

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

THIS REPORT CONTAINS ASSESSMENTS OF COMMODITY AND TRADE ISSUES MADE BY
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POLICY

Voluntary Public

Date: 7/8/2015

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Hong Kong

Post: Hong Kong

Hong Kong Approaches Mandatory Health Certification for Egg Product Imports

Report Categories:

FAIRS Subject Report

Poultry and Products

Approved By:

M. Melinda Meador

Prepared By:

Caroline Yuen

Report Highlights:

The Hong Kong Government is proposing imports of shell eggs and other egg product exports, including powdered and liquid eggs, be accompanied by a health certificate beginning December 5, 2015. Hong Kong is the 3rd largest market for U.S. egg product exports with a value of \$52.3 million in 2014.

Summary:

On June 10, 2015, the Hong Kong government (HKG) submitted to the Legislative Counsel a proposed regulation that will require mandatory health certification for egg product imports. The mandatory certification is proposed to become effective December 5, 2015. This measure has been under consideration since 2008 at which time the U.S. and Hong Kong established a certification protocol for U.S. shell egg exports. Since that time the underlying certification legislation has remained pending and use of the certificate for U.S. shell egg exports to Hong Kong was voluntary. In April 2015, the Hong Kong government proposed additional attestations and an expansion to the scope of regulated products to include liquid and powdered eggs under legislative consideration. Therefore, Hong Kong approached the U.S. with proposed revisions to the 2008 certificate language and scope of covered products.

Background

In late 2006, in response to food safety concerns of imported egg products, the Hong Kong government began discussions to require egg product certification. In 2008, the U.S. and Hong Kong authorities concluded an agreement on U.S. shell egg product certification for export to Hong Kong which would come into effect when the legislation passed. Until recently, the Hong Kong government has encouraged importers to supply the health certificate with U.S. shell egg imports on a voluntary basis. Now, however, the Hong Kong government is moving to mandatory certification and expanding the range of affected egg product imports in response to avian influenza risks and recommendations from the OIE.

The Proposed Legislation

The scope of products in the proposed legislation includes the following egg categories:

- shelled or unshelled;
- raw or partly-cooked;
- salted, preserved or otherwise processed;
- in frozen, liquid or dried form; or
- containing any functional ingredient.

Fully cooked egg products and those egg products constituting one of the ingredients of a compounded food will not be covered by this new regulation.

When the regulation becomes effective in December 2015, Hong Kong importers will be required to apply for import authorization prior to arrival and exporters will be required to provide a health certificate for all regulated egg shipments.

U.S. Health Certificates

A) Shell Eggs

Certificates for U.S. shell egg shipments to Hong Kong negotiated in 2008 include (1) the Shell Egg

Grading Certificate (PY-210S) and (2) Disease Free Certification Statements for Hong Kong (appendix 1a and 1b). However, the HKG has recently suggested modifications to the certificate attestations.

B) Pasteurized Eggs such as Liquid and Powdered Egg Products

The HKG has proposed an expansion in the scope of egg products requiring mandatory health certification to include liquid and powdered egg products. Because these products were not addressed in the 2008 certificate, the US will need to consider changes proposed by Hong Kong to its health certificate for liquid and powdered egg product exports to Hong Kong (appendix 2).

Statistics

Table 1: U.S. Egg Product Exports to Hong Kong, US\$ thousand

		2012	2013	2014	Jan - Apr 2014	Jan - Apr 2015	
HS Code	Product	Value	Value	Value	Value	Value	Period/Period %
	Eggs & Products	44,889	49,394	52,263	14,768	14,745	
407210000	CHICKN EGG FRESH	38,770	42,215	45,331	12,316	12,708	3
408990000	BRD EGG N/SH,FR	2,064	2,307	2,804	951	1,086	14
407290000	BIRD EGGS, FRESH	2,381	2,776	2,301	913	376	-59
408190000	EGG YLK,FR,FZ,CK	650	734	711	270	197	-27
3502190000	OT EGG ALBMN X D	445	604	612	216	298	38
3502900000	ALBUMIN & DRVTS	25	9	260	12	0	
408910000	BRD EGGS N/SHELL	21	223	128	58	32	-46
407110000	CHKN EGGS/HATCH	80	0	75	0	37	
407190000	BIRD EGGS/HATCH	361	432	32	32	0	
3502110000	EGG ALBMN,DRIED	33	23	8	0	0	
407000	BIRD	0	0	0	0	0	

020	EGGS/HATC H						
407000 040	BRD EGG FR,PR,CK	0	0	0	0	0	
407900 000	BIRD EGGS, PR/CK	60	49	0	0	13	
408110 000	EGG YOLKS, DRIED	0	22	0	0	0	

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau Trade Data

Appendix 1 A : Shell Egg Grading Certificate for Hong Kong agreed in 2008

(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- 12345678
 PLACE EXAMINED
Little Rock, AR
 PLANT NUMBER
P-3112

TO: APPLICANT (Name and address, including ZIP) ABC Ranch Route 2 Little Rock, AR 72419	NAME AND ADDRESS OF SHIPPER OR SELLER 1/ Egg Marketers P.O. Box 123 New Town, GA 13287	NAME AND ADDRESS OF RECEIVER OR BUYER 1/ Honk Kong Importers Inc. 25 Peck Seah St. Hong Kong
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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*	Dirty	Checks	Loss	Under Wt. 3/	
1	750	19	46.45	95.79	.21	.37	----	.16	3.42	.05	----	US Grade A Large

LOT NO.	DESCRIPTION							CASES STAMPED WITH	<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
	EGGS	TYPE OF PACKING	TYPE OF PACKAGING	CASE QUALITY RANGE	CHARACTER OF LOSS	WHERE HELD AND TEMPERATURE			
1	White	New 30 Dozen Fiber Tops Taped	New Filler Flats	93 - 98	1-LK	Cooler 43°F	USDA Graded for Export and Certificate No.	<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 <input type="checkbox"/> Sample <input type="checkbox"/> All	

ADDITIONAL CERTIFICATION	
Product represented by this certificate meets specification requirements for: _____ _____	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>12/07 - 09/2007</u> . <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Disease Free Certification Statements attached.

REMARKS
 The poultry eggs included with this shipment are fit for human consumption.
 Date of Production: December 05, 06, 07, 2007.
 Type of Poultry: Chicken (Gallus Domesticus)
 Name of Processing Plant: ABC Ranch
 Address of Processing Plant: Route 2, Little Creek, AR 72419
 Processing Plant Establishment Number: P-3112

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.

 Jane Doe
 OFFICIAL GRADER (Signature)

 December 10, 2007
 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.
 PY-210S (01-06) (Previous edition dated 12-03 may be used.)

Appendix 1 B: Disease Free Certification Statements for Hong Kong agreed in 2008



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 Hong Kong

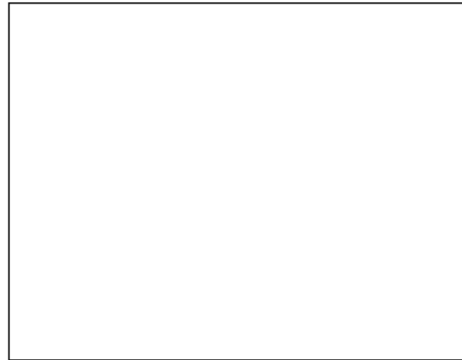
Shell Egg Grading Certificate No. SEA - _____ Dated: _____

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

No cases of notifiable avian influenza (NAI), 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 3 months preceding departure of this consignment. These eggs were produced in the county(ies) in the state of (state name) identified below:

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 of Grader



Stamp Impression

Appendix 2: FSIS health certificate used by traders on voluntary basis for pasteurized eggs shipments to Hong Kong

7160296

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE FOOD SAFETY AND INSPECTION SERVICE OFFICE OF FIELD OPERATIONS EGG PRODUCTS INSPECTION AND 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. PEB- 373897							
TO: APPLICANT (Name and address, including ZIP)		PLACE INSPECTED, SAMPLED, OR WEIGHED									
NAME AND ADDRESS OF SHIPPER OR SELLER		APPLICANT/PLANT NO.	PLACE ISSUED 17756								
NAME AND ADDRESS OF RECEIVER OR BUYER		KIND OF PACKAGE See Below									
		TYPE OF PRODUCT Pasteurized Egg / See Below									
		PACKAGES IDENTIFIED WITH (Shield, plant no., etc.)									
ORGANOLEPTIC INSPECTION				WEIGHING REPORT							
LOT NUMBER	DATE MANUFACTURED	NO. OF PACKAGES IN LOT	NO. OF PACKAGES EXAMINED	ORGANOLEPTIC CONDITION		TOTAL MARKED WEIGHT 1/	TEST SHORTAGE	TOTAL NET WEIGHT			
				Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory						
4360L-11	12/26/2014	419	All	All	None	12,570 Lbs					
1/30 Lb STb, FRZ Plain WE, Frz Rdy, PHE 46025-51001-00											
4360L-12	12/26/2014	81	All	All	None	2,430 Lbs					
1/30 Lb STb, FRZ Plain WE, Frz Rdy, PHE 46025-51001-00											
LABORATORY ANALYSIS											
LOT NUMBER	TOTAL SOLIDS	MOISTURE	STANDARD PLATE COUNT PER GRAM	COLIFORMS PER GRAM	YEAST PER GRAM	MOLD PER GRAM	pH	SALMONELLA	STAPHYLOCOCCUS	E. COLI	PALATABILITY
The Animal and Health Inspection Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, certifies that no cases of lethal avian influenza (fowl plague) and no cases of exotic Newcastle disease have been reported in commercial laying flocks in the state of origin where the shell eggs originated and/or were processed for the 6 months preceding departure of this consignment. The shell eggs used to produce the product covered by this certificate originated in Iowa.											
REMARKS											
INSPECTOR				CERTIFICATION STATEMENT				CHEMIST			
F/S	UNITS	RATE CODE	AMOUNT		In compliance with the Regulations of the Secretary of Agriculture Governing the Inspection of Eggs and Egg Products (9 CFR Part 592) issued pursuant to the Egg Products Inspection Act of 1970, and the Regulations Governing the Voluntary Inspection and Grading of Egg Products (9 CFR Part 580), 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, quantity and/or condition of the product(s) at the time and on the date shown, were as stated above.	UNITS	RATE CODE	AMOUNT		EXPENSE	TOTAL
			DOLLARS	CENTS				DOLLARS	CENTS		
		P O			The conduct of all services and activities shall be conducted on a non-discriminatory basis without regard to race, color, religion, national origin, age, sex, marital status, or disability.						
		P O									
		P O									
		P O									
		EXPENSE									
		EXPENSE									
		TOTAL	Resident								
INSPECTOR (Signature) RENEE C. CHICOINE, DVM 25-23				DATE 3/6/2015	CHEMIST (Signature)	DATE					
(Signature) <i>Renee C. Chicoine</i>				ADDRESS							