

ACTION BY: Federal-State Shell Egg Graders

SECTION 1: INTRODUCTION - SHELL EGG GRADERS HANDBOOK

I. Purpose

- A. This Handbook contains detailed information and explanations concerning technical aspects of the voluntary shell egg grading program. It is a working tool for the use of supervisors and graders.
- B. Supplemental sheets will be printed when revisions are made to the various sections of the Handbook. Instructions will accompany revised pages giving graders guidance regarding the filing of the respective changes. Changes which supersede this printing of any section of the Handbook will be printed in italics. File the Shell Egg Graders Revision Log behind the last page of the Table of Contents.

II. Authority

The authority for this instruction is contained in the:

- Regulations Governing the Voluntary Grading of Shell Eggs (7 CFR, Part 56)
- United States Standards, Grades, and Weight Classes for Shell Eggs (AMS 56)
- Agricultural Marketing Act (AMA) of 1946, as amended
- Egg Products Inspection Act (EPIA), (7 CFR, Part 57 Regulations Governing the Inspection of Eggs) providing the authority for the Shell Egg Surveillance Program

III. Policy

It is the responsibility of each grading supervisor and grader to maintain this Handbook and to file all changes and additions as they are received. Graders are required to fully understand all changes before filing. Plant management is to be provided a copy of this Handbook and all subsequent revisions.

IV. Basis of Service

Shell egg grading service is rendered in accordance with the shell egg regulations and standards described in part II above for class, quality, quantity, condition, or any combination thereof.