Buy Quality Eggs with Confidence

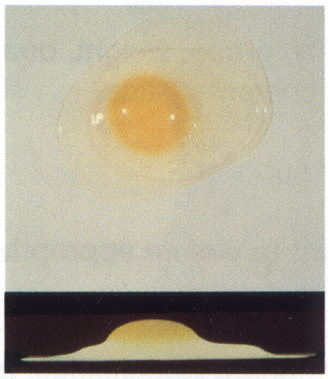
These emblems identify eggs that have been examined and certified by a U.S. Department of Agriculture grader for the quality and size indicated.

USDA AA GRADE

USDA A GRADE

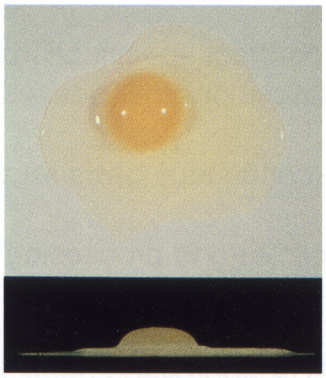
U.S. Quality Standards—Condition of the White and Yolk

AA Quality



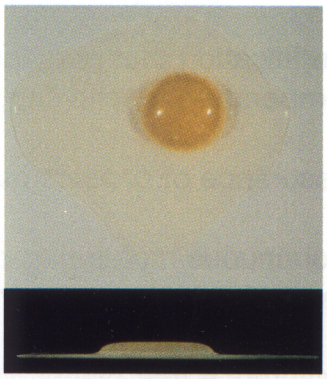
1. Egg content covers a small area.
2. White is firm, has much thick white surrounding the yolk and small amount of thin white.
3. Yolk is round and upstanding.

A Quality



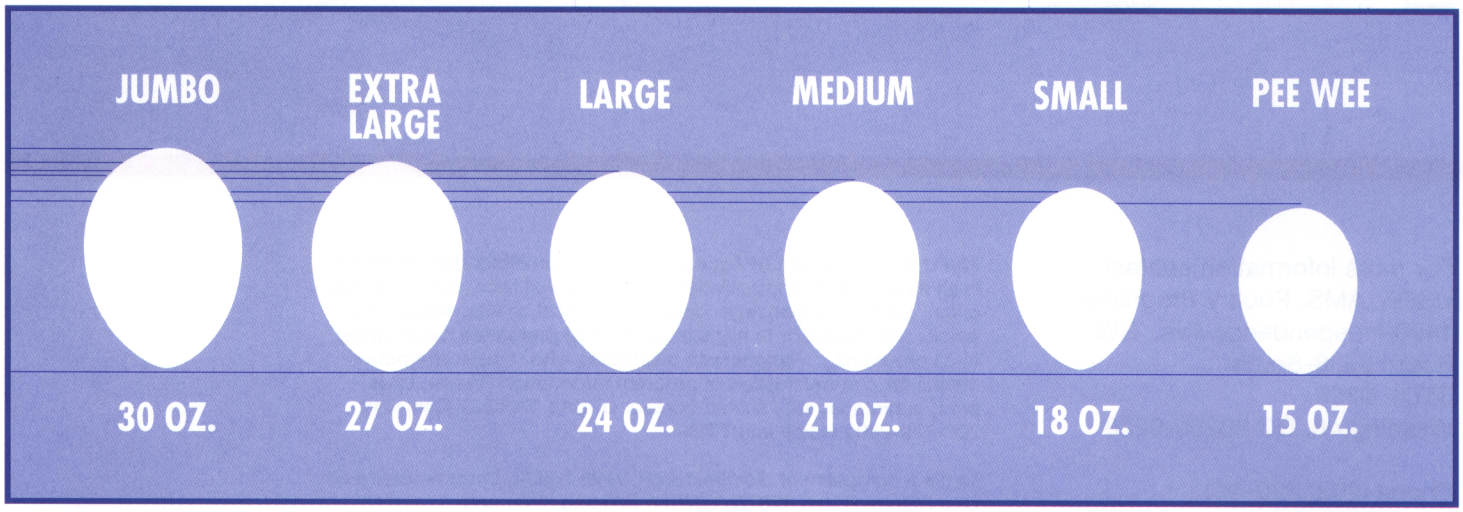
1. Egg content covers a moderate area.
2. White is reasonably firm, has considerable thick white and medium amount of thin white.
3. Yolk is round and upstanding.

B Quality



1. Egg content covers a very wide area.
2. White is weak and watery, has no thick white, large amount of thin white is thinly spread.
3. Yolk is enlarged and flattened.

U.S. Weight Classes—Minimum Weight Per Dozen Eggs



USDA

United States Department of Agriculture
Agricultural Marketing Service
Poultry Programs

Reviewed and approved for reprinting
February 1998
AMS-625

USDA Shell Egg Certification

The following USDA services are available to volume purchasers of shell eggs—food service operators, retailers, manufacturers, brokers, wholesalers, and exporters:

- Independent, third party certification of shell egg quality based on U.S. standards.
- Certification that purchases meet contract specifications for quality, grade, weight, quantity, temperature, packaging, transportation, or other desired product characteristics.
- Assurance of product quality on a continuous basis regardless of supplier.
- Continuous monitoring of plant facilities and processing equipment to ensure appropriate sanitary standards are met.
- Assurance that plants use only USDA approved chemicals, compounds, insecticides, and rodenticides.
- Identification of eggs with a USDA plant number and code date to facilitate an immediate traceback, if necessary.
- Establishment of a common language that enables buyers and sellers to communicate about egg quality and other characteristics without actually seeing the product.
- Establishment of a basis for fair, competitive bidding between suppliers.

For more information contact:
USDA, AMS, Poultry Programs
1400 Independence Ave., SW
Room 3938-South
STOP 0258
Washington, DC 20250-0258

Phone (202) 720-4411
Fax (202) 690-3165

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital or family status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at 202-720-2600 (voice and TDD).

To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 14th and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (202) 720-5964 (voice or TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.