

## Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA

## § 1250.542

(4) The producer shall provide a copy of the certificate of exemption to each handler to whom the producer sells eggs. The handler shall maintain records showing the exempt producer's name and address and the exemption number assigned by the Board.

(5) The exemption will apply at the first reporting period following the issuance of the Certificate of Exemption.

(6) Agricultural commodities produced and marketed under an organic system plan, as described in 7 CFR 205.201, but not sold, labeled, or represented as organic, shall not disqualify a producer from exemption under this section, except that producers who produce both organic and non-organic agricultural commodities as a result of split operations shall not qualify for exemption. Reasons for conventional sales include lack of demand for organic products, isolated use of antibiotics for humane purposes, chemical or pesticide use as the result of State or emergency spray programs, and crops from a buffer area as described in 7 CFR part 205, provided all other criteria are met.

(c) If the exempt producer no longer qualifies for an exemption as specified in § 1250.348 or 1250.530(b), that producer shall notify, within 10 days, all handlers with whom the producer has filed a Certificate of Exemption.

[70 FR 2761, Jan. 14, 2005]

### RECORDS

#### § 1250.535 Retention of records.

(a) Each person required to make reports pursuant to this subpart shall maintain and retain for at least 2 years beyond the fiscal period of their applicability:

(1) One copy of each report submitted to the Egg Board;

(2) Records of all exempt producers including certification of exemption as necessary to verify the address of each exempt producer; and

(3) Such other records as are necessary to verify reports submitted to the Egg Board.

(b) Egg producers subject to § 1250.514 shall maintain and retain for at least 2 years beyond the period of their applicability:

(1) Receipts, or copies thereof, for payment of assessments; and

(2) Such records as are necessary to verify monthly levels of egg production.

#### § 1250.536 Availability of records.

Each handler and egg producer subject to this subpart and all persons subject to section 7(c) of the Act shall make available for inspection and copying by authorized employees of the Egg Board and/or the Secretary during regular business hours, such information as is appropriate and necessary to verify compliance with this subpart.

#### § 1250.537 Confidentiality.

All information obtained by officers and employees of the Department of Agriculture, the Egg Board, or any person under contract by the Egg Board or otherwise acting on behalf of the Egg Board from the books, records, and reports of persons subject to this subpart, and all information with respect to refunds of assessments made to individual producers, shall be kept confidential in the manner and to the extent provided in § 1250.353 of the Order.

#### PATENTS, COPYRIGHTS, TRADEMARKS, AND INFORMATION

#### § 1250.542 Patents, copyrights, trademarks, and information.

Patents, copyrights, trademarks, and information accruing from work pursuant to any plan or project undertaken by any person on behalf of the Egg Board, financed by assessment funds or other revenues of the Egg Board; shall become property of the U.S. Government as represented by the Egg Board; and such patents, copyrights, trademarks, and information may be licensed subject to approval by the Secretary of Agriculture. Upon termination of the Order, the Egg Board shall transfer custody of all such patents, copyrights, trademarks, and information to the Secretary of Agriculture pursuant to the procedure provided for in § 1250.358 who shall utilize them in a manner that he determines to be in the best interest of egg producers. Funds generated from the use of patents, copyrights, trademarks, and information by the Egg Board will be