

CHAPTER 29

POULTRY, EGGS

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29.001 DEFINITION.

Subdivision 1. **Scope.** Except where the context otherwise indicates, for the purposes of this chapter, the terms defined in this section have the meanings given them.

Subd. 2. **Commissioner.** "Commissioner" means the commissioner of the department of agriculture.

History: 1961 c 113 s 1; 1961 c 128 s 12

POULTRY

29.01	[Repealed, 1949 c 211 s 11]
29.011	[Repealed, 1975 c 61 s 26]
29.013	[Repealed, 1975 c 61 s 26]
29.02	[Repealed, 1949 c 211 s 11]

29.021 POWERS AND DUTIES OF COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE.

The commissioner of agriculture shall have the power to employ such persons as are necessary to carry out the provisions of sections 29.021 to 29.081, and to fix all salaries and provide for expenses generally not inconsistent with law. The commissioner is authorized and directed to formulate and adopt plans whereby owners of poultry flocks and poultry breeding flocks may, upon application, have their flocks culled, inspected, and supervised, to the end that these flocks may be accredited and certified for standard type and egg quality and production; and likewise, poultry hatcheries and dealers may be accredited and certified as hatching and selling products produced only from accredited and certified flocks. The commissioner is authorized to make, publish, and enforce rules to these ends, not inconsistent with law, and to define, prescribe, and authorize the use of uniform terminology to apply to varying degrees of accreditation and certification. The commissioner is authorized to adopt the "standard breeding plan" of accreditation and certification sponsored by the United States Department of Agriculture, or any other plan, and to cooperate with that department in matters of poultry improvement, egg quality and production. The commissioner is authorized to prescribe and collect fees for inspection and supervision, and to prescribe and furnish labels, leg bands, and certificates of accreditation and certification and such other supplies as may be necessary, and to prescribe and collect fees for the same. Fees shall be fixed by the commissioner at the beginning of each fiscal year and reviewed and adjusted, if necessary, at the end of each six-month period in order that the fees prescribed shall, insofar as practicable, cover the cost of all services rendered. The commissioner is authorized to do such other things as the commissioner may deem needful and expedient to improve poultry breeding and practices and egg quality and production.

and to give effect to sections 29.021 to 29.091, in connection with those parties who wish to comply with the programs promulgated in accordance with this section.

History: (5460-9) 1931 c 408 s 3; 1957 c 672 s 2; 1959 c 116 s 1; 1961 c 110 s 3; 1961 c 113 s 1; 1975 c 204 s 71; 1985 c 248 s 70; 1986 c 444; 1987 c 384 art 2 s 1

29.025 DIVISION OF POULTRY INDUSTRIES CREATED.

Except as otherwise provided by this section, all persons employed by the poultry improvement board in the classified service of the state are hereby transferred to the division of poultry industries created by this section in the department of agriculture. Any unclassified employee of the poultry improvement board with more than 25 years service with said board shall also be transferred, with permanent civil service status, to a position of director of the division of poultry industries to be established by the commissioner of agriculture.

History: 1957 c 672 s 20; 1961 c 113 s 1

29.03 [Repealed, 1949 c 211 s 11]

29.031 ADVERTISING.

Owners of accredited and certified poultry breeding flocks and hatcheries shall have the right to use the terminology prescribed by the commissioner of agriculture in their literature and advertising and on shipping labels. The commissioner may, by rule, require the submission of all or any part of such literature and advertising matter to the commissioner for review and approval before publication or issuance.

History: (5460-10) 1931 c 408 s 4; 1957 c 672 s 3; 1961 c 113 s 1; 1985 c 248 s 70; 1986 c 444

29.04 [Repealed, 1949 c 211 s 11]

29.041 [Repealed, 1957 c 819 s 9]

29.042 [Repealed, 1957 c 819 s 9]

29.043 [Repealed, 1957 c 819 s 9]

29.044 [Repealed, 1957 c 819 s 9]

29.045 [Repealed, 1957 c 819 s 9]

29.046 [Repealed, 1957 c 819 s 9]

29.047 [Repealed, 1957 c 819 s 9]

29.048 [Repealed, 1957 c 819 s 9]

29.049 DEPOSITS IN GENERAL FUND; REVOLVING ACCOUNT.

Subdivision 1. Disposal of fees. All fees collected under sections 29.021 to 29.081, except receipts derived from the quality egg program, shall be deposited in the general fund. Receipts derived from the quality egg program established under section 29.021 are appropriated annually to the commissioner to carry out the purposes and pay the expenses of the program.

Subd. 2. Stores for resale revolving account. The poultry industries division stores for resale revolving account is hereby created in the state treasury to enable the poultry industries division of the department of agriculture to purchase stores for resale. The account consists of the amounts appropriated by Laws 1941, chapter 521, section 6, item 8-b, and Laws 1943, chapter 638, section 6, item 8-b, which amounts are hereby transferred to the account created by this subdivision. The account also consists of proceeds from the sale of stores, which proceeds shall be deposited in the account. All money in the account is appropriated annually to the commissioner for the purposes set forth in this subdivision. At the end of each fiscal year the unobligated balances in the amount in excess of \$2,500 shall be deposited in and for the benefit of the general fund.

History: (5460-11) 1931 c 408 s 5; 1957 c 672 s 4; 1961 c 110 s 4; 1961 c 113 s 1; 1961 c 245 s 1; 1969 c 399 s 1; 1987 c 384 art 2 s 1

29.05 [Repealed, 1959 c 49 s 2]

29.051 POULTRY DISEASE ERADICATION.

The board of animal health shall cooperate with the commissioner of agriculture in all ways consistent with law. The board shall have exclusive jurisdiction and control over all matters pertaining to poultry diseases and the control and eradication thereof. The board is authorized to formulate, adopt, and enforce rules whereby owners of poultry breeding flocks may, upon agreement with the board, have flocks examined, tested, and officially designated as meeting the qualifications for any stage of eradication of any specified communicable infectious disease when and as approved methods for official testing for the other disease may be adopted by the board, if personnel is available and funds are appropriated for the use of the board in making the tests and inspections.

History: (5460-12) 1931 c 408 s 6; 1957 c 672 s 5; 1961 c 113 s 1; 1980 c 467 s 32

29.06 [Repealed, 1959 c 49 s 2]

29.061 PRODUCTS TO BE LABELED.

All poultry and poultry products shipped under the authority of sections 29.021 to 29.081 shall be uniformly labeled with designs prescribed and furnished by the commissioner of agriculture; provided that all labeling pertaining to disease or freedom therefrom shall first be approved by the board of animal health.

History: (5460-13) 1931 c 408 s 7; 1957 c 672 s 6; 1961 c 113 s 1; 1980 c 467 s 33; 1987 c 384 art 2 s 1

29.07 [Repealed, 1959 c 49 s 2]

29.071 CERTAIN ADVERTISING FORBIDDEN.

No person, firm, association, partnership, or corporation shall use in literature, advertising material or on shipping labels, or otherwise, any language, words or phrases implying or indicating a breeding or a disease eradication or control status in conjunction with either the word "state" or the word "Minnesota," or both, as related to a poultry hatchery or a poultry breeding flock, except under the authority of sections 29.021 to 29.081.

History: (5460-14) 1931 c 408 s 8; 1957 c 672 s 7; 1987 c 384 art 2 s 1

29.08 [Repealed, 1955 c 46 s 4]

29.081 MAY CANCEL CERTIFICATES.

The commissioner of agriculture may cancel any certificate of accreditation or certification issued under the commissioner's authority, and likewise the secretary and executive officer of the board of animal health may cancel any certificate of testing, approval, or accreditation issued under the authority of the board, for violation of sections 29.021 to 29.081, or any rule adopted thereunder; and any person, firm, association, partnership, or corporation who shall violate any provision of sections 29.021 to 29.081, or any rule adopted thereunder, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

History: (5460-15) 1931 c 408 s 9; 1957 c 672 s 8; 1961 c 113 s 1; 1980 c 467 s 34; 1986 c 444; 1987 c 384 art 2 s 1

29.09 [Repealed, 1949 c 211 s 11]

29.091 [Repealed, 1981 c 261 s 22]

29.10 [Repealed, 1949 c 211 s 11]

29.11 [Repealed, 1949 c 211 s 11]

29.12 [Repealed, 1949 c 211 s 11]

29.13 [Repealed, 1959 c 49 s 2]

- 29.14 [Repealed, 1982 c 582 s 14]
 29.15 [Repealed, 1982 c 582 s 14]
 29.16 [Repealed, 1982 c 582 s 14]
 29.17 [Repealed, 1982 c 582 s 14]
 29.18 [Repealed, 1982 c 582 s 14]
 29.19 [Repealed, 1982 c 582 s 14]

29.201 BUYERS OF DOMESTIC FOWL; DEALERS' REGISTERS.

Every person who engages in the business of buying chickens, turkeys, or other domestic fowl of any kind shall keep and maintain a complete record of all such transactions in a ledger or other suitable book of account permanently bound, which for the purposes of sections 29.201 to 29.205 shall be known as such dealer's register. In such register the buyer shall enter a complete record of each purchase of chickens, turkeys, or other domestic fowl, to which the buyer was a party; and shall show the name and address of the person from whom the same was bought, and, when the transaction is with a person other than a regular customer of the buyer from whom the buyer has made similar purchases within one year from the date of such transaction, the means by which the same were transported to the place of purchase, the type of conveyance, and if by truck or other motor vehicle the license number of such truck or motor vehicle, the date of such purchase, and the number, kind, species and a general description of all such chickens, turkeys, or other domestic fowl involved in such transaction.

History: (6240-19) 1927 c 319 s 1; 1943 c 102 s 1; 1986 c 444

29.203 REGISTER PRIMA FACIE EVIDENCE.

Every register made or kept in compliance with the provisions of sections 29.201 to 29.205 shall be prima facie evidence of the truth and accuracy of the facts therein stated or appearing as required thereby. Every such register shall at all times be open to inspection and examination by any peace officer or any public official charged with the duty of law enforcement, as often as and when required.

History: (6240-20) 1927 c 319 s 2; 1986 c 444

29.205 FAILURE TO KEEP REGISTERS; FALSE ENTRY THEREIN.

Any person who fails to keep such record or causes to be entered or recorded any false, untruthful, deceptive, or misleading statement or data in any register required to be kept by sections 29.201 to 29.205, or who changes, alters, destroys, mutilates, injures, secretes, conceals, or withholds from inspection any such register, or any part thereof, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. This misdemeanor shall be deemed separate, apart from, and in addition to, any other crime or offense against the law committed by such person in connection with such transaction.

History: (6240-21) 1927 c 319 s 3

EGGS

29.21 DEFINITIONS.

Subdivision 1. **Person.** The word "person" when used in sections 29.21 to 29.28 means any individual, firm, partnership, corporation, company, association, joint stock association, and shall include any officer, employee, agent, trustee, receiver, assignee, or other similar representative thereof, provided that neither a producer of eggs when selling shell eggs produced on a farm occupied and cultivated by the producer, nor a hatchery which produces or purchases shell eggs solely for hatching shall be deemed a "person."

Subd. 2. **Commissioner.** The word "commissioner" shall mean the commissioner of agriculture.

Subd. 3. **Department.** The word "department" means the department of agriculture unless otherwise indicated.

History: 1957 c 819 s 1; 1961 c 113 s 1; 1961 c 406 s 1; 1967 c 141 s 1; 1986 c 444

29.22 DEALERS ANNUAL INSPECTION FEE; DISPOSITION OF FEES.

Subdivision 1. [Repealed, 1971 c 339 s 27]

Subd. 2. **Computation; fee schedule; records.** In addition to the annual dealer's license, required under section 28A.04, there shall be an annual inspection fee applicable to every person who engages in the business of buying for resale, selling, dealing, or trading in eggs except a retail grocer who sells eggs previously candled and graded, such fee to be computed on the basis of the number of cases of shell eggs handled at each place of business during the month of April of each year, providing that if said dealer or processor is not operating during the month of April, the department shall estimate the volume of shell eggs handled; and may revise the fee after three months of operation. In the event that a given lot of eggs is moved from one location of business to a second location of business and provided that the dealers' license is held by the same person at both locations, the given lot of eggs shall be counted in determining the volume of business on which the inspection fee is based at the first location of business but shall not enter into the computation of volume of business for the second location. For the purpose of determining fees, a case shall be one of 30 dozen capacity. The schedule of fees shall be as follows:

VOLUME (30 DOZEN CASES) IN APRIL	MINIMUM - MAXIMUM FEE
1 - 100	\$ 5 - \$ 10
101 - 1000	\$ 10 - \$ 25
1001 - 2000	\$ 25 - \$ 50
2001 - 4000	\$ 50 - \$ 75
4001 - 6000	\$ 75 - \$100
6001 - 8000	\$100 - \$125
8001 - 10,000	\$125 - \$150
OVER 10,000	\$150 - \$200

The commissioner shall fix the annual inspection fee within the limits set herein and may annually adjust the fee, as the commissioner deems necessary, within those limits, to more nearly meet the costs of inspection required to enforce the provisions of sections 29.21 to 29.28. Each person subject to such inspection fee shall, under the direction of the commissioner, keep such records as may be necessary to accurately determine the volume of shell eggs on which the inspection fee is due and shall prepare annually a written report of such volume upon forms supplied by the commissioner. This report, together with the required inspection fee, shall be filed with the department on or before the last day of May of each year.

Subd. 3. **Candlers and graders.** The commissioner shall have general supervisory powers over the candlers and graders of eggs and may conduct, in collaboration with the institute of agriculture and the extension service of the University of Minnesota, an educational and training program to improve the efficiency and quality of the work done by such candlers.

Subd. 4. **Egg breaking plants.** Any person engaged in the business of breaking eggs for resale shall at all times comply with the rules of the department in respect to the conduct of such business. The commissioner shall collect from each egg breaking plant laboratory fees for routine analysis and full reimbursement for services performed by a state inspector assigned to that plant on a continuous basis as provided for in section 29.27.

Subd. 5. **Deposit of fees; appropriation.** All fees collected, together with all fines paid for any violation of any provision of sections 29.21 to 29.28 or any rules promulgated thereunder, as well as all license fees and penalties for late license renewal, shall be deposited in the state treasury, and shall be credited to a separate account to be known as the egg law inspection fund, which is hereby created, set aside, and appropriated as a revolving fund to be used by the department to help defray the expense of inspection, supervision, and enforcement of sections 29.21 to 29.28 and shall be in addition to and not in substitution for the sums regularly appropriated or otherwise made available for this purpose to the department.

History: 1957 c 819 s 2; 1959 c 49 s 1; 1961 c 406 s 2-4; 1969 c 231 s 1; 1971 c 339 s 17-19; 1985 c 248 s 70; 1986 c 444

29.23 GRADING; GRADES, WEIGHT CLASSES AND STANDARDS FOR QUALITY.

All eggs purchased on the basis of grade by the first licensed buyer shall be graded in accordance with grade and weight classes established by the commissioner. The commissioner shall establish, by rule, and from time to time, may amend or revise, grades, weight classes, and standards for quality. When grades, weight classes, and standards for quality have been fixed by the secretary of the department of agriculture of the United States, they may be accepted and published by the commissioner as definitions or standards for eggs in interstate commerce. The commissioner shall also by rule provide for minimum plant and equipment requirements for candling, grading, handling and storing eggs, and shall define candling. It shall be mandatory that eggs be held at a temperature not to exceed 60 degrees Fahrenheit after being received by the first licensed dealer.

History: 1957 c 819 s 3; 1961 c 406 s 5; 1973 c 29 s 1; 1985 c 248 s 70

29.235 SALE OF SHELL EGGS.

Checks and dirties as defined by the commissioner, shall not be sold for human consumption as shell eggs, but may be sold as such to be processed for human consumption by a processor licensed by the commissioner to break eggs for resale, except that a producer may sell such shell eggs of the producer's own production on the producer's premises directly to a household consumer for the consumer's own personal use.

History: 1969 c 231 s 3; 1983 c 300 s 5; 1986 c 444

29.24 ADULTERATED OR INEDIBLE EGGS, SALE FORBIDDEN.

No person shall buy, sell, offer or expose for sale, or possess for sale, eggs for human consumption that are inedible or adulterated. Eggs that are filthy, putrid, decomposed, or otherwise unfit for food in whole or in part, shall be deemed to be adulterated. Eggs which contain black rots, white rots, mixed rots (addled eggs), sour eggs with green whites, eggs with stuck yolks, moldy eggs, musty eggs, eggs showing blood rings, eggs containing embryo chicks (at or beyond the blood ring stage), or any other eggs that are filthy, decomposed, or putrid shall be deemed to be inedible.

History: 1957 c 819 s 4; 1986 c 444

29.25 DOCKAGE; OVERGRADE OR UNDERGRADE OF EGGS; RECORDS OF SALES AND PURCHASES.

No person in buying or selling eggs shall take or give a greater or lesser dockage for eggs unfit for human food, as herein defined, than the actual dockage as determined by the correct candling of the eggs purchased or sold. No person in buying or selling eggs shall overgrade or undergrade eggs. All licensed persons shall keep such candling and grading records of eggs purchased or sold as may be required by the rules promulgated by the commissioner, which records shall be available at all reasonable times for inspection and examination by the commissioner, inspector or employees of the department of agriculture.

History: 1957 c 819 s 5; 1961 c 113 s 1; 1985 c 248 s 70

29.26 EGGS IN POSSESSION OF RETAILER.

All eggs sold or offered for sale at retail must have been candled and graded and must be clearly labeled according to Minnesota consumer grades as established by rule under section 29.23. No eggs shall be sold or offered for sale as "ungraded," "unclassified," or by any other name that does not clearly designate the grade. All eggs in possession of the retailer, either in temporary storage or on display, must be held at a temperature not to exceed 60 degrees Fahrenheit.

History: 1957 c 819 s 6; 1961 c 406 s 6; 1985 c 248 s 70

29.27 RULES.

The department may supervise, regulate, and, in the manner provided by law make reasonable rules relative to grading, candling, cleaning, breaking, purchasing, and selling of eggs and egg products for purpose of preserving and protecting the public health. In addition hereto, it is the express purpose herein that inasmuch as the breaking of eggs for resale is a matter of state concern, the surroundings in which such product is handled should be maintained in a sanitary condition, and, therefore, the department may establish, in the manner provided by law, reasonable rules relative to the inspection of all establishments wherein the business of breaking eggs for resale is maintained, and when the sanitary conditions of any such establishment are such that the product is rendered, or is likely to be rendered, unclean, unsound, unhealthful, unwholesome, or otherwise unfit for human consumption, it may revoke such license to break eggs for resale until such time as the department is satisfied that the establishment is maintained in a sanitary condition. The department shall have the right, from time to time, to adopt different rules in the same manner as herein set forth. All liquid, frozen or dried egg products sold or offered for sale shall be processed under continuous supervision of an inspector of the department or of the United States Department of Agriculture.

History: 1957 c 819 s 7; 1961 c 110 s 1; 1963 c 286 s 1; 1969 c 231 s 2; 1985 c 248 s 70

29.28 VIOLATIONS, PENALTIES.

Any person found guilty of any violation of sections 29.21 to 29.28 shall, upon conviction for the first offense, be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be fined \$25; for the second offense, the person shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be fined \$100; and for the third and subsequent offenses the person shall be guilty of a gross misdemeanor and shall be fined \$200. In addition to such fines, the court for second offense shall suspend the person's license for 30 days; and for the third and any subsequent offense, such person's license shall be revoked for a period of one year.

History: 1957 c 819 s 8; 1986 c 444