



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Agricultural
Marketing
Service

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Washington, DC
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Poultry Programs
June 4, 2009

To: Shell Egg Graders

From: Roger L. Glasshoff
National Supervisor, Shell Eggs

Subject: Export Requirements for Shell Eggs Destined for Barbados

This instruction outlines specific certification and shipping requirements prescribed by the Veterinary Service officials in the Barbados Ministry of Agriculture for the import of table eggs for human consumption.

I. Shell Eggs Eligible For Certification

The shell eggs must originate from a production flock(s) located in the United States. The flock(s) must be identified by the USDA as clean for the presence of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) and exotic Newcastle disease, as well as the state where the eggs are processed, for at least 6 months prior to shipment of a consignment. The layer flock(s) must be progeny of breeder flocks monitored under the National Poultry Improvement Plan (NPIP) administered by the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), USDA, and certified as clean for *Salmonella pullorum*, *Salmonella gallinarum*, *Mycoplasma synoviae*, and *Mycoplasma gallisepticum*. Additionally, a producer/packer interested in exporting table eggs to Barbados must provide an affidavit(s) issued by an accredited veterinarian demonstrating established routine inspections of each source flock processed for the consignment showed no evidence of communicable avian diseases. The most recent date of inspection for each flock will be recorded on the Disease Free Statements Certificate. Each affidavit issued by an accredited veterinarian must state the date(s) of the physical examination of the layer flock(s). If the veterinarian is not an accredited APHIS or State official, the affidavit signed and dated by the veterinarian covering the physical inspection of the flock(s) must also be notarized. Management at the egg grading operation must provide to the USDA grader a copy of the VS Form 9-3 issued by APHIS officials (or an APHIS authorized competent authority-normally a State veterinarian) for each layer flock and the above referenced affidavit covering routine physical examination of the flock(s) to verify compliance prior to issuance of the AMS Disease Free Statements for Barbados containing the required animal health attestations.

Upon verification of the animal health requirements for each source flock, the USDA grader will record on the Disease Free Statements Certificate the name of the state(s) in which the source flock(s) for the shipment is located (refer to item 2 on the certificate). If the grading operation is located in a different state than the egg production site, each state must be recorded.

II. Grading Requirements

Prior to processing, plant management is responsible for establishing detailed written procedures to provide the flock identification system and procedures to maintain the identity of the shell eggs from the time of production through transport, storage, processing and packaging. Only shell eggs processed in accordance with the Regulations Governing the Voluntary Grading of Shell Eggs (7 CFR 56) under the supervision of a USDA grader are eligible for certification. The shell eggs must meet Grade A or better quality standards. The eggs may be graded as an identified stationary lot or utilizing on-line sampling procedures for certification purposes.

III. Packaging, Packaging and Stamping

All packaging and packing materials 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. If palletized, the pallets must be new or good used (clean and free of adhering foreign material and visible dust).

IV. Transport Container

Transport containers used to ship product to Barbados must be clean. Graders are to document the cleanliness of the transport unit on the PY Form 75 or 211, as applicable. When unsanitary conditions are observed, the grader will notify a responsible plant official of the conditions observed and request correction if the unit is to be used for such shipment. Product is not to be loaded on to the transport unit until the unsanitary condition(s) have been corrected. When this occurs, the USDA grader will document the unacceptable condition, including the name of the plant official notified, on the applicable worksheet.

The seal number(s) must be recorded on the Shell Egg Grading Certificate (PY Form 210S) issued covering the shipment. The USDA grader does not need to be present at the time of loading or at the time the trailer is sealed provided the transport unit has been examined and determined acceptable for loading.

V. Certification

When completing the certificate (PY Form 210S), the statement "Fit for human consumption" will be printed in the remarks section. The seal number(s) placed on the transport unit will also appear in the remarks section.

Plant management is responsible for presenting the original certificate (PY Form 210S) and the Disease Free Statements for Barbados to officials at the point of entry to that country.

File this document in the EXPORT section of the Supervisors/Resident Graders Shell Egg Index.

Attachment – Disease Free Statement for Barbados

Cc: Regional Directors
Federal-State Supervisors

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