Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA  

§ 56.3 Administration.  

The Administrator shall perform, for and under the supervision of the Secretary, such duties as the Secretary may require in the enforcement or administration of the provisions of the Act and the regulations in this part. The Administrator is authorized to waive for limited periods any particular provisions of the regulations in this part to permit experimentation so that new procedures, equipment, and processing techniques may be tested to facilitate definite improvements and at the same time to determine full compliance with the spirit and intent of the regulations in this part. The AMS and its officers and employees shall not be liable in damages through acts of commission or omission in the administration of this part.


§ 56.4 Basis of grading service.  

(a) Any grading service in accordance with the regulations in this part shall be for class, quality, quantity, or condition or any combination thereof. Grading service with respect to the determination of the quality of products shall be on the basis of the “United States Standards, Grades, and Weight Classes for Egg Shells.” However, grading service may be rendered with respect to products which are bought and sold on the basis of institutional contract specifications or specifications of the applicant and such service, when approved by the Administrator, shall be rendered on the basis of such specifications. The supervision of packaging shall be in accordance with such instructions as may be approved or issued by the Administrator.

(b) Whenever grading service is performed on a representative sample basis, such sample shall be drawn and consist of not less than the minimum number of cases as indicated in the following table. A minimum of one hundred eggs shall be examined per sample case. For lots which consist of less than 1 case, a minimum of 50 eggs shall be examined. If the lot consists of less than 50 eggs, all eggs will be examined.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cases in lot</th>
<th>Cases in sample</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 case</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 to 10, inclusive</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 to 25, inclusive</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26 to 50, inclusive</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>51 to 100, inclusive</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>101 to 200, inclusive</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>201 to 300, inclusive</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>301 to 400, inclusive</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>401 to 500, inclusive</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>501 to 600, inclusive</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For each additional 50 cases, or fraction thereof, in excess of 600 cases, one additional case shall be included in the sample.


§ 56.5 Accessibility of product.  

Each product for which grading service is requested shall be so conditioned and placed as to permit a proper determination of the class, quality, quantity, or condition of such product.


§ 56.6 Supervision.  

All grading service shall be subject to supervision at all times by the responsible State supervisor, regional director, and national supervisor. Such service shall be rendered in accordance with instructions issued by the Administrator, where the facilities and conditions are satisfactory for the conduct of the service and the requisite graders are available. Whenever the supervisor of a grader has evidence that such grader incorrectly graded a product, such supervisor shall take such action as is necessary to correct the grading and to cause any improper grademarks which appear on the product or the containers thereof to be corrected prior
§ 56.7 Nondiscrimination.

The conduct of all services and the licensing of graders under these regulations shall be accomplished without discrimination as to race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, or marital or family status.

[71 FR 42008, July 24, 2006]

§ 56.8 Other applicable regulations.

Compliance with the regulations in this part shall not excuse failure to comply with any other Federal, or any State, or municipal applicable laws or regulations.


§ 56.9 OMB control number.

(a) Purpose. The collecting of information requirements in this part has been approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and assigned OMB control number 0581–0128.

(b) Display.


To shipment of the product from the place of initial grading.


§ 56.10 Who may be licensed and authorized.

(a) Any person who is a Federal or State employee, the employee of a local jurisdiction, or the employee of a cooperating agency possessing proper qualifications as determined by an examination for competency and who is to perform grading service under this part, may be licensed by the Secretary as a grader.

(b) All licenses issued by the Secretary shall be countersigned by the officer in charge of the shell egg grading service of the AMS or any other designated officer.

(c) Any person, who is employed at any official plant and possesses proper qualifications, as determined by the Administrator, may be authorized to candle and grade eggs on the basis of the “U.S. Standards for Quality of Individual Shell Eggs,” with respect to eggs purchased from producers or eggs to be packaged with official identification. In addition, such authorization may be granted to any qualified person to act as a “quality assurance inspector” in the packaging and grade labeling of products. No person to whom such authorization is granted shall have authority to issue any grading certificates, grading memoranda, or other official documents; and all eggs which are graded by any such person shall thereafter be check graded by a grader.

[71 FR 42008, July 24, 2006]

§ 56.11 Financial interest of graders.

Graders shall not render service on any product in which they are financially interested.

[71 FR 42008, July 24, 2006]

§ 56.12 Suspension of license; revocation.

Pending final action by the Secretary, any person authorized to countersign a license to perform grading service may, whenever such action is deemed necessary to assure that any grading service is properly performed, suspend any license to perform grading service issued pursuant to this part, by