



Office of the
Deputy Administrator
Livestock & Poultry Program

1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Room 2092-S, STOP 0249
Washington, DC 20250-0249

March 25, 2020

To Our Shell Egg Grading Customers:

During this national emergency with the COVID-19 pandemic, we are experimenting with alternative procedures for grading should reduced grader presence become a reality. In those cases, we will ask plants to sign a Company Letter of Guarantee.

The Administrator of the Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) is exercising his authority to waive for limited periods any particular provisions of the regulations in this part to permit experimentation so that new procedures, equipment, and processing techniques may be tested to facilitate definite improvements and at the same time to determine full compliance with the spirit and intent of the grading regulations.

This experiment is applicable during this COVID-19 pandemic national emergency period only to ensure the uninterrupted movement of graded shell egg products to consumers. It is also only applicable only for customers who already have scheduled service and where AMS is unable to provide onsite grading service.

Thank you for cooperation as we share in the responsibility for feeding the people of this country and around the world.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Porter
Deputy Administrator
Livestock and Poultry Program