

SELLING



MINNESOTA

SHELL EGGS

This fact sheet is for Minnesota farmers, small-flock owners, and local food entrepreneurs who want to sell eggs. The fact sheet covers regulations for sales of eggs from your own flock of any size, as well as for sales or distribution of eggs collected from other flocks than your own.

Definitions

Eggs: Eggs from any species defined as “poultry” in Minnesota. “Poultry” means domesticated fowl; including chickens, waterfowl, and game birds, except doves and pigeons; which are bred for the primary purpose of producing eggs or meat.

Minnesota Rules 1520.5200 Subpart 21, www.revisor.mn.gov/rules/1520.5200

Food facilities: restaurants, caterers, school food service, institutions, day cares, community centers, churches, hospitals, health care facilities, food shelves and food banks, grocery stores, food markets, cooperatives, bakeries, convenience stores, food stands, mobile food units, warehouses, distributors, aggregators, and wholesale food processors and manufacturers.

Minnesota Rules 4626.0020 Subparts 35 and 36, www.revisor.mn.gov/rules/4626.0020

MDA: Minnesota Department of Agriculture, www.mda.state.mn.us

Product of the farm: Farm products that you grow or raise on property that you “occupy and cultivate.” Property that you “occupy and cultivate” includes property that you rent or lease, so long as you have control over the production on that property.

Constitution of the State of Minnesota, Article 13, Section 7,
www.revisor.mn.gov/constitution/#article_13

Minnesota Statute 28A.15 Subd. 2, www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/28A.15

Sell; sale: “Sell” and “sale” mean keeping, offering, or exposing for sale, use, transporting,

transferring, negotiating, soliciting, or exchanging food; having in possession with intent to sell, use, transport, negotiate, solicit, or exchange food; storing, manufacturing, producing, processing, packing, and holding of food for sale; dispensing or giving food; or supplying or applying food in the conduct of any food operation or carrying food in aid of traffic in food whether done or permitted in person or through others.

Minnesota Statute 34A.01 Subd. 12, www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/34A.01

USDA-AMS: United States Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Marketing Service, www.ams.usda.gov

What Regulations? It Depends.

Regulations for sale of eggs from your farm or production facility depend on how many laying hens you have, who your customers are, and where your sales will take place.

Two types of locations for sale of eggs

1. Your premises
2. Anywhere else

“Your premises” refers to your own property where you produce eggs. Any booth, stand, or vehicle set up away from your property is not your premises, for purposes of this law.

Two types of customers

Individuals: These are consumers who will consume the product themselves, or will serve the product to members of their own household and/or non-paying guests.

Food Facilities: (See definition, above)

Four operation types

Your farm might have more than one of these types of operations. You must follow the registration or licensing requirements that apply to each type of operation that you have.

1. **Fewer than 3,000 laying hens that you own:** Operations of this type are exempt from the USDA-AMS Shell Egg Surveillance program; however they are encouraged to register with the MDA.

2. **More than 3,000 laying hens that you own:** Operations of this type are subject to USDA-AMS requirements and must register with the USDA-AMS as a Producer/Packer.
3. **You collect, grade, pack, label and distribute eggs from other farms:** An operation of this type is subject to USDA-AMS requirements and must register with the USDA-AMS as a Grading Station. This type of operation must also be licensed by the MDA as a food handler, and will be charged the additional egg handler inspection fee.
4. **You sell or distribute eggs from other farms that have already been graded, packed and labeled by those other farms:**
An operation of this type must be licensed by the MDA as a food handler. If the sales are retail, a food handler license is all that is needed. If sales are wholesale, there may be an additional egg handler inspection fee. Consult your inspector.

Registration

- If you sell eggs that were produced on your premises only to individuals AND only directly from your premises, you do not need to register with either the MDA or the USDA.
- If you sell eggs that were produced on your premises to food facilities, OR if you sell only to individuals but at locations other than your premises (such as at a farmers' market), the MDA requests registration by egg producers with fewer than 3,000 laying hens. There is no fee for this registration.

Form to register with the MDA as an exempt egg producer can be found on the Sale of Eggs in Minnesota webpage:

www.mda.state.mn.us/food-feed/sale-eggs-minnesota

- If you sell eggs from your own flock of more than 3,000 hens; OR if you sell eggs from other farmers that you grade and pack; then you must register with the USDA.

Complying with Shell Egg Surveillance. USDA-AMS.

www.ams.usda.gov/grades-standards/eggs

USDA Shell Egg Handlers Registration Form:

www.ams.usda.gov/sites/default/files/media/ShellEggHandlersForm.pdf

Licensing

Product of the farm is excluded from licensing. If you raise the laying flock yourself on property that you control (through ownership or rental or lease agreement), you are not required to have an MDA food handler license in order to sell eggs.

- If you purchase or obtain eggs from other egg producers to sell or offer to customers – even if you are donating your distribution efforts – you must have an MDA food handler’s license. Minnesota’s definition of “sell” includes any time a product changes hands in any way.
- If you candle, grade, package and label eggs from other egg producers, you must have an MDA food handler’s license AND you must also register with USDA-AMS as an egg grading station (see the Registration section).
- If you sell eggs from other egg producers that the other producers have already candled, graded, packaged and labeled; then you need an MDA food handler’s license, but you do not need to register with the USDA-AMS.

Minnesota Statute 28A.04, License Required. www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/28A.04

Minnesota Statutes 29.235, www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/29.235

Minnesota Statutes 29.26, www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/29.26

- The license required for egg collection, packing, and distribution is an MDA food handler license plus an extra fee for inspection as an egg handler.

Minnesota Statute 28A.05, Classification [of licenses], www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/28A.05

Minnesota Statute 29.22, Egg Handlers Annual Inspection Fee; Disposition of Fees.

www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/29.22

Some potential buyers may not be aware of what the regulations are for producers selling eggs and may assume that you need a license to sell eggs from your own flock. You can download and print the Safely Selling or Buying Locally Produced Eggs fact sheet from the MDA website, and use it to help educate your buyers:

2020. Minnesota Department of Agriculture. Safely Selling or Buying Locally Produced Eggs. www.mda.state.mn.us/food-feed/sale-eggs-minnesota

Some food facilities are not comfortable buying from an unlicensed individual. If you are selling eggs that are product of the farm, you are excluded from a food handler license. You can show the buyer a copy of your registration with the MDA as an exempt egg producer if you have fewer than 3,000 hens, or a copy of your registration with the USDA-AMS if you have more than 3,000 hens.

Call the MDA Dairy & Meat Inspection Program to learn more about egg grading, candling, or labeling: 651-201-6300

Sale of Eggs at Locations Away from Your Premises

The MDA requests that you register with them as an exempt egg producer if you have fewer than 3,000 hens. You are required to register with the USDA-AMS if you have more than 3,000 hens (see “Registration” section above).

- If you are using any location away from your premises as a point of sale for eggs from your own flock, then you must follow the safe egg handling regulations. Eggs must be cleaned by an approved method, candled, graded, packed, labeled, stored, and transported according to the requirements in Minnesota Rules chapter 1520, www.revisor.mn.gov/rules/1520 (See “Safe Egg Handling Requirements,” below.)
- Obtain an MDA food handler’s license if you want to sell eggs from other egg producers besides your own, and follow the safe egg handling regulations as well as other regulations that may apply to your license (visit the MDA Food Licensing webpage to get started: www.mda.state.mn.us/food-feed/food-licenses).

Minnesota Statutes 29.235, www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/29.235

Minnesota Statutes 29.26, www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/29.26

- Eggs must be held at 45 °F or less.

Minnesota Statutes 29.23, www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/29.23

Selling Eggs Across State Lines

You can sell eggs across state lines if you meet all of the egg handling, licensing and/or registration requirements that apply to your operation in the state where you sell the eggs.

- Egg producers from other states selling into Minnesota must follow Minnesota’s requirements for egg sales.
- If you are an egg producer in Minnesota and want to sell eggs into a different state, check with the Department of Agriculture in that state for their requirements.

Safe Egg Handling Requirements:

- If you are only selling eggs that were produced on your own property, to individuals, and from your premises; then you are exempt from the egg handling regulations listed below. HOWEVER, following these safe egg handling regulations voluntarily is a good food safety practice that will reduce your risk of selling unsafe eggs to your customers.
- You must follow the egg handling regulations in Minnesota Rules chapter 1520 for any sale of eggs to food facilities, or for any sale of eggs at locations other than your own premises.
- If you are buying and selling eggs from other egg producers, there are additional documentation requirements listed in Minnesota Rules chapter 1520.

What are “Processed” Eggs?

“Processed” in this context means unbroken shell eggs that have been cleaned, candled, graded, packed and labeled.

The requirements for safe handling of eggs are described in Minnesota Rules chapter 1520:
www.revisor.mn.gov/rules/1520

If you are subject to these requirements, you must follow all of the requirements in Minnesota Rules chapter 1520; not just the excerpts shown below.

1520.0300 CANDLING.

Egg handlers must have equipment, adequate space, and a sanitary room darkened sufficiently to make accurate quality determinations of candled eggs. Processing operations, except when candling, must be well lighted to detect dirties, stains, and the condition of packing material.

1520.0400 STORAGE AND REFRIGERATION.

Egg handlers must have adequate space and storage facilities capable of maintaining processed eggs at a temperature of 45 degrees Fahrenheit (seven degrees centigrade) or less; or 50 degrees Fahrenheit (ten degrees centigrade) or less for unprocessed eggs. All storage and transportation facilities must be maintained in a sanitary condition. Egg handlers must transport eggs in enclosed trucks that are sanitary and capable of maintaining eggs at an ambient air temperature of 45 degrees Fahrenheit (seven degrees centigrade) or less.

1520.0500 EGG CLEANING.

Subpart 1. Protection of eggs.

Eggs must be protected from contamination through all stages of production, transportation, and processing.

Subp. 2. Wet cleaning.

Wet cleaning of eggs using rags, sponges, or other devices to scrub or wipe the eggs by hand is prohibited.

Subp. 3. Dry cleaning.

Dry cleaning with abrasive material reasonably free of bacterial contamination is permitted.

Subp. 4. Washing equipment and procedures.

Egg washing is subject to items A to J:

- A. Egg equipment and the surrounding area must be constructed so as to permit thorough cleaning.
- B. Egg equipment and the surrounding area must be maintained in a sanitary condition.
- C. Water used for washing eggs must be potable (drinkable) and contain less than two parts per million of iron.
- D. Water temperature for both washing and rinsing must be thermostatically controlled.
- E. The temperature of the wash water must be maintained at 90 degrees Fahrenheit (32 degrees centigrade) or above and must be at least 20 degrees Fahrenheit (11 degrees centigrade) warmer than the temperature of the eggs. The rinse water temperature must exceed the wash water temperature by at least ten degrees Fahrenheit (six degrees centigrade).
- F. Prewetting must be accomplished by spraying a continuous flow of water over the eggs in a manner that permits the water to drain away. Cleaning and sanitizing compounds or chemicals must be guaranteed in writing by the manufacturer as acceptable for egg washing or sanitizing.
- G. Washed eggs must be spray-rinsed with a sanitizing agent. The rinse must contain not less than 50 parts per million and not more than 200 parts per million of available chlorine or its equivalent.
- H. Washed eggs must be dry prior to cartoning or casing.
- I. Immersion type washers may not be used.
- J. Eggs must be removed from the washing and rinsing area of the egg washer and the scanning area when there is a buildup of heat.

1520.0900 CONTAINERS AND PACKAGING
MATERIAL USED IN MARKETING EGGS.

Containers, including packaging material inside the containers, must be maintained in a clean, sanitary condition.

1520.1300 QUALITY STANDARDS.

Standards of quality for shell eggs must be in accordance with the United States Department of Agriculture Standards for Quality of Individual Shell Eggs and Weight Classes for Shell Eggs, Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS 56.200 et seq.) effective April 6, 1995.

1520.1400 WEIGHT CLASSES FOR SHELL EGG GRADES.

Weight classes for shell egg grades are set by the following table:

Size or Weight Class	Minimum Net Weight per dozen, in ounces	Minimum Net Weight per 30 dozen, in pounds	Minimum Weight for Individual Eggs at Rate per dozen, in ounces
Jumbo	30	56	29
Extra Large	27	50 ¹ / ₂	26
Large	24	45	23
Medium	21	39 ¹ / ₂	20
Small	18	34	17

A lot average tolerance of 3.3 percent for individual eggs in the next lower weight class is permitted as long as no individual case within the lot exceeds five percent.

1520.1500 INVOICES.

Every egg handler selling eggs to a retailer must give the retailer an invoice showing the grade of the eggs under part 1520.1200. A copy of each invoice must be maintained on file by the seller and the retailer at their places of business for 30 days and must be available for official review upon request by

the commissioner.

1520.1600 LABELING.

Egg handlers offering eggs for sale to a consumer must give the grade of eggs in a manner complying with this part.

Eggs offered for sale in cartons, bags, containers, or other package form must be plainly and conspicuously labeled in printed letters not smaller than one-quarter inch in height or plainly and conspicuously stamped and marked in letters not smaller than one-half inch in height with the product identity; the grade and size; the name and address of the producer, processor, or distributor; the words “packed for” or “distributed by” or equivalent; the statement “Perishable. Keep Refrigerated”; and the pack date and quality assurance date.

Eggs offered for sale in bulk must be sold under a placard which states all the information in item A. Grade and size designations may not be abbreviated.

1520.1700 ADVERTISING.

Any advertisement of eggs for a price must plainly and conspicuously indicate the grade and size. Grade and size designations may not be abbreviated.

All reference to grades of eggs in advertising or in any other manner, either for procurement or sale of eggs, must conform to the grade and size terminology for purchase and consumer grades set in parts 1520.1100 to 1520.1400.

1520.1800 MISLEADING STATEMENTS.

No egg handler may sell, offer for sale, or advertise for sale eggs for human consumption if the package containing them, the label on the package, or any advertising accompanying them bears any statement or device which is in any way false or misleading.

1520.1900 PACK AND QUALITY ASSURANCE DATE.

Subpart 1. Pack date.

Consumer grades of eggs must be pack dated in type not smaller than one-quarter inch capitals to indicate the date of pack. All cartons and cases must bear a pack date. Retailers who carton eggs delivered in bulk cases must label the cartons with the identical pack date on the bulk case.

Subp. 2. Quality assurance date.

All consumer grade eggs must carry a “quality assurance date” in addition to the pack date. The pack date must be a Julian date to not confuse it with the quality assurance date. The quality assurance date must

be spelled out as the month or number of the month and day, for example, “2-1” or “Feb. 1.” The quality assurance date must have an explanatory clause, such as “Sell by” or “Use by,” the word “Expires,” or the abbreviation “Exp.”

1520.2000 USE OF WORD “FRESH.”

The use of the word “Fresh” is limited to eggs of grades AA, A, and B quality which are not older than 30 days from the date of candling and grading. The term “Fresh” or a similar term is not a substitute for grade designation.

Small-Scale Egg Washing Protocol

- Use a colander or a plastic bucket with holes cut in the bottom and sides to allow water to drain out quickly. Eggs must not be immersed in water.
- Run warm water, at least 90°F. Use an instant-read thermometer to check temperature of running water.
- Place colander or bucket of eggs under the warm running water. Use your (clean) fingers to gently loosen and rub off any soil.
- Spray each clean egg with a 100 to 200 ppm solution of chlorine bleach in water.
 - The recipe for a 100 to 200 ppm chlorine solution:
 - 1 tablespoon of bleach in 1 gallon of water
 - For mixing the solution in a smaller hand-held spray bottle, use about ½ teaspoon (no more) of bleach in 24 fluid ounces of water.
 - Use a test strip to verify the chlorine concentration. Test strips are available online for less than \$6 per 100 strips. Order the restaurant or food service grade; those will have the correct range of ppm.
 - Use plain chlorine bleach – not scented. Ensure that the label says the bleach is allowed for food contact surfaces.
- Set the eggs on a sanitized drying rack to air dry; or set eggs on clean cloth towels and change towels between each batch.
- Candle and grade the eggs.

- Grade is hard to see with brown shells. If you are cleaning and packing eggs within a day or two of collecting the eggs, you are unlikely to see a decline in grade.
- Discard any eggs with cracks or UFOs (unidentified floating objects).
- Pack the eggs into cartons, keeping sizes as even as possible within a carton. Weigh the cartons. The cartons must be identified as to small, medium, large, extra-large, or jumbo eggs; and the carton weights must fall into the allowed range for that size.
- Label the cartons. The label must include the grade and size, the pack date in Julian date format, and the “Use by:” date 30 days out from the pack date.
 - See Julian date tables and instructions for use, below.
- Refrigerate the eggs. The maximum storage temperature is 45°F, but the eggs will keep in better condition for longer if you store them at 41°F or lower.

Resources for More Information and Help

Minnesota Department of Agriculture; Meat, Poultry & Egg Inspection. Contact the MDA for help with any regulatory questions about eggs sales, to request registration as an exempt egg producer, or to request inspection and licensing. 651-201-6300.

www.mda.state.mn.us/food-feed/meat-poultry-and-egg-inspection

Minnesota Department of Agriculture Website. *www.mda.state.mn.us*

Minnesota Farmers Market Association. Contact MFMA for help with questions relating to sale of eggs at farmers’ markets. *www.mfma.org*, (507) 664-9446.

Minnesota Institute for Sustainable Agriculture. Contact MISA for help with questions relating to local or regional food systems. *www.misa.umn.edu*, 612-625-8235, misamail@umn.edu.

University of Minnesota Extension; Animals and Livestock.
extension.umn.edu/animals-and-livestock

Summary Table for Egg Sales Scenarios

Requirements and allowed actions for farmers who produce and sell eggs:	Sales of eggs from own farm with <3,000 hens, to individuals from your premises	Sales of eggs from own farm with <3,000 hens, to food facilities or to individuals at off-farm location	Sales of eggs from own farm with >3,000 hens	Sale or distribution of eggs from other farms; you grade, pack & label	Sale or distribution of eggs from other farms; they grade, pack & label
MDA Food Handler License	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES
MDA Egg Inspection Fee	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO if retail YES if wholesale
Inspection	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES
Register with MDA	NO	REQUESTED	NO	NO	NO
Register with USDA-AMS	NO	NO	YES	YES	NO
Candle	RECOMMENDED	YES	YES	YES	YES
Grade	RECOMMENDED	YES	YES	YES	YES
Pack	RECOMMENDED	YES	YES	YES	YES
Label	RECOMMENDED	YES	YES	YES	YES
Refrigerate at 50o F before processing	RECOMMENDED	YES	YES	YES	YES
Refrigerate at 45o F after processing	RECOMMENDED	YES	YES	YES	YES
Charge sales tax	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
Sampling & demo	NO	YES. See the sampling exemption, M.S. 28A.151. https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/28A.151 You must have an adequate system for cooking and sanitation in order to protect public health.			
MDA jurisdiction	YES	YES	YES** (**USDA AMS)	YES** (**USDA AMS)	YES
MDH jurisdiction	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO

Julian Date Tables

Use the following tables to determine pack date and "Use By:" or "Sell By: " date based on the pack date. Here's how:

1. Choose the Leap Year or Non-Leap Year table appropriate for the current year.
2. Find the Julian day number for your pack date -- the month and day on which you candled, graded, and packed the eggs.
3. Add 30 to the Julian number for your pack date.
4. Find that pack date + 30 number on the table.
5. Find the month and day associated with the pack date + 30 number. That is your "Use By:" or "Sell By:" date.

Julian Dates--Non-Leap Year												
Day of Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jly	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
1	1	32	60	91	121	152	182	213	244	274	305	335
2	2	33	61	92	122	153	183	214	245	275	306	336
3	3	34	62	93	123	154	184	215	246	276	307	337
4	4	35	63	94	124	155	185	216	247	277	308	338
5	5	36	64	95	125	156	186	217	248	278	309	339
6	6	37	65	96	126	157	187	218	249	279	310	340
7	7	38	66	97	127	158	188	219	250	280	311	341
8	8	39	67	98	128	159	189	220	251	281	312	342
9	9	40	68	99	129	160	190	221	252	282	313	343
10	10	41	69	100	130	161	191	222	253	283	314	344
11	11	42	70	101	131	162	192	223	254	284	315	345
12	12	43	71	102	132	163	193	224	255	285	316	346
13	13	44	72	103	133	164	194	225	256	286	317	347
14	14	45	73	104	134	165	195	226	257	287	318	348
15	15	46	74	105	135	166	196	227	258	288	319	349
16	16	47	75	106	136	167	197	228	259	289	320	350
17	17	48	76	107	137	168	198	229	260	290	321	351
18	18	49	77	108	138	169	199	230	261	291	322	352
19	19	50	78	109	139	170	200	231	262	292	323	353
20	20	51	79	110	140	171	201	232	263	293	324	354
21	21	52	80	111	141	172	202	233	264	294	325	355
22	22	53	81	112	142	173	203	234	265	295	326	356
23	23	54	82	113	143	174	204	235	266	296	327	357
24	24	55	83	114	144	175	205	236	267	297	328	358
25	25	56	84	115	145	176	206	237	268	298	329	359
26	26	57	85	116	146	177	207	238	269	299	330	360
27	27	58	86	117	147	178	208	239	270	300	331	361
28	28	59	87	118	148	179	209	240	271	301	332	362
29	29		88	119	149	180	210	241	272	302	333	363
30	30		89	120	150	181	211	242	273	303	334	364
31	31		90		151		212	243		304		365

PDF version for printing: https://misadocuments.info/Julian_Dates_non_leap_year.pdf

Julian Dates--Leap Year												
Day of Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jly	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
1	1	32	61	92	122	153	183	214	245	275	306	336
2	2	33	62	93	123	154	184	215	246	276	307	337
3	3	34	63	94	124	155	185	216	247	277	308	338
4	4	35	64	95	125	156	186	217	248	278	309	339
5	5	36	65	96	126	157	187	218	249	279	310	340
6	6	37	66	97	127	158	188	219	250	280	311	341
7	7	38	67	98	128	159	189	220	251	281	312	342
8	8	39	68	99	129	160	190	221	252	282	313	343
9	9	40	69	100	130	161	191	222	253	283	314	344
10	10	41	70	101	131	162	192	223	254	284	315	345
11	11	42	71	102	132	163	193	224	255	285	316	346
12	12	43	72	103	133	164	194	225	256	286	317	347
13	13	44	73	104	134	165	195	226	257	287	318	348
14	14	45	74	105	135	166	196	227	258	288	319	349
15	15	46	75	106	136	167	197	228	259	289	320	350
16	16	47	76	107	137	168	198	229	260	290	321	351
17	17	48	77	108	138	169	199	230	261	291	322	352
18	18	49	78	109	139	170	200	231	262	292	323	353
19	19	50	79	110	140	171	201	232	263	293	324	354
20	20	51	80	111	141	172	202	233	264	294	325	355
21	21	52	81	112	142	173	203	234	265	295	326	356
22	22	53	82	113	143	174	204	235	266	296	327	357
23	23	54	83	114	144	175	205	236	267	297	328	358
24	24	55	84	115	145	176	206	237	268	298	329	359
25	25	56	85	116	146	177	207	238	269	299	330	360
26	26	57	86	117	147	178	208	239	270	300	331	361
27	27	58	87	118	148	179	209	240	271	301	332	362
28	28	59	88	119	149	180	210	241	272	302	333	363
29	29	60	89	120	150	181	211	242	273	303	334	364
30	30		90	121	151	182	212	243	274	304	335	365
31	31		91		152		213	244		305		366

PDF version for printing: https://misadocuments.info/Julian_Dates_leap_year.pdf

Farm Products Dealers Law & Protections for Sellers

M.S. 27. Farm Products Dealers. <https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/27/full>

In Minnesota, if you sell perishable farm products, you may have some financial protections for those sales. **Perishable Farm Products** means produce; including fresh fruits, vegetables, and mushrooms; milk, cream, and products manufactured from milk and cream; and poultry and poultry products, including eggs.

Financial protections are available for sales on credit or terms of perishable farm products made to **Farm Products Dealers**, which includes any person operating as a retail food handler, wholesale food handler, wholesale food processor or manufacturer, or food broker who buys from or contracts with a seller for production or sale of perishable farm products for resale.

The Farm Products Dealers' trust operates like a lien against the dealer's property and takes priority over security interests others may have, providing sellers of perishable farm products an avenue for seeking reimbursement if a buyer fails to pay for products purchased on credit or terms.

For more information on the Farm Products Dealers law, or to file a claim, visit <https://www.mda.state.mn.us/food-feed/wholesale-produce-dealers> or contact Christine Mader with the MDA Plant Protection Division at 651-201-6620 or Christine.Mader@state.mn.us.