



The Scottish Government

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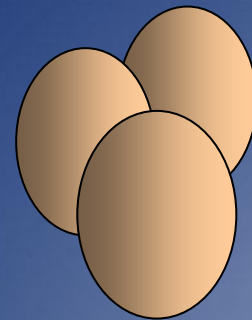
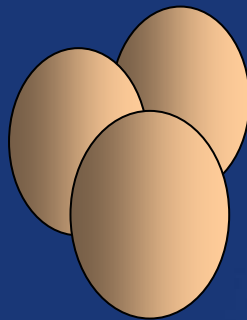
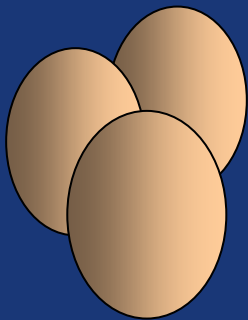


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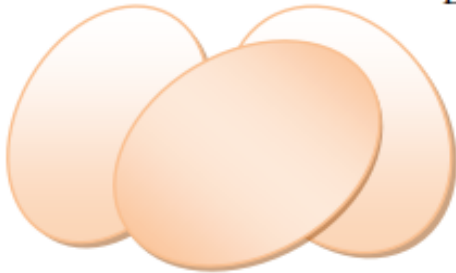
Types of Egg production

Production Types of 6.2 million hens in Scottish flock

1. Organic almost 400k (6.37% of Scottish Flock)
2. Free Range 4.25 million (68.87% of Scottish Flock)
3. Barn 320k (5.18% Of Scottish Flock)
4. Cage 1.2 million (19.57% of Scottish Flock)



Egg Production - Basic Registration information



* UNDER 50 POULTRY

- No need to register with anybody (providing detail to the GB Poultry Register is voluntary but encouraged – Free Phone 0800 634 1112) This register has been set up to give the authorities information regarding the whereabouts of poultry in the event of an outbreak of Avian Influenza (Bird Flu).

50 OR MORE POULTRY

- You must register with the GB Poultry Register. In addition to this, if you sell eggs via public/farmers markets from more than 50 laying hens the hens' eggs must be marked/stamped with a producer code. You must apply to register with The Scottish Government's Eggs and Poultry Unit in order to get this number.

350 OR MORE 'LAYING HENS'

- You must routinely test for the presence of Salmonella within your flock's environment.
- You will be subject to unannounced inspection under the Food Hygiene Regulations.
- You must register your poultry with The Scottish Government's Eggs and Poultry Unit.

* SELLING ANY HENS' EGGS TO SHOPS, HOTELS OR B&B's etc

- Full registration and compliance with egg marketing and food hygiene regulations required.
- Subject to unannounced inspection from The Scottish Government's Eggs and Poultry Unit.
- Probable need to be approved as a food operator by your local authority.

MAIN CATEGORIES

- 50 Head of Poultry.
- 50 Laying Hens.
- 350 Laying Hens.
- Selling hens' eggs to shops and/or caterers.

Ducks, Quail, Pheasants etc and all other poultry are only covered by the GB Poultry Register. Duck eggs are not covered under the scope of the Egg Marketing Regulations

MORE INFORMATION

- Further information can be found at:
<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Agriculture/Agricultural-Policy/LivestockAndLivestockProd/EggsAndPoultry/Introduction>

All enquiries to :

Scottish Government Poultry Unit –Tel: **0300 2449857** Fax: **0300 2449194**

eggsandpoultrymailbox@scotland.gsi.gov.uk



Exemptions



- Producers with **LESS** than **50 hens** may sell their own eggs at local public markets provided that the name & address is indicated at point of sale.
No registration required with SGPU
- Producers with **MORE** than **50 hens** may sell own eggs at local public market as long as they stamp the eggs for sale and indicate their name & address. Registration required with SGPU
- Producers with **350 laying hens** or less may sell their **OWN** eggs at their own farm or locally door-to-door direct to customer for their own use .
No registration required with SGPU
- Without authorisation – no indication of quality or weight grading within the regulations can be used
- Regardless of type of sale, anyone with **OVER 350 laying hens** must register with SGPU



Retail Sales



- ❑ Anyone wanting to sell eggs into retail or catering **MUST** be registered as a producer & have had the eggs packed via a Packing Centre as Class A
- ❑ Eggs for retail sale **MUST** be stamped Clearly & legibly with the producer code eg 1UK 123 SCO
- ❑ Eggs for sale in retail premises should **NOT** be kept at a temperature under 5c.

When do I need to Register?

					GB Poultry Register	SGPU Producer (Farm) Egg stamp 1UK 123 SCO	SGPU Packer Local Authority Packaging code UK-7-123 Graded Class A
Bird Numbers	Species	Own use, farm gate, door to door honesty/vending To final consumer - own use	Local market name & address at point of sale	Shops, retail, catering, etc			
< 50	birds any (ducks, etc)	Y			ADVISED	N/A	N/A
50 +	birds any (ducks, etc)	Y			YES	N/A	N/A
< 351	Laying hens	Y			YES	N/A	N/A
< 50	Laying hens	Y or N	Y		ADVISED	N/A	N/A
50 - 350	Laying hens	Y or N	Y		YES	YES	N/A
< 50	Laying hens	Y or N	Y or N	Y	ADVISED	YES	YES
50 - 350	Laying hens	Y or N	Y or N	Y	YES	YES	YES
350 +	Laying hens	Y or N	Y or N	Y	YES	YES	YES
350 +	Laying hens	Y or N	Y or N	N - External Packing centre	YES	YES	N/A



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<https://www.ruralpayments.org/publicsite/futures/topics/inspections/all-inspections/egg-and-poultry-inspections/>



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Riaghaltas na h-Alba



REGISTER



LOGIN

Rural Payments and Services



[Home](#) / [Inspections](#) / [All inspections](#)

Poultry inspections

Date published: 12 March, 2021

For recent changes to this guidance, please see the [bottom of the page](#).

Poultry is an important part of Scotland's rural economy and food chain, so it's important that we make sure high standards and practices are being followed.

Our inspections programme helps to protect consumers interests, such as food safety and prices. It also helps reduce food fraud and maintain standards of welfare for laying hens.

Some of our checks are to comply with Scottish rules and some are for European rules.

We carry out inspections on behalf of the Veterinary Medicines Directorate and Food Standards Agency and also work in partnership with local authorities when certain issues arise, such as consumer complaints or labeling details.



What we will look for

Poultry inspections are generally unannounced and our inspectors will make sure eggs are **Class A** standard.

Types of inspections

[Administrative checks](#)

[Bee inspections](#)

[Capital inspections](#)

[Cross Compliance inspections](#)

[Forestry inspections](#)

[Horticulture inspections](#)

[More...](#)

Related content

[Egg marketing explanatory guidance \(EMR1\)](#)
[European Commission guidance – production and marketing of hatching eggs and chicks \(EMR9\)](#)

[Egg production guidance – cage, barn, free range and organic \(EMR14\)](#)



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What we will look for

Poultry inspections are generally unannounced and our inspectors will make sure eggs are **Class A** standard.

Class A is the standard retailers require for human consumption.

We can inspect any part of your business that is involved in the production chain. This includes hatcheries, rearing units, production sites, packing centres and wholesale and distribution centres.

During an inspection we may take egg samples to test for the residue of medicines, check egg quality, labelling and records, and conduct ultra violet and weight sampling tests.

Specifically, our inspector will check:

- poultry welfare
- egg marketing
- free range meat marketing
- for salmonella testing
- hygiene standards

Inspection outcomes

If you fail any part of your inspection, we will give you clear guidance as to why and a timeframe to make changes.

However, if you fail to make the necessary changes, it could result in further action, which could range from increased inspections, to financial penalties or official warnings.

In some cases, eggs may be restricted or stopped from being marketed.

If you do fail part or all of your inspection, we will refer to this as a breach and any further action will be assessed depending on how serious the breach is.

If you pass your inspection with no breaches we will classify you as a lower risk and, depending on the size of your business, we will reduce the frequency you are inspected.

Further information

You can sign up to receive alerts on exotic and notifiable animal diseases through the APHA alerts service.



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Guidance

The guidance pages and documents below explain the regulations and rules that underpin our poultry inspections.

[Egg marketing explanatory guidance \(EMR1\)](#)

[Egg production guidance – cage, barn, free range and organic \(EMR14\)](#)

[European Commission guidance – production and marketing of hatching eggs and chicks \(EMR9\)](#)

[The Registration of Establishments Keeping Laying Hens \(Scotland\) Regulations 2003](#)

Information from the European Union

[Commission Directive 2002/4/EC](#)

[Council Regulation EC/5/2001](#)

Application forms

You can also download application forms to register different aspects of your business with us. Please make sure you have read the above guidance before completing any application.

[Application to register as a packing centre \(EMR 2\)](#)

[Application to register as an egg production facility \(EMR 3\)](#)

[Application to register hatching, breeding or multiplying facility \(EMR 10\)](#)

[Application to register as an egg wholesaler \(EMR 4C\)](#)

[Egg Packing Centre Avian Influenza Pre-designation application](#)

For guidance or an application form to register a poultry production facility, please contact 0300 244 9972.

Technical notes and communications

[Guidance for the Welfare of Laying Hens and Pullets - published 21 August 2020](#)



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EMR -1 Egg marketing standards

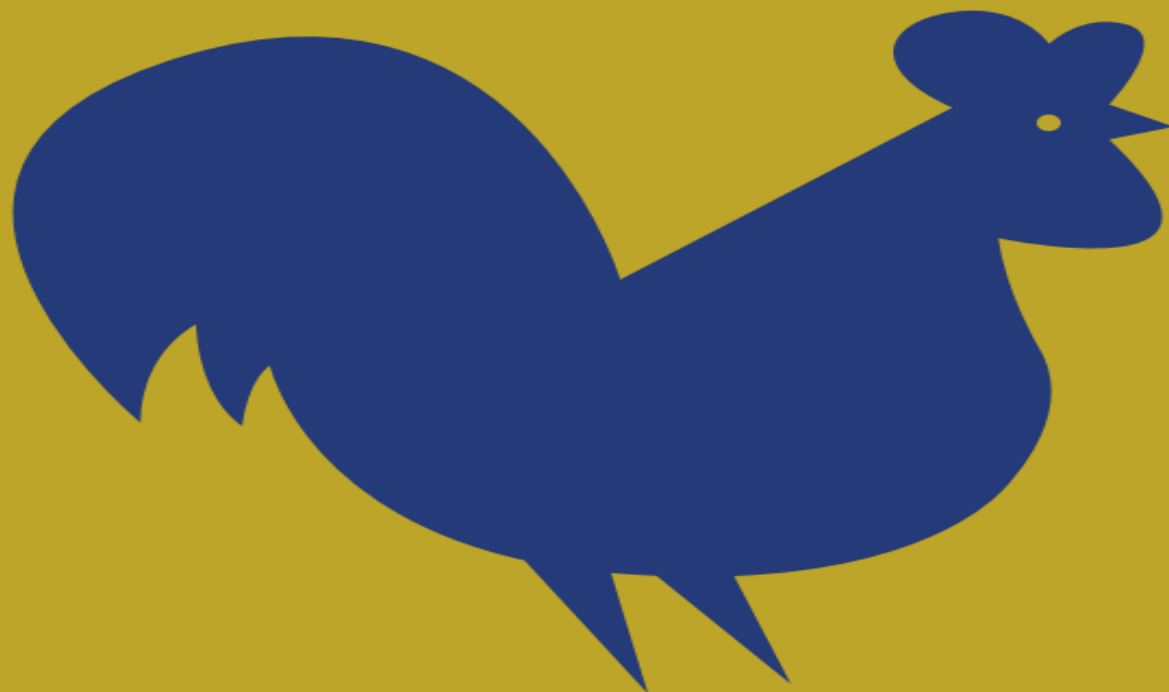
EMR -2 Packing centre application

**EMR – 3 Production unit (farm)
application**

**Guidance for the Welfare of Laying hens
& Pullets**



Guidance for the Welfare of Laying Hens and Pullets





THE EC EGG MARKETING STANDARDS REGULATIONS

EXPLANATORY LEAFLET

CONTENTS

	Section		Section
Introduction	1	Administration and Enforcement	8
Egg Packing Centres	2	Enquiries	9
Characteristics of eggs	3	Egg Quality Standards (Grades A and B)	Appendix A
Marking of Eggs and Egg Packages	4	Labelling	Appendix B
Records	5	Scottish Government Poultry Unit - Contacts	Appendix C
Packaging	6		
Storage and Transport Conditions	7	Organograms:-	
		Producer Deliveries – Stamping & Containers	



5. RECORDS

Detailed records should be maintained by packers, producers, collectors, and approved food industry undertakings. Additional records are also required where eggs are marketed with a description of how laying hens are fed.

5.1 Producers

Separate Records for each **production type** by site showing:

- the date of placing, age at placing and number of laying hens;
- the date of culling and the number of hens culled;
- daily egg production;
- number or weight of eggs delivered per day;
- number and weight of eggs sold from the farm-gate;
- names and addresses of purchasers and the establishment number;

In addition for eggs marketed under a **feed description** the following should be recorded:

- quantity and type of feed supplied and/or mixed on site;
- date of delivery;
- the name of the manufacturer or supplier.

Records must be kept on farm for at least twelve months after the flock has been disposed of and are subject to unannounced inspection.

5.2 Packers

Separate records must be kept for each **production description** (e.g. Free Range) or **feed description** (e.g. produced by hens fed on cereals) detailing:

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Separate records must be kept for each **production description** (e.g. Free Range) or **feed description** (e.g. produced by hens fed on cereals) detailing:

Records to be kept where applicable

- the quantities of ungraded eggs they receive, broken down by producer, giving the name, address and producer code and the laying date or period;
- after the eggs are graded, the quantities by quality and weight grade;
- the quantities of graded eggs received coming from other packing centres, including the code of those packing centres and the date of minimum durability;
- the quantities of ungraded eggs delivered to other packing centres, broken down by producer, including the code of those packing centres and the laying date or period;
- the number and/or weight of eggs delivered, by quality and weight grade and by purchaser, with the name and address of the latter, including packing date in the case of Class B eggs or the date of minimum durability in the case of Class A eggs;
- packing centres shall update their physical stock records each week;
- records and files referred to above shall be kept for at least twelve months from the date of their creation;
- where Class A eggs and their packs bear an indication of how laying hens are fed, packing centres using such indications shall keep separate records in accordance with the above.

Records must be kept by the packer for at least 12 months.

Class A egg – Characteristics

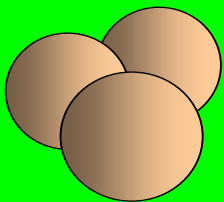
- Shell & Cuticle – Clean, Undamaged,
- Air Space – Height not exceeding 6mm, stationary
- White – clear, Limpid, of gelatinous consistency, free of extraneous matter of any kind
- Yolk – Visible on candling as a shadow only, without clearly discernible outline, not moving appreciably away from the centre of the egg on rotation, free from extraneous matter of any kind
- Germ Cell – Imperceptible development
- Odour – free from extraneous odour
- Washing – not permitted !



Weight categories

XL	Very Large	73g & above
L	Large	63g up to 73g
M	Medium	53g up to 63g
S	Small	Under 53g

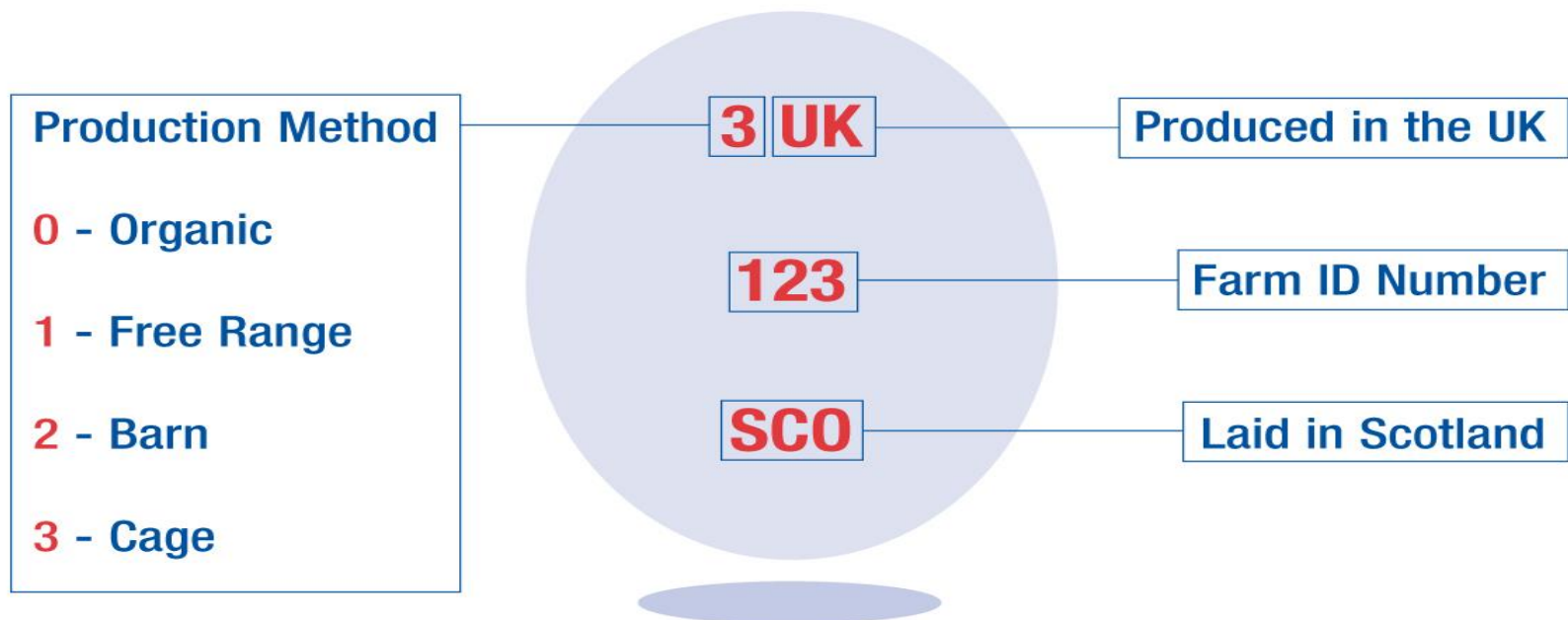
**Also mixed
weight with
min net
weight (g)**



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Explanation Of Producer Code

KEY TO SCOTTISH EGG CODES



Class A Labelling

- ✓ Eggs
- ✓ Name & Address of Packing Centre
- ✓ Packing Centre Number eg UK-7-123
- ✓ Class of Egg
- ✓ Size of Egg
- ✓ Best Before date
- ✓ Number of Eggs
- ✓ Type of Production
- ✓ Consumer Advice
- ✓ Explanation of producer code





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Free Range





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What do we do at egg production sites ?

- Assess and approve the registration of all egg production units
- Check that the appropriate bird stocking densities are being applied, and that all internal equipment meets the minimum EU requirements. nest box space, drinkers, feeders, perch, pop holes, litter & scratch areas.
- For Free Range, ensure that the birds have unimpeded access to the range area and that this is of an appropriate size and suitable for the use of free range egg production
- Check record keeping i.e. number of eggs laid, sold, number of birds stocked, mortality and any medication administered has been recorded.
- Conduct hygiene inspections on a three year rotating cycle.
- Monitor health and welfare

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What do we do at Egg packing centres

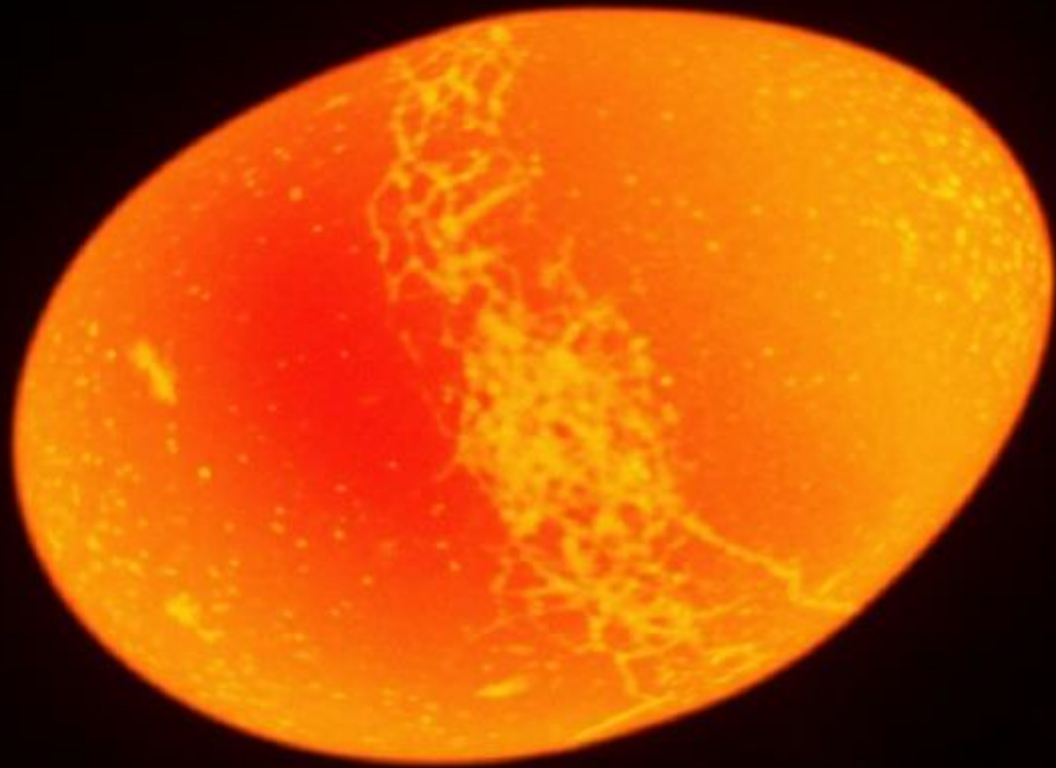
- Quality/Stamping tests
 - UV Light tests
 - Weight tests
 - Labelling and provenience tests
 - Records reconciliations
 - Monitor storage conditions and temperatures
 - Collect egg samples for Vet Medicines
- Directorate



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Poultry Unit equipment







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Any Questions ?