

45 Answers to Egg-Law Querries

Pennsylvania poultrymen have been asking questions almost continually since it was announced that the Fresh Egg laws were to be revised.

Since the new provisions were put into effect Jan. 16, the number of questions has increased.

To help clear up some of the confusion that exists, the state Bureau of Markets and extension workers in agricultural economics department at Penn State have compiled 45 of the most commonly asked questions and their answers.

Q What consumer containers must be marked?

A. Only the six-egg and 12-egg carton must be marked.

Q. What must be marked on the carton?

A. (1) The quality grade, size grade, and the name and address

of the producer or packer, or distributor; or

(2) "Not Classified" and the name and address of the producer or packer, or distributor.

Q If I sell eggs in paper bags, must they be marked?

A. Paper bags do not have to be marked.

Q. If I do not want to sell by grade and size, how must the carton be marked?

A. It must be marked with the name and address of the producer, packer, or distributor, and "Not Classified."


Q May I use the term "Unclassified"?

A. No, the correct term is "Not Classified."

Q I sell my cracked and checked eggs in carton, how must they be marked?

A. They can be marked "checked" and/or "cracked," or "Not Classified," and the name and address.

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Plastic cartons too?

Q If I use plastic cartons, must they be marked?

A. As long as it is six-egg or 12-egg carton, it must be marked.

Q How can a plastic carton be marked?

A. An insert in the carton which can be read from the outside and has the required information on it can be used. Also a gummed label could be used on some types of plastic cartons.

Q May I write the grade and



EGG QUALITY BEGINS here, on the farm in the laying house. To market quality eggs they must be gathered at least three times a day in wire baskets, then cooled immedi-

ately. Remember, there is only one way for egg quality to go after it leaves the hen and that is down.

size as well as the name and address on the carton and meet the requirements?

A. The information can be written on the carton as long as it is plain and conspicuous.

Q. May the information be stamped on the carton?

A. It may be stamped or otherwise marked on the carton as long as it is plain and conspicuous.

Q. Must a name and address appear on all packages eggs are sold in?

A. A name and address is required only on six-egg and 12 egg cartons.

Q Am I required to have a license to candle and establish a grade on my eggs?

A. No license is required.

Q Is a seal needed on the cartons?

A. A seal is not needed.

AA quality in B pack?

Q In order to be sure may I mark a carton Grade B and pack AA quality in it?

A. Yes, if you can afford it (Continued on page 9)



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Monroe C. Babcock

No matter whose chicks you buy . . . give them the best start you can. You can't be lazy in the chicken business if you are out to make a profit (and I assume you are).

Here are some tips that will help.

Start your chicks in a house that has been scrupulously cleaned, well in advance, disinfected, and allowed to dry out before the litter is put in.

Have enough room. Chicks need 1 sq. ft. floor space per chick for first 8 weeks; and 2 sq. ft. floor space per bird from 8 weeks until they start to comb up (if they are raised inside).

Allow some fresh air, but do not let the chicks get so cold that they pile up or huddle. Cold chicks won't eat and drink properly.

Don't try to crowd too many chicks around one brooder. The average electric, gas or oil brooder will take care of 250 chicks maximum. Maybe some coal brooders will take care of 300 chicks adequately. Chicks usually need some heat for at least 8 weeks.

Chicks need easy access to feed and water for a fast start. They shouldn't have to fight for it. Have at least three 4' hoppers for each 200 birds. Change to "broiler feeders" at 4 weeks and keep raising them on legs to prevent wastage. Never fill over half full. Keep adding feeders as chicks grow.

Remember to always get the best chicks money will buy. Feed and labor are still your biggest expenses in raising chicks.

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