

December 28, 2022

TO: Pennsylvania Egg Processors

FROM: Bureau of Food Safety & Laboratory Services

RE: Clarification for Egg Processing Facilities

This letter is in response to questions the Department has received regarding the Registration of Egg Processing Facilities letter that was distributed through PennAg on December 21, 2022.

Any existing facility currently inspected under the PA Certified, Non-PA Certified, or PEQAP Programs will be required to complete the <u>Application Packet for a Food Establishment</u>

<u>Registration</u> that can be found on PDA's website under the Commercial Food Establishments webpage. A copy of the application is also enclosed with this letter.

Registration is only required for facilities that hold, wash, and/or package eggs intended for retail sale. Any offline facilities that do not package eggs onsite, intended for retail sale, are exempt from this registration.

The effective date of January 1, 2023 indicates the date PDA will start the process of registering facilities as applications are received. This is <u>not</u> a deadline for which applications must be submitted. The information requested on the application is necessary to ensure our database accurately captures information pertinent to the facility. Facilities may submit their most recent water test for verification of water source information. (New / separate water tests are <u>not required</u> for this application).

Once applications are received by the Department, an inspector will be in contact with you to schedule the initial inspection. Biosecurity measures will continue to be observed.

Under the Food Establishment registration all facilities will be inspected on a 12-month interval basis and quarterly inspections will cease effectively immediately. A copy of the Food Establishment inspection report is also provided with this letter to identify the basics of the inspection. The <u>Food Safety Act</u> (3 Pa. C.S.A. §§ 5721-5737) and the adopted <u>federal regulations</u> can be referenced for additional information.

If you have any questions or concern related to registration, please contact the Department at 717-787-4315 or ra-foodsafety@pa.gov.