

3

Animal Product
Manual

Reference

Eggs and Egg Products from Poultry, Game Birds, or Other Birds

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Introduction

The *Eggs and Egg Products from Poultry, Game Birds, and Other Birds* section covers eggs and egg products that are imported for both edible and inedible purposes, as follows:

- ◆ Baluts (fertile eggs incubated 17 days)
- ◆ Boiled eggs (hard-boiled eggs, salted eggs, pickled eggs)
- ◆ Eggs which are preserved, but uncooked (like hundred-year eggs and pedan eggs)
- ◆ Egg shells
- ◆ Fresh, unfertilized eggs for breaking and pasteurization
- ◆ Fresh, unfertilized eggs for food
- ◆ Inedible egg products (e.g., liquid yolks)
- ◆ Moon cakes
- ◆ Noodle soup, fresh, frozen, or dried, containing egg or egg products



All eggs and egg products covered in the section originating from countries or regions affected with HPAI (H5N1) require a VS Import Permit.

Not covered in this section are the following:

- ◆ Baked goods (excluding moon cakes), drink mixes, egg protein shampoos, mayonnaise, plain pasta, plain noodles, salad dressings, sauces, and cake mixes.
- ◆ Eggs which are fertilized and ready for hatching, including commercial importations of uncooked baluts. Contact the nearest VS office for further action
- ◆ Eggs being imported for research; consider as embryos and refer to [Table 3-8-20](#)
- ◆ Egg cartons, crates, flats, or liners used as packing material (these are of concern because of possible contamination with blood, feathers, manure, or shells); regulate these products as fomites under *Miscellaneous Products*. If found contaminated, refer to [Step 5: Take Action on Contaminants and Ticks](#) on page 2-2-11 under *Clearing Regulated Cargo*.
- ◆ Commercial importations of shell eggs, which are regulated by the Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS). Refer to [Appendix I](#) for a list of AMS regional offices




Some egg products are highly perishable. Therefore, expedite an importation when you are authorized to release the importation. If you **cannot** release the hold, allow the importer to apply dry ice or refrigerate the product.

When a VS permit authorizes the entry of eggs or egg products, match the following information on the shipping documents with that on the permit:

- ◆ Current date
- ◆ Description of the material
- ◆ Shipper
- ◆ Consignee
- ◆ Conditions spelled out on the permit

Follow [Table 3-6-1](#) as you match the permit with the shipping documents.





TABLE 3-6-1 Validate Importation Authorized Entry by VS Permit

If the shipping documents:	And the:	Then:
Match the permit		RELEASE or CONTROL as specified on the permit
Do not match the permit	Permit has expired	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. DO NOT RELEASE the HOLD 2. HAVE the consignee contact VS, TTSPS (see Table 2-4-16) 3. SAFEGUARD the importation until you hear from VS, TTSPS
	Discrepancy is other than an expired permit	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. DO NOT RELEASE the HOLD 2. CONTACT PPQ-VRS-AQI or PPQ-VRS-HQ personnel for further action

Locator

When a VS permit does **not** accompany an importation of eggs or egg products, use [Table 3-6-2](#) to determine the appropriate regulatory action to take.

TABLE 3-6-2 Where to Find the Regulatory Action on Eggs and Egg Products Not Authorized by a VS Permit

If the importation is:	And:	Then:
Canned quail eggs		Go to Table 3-6-10
Edible eggs and egg products		GO to Table 3-6-4
Fresh, unfertilized eggs	Originated in the Mexican States of Sonora or Sinaloa ¹	GO to Table 3-6-9
	Originated in a country or region other than the Mexican States of Sonora or Sinaloa	GO to Table 3-6-8
Inedible egg products (e.g. liquid yolks)	Is accompanied by a VS Permit	RELEASE
	Lacks a VS Permit	REFUSE ENTRY
Product containing egg		Regulate as edible eggs and egg products. GO to Table 3-6-4
Whole, empty egg shells		GO to Table 3-6-3

¹ Veterinary Services has determined that the Mexican States of Sonora and Sinaloa are of negligible risk for exotic Newcastle disease (END).

Inedible Egg Products

Egg products such as liquid yolks imported for research, scientific, educational, or another inedible purpose require a VS permit authorizing their entry. In addition, if the egg product is from an endangered or threatened bird, then the importation also may be subject to FWS regulations.

If you encounter a shipment which lacks a permit, then refuse entry.

Whole, Decorated Empty Egg Shells



Faberge eggs or articles (such as jewelry boxes) decorated with pieces of eggshells that are encountered in passenger baggage may enter **without** restriction.

TABLE 3-6-3 Whole, Decorated Empty Egg Shells

If the importation is:	And the country or region of origin is known to be:	And the shipment is:	And:	Then:
Whole, decorated empty egg shells	Affected with END	Commercial ¹	Is accompanied by a VS-issued Import Permit	RELEASE
			Lacks the VS-issued Import Permit	REFUSE ENTRY
		Not commercial ²	Is clean and dry	RELEASE
			Is not clean and dry	REFUSE ENTRY
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Affected with HPAI (H5N1) only ◆ Affected with HPAI (H5N1) in combination with END 	→	Is accompanied by a VS-issued Import Permit	RELEASE or CONTROL as specified on the permit
			Lacks a VS-issued Import Permit	REFUSE ENTRY
	Free from both END and HPAI (H5N1)	→	Is clean and dry	RELEASE
			Is not clean and dry	REFUSE ENTRY

1 Quantity of decorated, etched, or painted empty eggshells exceeds 10 per passenger.

2 Quantity of decorated, etched, or painted empty eggshells is 10 eggs or less per passenger.

Edible Eggs and Egg Products

Commercial importations of edible eggs and egg products **not** accompanied by a VS permit authorizing their entry **must** be of Canadian origin for **unrestricted** entry or from the Mexican States of Sonora and Sinaloa for restricted entry.

Use **Table 3-6-4** to determine the appropriate regulatory action to take for all shipments of edible eggs and egg products which are **not** accompanied by a permit that authorizes their entry.

Go to **Appendix A** for the **Guide to Entry Status of Animal Products in Passenger Baggage or Mail** when edible eggs and egg products are encountered in passenger baggage.



Never handle or break eggs outside of the package when those eggs are from Afghanistan, Albania, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Benin, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, China, Czech Republic¹, Djibouti, Egypt, Ghana, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Ivory Coast (Côte d'Ivoire), Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar (Burma), Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, Palestinian Autonomous Territories, Romania, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Korea, Sudan, Sweden¹, Thailand, Togo, Turkey, Ukraine, or Vietnam. You risk contracting exotic strains of avian influenza. (Country listing will be updated as country status changes.)

- ¹ Regionalized country. **Only** VS-defined areas are considered to be affected with HPAI (H5N1). The areas in regionalized countries **NOT** listed in the VS-restricted zone are considered free from HPAI (H5N1). The VS defined areas follow: Czech Republic (regions (kraj) of Kralovehradecky and Pardubicky ONLY), Sweden (Kalmar county ONLY). Contact your local PPQ-VRS-AQI Veterinarian or a PPQ-VRS-HQ Staff Veterinarian for current information on VS-defined areas for regionalized countries.

TABLE 3-6-4 Edible Eggs and Egg Products

If the edible eggs and egg products originated in:	And are:	And:	Then:
Canada	—————→		RELEASE
Mexican States of Sonora or Sinaloa ¹	Accompanied by the appropriate certification ²	Properly packaged and labeled ³	RELEASE
		Improperly packaged and labeled	REFUSE ENTRY
	Not accompanied by the appropriate certification ²	—————→	REFUSE ENTRY
Country affected with HPAI (H5N1)	—————→		GO to Table 3-6-5
Other than as specified in the three cells above	—————→		GO to Table 3-6-7

- 1 Veterinary Services has determined that the Mexican States of Sonora and Sinaloa are of negligible risk for exotic Newcastle disease (END).
- 2 See [Figure 3-6-2](#) as appropriate.
- 3 Eggs **must** be packed in **new** containers and labeled as follows:
 - ◆ Labeling of shipping and retail (consumer packaged) containers of eggs for importation **must** comply with 7CFR§57.950 and 7CFR§57.955 as applicable
 - ◆ Eggs **must** be imported in cases marked with the identity of the flock and show the region of origin

Edible Eggs and Egg Products from Countries Affected With HPAI (H5N1)

TABLE 3-6-5 Edible Eggs and Egg Products from Countries Affected With HPAI (H5N1)

If the importation is:	And the country or region of origin is:	And the importation is:	And the eggs are for:	And the importation:	Then:
Edible eggs and egg products from a country affected with HPAI (H5N1)	Free from END	Mooncakes	—————→		GO to Table 3-6-6
		Fresh unfertilized eggs	Breaking and pasteurization	Is accompanied by a VS permit	REFER to FSIS to obtain FSIS form 5200-8, Import Request Egg Products (shell eggs for breaking are also regulated by FSIS)
				Lacks a VS permit	REFUSE ENTRY
			Other than breaking and pasteurization	Is accompanied by a VS permit	RELEASE or CONTROL as specified on the permit
				Lacks a VS permit	REFUSE ENTRY
		Other than the above	Is accompanied by a VS permit	RELEASE or CONTROL as specified on the permit	
	Lacks a VS permit		REFUSE ENTRY		
	Affected with END	Mooncakes	—————→		GO to Table 3-6-6
		Fresh unfertilized eggs	Breaking and pasteurization	Is accompanied by a VS permit	REFER to FSIS to obtain FSIS form 5200-8, Import Request Egg Products (shell eggs for breaking are also regulated by FSIS)
				Lacks a VS permit	REFUSE ENTRY
			Other than breaking and pasteurization	Is accompanied by a VS permit	RELEASE or CONTROL as specified on the permit
				Lacks a VS permit	REFUSE ENTRY
Other than the above		—————→	Is accompanied by a VS permit	RELEASE or CONTROL as specified on the permit	
	Lacks a VS permit		REFUSE ENTRY		

TABLE 3-6-6 Commercial Shipments of Moon Cakes

If the product is:	And the product:	And from a country known to be:	And:	And:
Mooncakes	Contains egg yolk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Affected with HPAI (H5N1) only ◆ Affected with HPAI (H5N1) in combination with END 	Accompanied by a VS permit	RELEASE
			Lacks a VS permit	REFUSE ENTRY
		Affected with END only	Accompanied by a VS permit	RELEASE
			Lacks a VS permit	REFUSE ENTRY
		Free from both HPAI (H5N1) and END	—————▶	RELEASE
	Contains ham, sausage, or other pork products	—————▶	GO to <i>Foreign Origin Meat and Meat Products, Swine</i> on page 3-13-1	
	Does not contain egg yolk, ham, sausage, or other pork products	—————▶	RELEASE	

**Edible Eggs and Egg Products from Countries Free from HPAI
(H5N1) or Other than Canada or Other than the Mexican States
of Sonora or Sinaloa**

TABLE 3-6-7 Edible Eggs and Egg Products from Countries Free from HPAI (H5N1) or Other than Canada or Other than the Mexican States of Sonora or Sinaloa.

If the edible eggs and egg products are from:	And the country or region of export is:	And the importation is:	And:	And the importation:	Then:	
Countries free from HPAI (H5N1) or Other than Canada or Other than the Mexican States of Sonora or Sinaloa	Free from both HPAI (H5N1) and END	Fresh, unfertilized eggs	The eggs are for breaking and pasteurization	→	REFER to FSIS to obtain FSIS form 5200-8, Import Request Egg Products (shell eggs for breaking are also regulated by FSIS)	
			The eggs are for other than breaking and pasteurization	→	RELEASE	
		Other than fresh, unfertilized eggs	→	RELEASE		
	Free from HPAI (H5N1) but affected with END	Baluts		You confirm that the embryo is dead ¹	→	RELEASE
				You confirm that the embryo is alive	→	1. REGULATE as hatching eggs 2. CONTACT the nearest VS Office for further action
		Fresh, unfertilized eggs	→	GO to Table 3-6-8		
		Hundred year eggs (Ming Dynasty eggs) ²		Is accompanied by a VS-issued import permit for 100-year eggs	→	RELEASE or CONTROL as specified on the permit
				Lacks a VS-issued import permit for 100-year eggs	→	REFUSE ENTRY
		Preserved eggs ³		Is accompanied by a VS-issued import permit for preserved eggs	→	RELEASE or CONTROL as specified on the permit
				Lacks a VS-issued import permit for preserved eggs	→	REFUSE ENTRY
Salted eggs ⁴	Boiled	→	RELEASE			

TABLE 3-6-7 Edible Eggs and Egg Products from Countries Free from HPAI (H5N1) or Other than Canada or Other than the Mexican States of Sonora or Sinaloa. (continued)

If the edible eggs and egg products are from:	And the country or region of export is:	And the importation is:	And:	And the importation:	Then:
Countries free from HPAI (H5N1) or Other than Canada or Other than the Mexican States of Sonora or Sinaloa	Free from HPAI (H5N1) but affected with END	Salted eggs ⁴	Uncooked	Is accompanied by a VS-issued import permit for salted eggs	RELEASE or CONTROL as specified on the permit
				Lacks a VS-issued import permit for salted eggs	REFUSE ENTRY
		Thoroughly cooked, hardboiled eggs ⁵	You confirm that the whites are set and the yolks are not runny	→	RELEASE
		Other than eggs and egg products listed in the cells above		→	1. DO NOT RELEASE the HOLD 2. CONTACT a PPQ-AQI-VMO

- 1 For example, the baluts have been cooked.
- 2 Raw eggs (usually duck eggs), that have been covered with a mixture of wood ash and slaked lime, and left for up to a hundred days. By the time the eggs are used, the egg whites will have turned to pale-brown jelly and the yolks will be creamy and tinged green.
- 3 Raw eggs (usually duck eggs), that are coated in a salt-and-mud (clay) paste, then rolled in rice husks until the eggs are completely covered. At this stage, the eggs are packed into an earthenware urn, then tightly sealed and stored in a cool, dark place for one- to two months.
- 4 Eggs that are immersed in a super-saturated solution of salt for 2 weeks or more, and then the eggs are removed from the salt solution. In the Philippines, the eggs are also boiled and then colored red to distinguish the salted eggs from uncooked eggs; called itlog na pula or itlong na maalat.
- 5 However, the hardboiled eggs may be in vinegar.

Eggs (**other than** hatching eggs) from poultry, game birds, or other birds may be imported only in accordance with 9CFR 94.6 if they: are laid by poultry, game birds, or other birds that were raised in any region **except** Canada; are imported from any region **except** Canada; or are moved into or through any region **except** Canada at any time before importation or during shipment to the United States.

The eggs may be imported if they are accompanied by a certificate signed by a salaried veterinarian of the national government of the region of origin. If from Mexico, the eggs may be imported if they are accompanied by a certificate signed by a salaried veterinarian of the national government of the region of origin or if they are accompanied by a certificate issued by a veterinarian accredited by the national government of Mexico and endorsed by a full-time salaried veterinary officer of the national government of Mexico, thereby representing that the veterinarian issuing the certificate was authorized to do so, and:

- (i) The certificate states that the eggs are imported in cases marked with the identity of the flock of origin and sealed with the seal of the national government of the region of origin.
- (ii) The certificate accompanying the eggs is presented to an authorized inspector when the eggs reach the port of arrival in the United States.
- (iii) The certificate identifies the flock of origin and shows the region of origin, the port of embarkation, the port of arrival, the name and address of the exporter and importer, the total number of eggs and cases (30 dozen equivalent) of eggs, shipped with the certificate, and the date the certificate was signed.
- (iv) The certificate states that the eggs qualify for importation in accordance with 9CFR 94.6.
- (v) The certificate states that no more than 90 days before the certificate was signed, a salaried veterinary officer of the national government of the region of origin inspected the flock of origin and found no evidence of communicable diseases of poultry. If exported from Mexico, the certificate states that no more than 90 days before the certificate was signed, a salaried veterinary officer of the national government of the region of origin or a veterinarian accredited by the national government of Mexico inspected the flock of origin and found no evidence of communicable diseases of poultry.
- (vi) The certificate states that the eggs were washed, to remove foreign material from the surface of the shells, and sanitized on the premises of origin with a hypochlorite solution of from 100 ppm to 200 ppm available chlorine.
- (vii) The certificate states that the eggs were packed on the premises of origin in previously unused cases.
- (viii) The certificate states that before leaving the premises of origin, the cases in which the eggs were packed were sealed with a seal of the national government of the region of origin by the salaried veterinarian of the national government of the region of origin who signed the certificate. If exported from Mexico, the certificate states that before leaving the premises of origin, the cases in which the eggs were packed were sealed with a seal of the national government of the region of origin by a salaried veterinarian or by the veterinarian accredited by the national government of Mexico who signed the certificate.
- (ix) In addition, if the eggs were laid in any region **other than** Argentina, Australia, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Denmark, Fiji, Finland, France, Great Britain (England, Scotland, Wales, and the Isle of Man), Greece, Iceland, Luxembourg, Mexico, (States of Campeche, Quintana Roo, and Yucatan), New Zealand, Republic of Ireland, Spain, Sweden, and Switzerland, the certificate must also state that:
 - (a) **No** END occurred on the premises of origin or on adjoining premises during the 90 days before the certificate was signed.
 - (b) There is **no** evidence that the flock of origin was exposed to END during the 90 days before the certificate was signed.
 - (c) The eggs are from a flock of origin found free of END as follows:
 - (1) On the seventh and fourteenth days of the 21-day period before the certificate was signed, at least one culled bird (a sick or dead bird, not a healthy bird that was killed) for each 10,000 live birds occupying each poultry house certified for exporting table eggs was tested for END virus using embryonated egg inoculation technique. The weekly cull rate of birds of every exporting house within the exporting farm does not exceed 0.1 percent. The tests present no clinical or immunological evidence of END by embryonated egg inoculation technique from tissues of birds that were culled and have been collected by a salaried veterinary officer of the national government of the region of origin, or by a veterinarian accredited by the national government of Mexico. All examinations and embryonated egg inoculation tests were conducted in a laboratory located in the region of origin, and the laboratory was approved to conduct the examinations and tests by a veterinary services organization of the national government of that region. All results were negative for END.
 - (d) Egg drop syndrome is notifiable in region of origin and there have been no reports of egg drop syndrome in the flock of origin of the eggs, or within a 50 kilometer radius of the flock of origin, for the 90 days prior to the issuance of the certificate.

FIGURE 3-6-1 Requirements for a Foreign Official Veterinary Certificate Issued for Fresh, Unfertilized, Eggs for Food, for Eggs from Other Than: Canada and the Mexican States of Sonora and Sinaloa

Shipments of table eggs from the Mexican States of Sonora and Sinaloa to the United States must be accompanied by a certificate issued by the Mexican Animal Health Authorities that contains the following information and certification statements:

- ◆ Certificate number on all pages of certification
- ◆ Country/territory exporting the product
- ◆ City where issued and date issued
- ◆ Name and address of farm(s) of origin of the eggs
- ◆ Name and address of exporter
- ◆ Name and address of importer
- ◆ Quality or description of eggs
- ◆ Number of cases and total quantity
- ◆ Identification marks on containers
- ◆ Method of transportation
- ◆ Port of export
- ◆ Port of arrival
- ◆ Certification statement listed below

I, the undersigned accredited veterinarian, certify that:

- ◆ No more than 90 days before the certificate was signed, a Mexican accredited veterinarian inspected the flock of origin and found no evidence of communicable diseases of poultry
- ◆ The eggs originate from [*Sonora or Sinaloa*] region of Mexico which is recognized by the United States Department of Agriculture in Title 9, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 94.23, as eligible for the importation of poultry and other poultry products
- ◆ The eggs were washed to remove foreign material from the surface of the shells and sanitized on the premises of origin with a hypochlorite solution containing 100-200 ppm of available chlorine
- ◆ The eggs have been graded to the grade stated on the cases and packed on the premises of origin in new packing and packaging material
- ◆ The eggs were stored after packaging and transported under refrigeration at an ambient temperature of **no** greater than 45° F (7.2° C)
- ◆ Either the eggs were transported directly into the United States without transiting regions considered by the U.S. as affected with exotic Newcastle disease OR the shipment of eggs was sealed at the premises of origin using seal number [*seal number*]

Signature of accredited veterinarian
Firma del veterinario aprobado

Date
Fecha

FIGURE 3-6-2 Statements Required to be Included in Certificate Issued by Animal Health Authorities in Mexico for Shipment of Table Eggs from Mexican States of Sonora and Sinaloa

Fresh, Unfertilized Eggs

TABLE 3-6-8 Fresh, Unfertilized Eggs

If the importation is:	And from a country:	And the eggs are for:	And the importation:	Then:
Fresh, unfertilized eggs	Free from HPAI (H5N1) but affected with END	Breaking and pasteurization	Is consigned to an approved establishment for shell eggs (see Appendix E)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. SEAL the eggs in their shipping container using a numbered seal 2. AUTHORIZE shipment under seal with VS Form 16-78; MAKE SURE the seal numbers are listed on VS Form 16-78 (see Appendix K to complete the form) 3. REFER the importer to FSIS to obtain <i>FSIS Form 5200-8, Import Request Egg Products</i> (shell eggs for breaking are also regulated by FSIS)
			Not consigned to an approved establishment	REFUSE ENTRY
		Other than breaking and pasteurization	Is accompanied by the proper certification (see Figure 3-6-1)	RELEASE
			Lacks the proper certification	REFUSE ENTRY

Fresh, Unfertilized Eggs from the Mexican States of Sonora or Sinaloa

TABLE 3-6-9 Fresh, Unfertilized Eggs from the Mexican States of Sonora or Sinaloa


If:	And the importation:	And the eggs are:	Then:
Fresh, unfertilized eggs from the Mexican States of Sonora or Sinaloa	Is accompanied by both the appropriate certification (see Figure 3-6-2) and AMS Form PY 222 signed and dated in <i>Section D, Block 5</i> and <i>Block 6</i> by a Poultry Programs Representative	Properly packaged and labeled ¹	1. SIGN and DATE AMS Form PY 222, Block 7 and Block 8 of Section D 2. RELEASE for AMS inspection
		Not properly packaged and labeled	REFUSE ENTRY
	Lacks the proper certification or Poultry Programs Representative's signature	→	REFUSE ENTRY

¹ Eggs **must** be packed in new containers and labeled as follows:

- ◆ Labeling of shipping and retail (consumer packaged) containers of eggs for importation **must** comply with 7CFR 57.950 and 7CFR 57.955 as applicable
- ◆ Eggs **must** be imported in cases marked with the identity of the flock and show the region of origin

Commercial Shipments of Canned Quail Eggs

TABLE 3-6-10 Commercial Shipments of Canned Quail Eggs

If the product is:	And the country or region of export is:	And the importation:	Then:
Canned quail eggs	1. Affected with HPAI (H5N1) only	Is accompanied by a VS permit	RELEASE
		Lacks a VS permit	REFUSE ENTRY
	2. Affected with HPAI (H5N1) in combination with END	Is accompanied by a VS permit	RELEASE
		Lacks a VS permit	REFUSE ENTRY
	Affected with END only	Is accompanied by a VS permit	RELEASE
		Lacks a VS permit	REFUSE ENTRY
Free from both HPAI (H5N1) and END			RELEASE