

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:

The State of origin of the egg shells has been free of highly pathogenic 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 as recognized by the government of the United States, have not occurred for at least 90 days.

This office has on file a notarized affidavit from *[insert name of company here]* 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.

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.

When submitting the draft VS Form 16-4 to the VS Area 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.