



## **EXPORT PROCEDURES**

### **TABLE EGGS TO UNITED ARAB EMIRATES (UAE), July 21, 2015**

#### **PURPOSE**

This document outlines the certification process for table eggs destined to the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and the municipalities located within the UAE. Within the United Arab Emirates, there are seven city-states (municipalities):

- Abu Dhabi
- Dubai
- Sharjah
- Ajman
- Umm al-Quwain
- Ras al-Khaimah
- Fujairah

#### **POLICY**

##### **I. Export Certification Requirements**

- A. All requirements listed in [E01 Export Certification Requirements](#) must be met, in addition to the procedures listed in this document.

##### **II. Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) biosecurity policy**

- A. AMS employment policy prohibits personnel from owning avian species or operating farms with avian species.
- B. AMS personnel must follow each egg producer's/packer's established biosecurity procedure to prevent the risk of disease transmission.

##### **III. AMS and APHIS Agreement – Animal Health Certification for Shell Eggs**

- A. AMS, Livestock and Poultry (LP) Program is recognized by the USDA, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), as an authorized certifying agent.
- B. APHIS officials authorize animal health attestations for inclusions in *AMS Certification Statements for Shell Eggs*.



- C. APHIS officials notify AMS when any statement is affected, or animal health restrictions are imposed upon an identified geographical zone in the United States. The [Shell Egg Export Restrictions](#) list is updated following notifications.

## GENERAL PROCEDURES

### I. Product Requirements

- A. All shell eggs must originate from chicken laying flocks (*Gallus Gallus*) located in the United States of America.
- B. Shell eggs must originate from breeder flocks that participate in the [National Poultry Improvement Plan \(NPIP\)](#) administered by the USDA, APHIS.
- C. Product must be in compliance with the Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) regulations for the prevention of *Salmonella Enteritidis* during [Production, Storage, and Transportation of Shell Eggs](#).
- D. Product must be processed and packed under USDA supervision in approved shell egg facilities utilizing either USDA's voluntary scheduled or temporary grading service.
- E. Product must be washed and sanitized with compounds approved by USDA for food use.
- F. Product must originate from **layer flocks** participating in the NPIP H5/H7 Avian Influenza Monitored Program. A listing of commercial table egg layer flocks approved for export can be found on the [APHIS: National Poultry Improvement Plan website](#).

### 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. Animal Health Verification

Shell eggs must be derived from *breeder flock(s)* that participate in the National Poultry Improvement Plan (NPIP). The *layer flocks* must also be registered with the NPIP H5/H7 Avian Influenza Monitored Program.

- A. NPIP Breeder Flock Requirement: Producers must provide a copy(s) of APHIS Form VS 9-3, Report of Sales of Hatching Eggs, Chicks and Poults to the USDA grader for each layer flock used to complete the export consignment. For intrastate movement, where the Form VS 9-3 would not be issued, producers must provide the USDA grader with an invoice(s) listing their NPIP approval number for each flock.



- B. NPIP Table Egg Layer Flock Requirement: Prior to processing, USDA graders will verify that each source flock is listed on the [NPIP website](#) for monitoring Avian Influenza. Eligible source flock(s) utilized to fill export orders will be recorded on the daily grading worksheet, LP-75 or LP-211.

#### **IV. Prevention of Salmonella Enteritidis in Shell Eggs during Production, Storage, and Transport**

Shell egg producers must be in compliance with the Food and Drug Administrations (FDA), Final Rule for the Prevention of Salmonella Enteritidis in Shell Eggs during Production, Storage, and Transport. A producer receiving a “Letter of Warning” from FDA officials is not eligible to export until FDA provides information that corrective action(s) has been implemented. The LP National Office will notify appropriate regional staff when a facility is ineligible to export due to FDA regulatory action.

#### **V. Individual Egg Stamping**

Each individual egg must be stamped with “US”, the production date, and the expiration date with a USDA approved ink. Only **RED** inks may be used for exports to UAE countries.

#### **VI. Packing/Packaging**

- A. All packing material must be new, showing no evidence of previous use.
- B. The interior packaging material (cartons and flats) must be new, showing no evidence of adhering foreign material or previous use.
- C. Each shipping case must be identified with the USDA Graded for Export Stamp (pre-printed on the shipping case label or traditional hand stamp) with the applicable certificate number.
- D. Pallets must be new or good used, free of visible evidence of adhering foreign material, and/or structural damage.

#### **VII. Packing Case Labeling**

- A. See Exhibit I for example label.
- B. Labels must be printed or stamped in a central location on the end of each case. Handwritten or stenciled stamps are not acceptable.
- C. The plant number assigned to the packer/producer must be shown.
- D. The production code declared as a Day/Month/Year format must appear on the shipping case preceded by the letter “P”. For example, P 20/07/2015 would be a production date of July 20, 2015.



- E. The expiration date declared as a Day/Month/Year format must appear on the shipping case preceded by the letter “E”. For example, E 19/09/2015 would be an expiration date of September 19, 2015.
- F. The Country of Origin “U.S.A.” or “United States of America” must be declared on the label.
- G. The words, “Keep Refrigerated” or other similar terminology must be declared on either the label or the shipping case.
- H. The Statement of Identity, “Eggs” must be listed on either the label or shipping case.
- I. The “Safe Handling” statement must be listed on the label or shipping case, or the statement may accompany the shipping invoice

### VIII. Transport Unit

Transport unit/container used to export eggs to UAE must be reasonably clean and designed to provide refrigeration. Graders are to document the cleanliness of the transport unit and verification that the transport unit is supplied with functional refrigeration equipment on Form LP-75 or LP-211, as applicable. When unsanitary conditions are observed in a transport unit or the refrigeration equipment is not functional, the grader will notify a responsible plant official of the conditions. Product is not to be loaded onto the transport unit until the unsanitary conditions or the function of the refrigeration equipment has been corrected. When such conditions occur, the grader will document, including the name of the plant official notified, the details on the applicable worksheet.

The transport unit must be sealed (plant/company seal) prior to departure from the processing facility. The USDA grader is not required to be present at the time of shipment provided the condition of the transport unit is acceptable, the shipping cases are properly identified, and the seal(s) number is recorded on the certificate issued. The seal(s) number must appear on the Form LPS-210S certificate issued covering the shipment.

### IX. Duration of Quality (Expiration Dating)

If a prefix, EXP or Best By, is used with a duration of quality that exceeds U.S. domestic policy, the following disclaimer will be printed in the remarks section of the LPS-210S: Shell Egg Grading Certificate:

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

**NOTE: If expiration dating exceeds 90 days, up to 180 days, labeling instructions found in [E-01e](#) must be followed.**



When shell eggs are identified with an expiration date exceeding domestic standards, the shipping container must be identified in a manner to assure that the eggs are intended for export. I.e., “FOR EXPORT ONLY.” Assuring that each shipping container is identified with the “Graded for Export” stamp fulfills this export labeling requirement.

Plant management is responsible for the durability of quality, declared on the certificate (LPS-210S) and the shipping case label.

## X. 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 following information is to be included on the certificate:

- The USDA plant number (P-1234).
- The USDA graders signature must be in **blue ink**.
- The name and address (City, State, Zip Code) of the importer and exporter.
- The product’s Country of Origin (U.S.A. or the United States of America).
- The Lot Number (three-digit number, such as 123 or 006).
- 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 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 expiration date 29-10-2015 (October 29, 2015)” followed by the disclaimer statement above.

- A statement indicating that the production facility applies a Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) system or an equivalent. An equivalent system consists of the Safe Quality Food (SQF) Program with a facility certification level of two or higher.

**“The eggs were produced in a USDA approved facility that applies a Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) system or an equivalent system.”**


- In the remarks section, the following statement must be included:

**“Fit for Human Consumption.”**



The original and any additional copies of Form, LPS-210S: Shell Egg Grading Certificate and the Disease Free Certification Statements – United Arab Emirates (UAE) will be provided to plant management to accompany the shipment.

The importer is responsible for presenting the original USDA certification documents to foreign government officials at the port of entry to the respective Municipality(s) in the UAE.

 Digitally signed by  
JEFFREY HENDRICKS  
Date: 2020.03.27  
17:11:31 -04'00'

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Jeffrey Hendricks, National Supervisor - Shell Eggs  
Standards and Specifications Division  
Livestock and Poultry Program

Exhibit I: Example of a Shipping Case Label.

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# Exhibit I

**U.S. Grade A, Medium**

**30-Dozen Cases**

**P-1234**

**P 01/08/2015 (DD/MM/YY)**

**E 29/10/2015 (DD/MM/YY)**

**Country of Origin – U.S.A.**

**Optional:**

**Keep Refrigerated** – (If not present on label, must be on shipping case).

**The Statement of Identity (EGGS)** – (If not present on label, must be on shipping case).

**Safe Handling Statement** – (Must be on label, shipping case, or the statement may accompany the shipping invoice.)

**Pre-Printed or hand stamped** - Graded For Export Stamp With Certificate Number must be used to mark the shipping case. Prior approval from the National Office is required for pre-printed USDA grademarks placed on the label.