

Egg Products Inspection Deadline set for July 1

July 1, 1972, is your deadline to register with the U.S. Department of Agriculture under the Egg Products Inspection Act if you operate a hatchery.

The second phase of the Act goes into effect July 1, when USDA will begin to monitor the disposition of restricted eggs—checks, dirties, leakers, incubator rejects, inedibles, and loss eggs. The first part of the Act which went into effect July 1, 1971 provided for mandatory inspection of egg products.

Under the second phase, hatcheries will be inspected to assure that incubator rejects are being crushed, denatured or destroyed, and labeled according to procedures established under the Act. (Incubator rejects include all eggs removed at any point after being subjected to the incubation process.)

The Act is intended to help assure that consumers including bakeries, institutions, restaurants, and food manufacturers, receive wholesome eggs and egg products.

Not only incubator rejects, but all restricted eggs, except checks and dirties, must be denatured, or destroyed to prevent use as human food. Checks and dirties may be shipped only to USDA inspected egg breaking plants where they can be segregated and processed.

To enforce these requirements of the law, not only hatcheries, but also egg packers must register by July 1 and be inspected quarterly. Other egg handlers, such as brokers and distributors, will be visited on a spot check basis.

Some egg sales are exempt

from the Egg Products Inspection Act, although they are still subject to State and local laws. Exempted are sales of eggs:

—by producers with flocks of 3,000 or fewer hens;

—by producers, regardless of size, on their own premises or on a route directly to household consumers;

—by egg packers on their own premises directly to household consumers.

However, bakeries, restaurants, institutions, and food manufacturers are prohibited from purchasing restricted eggs from any source. They can break only U.S. Grade B or better eggs unless they become official egg breaking plants and operate under continuous USDA inspection

Harrisburg Site Of NEMA Session

Coming to the Northeast almost immediately after his election as the new president of United Egg Producers, Jerry Bookey of Seattle, Wash. will be the guest of the directors of Northeast Egg Marketers Association on May 10 at Harrisburg.

Following the final board meeting on the morning of the 10th, the directors of NEMA have arranged a conference of egg producers at the Holiday Inn Town, Second and Chestnut Streets, convening at 1:30 p.m.

As NEMA directors of Pennsylvania, Donald Horn of Ephrata and Jay Greider of Mount Joy, state that a welcome is extended to both active and

prospective NEMA members to attend this session.

President Bookey will be outlining UEP plans and objectives for the coming year. NEMA officers and staff members will discuss current highlights of the current marketing picture, with emphasis on work being done by UEP and its supporting regional cooperatives to sharpen egg prices reporting and build ever broadening support for the proposed national promotion check-off on eggs.

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