

2016 AEB Exemption Information

Please read carefully!

December 14, 2015

The annual process of renewing American Egg Board exemptions is underway. As most of you know, any producer who has an aggregate of less than 75,000 birds is exempt from paying the AEB assessment. Handlers may also file for exemption if they purchase from exempt producers **exclusively** and if those producers have filed exemption forms. Handlers should forward exemption forms to appropriate producers. **Producers must sign these forms. Do not sign them on their behalf!** Anyone who wishes to file for an exemption should note the following:



1. Exemption status must be renewed **annually**.
2. Producers must include the name of the handler to whom they're selling eggs.
3. Exemptions are not *automatic*. No handler should stop deducting the AEB assessment from a producer who's at the exemption limit *unless* an exemption certificate is on file. Otherwise, you'll have to go back to collect from the producer.
4. A contract producer is **not** eligible for exemption because the birds are owned by someone else. The producer who owns the layers would be eligible **if** that individual has a total of 75,000 or fewer birds.
5. Exemption forms must be returned to AEB by March 15, 2016, otherwise previously exempt accounts will be reactivated.
6. Producers and producer/handlers are required to notify AEB if their flock size grows above the exemption level if they've already filed an exemption form.

Be sure to complete the statistical information portion of the form regarding flock size and recent number of cases produced to substantiate your exemption eligibility. Incomplete forms will be returned. This means producers should fill in the name of their handler. Also, layer numbers that are not in line with cases reported recently to AEB will result in a challenge to the exemption request.

Even if you are a producer or handler who is eligible for exemption, you may continue to pay the assessment voluntarily. Many producers continue to pay the assessment because they view AEB's advertising, research and promotional efforts as benefits to the entire industry. If you have any questions regarding the exemption process, contact Jake Spence, AEB's Compliance Manager.