

SAFEGUARDS

SGS CONSUMER TESTING SERVICES

FOOD

NO. 087/10 MAY 2010

US FDA ISSUES NEW SAFETY RULES FOR SHELL EGGS

On 13 April 2010 the US FDA published guidance ¹ on the New Safety Rules for Shell Eggs in reference to a final rule that established a regulation ² entitled Prevention of Salmonella Enteritidis (SE) in Shell Eggs during Production, Transportation and Storage and came in to effect September 8, 2009 ³.

Effective 09 July 2010, the US FDA requires all farms with 50,000 or more laying hens or persons who hold or transport eggs for shell egg processing or egg product facilities to comply with the regulation 21 CFR 118. Effective 09 July 2012, the same regulatory requirements apply to all farms with 3,000 or more laying hens.

All farms with fewer than 3,000 laying hens or do not produce eggs for the table market and who do not hold or transport shell eggs for shell egg processing or egg product facilities or that sell all of their eggs directly to consumers are exempt from the regulation 21 CFR 118.

The regulation applies to all eggs whether imported into the US or domestically produced and whether or not sold into interstate commerce.



¹ [Guidance for Industry: Prevention of Salmonella Enteritidis in Shell Eggs During Production, Transportation, and Storage; Small Entity Compliance Guide](#)

² [21 Code of Federal Regulations \(CFR\) Part 118](#)

³ [US Federal Register \(FR\), Volume 74, Number 130, Pages 33029 to 33101, July 9, 2009](#)



All farms that must comply with 21 CFR 118 must perform the following:

- Chicks must be procured from SE-monitored breeder flocks
- The laying hen environment is to be tested for SE when hens are 14 to 16 weeks of age
- If environmental test is negative then retest environment for SE when hens are 40 to 45 weeks of age
- If environmental test is positive then the eggs must be tested and within 2 weeks must clean and disinfect the laying hen environment
- Additional environmental testing must be performed at 4 to 6 weeks after the end of each molting process

Major parts of the egg regulation include biosecurity, pest control, cleaning and disinfectant, refrigeration, environmental testing, egg testing, sampling methodology, testing methodology, administration, record keeping and registration requirements.

Testing Methodology for Salmonella Enteritidis can be found at:

- Environmental samples must be conducted by the method entitled "[Environmental Sampling and Detection of Salmonella in Poultry Houses](#)" April 2008.
- Egg samples must be tested according to [Chapter 5 of FDA's Bacteriological Analytical Manual \(BAM\)](#) December 2007 Edition

Registration Requirements:

- All shell egg producers that must comply with this regulation must register. Read more for [Shell Egg Producer Registration](#).

SGS is committed to inform interested parties as developments on US FDA and other legislation occur. Throughout our global network of laboratories, we are able to provide a range of services, including analytical testing, auditing, inspections and consultancy of food articles for the US and worldwide markets. Please do not hesitate to contact us for further information.

FOR ENQUIRIES:

Global Competences Support Centre: gpsc@sgs.com
US – Sanjeev Gandhi : +973-461-7924 or Sanjeev.Gandhi@sgs.com

Asia – Hong Kong. Tel: +852 2334 4481 Fax: +852 2144 7001 mktg.hk@sgs.com
Australasia – Perth. Tel: +61 (0) 3 9790 3418 Fax: +61 (0) 3 9701 0988 au.cts@sgs.com
Europe – London —UK. Tel: +44(0) 20 8991 3410 Fax: +44 (0) 20 8991 3417 gb.cts.sales@sgs.com
Africa & Middle East – Turkey. Tel: +90 212 368 40 00 Fax: +90 212 296 47 82 sgs.turkey@sgs.com
Americas – USA. Tel: +1 973 575 5252 Fax: +1 973 575 1193 uscts.inquiries@sgs.com

www.sgs.com/cts Global Competences Support Centre: gpsc@sgs.com
If you wish to unsubscribe to this technical bulletin, go here: [Unsubscribe](#)

© 2010 SGS SA. All rights reserved. This is a publication of SGS, except for 3rd parties' contents submitted or licensed for use by SGS. SGS neither endorses nor disapproves said 3rd parties contents. This publication is intended to provide technical information and shall not be considered an exhaustive treatment of any subject treated. It is strictly educational and does not replace any legal requirements or applicable regulations. It is not intended to constitute consulting or professional advice. The information contained herein is provided "as is" and SGS does not warrant that it will be error-free or will meet any particular criteria of performance or quality. Do not quote or refer any information herein without SGS's prior written consent.