

# The requirements listed in this document pertain to shell egg labels that contain the USDA grademark, only.



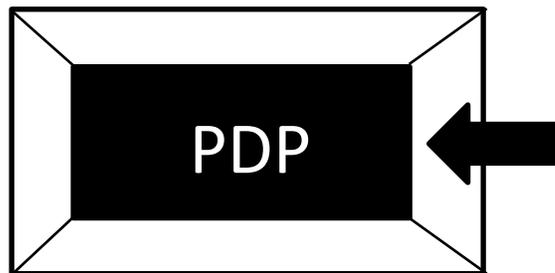
## MANDATORY LABELING REQUIREMENTS

- It is strongly recommended that you verify applicable State requirements before submitting labels for Federal approval.
- FDA = The Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FDCA); the Fair Packaging and Labeling Act (FPLA); and the regulations promulgated under these acts (21 CFR).
- USDA = 7 CFR Part 56; AMS 56

### Principal Display Panel (PDP):

- The term principal display panel means the part of a label that is most likely to be displayed, presented, shown, or examined under customary conditions of display for retail sale.
- The principal display panel shall be large enough to accommodate all the mandatory label information required to be placed on the container with clarity and conspicuousness and without obscuring design, vignettes, or crowding.
- The Producer, Distributor, or Carton Manufacturer must declare the PDP or alternate PDP's prior to issuance of a USDA approval number. Contact this office to further discuss the selection of the PDP.

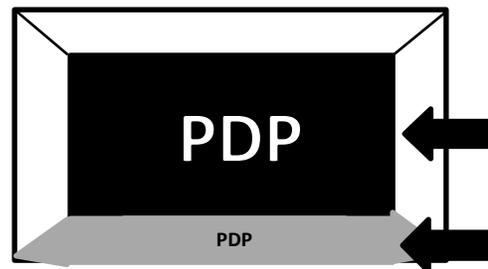
**PDP = Top View, only.**



Back Hinge

Front Lip

**PDP = Top View and Front Lip (Alternate Display Panels)**



Back Hinge

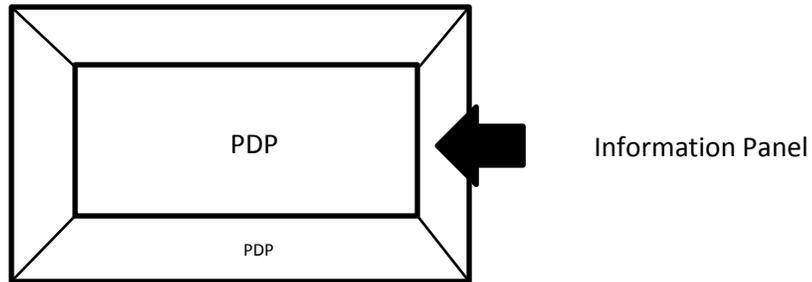
Front Lip

- If the Top View and Front Lip are selected as the PDP's, all required mandatory information must be placed on both panels (Top View and Front Lip).
- **Overwrapped, Sleeved, or Case containers:** All mandatory labeling information must be placed on the top panel or information panel. **No mandatory labeling requirements may be placed on the bottom panel.**

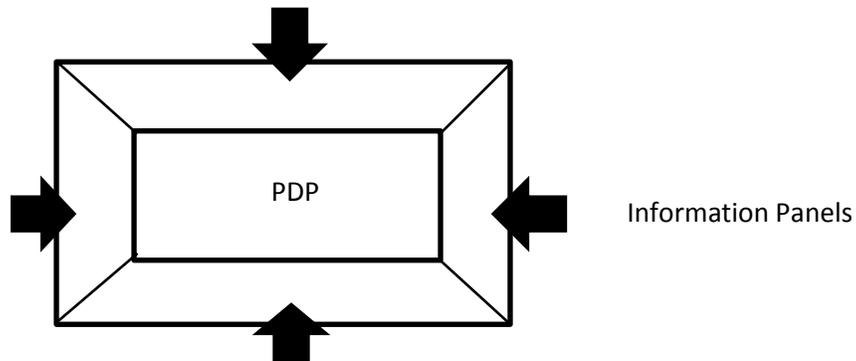


**Information Panel:**

- The information panel as it applies to packaged food means that part of the label immediately contiguous and to the right of the principal display panel (PDP) as observed by an individual facing the principal display panel.
- If the Top View and/or the Front Lip are selected as the PDP, the information panel would consist of the panel immediately contiguous and to the right of the selected PDP's.



- If the top of the container is the principal display panel (PDP) and the package has no alternate principal display panel(s), the information panel is any panel adjacent to the principal display panel.



Is the **USDA Grademark (Shield)** located on the Principal Display Panel (PDP) or the Information Panel?



**The Statement of Identity (EGGS):**

- The Statement of Identity (EGGS) must appear on the PDP by itself at least once.
- The Statement of Identity (EGGS) must be in bold print and be at least ½ the type size of the largest print on the Principal Display Panel (PDP).
- The Statement of Identity (EGGS) must be parallel to the base of the container (carton opening) or the label.
- The egg size designation (Jumbo, Extra Large, Large, and/or Medium) must be parallel to the base of the container (carton opening) or the label, on product containing the USDA grademark.
- Once the requirements have been met, the Statement of Identity and egg size designation may be placed vertically or horizontally on the label of USDA grademarked product.



**Acceptable**



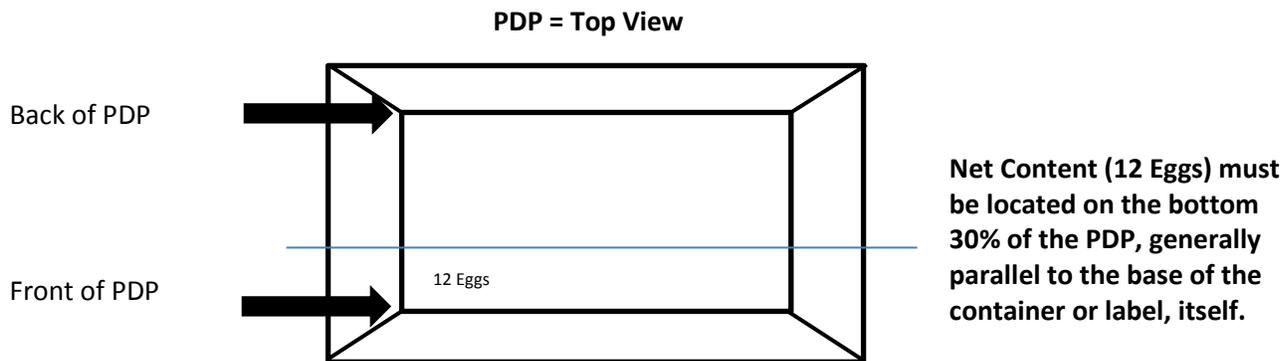
**Not Acceptable**

< Back Hinge

< Front Lip

**Declaration of Net Quantity of Content:**

- The Net Content must be listed on the bottom 30% of the Principal Display Panel (PDP). The producer, distributor, or carton manufacturer must declare what the PDP consists of (Top View only or Top View and Front Lip).



- Net Content must be stated as: 6 Eggs, Half Dozen Eggs, 12 Eggs, One Dozen Eggs, 18 Eggs, One and Half Dozen Eggs, etc., as listed in 21 CFR Part 101.105 (f).
- Once the Net Content requirement has been met, you can use descriptor terms to describe the content: 18 Large Eggs, 6 Jumbo Eggs, 12 Grade A Eggs.
- Minimum Type Size Of Net Content labeling requirement:**
  - Split 6-Egg Carton: 1/8" (25 to 100 square inches)
  - 12-Egg or 18-Egg Carton: 3/16" (25 to 100 square inches)
  - 30-Egg or 36-Egg Carton: 1/4" (100 to 400 square inches)
- Letter heights pertain to upper case or capital letters. When upper and lower case or all lower case letters are used, it is the lower case "o" or its equivalent that shall meet the minimum standards.

Is the **Grade** of the product listed (AA or A)?

- If the USDA grademark (shield) is listed on the Principal Display Panel, the words "Grade AA or A" do not have to appear on the label, since the USDA grademark lists the Grade (AA or A) inside the grademark.



**Egg Size Designation:** (Jumbo, Extra Large, Large, Medium, Small, or Pee Wee)

- Must appear on the Principal Display Panel (PDP) for USDA grademarked product, only.
- Type size must be a minimum of 1/4".
- Egg sizes cannot be abbreviated (i.e. XL, Med, Lrg, etc.).
- The egg size designation must be parallel to the base of the container (carton opening) or the label.
- To satisfy the Statement of Identity requirement, the egg size designation cannot be used in conjunction with "EGGS". Once the Statement of Identity requirement has been met, you can combine the egg size designation (Large) with the Statement of Identity (Eggs) anywhere on the label. (For clarification purposes, contact this office.)
- Listing of the egg size designation is not required by FDA. It is required by USDA/AMS grademarked product.

**Abbreviations:**

- Abbreviations to any mandatory labeling requirements (USDA or FDA) are not allowed.

Has the correct **Nutrition Facts Panel** been utilized?

- See <http://www.eggnutritioncenter.org/egg-facts/nutrition-facts-panels/> for correct formats.
- The nutrition information shall be set off in a box by use of hairlines and shall be all black or one color type, printed on a white or other neutral contrasting background whenever practical.
- The declaration of vitamins and minerals as a percent of the RDI must include: vitamin A, vitamin C, calcium, and iron, in that order.

Continued on next page...

**Nutrition Facts Panel continued...**

**Changes to the Nutrition Facts Panel:**

- FDA requires the Nutrition Facts Panel to follow an incremental format when listing percentages for percent Daily Values. This format incorporates the correct rounding of numbers in relation to the specific vitamin or nutrient listed. The vitamin and mineral percentages per egg must be listed in 2, 5, or 10-percent increments based on the total-percentage of the established Daily Value for the vitamin or mineral.

**For example:**

0 – 10% must be listed in increments of 2  
11-50% must be listed in increments of 5  
51% and over must be listed in increments of 10

Vitamin A 6%	• Vitamin C 0%
Calcium 2%	• Iron 4%
Vitamin D 10%	• Thiamin 0%
Riboflavin 15%	• Vitamin B6 4%
Folate 6%	• Vitamin B12 8%
Phosphorus 10%	• Zinc 4%
Not a significant source of dietary fiber and sugars.	

- It may appear harmless to increase the percentage for Vitamin A from 6% to 7%; however, such a change would not be compliant with the FDA labeling requirements.

**Safe Handling Instructions:**

- Is the Safe Handling Instructions listed on the PDP, Information Panel, or In-Lid?
- If located on the In-Lid, the statement “*Keep Refrigerated*” or words of similar meaning must be listed on the PDP or information panel (please verify State requirements).
- Type size must be at least a minimum of 1/16”.
- The Safe Handling Instructions statement must be set off in a box by use of hairlines.

**SAFE HANDLING INSTRUCTIONS:** To prevent illness from bacteria: keep eggs refrigerated, cook eggs until yolks are firm, and cook foods containing eggs thoroughly.

- “**SAFE HANDLING INSTRUCTIONS**” must be all caps and in bold type. The remaining statement should consist of regular font (non-bold type, non-all caps).
- The Safe Handling Statement does not need to be left justified; however, the statement content must be exactly as listed in the above listed example.
- Some states require “*Keep Refrigerated at 45 F or less*” or words of similar meaning to be placed on the label. Check for individual State requirements regarding specific verbiage.

Is the **Legal Line** present (Name, Address, City, State, and Zip Code)?

- The street address may be omitted if the location is listed in a local directory or can be found through an internet search. If not, the address must appear in the legal line.
- Type size must be at least a minimum of 1/16”.
- Packed by – Individual Processing Facility legal line listed on the label may only be used at the identified facility.
- Packed For/Distributed By/Manufactured By – Corporate name legal line may be used for any facility that packs, distributes, or manufactures product for the corporation listed on the legal line.
- The Legal Line must be placed on the principal display panel (PDP) or information panel.
- No abbreviations of the legal line are allowed (i.e. Dist. By, Distrib By, Pkd By, Manf By).

Is the issued **USDA Approval Number** (a rectangular box with an applicable alpha-numeric approval number placed inside the box) placed on the label? Or, has an area designated for the USDA approval number been identified on the label (pending issuance of the approval number)?

For example: 

K-575
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## VOLUNTARY (OPTIONAL) LABELING REQUIREMENTS

- Mandatory labeling requirements take priority over voluntary labeling requirements.
- It is strongly recommended that you verify applicable State requirements before submitting labels for Federal approval.

	<p><b>Net Weight</b> – Optional: Check with individual State requirements.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Correct format to use: <i>24 oz. (1 lb. 8 oz.) 681 g.</i></li> <li>• The surrounding space around the Net Weight claim must be free of print or graphics equal to the height of the net weight type size (When utilized, the Net Weight claim must stand out).</li> <li>• The Net Weight may be on more than one line, provided it does not exceed a 3 to 1 ratio (3 times higher than wider).</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Sell By / Best By / Use By</b> - Optional: Check individual state requirements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EXP, Expiration date, Sell By, Not to be sold after date on end of carton, Purchase By, Last sale date on end of carton or other words of similar meaning, can use 30 days, which includes the day of pack.</li> <li>• Use Before, Use By, Best Before, Best By, Best if Used By or other words of similar meaning, can use 45 days, which includes the day of pack.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Farm Fresh</b> – Optional:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Check with individual state requirements.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Brown Eggs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The color of the egg (brown) is not required on the label, but it is strongly encouraged to be placed on the label. Check with individual State requirements.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Kosher:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Must meet kosher requirements listed in Section 09 of the Shell Egg Graders Handbook (USDA grademarked product, only).</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Local or Locally Produced – Marketing Claims:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shell eggs must originate from a source flock(s) located <u>less</u> than 400 miles from the processing facility or within the state in which the eggs originated from and were processed in.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Vegetarian Fed/Feed – Marketing Claims:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Producer must maintain documentation that no animal byproducts were used to feed or water the source flock(s) and must provide documentation to a USDA Representative, upon request.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>No Hormones :</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The production claim is acceptable for use; provided, it is clarified through a qualifying statement, such as: <i>“No hormones are used in the production of shell eggs.”</i></li> <li>• If the qualifying statement is placed on the in-lid, there must be an asterisk placed next to the No Hormones claim on the PDP. Then, an asterisk must be placed in front of the qualifying statement.             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ PDP = No Hormones*</li> <li>○ In-Lid = *No Hormones are used in the production of shell eggs.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
	<p><b>No Steroids:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Same as the “No Hormones” marketing claim (see above).</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Gluten Claims:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Acceptable for use on shell egg containers</li> <li>• Acceptable Gluten claims: Gluten Free, Gluten-Free, Free of Gluten, No Gluten, or Without Gluten.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Antibiotic Claims: - Awaiting FDA response.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Acceptable Claims:</b> No Added Antibiotics, No Antibiotics Administered, or words of similar meaning, with further clarification located on the in-lid.</li> <li>• <b>Unacceptable Claim:</b> Antibiotic Free, No Antibiotics.</li> <li>• No antibiotics may be administered in the laying hen’s diet (feed or water) or through injections.</li> <li>• Suggestion: <i>“No Antibiotics Administered*”</i> - with further details listed on the in-lid In-Lid: <i>“No Antibiotics were administered to the laying hen’s diet (feed or water), nor were any antibiotic injections administered to the hen during the egg laying process.”</i></li> <li>• The producer/packer/distributor must provide documentation validating such claims.</li> </ul>

	<p><b>National Organic Program (NOP):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To utilize the NOP logo, the facility must be NOP certified by an accredited certifying agent recognized by NOP.</li> <li>Producer must maintain NOP certified documentation and provide the documentation to a USDA Representative, upon request.</li> <li>The certifying agent must be listed underneath the legal line located on the label/format to comply with NOP requirements.</li> <li>An approved label/format does not have to display the NOP logo; however, it must list the certifying agent underneath the legal line.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Organic Claims:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An operation can sell, label, or represent their product as “organic” without becoming NOP certified <u>if</u> the operation’s gross income from the organic sales totals \$5,000 or less annually [7 CFR § 205.101.(a)(1)].</li> <li>Exempt operations still need to comply with the organic production and handling requirements in the regulations, including the requirement to maintain records sufficient to prove that their products were produced organically and to verify production amounts.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>High Quality Protein / Quality Protein – Nutrient Content Claims:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This claim may be made if the following disclaimer is located on the same panel as the claim itself: <i>“Egg proteins, like milk and beef proteins are readily digestible and contain all of the essential amino acids.”</i></li> <li>The disclaimer must be a minimum of 1/16” type size.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Premium/Highest Quality/Best Quality – Nutrient Content Claims:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Acceptable for use only on Grade AA product. The claim is in reference to the quality of the product, the highest quality available is USDA Grade AA product, according to U.S. Grade Standards (AMS 56).</li> </ul> <p><b>High Quality - Marketing Claims:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Acceptable for Grade A or better product (Grade AA). The claim is in reference to the quality of the product, according to U.S. Grade Standards (AMS 56).</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Foreign Language:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If a label contains <u>any representation</u> in a foreign language, all words, statements, and other information required by or under authority of the Federal Food Drug and Cosmetic (FDCA) act to appear on the label shall appear thereon in the foreign language.</li> </ul>
<p align="center"><b>NUTRIENT CONTENT CLAIMS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mandatory labeling requirements take priority over Nutrient Content Claims.</li> <li>Laboratory analysis documentation is required prior to the issuance of USDA approval numbers (for USDA grademarked product, only) when enhanced nutrient content levels are declared on the label.</li> <li>It is strongly recommended that you verify applicable State requirements before submitting labels for Federal approval.</li> </ul>	
	<p><b>Cholesterol Disclaimer : 21 CFR Part 101.13 (h) (1)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If a food... and contains more than 13.0 g of fat, 4.0 g of saturated fat, <b>60 mg of cholesterol</b>, or 480 mg of sodium per reference amount customarily consumed, per labeled serving...then that food must bear a statement disclosing that the nutrient exceeding the specified level is present in the food as follows: <b>See nutrition information for cholesterol content.</b></li> <li>Eggs contain more than 60 mg of cholesterol; therefore, nutrient content claims, listed on the PDP or on the In-lid will require the cholesterol disclaimer (<u>please review the exception for Facts Up Front labeling, which is listed below, see Facts Up Front [FuF] claims</u>).</li> <li>If multiple claims are made on a label (PDP, In-lid, front lip, back hinge, side panels), the cholesterol disclaimer must be placed in close proximity to the most prominent claim on each panel utilized. Only one cholesterol disclaimer is required per panel.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Size of Nutrient Content Claims:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Statement of Identity (EGGS) must be ½ the size of the largest type size on the label.</li> <li>Therefore, use of Omega-3, Organic, Cage-Free, Excellent Source of, Reduced Cholesterol, etc. marketing claims cannot be larger than twice the size of the Statement of Identity (EGGS) listed on the Principal Display Panel (PDP).</li> </ul>

	<p><b>Good Source, Contains, and Provides Claims:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Example: Good Source or Contains or Provides at least 10% more of the Daily Value for the nutrient listed in the Nutrition Facts Panel per serving or per egg.</li> <li>• Must state that the good source claim is “<i>per serving</i>” or “<i>per egg</i>”.</li> <li>• Cholesterol Disclaimer (see Cholesterol Disclaimer listed above) must be listed when Good Source claims are utilized.</li> <li>• If there are no percent Daily Values (%DV) established for the mineral/nutrient, you cannot use the Good Source claim.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Excellent Source, Rich In, and High Claims:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Example: Excellent Source or Rich In or High In or Contains at least 20% more of the Daily Value for the nutrient listed in the Nutrition Facts Panel per serving or per egg.</li> <li>• Must state that the excellent source claim is “<i>per serving</i>” or “<i>per egg</i>”.</li> <li>• Cholesterol Disclaimer (see Cholesterol Disclaimer listed above) must be listed when Excellent Source claims are utilized.</li> <li>• If there are no percent Daily Values (%DV) established for the mineral/nutrient, you cannot use the Excellent Source claim.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Quantitative Statement:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Example: “<i>Contains or provides (X) grams of Omega-3 Fatty Acids per serving or per egg.</i>”</li> <li>• A Quantitative Statement does not imply a high, low, good source, or excellent source of a particular nutrient, it is a statement of fact.</li> <li>• Cholesterol Disclaimer (see Cholesterol Disclaimer listed above) must be listed when Quantitative Statement Claims are utilized.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Cholesterol Claims (25% Less Cholesterol, Reduced Cholesterol, etc.):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Example: “<i>Contains 25% less cholesterol than a normal egg.</i>”</li> <li>• When cholesterol claims are made, the Polyunsaturated and Monounsaturated percentages must be listed on the Nutrition Facts Panel.</li> <li>• Cholesterol Disclaimer (see Cholesterol Disclaimer listed above) must be listed when cholesterol claims are utilized.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Petitions for Health Claims: 21 CFR Part 101.70 (a)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Any interested person may petition the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to issue a regulation regarding a health claim. Contact the Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition (CFSAN) for details on how to execute the petition.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Omega-3 Fatty Acid (DHA, EPA, ALA) Claims:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Effective January 1, 2016: DHA and EPA claims will be prohibited from use as Nutrient Content Claims.</li> <li>• The following claims will be allowed for ALA, Nutrient Content Claims: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>High</b> - Greater than or equal to 320 mg of ALA per Reference Amount Customarily Consumed (RACC) - greater than or equal to 20% of 1.6 g/day</li> <li>○ <b>Good Source</b> – Greater than or equal to 160 mg of ALA per Reference Amount Customarily Consumed (RACC) - greater than or equal to 10% of 1.6 g/day</li> <li>○ <b>More</b> – Greater than or equal to 160 mg of ALA per Reference Amount Customarily Consumed (RACC) than an appropriate reference food (greater than or equal to 10% of 1.6 g/day)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
	<p><b>Facts Up Front (FuF) Claims:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FuF claims are not considered Nutrient Content Claims, when the four basic icons are listed. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Four Basic Icons</b> – Calories, Saturated Fat, Sodium, and Total Sugar content.</li> <li><b>Optional Icons</b> - A combination of up to two additional icons (potassium, dietary fiber, protein, vitamin A, vitamin C, vitamin D, calcium, and iron) can be used in conjunction with the four basic icons.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• When utilizing the “Optional Icons” the cholesterol disclaimer must be placed in close proximity to the FuF claim, due to exceeding trigger levels of cholesterol found in shell eggs.</li> <li>• <b>A common mistake:</b> When using the FuF claim, the percent Daily Values (%DVs) listed on the icons are not the same as the %DVs listed on the Nutrition Facts Panel – Double check for accuracy.</li> </ul>

**NUTRIENT CONTENT CLAIMS NOT ALLOWED ON PACKAGING MATERIAL BEARING THE USDA GRADEMARK UNLESS MANDATORY LABELING REQUIREMENTS ARE FIRST MET**

	<p><b>Organic Eggs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The term is not codified by either FDA or USDA/AMS. The term is misleading because the statement of identity is “EGGS” not Organic Eggs.</li> <li>• Suggested Verbiage– <i>Eggs that originated from a source flock fed an Organic diet.</i></li> <li>• Once the Statement of Identity (EGGS) has been met, you can combine “Organic” with “Eggs”.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Cage-Free Eggs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The term is not codified by either FDA or USDA/AMS. The term is misleading because the statement of identity is “EGGS” not Cage Free Eggs.</li> <li>• Suggested Verbiage – <i>Eggs that originated from a cage-free environment.</i></li> <li>• Once the Statement of Identity (EGGS) has been met, you can combine “Cage-Free” with “Eggs”.</li> <li>• <b>Cage Free definition:</b> Eggs packed in <a href="#">USDA grademarked</a> consumer packages labeled as cage free must be produced by hens housed in a building, room, or enclosed area that allows for unlimited access to food, water, and provides the freedom to roam within the area during the laying cycle.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Free Range Eggs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The term is not codified by either FDA or USDA/AMS. The term is misleading because the statement of identity is “EGGS” not Free Range Eggs.</li> <li>• Suggested Verbiage – <i>Eggs that originated from a Free-Range environment.</i></li> <li>• Once the Statement of Identity (EGGS) has been met, you can combine “Free-Range” with “Eggs”.</li> <li>• <b>Free Range definition:</b> Eggs packed in <a href="#">USDA grademarked</a> consumer packages labeled as free range must be produced by hens housed in a building, room, or area that allows for unlimited access to food, water, and continuous access to the outdoors during their laying cycle. The outdoor area may be fenced and/or covered with netting-like material.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Free Roaming:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The USDA/FSIS considers Free Roaming claims to be associated with livestock animals; while Free Range claims are associated with avian species. USDA/AMS has adopted this position, but it is not codified in the regulations.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Omega-3 Eggs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The term is not codified by either FDA or USDA/AMS. The term is misleading because the statement of identity is “EGGS” not Omega-3 Eggs.</li> <li>• Suggested Verbiage – <i>Eggs that originated from a source flock fed a diet enhanced with Omega-3 Fatty Acids.</i></li> <li>• Once the Statement of Identity (EGGS) has been met, you can combine “Omega-3” with “Eggs”.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Best Eggs In The World:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Unless scientific evidence exists, the claim cannot be used.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Animal Friendly:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No definition exists by either FDA or USDA/AMS.</li> <li>• The term is misleading and subjective.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Happy Hens:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No definition exists by either FDA or USDA/AMS.</li> <li>• The term is misleading and subjective.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Naturally Raised in a Natural Environment:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No definition exists in either FDA or USDA/AMS regulations as to what a natural environment consists of.</li> <li>• Suggested Verbiage: Raised in a cage-free environment. Raised in a free-range environment.</li> </ul>

	<p><b>Structure / Function Claims:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Claims such as: “Omega-3 Fatty Acids can contribute to cardiovascular health” is considered an Implied Health Claim, implying that Omega-3 Fatty Acids may reduce the risk of heart disease. Although scientific information suggests a degree of correlation; conclusive scientific evidence is not available to develop specific claims for eggs. Therefore, the claim, or similar claims, such as this one, may not be made.</li> <li>• If scientific data can provide conclusive evidence of such a claim, the claim <u>may</u> be allowed for use, upon review and approval by FDA.</li> </ul>
<p align="center"><b>INDIVIDUAL STATE PROGRAMS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• USDA/AMS does not maintain a list of individual State requirements and is not responsible for providing or approving individual State requirements when reviewing label submissions for Federal approval. It is strongly recommended that you verify applicable State requirements before submitting labels for Federal approval.</li> </ul>	
	<p><b>Arizona Grown:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shell eggs packed under this logo must originate from and be processed in the state of Arizona.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Hawaii:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Product that originates from the American mainland must state: “<i>MAINLAND</i>” in all caps on the PDP in a minimum type size of 3/16”.</li> <li>• Shell protection (Egg Oiling) is optional. However, if the label states “<i>Shell Protected,</i>” the eggs must be oiled.</li> <li>• Eggs must be stamped “<i>US</i>” if from the mainland.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Puerto Rico:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Eggs must be stamped with “<i>US</i>” on the large end of each individual egg, if from the mainland.</li> <li>• No Disease Free Statements are required for U.S. Territories.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>California:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Product containing the CA SEFS Compliant or California Shell Egg Food Safety Compliant statement must be at least ¼” in type size.</li> <li>• The statement can appear on the PDP or can be ink jet printed on the end of the carton.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Colorado Proud:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is used to promote food and agricultural products that are grown, raised, or processed in Colorado. Egg cartons bearing the logo must contain eggs that are laid by hens in Colorado.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Go Texan:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Product containing this logo must originate from and be processed within the state of Texas.</li> <li>• Product sold in the state of Texas: Labels must contain the Texas licensing number near the legal line.</li> </ul>
<p align="center"><b>PRE-PRINTED USDA GRADEMARKED SHIPPING CASE LABELS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Producer/Packers have the option to use pre-printed, USDA grademarked logos on case end labels in lieu of physically stamping the cases with the USDA grademarked stamp. When utilized, the below listed items are required for approval.</li> <li>• It is strongly recommended that you verify applicable State requirements before submitting labels for Federal approval.</li> </ul>	
	<p><b>Label Format Requirements:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The case end label and the shipping case are considered the “label format”.</li> <li>• <u>Each label format must contain:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The Statement of Identity (EGGS).</li> <li>○ The Safe Handling Statement. Alternatively, the Safe Handling Statement can be placed on the invoices or bills of lading, instead of the label format.</li> <li>○ If the Safe Handling Statement is placed on the invoice or bill of lading, a “<i>Keep Refrigerated</i>” statement or words of similar meaning, must appear on the label format.</li> <li>○ Size of Egg (Jumbo, Extra Large, Large, Medium, Small, or Pee-Wee – Cannot be abbreviated).</li> <li>○ Declaration of Net Quantity of Contents (15, 24, or 30-Dozen - for Institutional Use).</li> <li>○ Legal Line (Name, Address, City, State, and Zip Code). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The street address may be omitted if the location is listed in a local directory or a website is listed in close proximity to the legal line. If not, the address must appear in the legal line.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<p><b>Open Skids (900 or 1080-Dozen):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Since Open Skids often times do not contain packaging material; labeling requirements must be listed on the label (see Label Format Requirements listed above) and/or contain all of the information on the invoices or bills of lading.</li> </ul>
<p><b>LABEL FORMAT REVISIONS THAT <u>DO NOT</u> REQUIRE REASSIGNMENT OF THE USDA APPROVAL NUMBER - (FOR USDA GRADEMARKED PRODUCT, ONLY)</b></p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The USDA-National Office requires a copy of the finalized USDA grademarked format for distribution to field staff.</li> </ul>	
	<p><b>Legal Line:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Changes to the legal line do not require reassignment; as long as the new legal line meets all of the requirements (see mandatory labeling requirements, listed above).</li> <li>• A copy of the altered Legal Line must be submitted to the National Office prior to production.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Expiration Date Prefix:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Changes to the expiration prefix do not require reassignment (Sell by, Use by, Best by, Best before, etc.).</li> <li>• A copy of the altered expiration prefix must be submitted to the National Office prior to production.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Coupons or Promotional Items:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If the USDA approved format is reduced in size to make room for a coupon; no reassignment is required, unless FDA labeling requirements are added, removed, or moved from the originally approved format.</li> <li>• A copy of the altered format must be submitted to the National Office prior to production.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>SKU Numbers, Item Numbers, etc.:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A change to a SKU or item number listed on the label does not require reassignment as long as such change does not interfere with or alter existing mandatory labeling requirements.</li> <li>• A copy of the altered format must be submitted to the National Office prior to production.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Styrofoam, Pulp, or PET (Clear) Cartons:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Approved label formats can be used on all carton mediums (Styrofoam, Pulp, or PET) unless mandatory labeling requirements will differ from one carton medium to another. In which case, the approval will only apply towards the carton medium that was officially approved.</li> </ul>
<p><b>LABEL FORMAT REVISIONS THAT <u>REQUIRE</u> REASSIGNMENT OF THE USDA APPROVAL NUMBER - (FOR USDA GRADEMARKED PRODUCT, ONLY)</b></p>	
	<p><b>USDA Grademark (Shield):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Any change to the USDA grademark (shield) requires USDA approval prior to production. For example, switching from a tri-colored shield to a black background shield with white font. Reassignment is required to verify the correct shields are utilized in conjunction with 7 CFR Part 56.36 (a) and (b).</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Label Format Background Colors:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Certain FDA and USDA labeling requirements stipulate that nutrient content claims, disclosure statements, or mandatory labeling information contrast with the surrounding area (i.e. Safe Handling Statements, Net Weight, Statement of Identity, etc.). For this reason, color changes to the format must be reviewed to ensure compliance.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Changing the Type Size on the Label:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As discussed under the Statement of Identity (EGGS), certain FDA labeling requirements stipulate the type size in relation to Nutrient Content Claims, brand names, or marketing claims in general. Therefore, simply reducing or enlarging the type size of certain items on the label may create a non-compliance.</li> </ul>