


November 02, 2015

TO: Shell Egg Graders

FROM: Jason Julian 
Assistant National Supervisor, Shell Eggs

SUBJECT: Export Requirements for Table Eggs Destined to Gulf Cooperative Council
(GCC) Nations

This instruction outlines specific certification and shipping requirements for shell eggs (table eggs) to be exported to Gulf Cooperative Council (GCC) Nations. The GCC members consist of the following nations:

- Saudi Arabia
- Bahrain
- Kuwait
- Oman
- Qatar

Please visit the Shell Egg Index, Section E-35, for certification instructions regarding the United Arab Emirates (UAE).

I. Product Requirements

- All shell eggs must originate from laying flocks in the United States.

II. Grade Requirements

- The shell eggs must be graded and certified as U.S. Grade A or better, as outlined in the United States Standards, Grades, and Weight Classes for Shell Eggs (AMS 56).

III. Weight Requirements

- Product must meet the requirements of the marked U.S. weight class, as outlined in the United States Standards, Grades, and Weight Classes for Shell Eggs (AMS 56).

IV. Processing Requirements

- Product must be processed and packed under continuous voluntary supervision in shell egg facilities utilizing either USDA resident or temporary grading service.

A. Expiration Dating

- The following statement will be printed in the remarks section of the Shell Egg Grading Certificate:

“The expiration date declared on the product is the responsibility of the applicant.”

The disclaimer statement listed above shall immediately follow the declaration of the production code and the associated expiration date. For example, a 90-day expiration date shall be recorded as, “Lot 213 identified with production code 15-08-2015 (DD-MM-YYYY format) and expiration date 28-10-2015 (DD-MM-YYYY format)” followed by the disclaimer statement above.

- Individual eggs stamped with an expiration date exceeding 30 days from date of pack are not eligible to be certified by the USDA for domestic distribution.
- The packer is responsible for the validity of an expiration date applied to the exported shell eggs.

B. Individual Egg Stamping

- Printing equipment may be limited in the capability to provide an extensive number of digits printed on the egg. Therefore, the processor is responsible for the format declaring the expiration date, using the available printing capabilities (format may vary depending upon the type of equipment used).
- Individual eggs must be reasonably dry prior to printing or stamping. (The USDA is not responsible for the legibility of the printing on the individual eggs.) The following information must appear on the individual egg presented for certification for export to GCC nations.
 - The country of origin, expressed as “US”, must be stamped or printed on each egg.
 - The production date preceded by the capital letter “P” must be stamped or printed on the egg expressed in the Day/Month/Year format using numerical figures. For example, P 04/12/2015.
 - The expiration date preceded by the capital letter “E” must be stamped or printed on the egg expressed in the Day/Month/Year format using numerical figures. For example, E 28/02/2016.
- The USDA grader will verify records maintained by plant management demonstrating the export of the individually identified eggs with a voluntarily declared expiration date for an extensive period of time.

C. Packing/Packaging

- All packing material must be new, showing no evidence of previous use.
- The interior packaging material (cartons and flats) must be new, showing no evidence of adhering foreign material or previous use.
- Each shipping case must be identified with the USDA Graded For Export Stamp with the applicable certificate number.
- Pallets must be new or good used, free of visible evidence of adhering foreign material, and/or structural damage.

D. Packing Case Labeling

- Labels must be printed or stamped in a central location on the end of each case.
- Handwritten or stenciled stamps are not acceptable.
- The plant number assigned to the packer/producer must be shown.
- The words, “Keep Refrigerated”, or other similar terminology must be declared on each shipping case.
- The Statement of Identity, “Eggs” must be on each shipping case.
- The “Safe Handling” statement must be on each shipping case or the statement may accompany the shipping invoice.

V. Transport Unit

- Transport units used to export eggs to the GCC nations must be reasonably clean.
- Graders are to visibly examine and document (on Form PY-75 or PY-211, as applicable) the cleanliness of the transport unit and assure the refrigeration unit is capable of providing adequate refrigeration (ambient transport temperature of 45 degrees Fahrenheit or less) during transport.
- When unsanitary conditions are observed in transport units, or when a refrigeration unit is not present or functional; the grader will notify a responsible plant official of the conditions. Product is not to be loaded onto the unit until the unsanitary conditions have been corrected.
- Transport units without functional refrigeration units are not eligible for transport of table eggs.
- When such conditions occur, the grader will document the details of the occurrence, including the name of the plant official notified, on the applicable worksheet (Form PY-75 or PY-211).
- Transport units must be sealed with a plant shipping seal prior to departure from the processing facility. The seal number must appear on the PY-210S, export certificate issued. The USDA grader is not required to be present at the time of shipment, provided the transport unit is acceptable, the shipping cases are properly identified, and the seal (s) numbers are recorded on the certificate issued.

VI. Certification

- The eggs certified as meeting the requirements of at least U.S. Grade A may be based on the results of either online sampling or full-size stationary lot grading. When using the stationary lot option, percentages from the samples taken must be reported on the certificate.
- The original and any additional copies of Form PY-210S, Shell Egg Grading Certificate and the Disease Free Certification Statements for Other Countries (issued in accordance with guidance filed in E-01 of the Supervisors/Resident Graders Shell Egg Index) will be provided to plant management to accompany the shipment.
- The importer is responsible for presenting the original USDA certification documents (signatures appearing in blue ink) to foreign government officials at the port of entry to the respective country.

- The following information is to be included on the certificate:
 - The name and address of the receiver or buyer located in the identified GCC nation. It is not permissible to show, “To Be Sold”.
 - The USDA plant number.
 - The USDA graders signature in blue ink.
- In the remarks section, the following statement must be included:

“Each individual egg has been stamped: “US”, with the production date and expiration date using an approved ink.”

VII. Exhibits

- Exhibits I & II; Examples of a completed PY-210S, Export Certificate.
- Exhibit III; Example of a completed “Disease Free Statement – Other Countries”.

(See reverse side of form for OMB and EEO Statement)

FORM OMB APPROVED - NO. 0581-0127

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- XXXXXXXX

PLACE EXAMINED
 City, State

PLANT NUMBER
 P-XXXX

TO: APPLICANT (Name and address, including ZIP) Applicant Name Address City, State, Zip Code	NAME AND ADDRESS OF SHIPPER OR SELLER ^{1/} Exporting Company Name Address City, State, Zip Code	NAME AND ADDRESS OF RECEIVER OR BUYER ^{1/} Importing Company Name Address Country Specific Information
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LOT NO.	NO. OF CONTAINERS PER LOT ^{1/}	NO. OF CONTAINERS EXAMINED	NET WT. ^{2/}	PERCENTAGES								U.S. OFFICIAL GRADE AND SIZE
				AA	A	B	B*	Dirtyies	Checks	Loss	Under Wt. ^{3/}	
213	750	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	US Grade A Medium

LOT NO.	DESCRIPTION							CASES STAMPED WITH	
	EGGS	TYPE OF PACKING	TYPE OF PACKAGING	CASE QUALITY RANGE	CHARACTER OF LOSS	WHERE HELD AND TEMPERATURE			
213	Fresh	New 30-Dz.	New Filler Flats	--	--	Cooler 43 F	US Graded For Export	<input type="checkbox"/> Sample <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> All	
	White	Fiber, Taped					w/ Certificate Number	<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: E-10, Gulf Cooperative Council (GCC) Nations, dated November 02, 2015.	Check each applicable box: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Product represented on this certificate meets the requirements for the stated grade and size as determined by online sampling on <u>DD/MM/YYYY</u> . <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Disease Free Certification Statements attached.
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REMARKS

Each individual egg has been stamped "US", with the production date, and the expiration date using an USDA approved ink. Lot 213 identified with production code 28/10/2015 (DD-MM-YYYY format) and expiration date 28/02/2016 (DD-MM-YYYY format). The expiration date declared on the product is the responsibility of the applicant. Transport Seal # XXXX-XX
 Lot 213= 750/30-dozen cases

**** USDA Graded For Export Stamp w/ Certificate Number here (Blue Ink) ****

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

DD/MM/YYYY

OFFICIAL GRADER (Signature)

DATE

^{1/} As stated by applicant or contractor.

^{3/} Eggs reported as undersized are also reported under other headings according to their quality.

^{2/} Weights based on 30-dozen equivalent.

(See reverse side of form for OMB and EEO Statement)

FORM OMB APPROVED - NO. 0581-0127

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- XXXXXXXX

PLACE EXAMINED
 City, State

PLANT NUMBER
 P-XXXX

TO: APPLICANT (Name and address, including ZIP) Applicant Name Address City, State, Zip Code	NAME AND ADDRESS OF SHIPPER OR SELLER ^{1/} Exporting Company Name Address City, State, Zip Code	NAME AND ADDRESS OF RECEIVER OR BUYER ^{1/} Importing Company Name Address Location Information
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LOT NO.	NO. OF CONTAINERS PER LOT ^{1/}	NO. OF CONTAINERS EXAMINED	NET WT. ^{2/}	PERCENTAGES								U.S. OFFICIAL GRADE AND SIZE
				AA	A	B	B*	Dirtyies	Checks	Loss	Under Wt. ^{3/}	
213	1500	19	41.50	--	94.15	2.10	--	0.25	3.50	--	--	US Grade A Medium

LOT NO.	DESCRIPTION							CASES STAMPED WITH	
	EGGS	TYPE OF PACKING	TYPE OF PACKAGING	CASE QUALITY RANGE	CHARACTER OF LOSS	WHERE HELD AND TEMPERATURE			
213	Fresh	New 15-Dz.	New Filler Flats	88-96	--	Cooler 43 F	US Graded For Export	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sample <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> All	
	White	Fiber, Taped						<input checked="" 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: E-10, Gulf Cooperative Council (GCC) Nations, dated November 02, 2015.	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

Each individual egg has been stamped "US", with the production date, and the expiration date using an USDA approved ink. Lot 213 identified with production code 28-10-2015 (DD-MM-YYYY format) and expiration date 28-02-2016 (DD-MM-YYYY format). The expiration date declared on the product is the responsibility of the applicant. Transport Seal # XXXX-XX

Lot 213: 1500/15-dozen cases = 750/30-dozen cases
 Product represented on this certificate meets the requirements for the stated grade and size as determined by a full-size, stationary lot grading on DD/MM/YYYY.

** USDA Graded For Export Stamp here (Blue Ink) **

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

DD/MM/YYYY

OFFICIAL GRADER (Signature)

DATE

^{1/} As stated by applicant or contractor.

^{3/} Eggs reported as undersized are also reported under other headings according to their quality.

^{2/} Weights based on 30-dozen equivalent.



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Agricultural
Marketing
Service

1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Room 3935-S, STOP 0258
Washington, DC 20250-0258

Disease Free Certification Statements for Other Countries

Shell Egg Grading Certificate No. SEA - 1234567 Dated: DD-MM-YYYY

“The U. S. Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Veterinary Services certifies that:

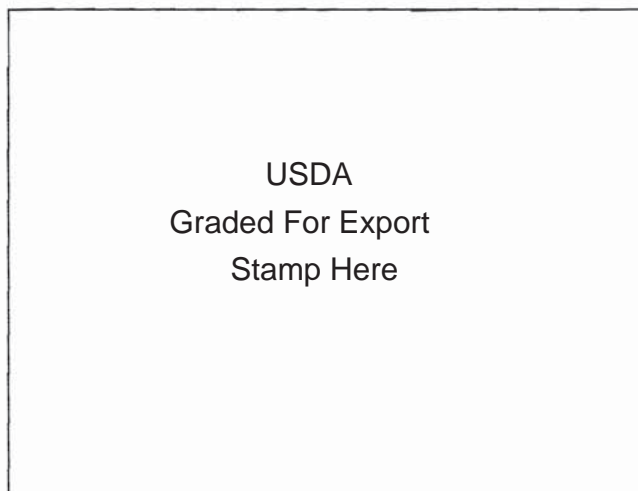
No cases of lethal (highly pathogenic) avian influenza (fowl plague), including the highly pathogenic subtype H5N1, and no cases of velogenic Newcastle disease (VND) have been reported in commercial laying chicken flocks in the county(ies) of origin where the eggs originated for the 6 months preceding departure of this consignment. These eggs were produced in the county(ies) in the state of (state name) identified below:

County, State

The shell eggs covered by this certificate were produced by birds originating from Salmonella enteritidis (SE) -certified breeding flocks which have not been identified within 90 days before shipment by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, as being infected with SE, including SE phage type 4.”

Signature in Blue Ink

Signature of Grader



Stamp Impression