



Guidance Document

Poultry Hatching Eggs & Specific-Pathogen-Free Chicken Eggs

COMEGIC.GEN

Title

Guidance Document: Poultry Hatching Eggs & Specific-Pathogen-Free Chicken Eggs

About this document

This guidance document contains information about acceptable ways of ensuring compliance with the requirements in the *Import Health Standard (IHS): Poultry Hatching Eggs and Specific-Pathogen-Free Chicken Eggs*.

Any guidance on how to comply with the applicable requirements may not be the only way to achieve compliance. Stakeholders are encouraged to discuss departures from the approaches outlined in this guidance document with the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) to avoid expending resources on the development of alternative approaches which may later be considered unsuitable.

The term “must” is not typically used in guidance. In this particular document if the term “must” is used, it is used in the context of quoting or paraphrasing the requirements set out in the related *IHS: Poultry Hatching Eggs and Specific-Pathogen-Free Chicken Eggs*.

Related requirements

IHS: Poultry Hatching Eggs and Specific-Pathogen-Free Chicken Eggs.

Document history

Refer to Appendix 1.

Contact details

For further information and questions about this guidance document, please contact:

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Wellington 6140

Email: animalimports@mpi.govt.nz

Disclaimer

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1 Purpose

- (1) This guidance document has been issued to accompany the *IHS: Poultry Hatching Eggs and Specific-Pathogen-Free Chicken Eggs*. This guidance document should be read in conjunction with that IHS.
- (2) This document includes:
 - a) Countries with MPI approved exporting systems to import poultry hatching eggs and specific-pathogen-free (SPF) chicken eggs into New Zealand.
 - b) A model veterinary certificate.
 - c) Negotiated country-specific sample veterinary certificates.

2 Background

- (1) The *IHS: Poultry Hatching Eggs and Specific-Pathogen-Free Chicken Eggs* which this guidance document accompanies, contains generic import requirements. These are the rules to manage the biosecurity risk of importing poultry hatching eggs and SPF chicken eggs from all countries that can meet the requirements of the IHS and in doing so meet New Zealand's appropriate level of protection. The generic IHS serves as the basis for country-to-country (bilateral) negotiations. This guidance document contains a model veterinary certificate and the bilaterally-agreed veterinary certification for trade in poultry hatching eggs and specific-pathogen-free chicken eggs. The country-specific veterinary certificate represents what will be certified prior to exporting consignments of poultry hatching eggs and SPF chicken eggs from the country specified.

3 Definitions

- (1) Refer to Schedule 2 of the related *IHS: Poultry Hatching Eggs and Specific-Pathogen-Free Chicken Eggs*.

4 Importer Responsibilities

- (1) The costs to MPI in performing functions relating to the importation of poultry hatching eggs and SPF chicken eggs will be recovered in accordance with the Biosecurity Act 1993 (the Act) and any regulations made under the Act. All costs involved with documentation, transport, storage and obtaining a biosecurity clearance must be covered by the importer or agent.

5 Guidance

5.1 Permit to import

- (1) The IHS requires a permit to import to accompany all consignments of poultry hatching eggs and SPF chicken eggs.
- (2) Permit to import application forms can be found on the MPI website at:
<http://www.biosecurity.govt.nz/regs/imports/animals/forms>.
- (3) The application form should specify the transitional facility where the eggs will be directed to. Hatching eggs must be directed to a transitional facility approved to MPI Standard 154.02.05 *Standard for Avian Transitional Facilities*. SPF chicken eggs must be directed to a transitional facility approved to either MPI Standard 154.02.05 *Standard for Avian Transitional Facilities* or MPI Standard [154.02.17 Transitional Facilities for Biological Products](#).
- (4) Completed applications can be submitted to Animal Imports animalimports@mpi.govt.nz.

5.2 Equivalence

- (1) MPI may accept an alternative method, system or process that can be shown to achieve the biosecurity requirements of the IHS (i.e. equivalence).
- (2) MPI's preference is that the exporting country's Competent Authority makes equivalence requests. Equivalence requests can be lodged with animalimports@mpi.govt.nz
- (3) A permit to import may be required where specific equivalence measures are approved by MPI other than by a negotiated veterinary certificate as specified in the IHS.

5.3 Incorporation of material by reference

- (1) Incorporation by reference means that standards, guidelines or lists are incorporated into the IHS and they form part of the requirements. This is done because technical documents are too large or impractical to include in the IHS.
- (2) Where the IHS states that section 142O(1) of the Act does not apply, this means that importers need to refer to the most recent version of any standards, guidelines or lists that are incorporated by reference in the IHS.

5.4 Inspection and verification

- (1) On arrival, all documentation accompanying the consignment will be verified by an inspector. The inspector may also inspect the consignment, or a sample of the consignment on arrival.
- (2) Inspectors are able to inspect and verify due to their authorised powers under the Act.
- (3) These requirements are independent of the IHS requirements.

5.5 Exporting country systems and certification

- (1) Requests from exporting countries to negotiate veterinary certification for the import of poultry hatching eggs and SPF chicken eggs into New Zealand will be prioritised according to MPI resources available at the time of application.
- (2) MPI recommends Competent Authorities refer to Section 3 of the *Code* titled *Quality of Veterinary Services*, to prepare evidence for MPI regarding capabilities and preferences of the exporting country's Competent Authority.
- (3) A model veterinary certificate is provided in this guidance document and can be used by the Competent Authority as a reference for country-specific veterinary certificate negotiation.
- (4) The table below lists those exporting countries that meet the requirements set out in the *IHS: Poultry Hatching Eggs and Specific-Pathogen-Free Chicken Eggs*. See Section 6.1 for details about approved model veterinary certificate.

Countries with approved exporting systems	Biosecurity Plan Name	Date agreed
United Kingdom	Compartments for protection against avian influenza and Newcastle disease in Great Britain.	16.6.2014

5.6 Diagnostic tests and vaccines for international trade

- (1) MPI lists all approved diagnostic tests and vaccines in the MPI document: *Approved Diagnostic Tests, Vaccines, Treatments and Post-Arrival Testing Laboratories for Animal Import Health Standards (MPI-STD-TVTL)*.
- (2) Where OIE recommended diagnostic tests and vaccines are listed, details can be found in the *OIE Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines* found on the OIE website: <http://www.oie.int/en/international-standard-setting/terrestrial-manual/access-online/>

5.7 Post-arrival laboratory testing

- (1) Diagnostic testing undertaken during post-arrival quarantine is conducted by MPI Investigation and Diagnostic Centre (IDC) laboratories. Approval of an alternative laboratory will require an application to MPI for approval with the following requirements being met:
 - a) MPI approval for each type of testing to be undertaken.
 - b) Approval as a transitional facility under the appropriate MPI transitional facility standard with the appropriate physical containment approval for the samples held and testing carried out.
 - c) Current approval under the MPI *Export Laboratory Assurance Programme* (ELP) to conduct the required tests; (<http://www.biosecurity.govt.nz/regs/exports/animals/oap/elp>).
 - d) A conflict of interest declaration and management proposal relating to any conflicts of interest must be made and approved by the Manager, Animal Imports.
 - e) Approved laboratories and their approved tests will be listed within this guidance document.
- (2) Currently approved laboratories for post-arrival laboratory testing are listed ([MPI-STD-TVTL](#)).
- (3) Any suspension of approvals under the ELP will mean revocation of approval for import laboratory testing.

5.8 Recommended post-arrival quarantine sampling and testing protocols

- (1) Post-arrival quarantine testing for Newcastle disease and avian influenza must be conducted on a sufficient number of samples to give 95% confidence of detecting 5% prevalence. This requires samples from 60 birds. Serological methods are not acceptable for testing ducks for ND as serology is not reliable in this species.
- (2) When the option of using PCR samples (as per the IHS) from live birds is selected, up to 5 cloacal samples and 5 tracheal samples may be pooled, thus reducing the number of samples tested to 24.
- (3) When the option of testing by PCR at hatching (as per the IHS) is selected the following sampling protocol is acceptable:
 - a) Sixty (60) dead embryos and/or chicks (may include day old culls or deaths) collected post hatch must be submitted for PCR testing to an MPI approved laboratory. Samples should be representative of the whole batch, e.g. collected from various parts of the incubator, and where there are different lines included in the hatch, samples must be collected from all lines.
 - b) Samples must be stored chilled, on ice (preferably not frozen) and transported to the approved laboratory as soon as possible (within 48 hrs).
 - c) Two samples from each specimen will be tested by PCR with up to five samples being pooled together.

6 Model Veterinary Certificate

- (1) The following model veterinary certificate is for hatching eggs from chickens (*Gallus gallus*), ducks (*Anas platyrhynchos domesticus* and *Cairina moschata*) and turkeys (*Meleagris gallopavo*) and SPF chicken (*Gallus gallus*) eggs. This model meets the requirements of the IHS.
- (2) This model veterinary certificate format is based on the Code Chapter for model veterinary certificates for international trade in poultry hatching eggs and specific-pathogen-free chicken eggs.

Part 1: Details of dispatched consignment	1.1. Consignor (Exporter): Name: Address:		1.2. Certificate reference number: Permit number:																															
			1.3. Competent Authority:																															
	1.4. Consignee (Importer): Name: Address:																																	
	1.5. Country of origin		1.6. Zone or compartment of origin**:																															
	1.7. Country of destination:		1.8. Zone or compartment of destination**:																															
	1.9. Place of origin: Name: Address:																																	
	1.10. Place of shipment:		1.11. Date of departure:																															
	1.12. Means of transport: Aeroplane <input type="checkbox"/> Ship <input type="checkbox"/> Identification:		1.13. Expected border post:																															
			1.14. CITES permit No(s)**:																															
	1.15. Description of commodity:		1.16. Commodity Code (ISO Code) :																															
1.17. Total number of eggs :																																		
1.18. Temperature of commodities for transport		1.19. Total number of packages:																																
1.20. Identification of container/serial number:		1.21. Type of packaging:																																
1.22. Identification of commodity																																		
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* Optional ** If referenced in Part 2

Country:	Certificate reference number:
<p>The Competent Authority of the exporting country is required to issue a signed, stamped and dated veterinary certificate attesting the following:</p> <p>(1) The undersigned Official Veterinarian certifies that the hatching eggs described above satisfy the following requirements:</p> <p>Commodity eligibility</p> <p>(2) The hatching eggs or specific-pathogen-free eggs (<i>delete as appropriate</i>) for export to New Zealand were derived from parent flocks kept in accordance with the <i>Code Chapter on Biosecurity Procedures in Poultry Production</i>.</p> <p>Inspection (hatching eggs) (<i>delete if not applicable</i>)</p> <p>(3) The consignment was inspected by an officer approved by the Competent Authority within 48 hours pre-shipment for compliance verification.</p> <p>(4) The parent flock was inspected by an Official Veterinarian within the 28 days prior to the commencement of collection of eggs for export and was found to be free of clinical evidence of disease. This inspection was undertaken while the flocks were housed in the premise where egg collection took place.</p> <p>Inspection (specific-pathogen-free eggs) (<i>delete if not applicable</i>)</p> <p>(5) The parent flock was held under supervision of an Official Veterinarian for at least 28 days immediately prior to the scheduled date of export, in isolation facilities approved by the exporting country's Competent Authority.</p> <p>(6) Any deaths or illnesses have been investigated by the Official Veterinarian or by a registered veterinarian under the supervision of the Official Veterinarian.</p> <p>Treatment</p> <p>(7) The eggs were clean when collected, unwashed and have intact (uncracked) shells. They were collected separately from dirty and broken or cracked eggs. Hatching eggs were cleaned and sanitised as soon as possible after collection using an approved sanitising agent, in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions, and the <i>Code Chapter on Biosecurity Procedures in Poultry Production</i> or equivalent.</p> <p>Testing</p> <p>(8) Diagnostic testing was conducted at a laboratory approved by the Competent Authority to conduct the required export testing.</p> <p>(9) Laboratory or other diagnostic tests used on birds were listed in MPI-STD-TVTL.</p> <p>(10) Laboratory samples were collected, processed, and stored as recommended in the <i>Code</i> and/or <i>Manual</i>, and/or as specified by MPI.</p> <p>(11) Sampling of birds for diagnostic testing was randomised, and representative of the flock from which the eggs were collected. The sample size selected must be sufficiently large to give 95% confidence of detecting infection where there is at least 5% prevalence in the flock, unless otherwise stated.</p> <p>Details appended to this veterinary certificate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) All diagnostic tests used and date of sampling of the parent flock to meet the requirements of the import health standard b) All treatments and vaccinations used including generic name, active ingredient, dose rate and date of treatment c) Details of egg sanitiser used, including date of egg collection, date of sanitising, name, active ingredient and method of application of the sanitiser. <p>Transport</p> <p>(12) The vehicle in which the eggs were transported to the port of departure was cleaned, disinfected and treated with an effective sanitiser before loading (details of treatment appended to this veterinary certificate)</p> <p>(13) During transport to the port of departure the eggs were kept isolated from poultry not of equivalent tested health status.</p> <p>(14) Eggs were loaded into spill proof containers and into crates that are new or cleaned and disinfected with an effective sanitiser before loading (details appended to this veterinary certificate).</p> <p>(15) Poultry hatching eggs were sealed under Official Veterinarian supervision, and the unique seal number and date of sealing is recorded on this veterinary certificate; or</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) For SPF eggs, the Official Veterinarian confirmed after due enquiry that the eggs were placed into spill proof containers and sealed into clean and disinfected crates inside the facilities before dispatch. (<i>delete clause 13 or 14 where not</i> 	

applicable)

Approval of specific disease free compartments (*delete where not applicable*)

- (16) Eggs were derived from flocks in specific disease free compartments for risk organisms and the compartment has been approved by the exporting country's Competent Authority and a Competent Authority endorsed Biosecurity plan for the compartment has been approved by MPI.

Specified requirements for identified risk organisms

Where more than one option is listed delete the options that are not applicable.

(17) For avian influenza

- a) The eggs for export were derived from parent flocks:
- i) With a vaccination status of:
 - 1. Not vaccinated for avian influenza; or
 - 2. Vaccinated for avian influenza in accordance with the provisions of the Code and Manual and the nature of the vaccine used and the date of vaccination is attached to this veterinary certificate; and either ii) or iii)
 - ii) That were resident for at least the 21 days before, and during, egg collection in a country, zone or compartment that was free from avian influenza (AI) (as defined in the Code), with current Code surveillance requirements being met for avian influenza; or
 - iii) Demonstrated to be free from infection with AI by carrying out testing on a statistically valid sample from *<enter number sampled>* birds, selected in accordance with the Code's Surveillance Strategies, with the following test *<insert test type>* for AI as listed in MPI-STD-TVTL, within the 21 days prior to commencement of egg collection and at a maximum of 21 day intervals during the egg collection period.

(18) For avian paramyxovirus-1 (APMV-1), Newcastle disease (ND)

- a) The eggs for export were derived from parent flocks with a vaccination status of:
- i) Not vaccinated for APMV-1; or
 - ii) Vaccinated for APMV-1 using an inactivated vaccine; and/or
 - iii) Vaccinated with a live lentogenic vaccine strain in accordance with the Manual, and the nature of the vaccine used and the date of vaccination is attached to this veterinary certificate. The master seed virus for the vaccine used has an intracerebral pathogenicity index (ICPI) less than 0.4; and either b) or c)
- b) That were resident for at least the 21 days before, and during, egg collection in a country, zone or compartment that was free from ND (as defined in the Code), with current Code surveillance requirements being met for APMV-1; or
- c) Demonstrated to be free from infection with APMV-1 by carrying out testing on a statistically valid sample from *<enter number tested>* birds selected in accordance with the Code's Surveillance Strategies, with the following test *<insert test name>* as listed in MPI-STD-TVTL, within the 21 days prior to commencement of egg collection and at a maximum of 21 day intervals during the egg collection period.

(19) For *Salmonellae* spp.

- a) The eggs for export were derived from:
- i) Parent flocks in a country, zone or compartment (*delete as necessary*) free from *Salmonella* Gallinarum-Pullorum, *S. Enteritidis* and *S. Typhimurium* as demonstrated by surveillance, conducted in accordance with the Code requirements for *Salmonella*, and approved by an MPI CTO; or
 - ii) The eggs for export were derived from parent flocks certified as free from *S. Gallinarum-Pullorum*, *S. Enteritidis* and *S. Typhimurium*. Flock monitoring was in accordance with the Code requirements for surveillance of poultry flocks for *Salmonella*.
- b) Turkey hatching eggs for export were:
- i) Derived from a parent flock in a country, zone or compartment (*delete as necessary*) free from *S. arizonae* as demonstrated by surveillance, conducted in accordance with the Code requirements for monitoring poultry breeding flocks for *Salmonella*, and approved by an MPI CTO; or
 - ii) Derived from a parent flock certified free from *S. arizonae*. Flock monitoring must have been carried out in accordance with the Code requirements for surveillance of poultry flocks for *Salmonella*; or
 - iii) Derived from a parent flock demonstrated to be free from *S. arizonae* by testing a statistically valid sample from *<enter number tested>* birds within the 7 day period before collection of the hatching eggs commenced with the following test *<insert test name>* as listed in MPI-STD-TVTL.

(20) For *Ornithobacterium rhinotracheale*

- a) The eggs were derived from parent flocks in a country where *Ornithobacterium rhinotracheale* has not been recognised to be present; or
- b) The eggs were derived from parent flocks demonstrated to be free from *Ornithobacterium rhinotracheale* by testing a statistically valid, randomly selected sample from *<enter number tested>* turkeys with the following test *<insert test*

- name*> as listed in MPI-STD-TVTL, within the 21 days prior to the commencement of collection of eggs for export; or
- c) The eggs for export were derived from parent flocks which have shown no clinical, laboratory or pathological evidence suggestive of *Ornithobacterium rhinotracheale* infection since hatching.

(21) For *Mycoplasma* (turkeys only)

For *Mycoplasma iowae*

- a) The eggs were derived from parent flocks in a country where *Mycoplasma iowae* has not been recognised to be present; or
- b) 10% of the birds in the supply flock have been subjected to cloacal swab culture for *Mycoplasma iowae*, with negative results in each case, within 28 days prior to commencement of collection of eggs for export and the flock has a negative test history for *Mycoplasma iowae**; or
- c) The turkey hatching eggs were derived from a parent flock demonstrated to be free from *Mycoplasma iowae* by testing a statistically valid sample of <enter number tested> turkeys with the following test <insert test name> as listed in MPI-STD-TVTL, within the 21 days prior to commencement of collection of eggs for export.

For *Mycoplasma meleagridis*;

- a) The eggs were derived from parent flocks in a country where *Mycoplasma meleagridis* has not been recognised to be present; or
- b) The turkey hatching eggs were derived from a parent flock demonstrated to be free from *Mycoplasma meleagridis* by testing a statistically valid sample of <enter number tested> turkeys with the following test <insert test name> as listed with a test listed in MPI-STD-TVTL within the 28 days prior to commencement of collection of eggs for export; or
- c) The turkey hatching eggs were derived from a parent flock demonstrated to be free from *Mycoplasma meleagridis* with regular testing undertaken in accordance with a Competent Authority supervised poultry health scheme with consistently negative results for the past 12 months. Testing was carried out at on a statistically valid sample, with the following test <insert test name> as listed in MPI-STD-TVTL.

(*In the case of birds with test results that were positive or inconclusive, a further sample was taken and retested by ELISA by a laboratory approved by the Competent Authority of the exporting country. Any birds positive to this test was subject to post mortem and bacteriological examination and showed no evidence of *Mycoplasma* infection.)

(22) For duck virus enteritis (DVE) (ducks only)

- a) The duck hatching eggs for export were derived from a parent flock not vaccinated for DVE; and
- i) The duck hatching eggs were derived from a parent flock in a country where DVE has not been recognised; or
- ii) The duck hatching eggs were derived from parent demonstrated to be free from DVE by testing a statistically valid sample of <enter number of tested> ducks with the following test <insert test name> as listed in MPI-STD-TVTL, within the 21 days prior to the commencement of collection of eggs for export.

(23) For goose parvovirus and Muscovy duck parvovirus (ducks only)

- a) The duck hatching eggs are from breeds other than Muscovy duck (*Cairina moschata*) and their hybrids; or
- b) The Muscovy duck hatching eggs (or hybrid Muscovy duck hatching eggs) were derived from a parent flock in a country where goose parvovirus and Muscovy duck parvovirus is not recognised; or
- c) The Muscovy duck hatching eggs (or hybrid Muscovy duck hatching eggs) were derived from an establishment that has maintained a closed flock with a negative surveillance history for goose parvovirus and Muscovy duck parvovirus for the past 3 years for goose parvovirus and Muscovy duck parvovirus. The parent flock was demonstrated free from goose parvovirus and Muscovy duck parvovirus by testing a statistically valid sample of <enter number tested> ducks with the following test <insert test name> as listed in MPI-STD-TVTL, within the 21 days prior to the commencement of collection of eggs for export.

(24) For reovirus of Muscovy Ducks (DRV) (ducks only)

- a) The duck hatching eggs are from breeds other than Muscovy duck (*Cairina moschata*) and their hybrids; or
- b) The Muscovy duck hatching eggs (or hybrid Muscovy duck hatching eggs) were derived from a parent flock in a country where duck reovirus not been recognised; or
- c) The Muscovy duck hatching eggs (or hybrid Muscovy duck hatching eggs) were derived from an establishment that has maintained a closed flock with a negative surveillance history for DRV for the past 3 years. The parent flock was demonstrated free from reovirus of Muscovy ducks by testing a statistically valid sample of <enter number of birds> ducks with the following test <insert test name> as listed in MPI-STD-TVTL, within the 21 days prior to the commencement of collection of eggs for export.

Continued over page.

(25) For avian chlamydiosis (ducks only)

- a) The duck hatching eggs were derived from parent flocks in a country where *Chlamydia psittaci* (serovar C and E) in ducks is not recognised; or
- b) The duck hatching eggs were derived from parent flocks kept as a closed flock with a negative surveillance history for *C. psittaci*.
 - i) The parent flock was demonstrated free from *Chlamydia psittaci* by testing a statistically valid sample of <enter number tested> ducks with the following test <insert test name> as listed in MPI-STD-TVTL, within the 21 days prior to the commencement of collection of eggs for export.
 - ii) The sample size was sufficient to demonstrate with 99% confidence 10 % prevalence. (Note: Post-arrival quarantine testing is required (as per Schedule 2 of the IHS).

Official Veterinarian

Name:

Address:

Contact details:

Date:

Signature:

Stamp:



Final Draft

6.1 Agreed country specific veterinary certificates

- (1) All country-specific veterinary certificates agreed between an exporting country's Competent Authority and MPI are included in the tables below:

- a) The following countries are approved by MPI to import hatching eggs from chickens (*Gallus gallus*):

Country	Link to certificate	S27 CTO direction #	Date agreed	Date applicable for use
United Kingdom	http://www.biossecurity.govt.nz/files/ihs/comegic.gen.uk.pdf	n/a	16.6.2014	16.6.2014

- b) The following countries approved to import hatching eggs from ducks (*Anas platyrhynchos domesticus* and *Cairina moschata*):

Country	Link to certificate	S27 CTO direction #	Date agreed	Date applicable for use

- c) The following countries are approved by MPI to import hatching eggs from turkeys (*Meleagris gallopavo*):

Country	Link to certificate	S27 CTO direction #	Date agreed	Date applicable for use

- d) The following countries are approved by MPI to import specific-pathogen-free chicken eggs:

Country	Link to certificate	S27 CTO direction #	Date agreed	Date applicable for use

- (2) Country-specific veterinary certificates with equivalent measures will be recorded with a number relevant to an MPI Chief Technical Officer (CTO) direction under section 27(1)d(iii) of the Act, to enable border staff to clear the goods and record the number in the MPI database.
- (3) When a newly negotiated country-specific veterinary certificate replaces one which is currently in use, the application of new import conditions will apply according to the dates listed in the table. At that time previous veterinary certificates for that country can no longer be used.

Appendix 1 – Document History

Date First Issued	Title	Shortcode
5 February 2013	Poultry Hatching Eggs and Specific-Pathogen-Free Chicken Eggs	COMEGIC.GEN
Date of Issued Amendments	Title	Shortcode
12 July 2013	Poultry Hatching Eggs and Specific-Pathogen-Free Chicken Eggs	COMEGIC.GEN
29 July 2013	Poultry Hatching Eggs and Specific-Pathogen-Free Chicken Eggs	COMEGIC.GEN
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