

## **Egg Products intended for Technical/Research Purposes**

**This article does not cover exports of:**

- **Egg Shells intended for Ornamental Purposes, nor**
- **Egg Products intended for Human or Animal Consumption**

### **Highly purified products:**

In cases where the Japanese inspector at the port through which the consignment into Japan considers the egg product to have been “highly purified” no certification is required. Because central Japanese authorities have not provided a definition of “highly purified” there is likely to be variation in interpretation by various Japanese local port authorities. In cases where an exporter believes their egg product may qualify as “highly purified” they should provide a processing description (not a certificate) to their importer for discussion with the pertinent Japanese port authority to determine if the product can be considered “highly purified.” If it can, then no certificate is required nor may be endorsed for the shipment.

### **Egg-origin products intended for technical/research purposes where the product is not “highly purified”**

This option is required for products where the Japanese importer **has not verified** that officials at the port of entry into Japan have agreed that the product is “highly purified” based upon the processing description provided by the exporter.

A VS Form 16-4 is required with the following exact text in the “ADDITIONAL DECLARATIONS”. No additional text 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 28 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 28 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 28 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 28 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 28 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]

To determine “LPAI-banned areas” and “Newcastle disease” banned areas, please go back to the previous page and select: **\*ALERT\*** Important information regarding trade bans on various products .

Exporters must submit to the APHIS office scans of the following documentation with the prepared VS Form 16-4:

- Affidavit from the egg product producer verifying:
  - The egg products were produced under sanitary conditions.

- The egg 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.
- The egg products were produced from eggs collected from clinically healthy animals.
- The names and addresses of the laying facility or facilities (where eggs was collected from the chickens).
- Affidavits from each laying facility listed above verifying the address(es) of the source flock(s), that the laying facility has in place procedures to ensure eggs are only sourced from birds verified to be clinically healthy at the time of collection, and the states in which the laying hens had been in (hatched, raised, transited, or lived), and applicable dates.
- If additional entities handle the egg/egg products between the laying facility and the exporting facility, equivalent affidavits must be included from those entities.

The affidavits do not become part of the VS Form 16-4 and are not sent to Japan with the shipment.

All affidavits must meet certain formatting criteria. Exporters should contact their local APHIS office for details.

The above assumes the egg products are from egg collected in the United States.