

Oregon Farm Direct Marketing: Guidelines for Selling Eggs

Do you produce and sell eggs directly to the consumer?

This publication outlines the labeling and handling requirements for producers selling eggs under the farm direct licensing exemption. For more information about Oregon's Farm Direct Marketing law and all of the products covered please see the Oregon Department of Agriculture's publication "[Farm Direct Marketing, Agricultural Products](#)"

You must label your egg cartons with the following information:

- Product identity (e.g., chicken eggs, duck eggs, etc.)
- Net contents (e.g., one dozen ungraded eggs or one dozen *Large AA* eggs*)
 - *Size and grade (e.g. *Large AA*) should only be used if you are grading eggs to Oregon Egg Standards (see OAR 603-002-0300: http://arcweb.sos.state.or.us/pages/rules/oars_600/oar_603/603_022.html).
- Your name and address
- Safe handling instructions must appear on the label prominently, conspicuously, and in a type size no smaller than one-sixteenth of one inch. The statement must appear in an outlined box, and the words "safe handling instructions" must appear in bold capital letters. See sample label below for the safe handling instructions statement.
- The following statements must also appear in all capital bold-face type, no less than one-eighth inch in height:

"THIS PRODUCT IS NOT PREPARED IN AN INSPECTED FOOD ESTABLISHMENT"

"NOT FOR RESALE"

Sample label:

Happy Hen Farm

1234 SE Laying Dr., Anytown, OR

One dozen ungraded chicken eggs

THIS PRODUCT IS NOT PREPARED IN AN INSPECTED FOOD ESTABLISHMENT.

NOT FOR RESALE Use by: **OCT 08 2016**

SAFE HANDLING INSTRUCTIONS: To prevent illness from bacteria: keep eggs refrigerated, cook eggs until yolks are firm, and cook foods containing eggs thoroughly.

Use by and sell by dates:

Eggs are required to have a "sell by" or "use by" date, which is usually found on the bottom of the carton but can also be included on the main label. The "sell by" date can be no more than 30 days after

production and the "use by" date can be no more than 45 days after production. Producers selling directly to the consumer typically use a "use by" date. The date can be hand written or date stamps can be purchased from a variety of sources for less than \$30.00.

Cartons:

If you package your eggs in previously used cartons, all identifying information from the previous seller must be removed or defaced. This includes the brand, trademark, officially designated number of another egg handler, and the use by or sell by date. The use of new cartons is encouraged. If you use recycled cartons, make sure they are clean and stored in a sanitary environment between uses.

Refrigeration:

Eggs must be kept refrigerated during transportation, storage, and at the point of sale. This includes storage during sales at farmers markets, CSA pick up sites, or farm stands. All unpasteurized eggs (washed or unwashed) must be kept at or below 45°F at all times after collection. Dirty eggs should be washed before refrigeration.

Eggs used for display that are not kept at or below 45°F cannot be sold.

When do you no longer qualify for Farm Direct and need an egg handler's license?

If you are selling eggs to wholesale accounts such as, restaurants, retailers, cafes, bakeries, hospitals, schools, boarding houses or institutions.

If you are selling eggs that you did not produce.*

* For more information about consignment sales regulations please consult ODA's *Farm Direct Marketing, Agricultural Products* publication:

<http://www.oregon.gov/ODA/shared/Documents/Publications/FoodSafety/FarmDirectMarketingAgProducts.pdf>

To obtain an egg handler license contact the Oregon Department of Agriculture Food Safety Division at 503-986-4720 or: <https://www.oregon.gov/ODA/programs/FoodSafety/FSLicensing/Pages/Eggs.aspx>

An egg handler's license costs \$25.00 per fiscal year (July 1 to June 30).

Questions?

Contact your local ODA inspector. Go to this website and type in your zip code:

http://oda.state.or.us/dbs/sanitarian_list/search.lasso

You can also contact your local OSU Extension Office: <http://extension.oregonstate.edu/find-us>

This fact sheet was prepared by Sara Runkel, OSU Extension Service Small Farms Program with input from Will Fargo, ODA Food Safety and Animal Health Program.

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