



Egg Quality Inspection Policy

INTRODUCTION:

The Egg Quality Inspection Policy exists to encourage the production of high quality eggs. The Canadian Food Inspection Agency [CFIA] conducts a minimum of 90 random inspections of eggs from flocks at 60 weeks of age, [40 weeks of lay] but they can do an inspection at any age. Egg Farmers of Ontario [EFO] is only notified if there is a failure.

PRINCIPLE:

To have a pre-grade inspection program in place to encourage the production of high quality eggs.

CRITERION:

All eggs shipped to a registered egg grading station for purposes of grading must meet the following criteria.

CRITERION	TOLERANCE
Cracks	10.0%
Dirt in excess of 160 sq. mm. but less than 1/3 of the shell	5.0%
Dirt in excess of 1/3 of the shell	2.5%
Stain in excess of 1/3 of the shell	5.0%
Rough, ridged or misshapen shells	10.0%
Air cell greater than 5 mm	5.0%
Leakers	2.5%
Total under grades not to exceed	15.0%
Haugh Unit	67

PROCEDURES REGARDING PREGRADE INSPECTION:

1. Egg Farmers of Ontario provides CFIA with the details of flock age and grading station destination for all regulated producers.
2. CFIA may inspect any lot of eggs at any time regardless of the age of the flock by selecting a random sample of the eggs which will be candled.
3. Haugh Unit evaluation will continue to be performed based on the discretion of the CFIA Inspector.

COMPLIANCE:

The following protocol will be followed for all flocks found outside the tolerance:

- (a) CFIA Inspector will advise the Regional Program Officer immediately by fax or by phone with the results of the inspection;
- (b) EFO will simultaneously be notified of the results of the inspection by the CFIA Inspector;
- (c) EFO will notify the producer by phone and in writing;
- (d) The failed lot of eggs (where grade A & B can not be applied) will be detained by CFIA, and directed to an egg processing or grading station by EFO, at a penalty of 20¢ less than producer price. All subsequent lots will also be detained by CFIA, until an appeal inspection has been requested by the producer;
- (e) All sorted lots of eggs, non-quota flocks and hatching eggs will be subject to full inspection.

Repeat offenders may be subject to significant sanctions at the discretion of the Board.



EGG QUALITY INSPECTION POLICY CONTINUED

APPEAL INSPECTION:

The procedures for an appeal inspection are as follows:

- (a) The producer is to request by phone, the appeal inspection by contacting EFO;
- (b) Flocks granted an appeal inspection will then be examined by a CFIA Inspector. There will be a fee imposed for this inspection of \$167.00, which will be invoiced to the EFO;
- (c) Eggs which fail the appeal inspection will continue to be diverted to a breaker at a penalty of 20¢ less than producer price, until the producer requests another appeal inspection. The producer will be invoiced for this inspection;
- (d) A flock that fails at one station fails at all stations;
- (e) All penalty flock eggs shall continue to be shipped to the egg grading station they would normally ship to;
- (f) Notify CFIA when the flock will be shipped.

Upon receipt of the phone or fax notification of a failed inspection, EFO will -

- (1) Notify the producer by phone or in writing of the reasons for the failure.
- (2) Visit the farm, at the request of the producer, to assist in determining what CORRECTIVE measures may have been undertaken to correct the problem.