

Blown Egg Shells for Ornamental Purposes (other than those that have been disinfected)

As always, exporters should have their importers confirm (prior to shipment) with the specific Japanese government officials at the anticipated port of entry into Japan that the consignment will be allowed entry into Japan with the endorsed certificate.

The following text should be added to the additional declarations area of the VS Form 16-4 for these consignments. No other certifications/declarations may be included:

Beginning of ADDITIONAL DECLARATIONS =>>>

This office has on file a notarized affidavit from [insert company name] verifying the accuracy of the statements below. I, the endorsing official listed below, have read the notarized affidavit referenced above, and to the best of my knowledge and belief these statements are true.

1. There have been no outbreaks of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) in the United States for at least 90 days before shipment of the exported egg products;
OR, when the United States has an outbreak of HPAI:
 - a. When the state-level HPAI zoning is applied, there have been no outbreaks of HPAI in the State where the exported egg products and the shell eggs used for production of the exported egg products were produced or that through which the egg products and the shell eggs were transported for at least 90 days before shipment of the exported egg products; or when the State where the exported egg products are produced has an outbreak of HPAI, there have been no outbreaks of HPAI in the State for at least 90 days before the estimated earliest date of exposure for the detection of HPAI in the State.
 - b. When the county-level zoning is applied, there have been no outbreaks of HPAI in the county where the exported egg products and the shell eggs used for production of the exported egg products were produced or that through which the exported egg products and the shell eggs were transported for at least 90 days before shipment of the exported egg products; or when the County where the exported egg products are produced has an outbreak of HPAI, there have been no outbreaks of HPAI in the County for at least 90 days before the estimated earliest date of exposure for the detection of HPAI in the County.
2. The egg products and the shell eggs used for the production of the exported egg products did not originate from nor pass through any LPAI-banned area before being carried into processing plants. An LPAI-banned area is any zone within 10 km of any premises in the state where an infection of NAI virus that is not HPNAI as defined in the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code (OIE Code) has been confirmed and restricted from export by Japanese Animal Health Authorities.
3. In the County where the shell eggs for the production of the exported egg products were produced and where the plant producing the exported egg products is located, Newcastle disease (as defined in the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code), fowl cholera and other serious infectious fowl diseases (other than NAI) as recognized by the government of the United States, have not occurred for at least 90 days before shipment of the table eggs.
4. The products were produced under sanitary conditions.
5. The products were derived from eggs from clinically healthy animals.

6. The products are stored in clean and sanitary wrappings and/or containers and handled in a way to prevent being exposed to any pathogens or any animal infectious diseases prior to shipment.

<<<= End of ADDITIONAL DECLARATIONS.

The PRODUCT box of the VS Form 16-4 must also include:

Manufacturing date(s): [insert manufacturing dates].

The IDENTIFICATION box of the VS Form 16-4 must also include:

Container #: [insert container #]; Port of destination:[Insert port of destination]; Seal #:[Insert seal #]; Expected shipping date: [insert date product expected to leave port]

When submitting the draft VS Form 16-4 to the VS Office, in addition to the affidavit referenced above, exporters should also include affidavit(s) from the producer(s) verifying the location of the farm(s) producing and other establishment(s) handling and processing the source eggs and egg shells. The affidavit(s) do not become part of the VS Form 16-4 and are not forwarded with the consignment to Japan.

For the purposes of the above certification, “State of origin” is defined as both the State where the eggs were produced (where the flock of origin is located) and the State of processing. If eggs or egg shells are processed in a State other than the State of the flock of origin, then both states are considered the “State of origin.”

Egg shells that have been disinfected:

For exports of blown egg shells for ornamental purposes that have been disinfected, please go back and select “Egg shells- blown (sanitized with chlorine) intended for ornamental purposes.”

Derivatives of imported eggs/egg shells:

If egg shells are derived from eggs/shells imported into the United States, the following supplemental certification from the government of the country of origin must also be submitted for the imported materials (in addition to the above referenced affidavit):

The country of origin of the egg shells has been free of notifiable avian influenza for at least 90 days. *[In the case of Canada, the previous statement may be replaced by: The country of origin of the egg shells has been free of highly pathogenic notifiable avian influenza for at least 90 days. The province of origin has been free of low pathogenicity notifiable avian influenza for at least 90 days.]* In the area where the eggs for the shells were produced (such an area being within a minimum radius of 50 kilometers from the production farm) and in the processing plant, outbreaks of Newcastle disease, fowl cholera and other serious infectious fowl diseases have not occurred for at least 90 days.

The egg shells were stored in clean and sanitary wrapping and containers and handled in a way to prevent being exposed to any pathogens or any animal infectious diseases prior to shipment.

The animal health statements required from the third country are different from those required for product produced in the United States, because Japan has recognized the United States for certain avian influenza and Newcastle disease zoning for which Japan has not recognized most other countries.