-certified breeder flocks which are Pullorum-Typhoid Clean, M. Synoviae-Clean, M. Gallisepticum-Clean, and either S. Enteritidis-Clean or S. Enteritidis-Monitored [include the appropriate one].
2. The farm is actively enrolled in the Pennsylvania State Salmonella enteritidis (SE) Control Program, and was determined to be SE-free under the requirements of the program.
3. The birds have not been vaccinated against SE, and the farm does not practice vaccination for SE.
4. Flock records documenting or supporting the above statements are maintained.

We certify that the statements listed above are true to the best of our knowledge and belief.

_____ [Signature of flock owner or company manager] Date: _____
[Printed Name and Title of Signatory]

_____ [Signature of company veterinarian] Date: _____
[Printed Name and Title of Signatory]

Notary Signature: _____

Stamp:

Exhibit III.



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE
POULTRY PROGRAMS
SHELL EGG
GRADING CERTIFICATE



This certificate is receivable in all courts of the United States as prima facie evidence of the truth of the statements therein contained. This certificate does not excuse failure to comply with any of the regulatory laws enforced by the United States Department of Agriculture.

CERTIFICATE NO
SEA- XXXXXXX
PLACE EXAMINED
Eggtown, PA
PLANT NUMBER
P-XXXX

TO: APPLICANT (Name and address, including ZIP)	NAME AND ADDRESS OF SHIPPER OR SELLER ^{1/}	NAME AND ADDRESS OF RECEIVER OR BUYER ^{1/}
Aero Egg Company 123 Main Street Eggtown, PA 23456	Same As Applicant	Inbound Eggs 1500 S. Port Highway Bedok, Singapore N34MJ67

LOT NO	NO. OF CONTAINERS PER LOT ^{2/}	NO. OF CONTAINERS EXAMINED	NET WT. ^{2/}	PERCENTAGES								U.S. OFFICIAL GRADE AND SIZE
				AA	A	B	B ^{3/}	Defects	Checks	Loss	Under Wt. ^{3/}	
154	850	21	45.60	91.05	1.52	2.30	-----	0.23	4.90	-----	1.52	US Grade A Large

LOT NO	DESCRIPTION								SAMPLES
	EGGS	TYPE OF PACKING	TYPE OF PACKAGING	CASE QUALITY RANGE	CHARACTER OF LOSS	WHERE HELD AND TEMPERATURE	CASES STAMPED WITH		
154	Fresh White	New 30 Dozen, Fiber Tops Taped	New Fiber Filler Flats	85-99	-----	Cooler at 45 Deg. F	USDA Graded For Export and Certificate No. XXXXXXX	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sample <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> All <input type="checkbox"/> Sample <input type="checkbox"/> All <input type="checkbox"/> Sample <input type="checkbox"/> All <input type="checkbox"/> Sample <input type="checkbox"/> All	

ADDITIONAL CERTIFICATION Product represented by this certificate meets specification requirements for: 	Check each applicable box: <input type="checkbox"/> Product represented on this certificate meets the requirements for the stated grade and size as determined by online sampling on _____ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Disease Free Certification Statements attached.
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REMARKS
 Product of USA
 Certified for Export- Singapore
 Shipping Container Sealed with Seal Number: X-XXXXXXXXX

CERTIFICATION STATEMENT

In compliance with the Regulations of the Secretary of Agriculture Governing the Grading of Shell Eggs issued pursuant to the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946, as amended, and any other Act of Congress conferring like authority, it is certified that the product(s) listed hereon were examined and that the class, quality, quantity, and/or condition of the product(s) at the time and on the date shown, were as stated above.

Signature in blue ink

 OFFICIAL GRADER (Signature)

November 30, 2010

 DATE

^{1/} As stated by applicant or contractor
^{2/} Weights based on 30-dozen equivalent.
^{3/} Eggs reported as undersized are also reported under other headings according to their quality.

PY-2105 (01-09) (Previous edition dated 12-03 may be used.)



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1400 Independence Avenue, SW
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Washington, DC 20250

Disease Free Statements for Shell Eggs Exported to Singapore

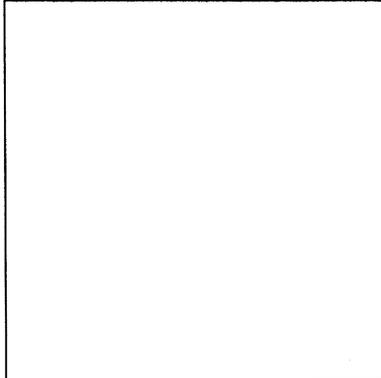
Shell Egg Grading Certificate No. SEA _____ Dated: _____

1. The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Veterinary Services (VS) certifies that:
 - a. The State of origin where the shell eggs originated has been free of highly pathogenic notifiable avian influenza (HPNAI) for at least six (6) months prior to export.
 - b. The farm(s) from which the eggs originate has been tested and found to be negative for *Salmonella enteritidis* and no case of velogenic Newcastle disease, infectious bronchitis, infectious laryngotracheitis, Avian encephalomyelitis, infectious bursal disease, EDS '76, or chronic respiratory disease due to *Mycoplasma gallisepticum* or *M. synoviae*, or Salmonellosis (including *S. pullorum*) has been diagnosed by laboratory confirmation on the farm(s) for the last three (3) months prior to export.
 - c. The hens from which the eggs are derived originated from breeder farms participating in the National Poultry Improvement Plan (NPIP) which are free of *Salmonella pullorum*, *Salmonella gallinarum*, *Mycoplasma synoviae*, and *Mycoplasma gallisepticum*.
2. The eggs originate from farms that are actively enrolled in a State-approved *Salmonella enteritidis* Control Program (Pennsylvania or New York) and do not practice vaccination against *Salmonella enteritidis*.
3. The eggs are unfertilized and originate from farms (caged-layer operations) accredited for the importation of eggs by AVA, Singapore. Name of farm(s) _____
4. The eggs were washed and sanitized and packed in new, clean containers.
5. The eggs are fit for human consumption.
6. Transport container seal number(s) _____

Printed Name

Official Signature

Title



USDA Stamp Impression

LABORATORY CONFIRMED DISEASES FROM APPROVED FARMS

The following disease(s) from the list on page one were laboratory confirmed during the past month. Information on the diagnosis is included below:

<u>Name of Farm</u>	<u>Disease Diagnosed</u>	<u>Date of Confirmation</u>
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**Farms with laboratory confirmation of a disease listed on page 1 are ineligible for export for 3 months after the last laboratory confirmed case.

Signature of Official Veterinarian

Date

Printed Name/Title of Official Veterinarian

