

SHELL EGG PROCESSOR REQUIREMENTS

Shell egg processors that produce and sell only eggs for wholesale or retail, which do not fall under the Limited Poultry and Egg Regulations, are required to meet the Minimum Construction Standards to obtain a food permit, along with other requirements specific to egg processing. This permit also includes those processors who choose to sell Unclassified eggs.

- An FDACS food permit is required. The processor must meet the **Minimum Construction Standard** requirements, including documentation of an approved water supply and sewage system before the initial permitting inspection.
- An **Application and Request for an Inspection for Permitting** can be completed at www.FDACS.gov. A request can also be made by calling 850-245-5520.
- Processing area must be enclosed and separate from living quarters. If utilizing a room attached to or located on the homestead, there can be no direct access to the living quarters. Restrooms cannot be shared with private living quarters. Consult with local officials for any zoning restrictions.
- Processing facility must have equipment to properly wash and air dry the eggs, including an egg washing machine or a three-compartment sink of sufficient size.
- Processing facility must have hot and cold water of sufficient quantity to meet egg washing requirements.
- The facility must have a mop sink with hot/cold running water for disposal of waste waters. It is not necessary for the mop sink to be located inside the facility.
- The facility must have a hand sink with hot and cold running water.
- There must be cooling equipment to store the eggs at 45 °F or less ambient air temperature.
- “Eggs which have been properly washed, sized and Graded should be packaged in new, unused cartons that are properly labeled.”
- Unclassified eggs (washed eggs which have not been graded for size and quality) must be sold in flats or in bulk with a placard displayed at the point of sale stating: *“These eggs have not been graded as to quality and weight”*. The placard must be at least 7 inches by 7 inches in size.
- Unclassified eggs (washed eggs which have not been graded for size and quality) must adhere to the same standards for checks, dirties, leakers, or loss as for Florida Grade B eggs.
- Nest run eggs (eggs that have not been washed, sized, or graded for quality) should only be sold to other producers or processors and shall not be sold directly to retail outlets, consumers, or public eating places.
- Processors who wish to sell USDA graded eggs or obtain additional information can do so by visiting www.fsis.USDA.gov, **Shell Eggs from Farm to Table**.
- Individuals which maintain a flock of less than 1,000 hens in a calendar year on his/her own farm, do not wholesale, do not sell across state lines, and sell eggs from chicken, turkey, duck, goose, guinea or quail may be eligible to be permitted as a **Limited Poultry and Egg Farm Operation**.
- Individuals which maintain a flock of more than 3,000 hens must register with the FDA.

1-800 HELP FLA
www.FDACS.gov

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