

32nd Annual National Egg Quality School
Indianapolis, IN
May 18-21, 2026

Monday, May 18

- 8:30 a.m. REGISTRATION
- 9:00 a.m. Welcome to Indiana
Mr. Don Lamb, Director
Indiana State Department of Agriculture
- 9:15 a.m. ORIENTATION AND INTRODUCTION
- 9:30 a.m. LECTURE I
“Eggs 101”
American Egg Board
- 9:45 a.m. LECTURE II
“Formation of the Egg”
Dr. Dianna Bourassa, Auburn University
- 10:15 a.m. BREAK
- 10:35 a.m. LECTURE III
“Egg Quality and Bird Health”
Dr. Megan Lighty, Penn State University
- 11:15 a.m. LECTURE IV
“Secure Poultry Supply”
Dr. Megan Lighty, Penn State University
- 12:00 p.m. DIRECTOR’S LUNCH
- 1:00 p.m. BUZZ SESSION
- 1:10 p.m. LECTURE V
“Hen Housing and Egg Quality”
Dr. Mike Persia, Virginia Tech
- 1:50 p.m. LECTURE VI
“Biosecurity and Egg Safety”
Dr. Aaron Kiess, North Carolina State University

- 2:30 p.m. LECTURE VII
“Hen Nutrition and Egg Quality”
Dr. Mike Persia, Virginia Tech
- 3:05 p.m. LECTURE VIII
“U.S. Standards for Eggs – Exterior Quality Factors”
Mr. Jeff Hendricks, USDA AMS Livestock, Poultry & Seed Program
- 3:35 p.m. BREAK
- 3:50 p.m. LABORATORY I
“Exterior Egg Quality Determination - Laboratory”
- 4:40 p.m. BUZZ SESSION, OPEN LAB AND REVIEW OF DAY
DINNER ON YOUR OWN

Tuesday, May 19

- 8:00 a.m. LECTURE IX
“Reducing Shell Damage”
Dr. Paul Patterson, Penn State University
- 8:35 a.m. LECTURE X
“Cleaning Eggs and Conserving Egg Quality”
Dr. Kenneth Anderson, North Carolina State University
- 9:15 a.m. LECTURE XI
“Eggs and Foodborne Disease”
Dr. Pratima Adhikari, Mississippi State University
- 9:55 a.m. BREAK
- 10:15 a.m. LECTURE XII
“Promoting the Incredible Egg”
Ms. Katie Hayes, RDN, Director, Scientific Communications, Egg Nutrition Center
- 10:50 a.m. LECTURE XIII
“The Nutritious Egg”
Dr. Jen Houchins, Egg Nutrition Center
- 11:30 a.m. LECTURE XIV
“Overview – Current Egg Industry Issues”
Ms. Kim Rice, United Egg Producers

- 12:00 p.m. Make Your Own Omelet Lunch
Ms. Rebecca Eifert Joniskan, President
Indiana State Poultry Association
- 1:00 p.m. LECTURE XV
“U.S. Standards for Eggs – Interior Quality Factors”
Mr. Jeff Hendricks, USDA AMS Livestock, Poultry & Seed Program
- 1:40 p.m. LABORATORY II
“Interior Quality Determination – Laboratory”
- 2:40 p.m. LECTURE XVI
“Egg Processing Plant Sanitation - SSOP’s and GMP’s”
Dr. Dianna Bourassa, Auburn University
- 3:30 p.m. BREAK
- 4:00 p.m. LECTURE XVII
“Introduction to HACCP”
Dr. Deana Jones, USDA ARS
- 4:30 p.m. LECTURE XVIII
“FSIS Role and Responsibilities for Eggs and Egg Products”
Mr. Daniel Sturzen, Compliance Investigator
Mr. Benjamin Duvall, Enforcement Investigation and Analysis Officer
USDA-FSIS
- 5:00 p.m. BUZZ SESSION, OPEN LAB AND REVIEW OF DAY
- 6:30 p.m. GROUP DINNER - Egg Handler’s Romp

Wednesday, May 20

- 8:00 a.m. LECTURE XIX
“Salmonella Control – What can Producers Do?”
Dr. Aaron Kiess, North Carolina State University
- 8:40 a.m. LECTURE XX
“FDA’s Egg Safety Rule”
Dr. Gerardo A. Ramirez, FDA CFSAN
- 9:30 a.m. BREAK
- 9:50 a.m. LECTURE XXI
“Pre-Harvest Food Safety Plan: Implementing Pest Monitoring and Control”
Dr. Kenneth Anderson, North Carolina State University

- 10:30 a.m. LECTURE XXII
“Combining all Quality Factors into Standards and Grades”
Mr. Jeff Hendricks, USDA AMS Livestock, Poultry & Seed Program
- 11:00 a.m. LABORATORY III
“Combining all Quality Factors into Standards and Grades - Laboratory”
- 12:00 p.m. GROUP LUNCH
- 1:00 p.m. LECTURE XXIII
“Environmental and Egg Testing Procedures”
Dr. Paul Patterson, Penn State University
- 1:45 p.m. LECTURE XXIV
“Egg Products Inspection Act and Voluntary Grading Programs”
Mr. Jeff Hendricks, USDA AMS Livestock, Poultry & Seed Program
- 2:15 p.m. GROUP PICTURE AND BREAK
- 3:15 p.m. BUZZ SESSION
- 3:30 p.m. LECTURE XXV
“Federal and State Labeling Requirements”
Mr. Jeff Hendricks, USDA AMS Livestock, Poultry & Seed Program
- 4:00 p.m. LECTURE XXVI
“Dispelling Myths About Eggs”
Dr. Deana Jones, USDA ARS
- 4:30 p.m. EXAM REVIEW
- 5:30 p.m. SESSION OVER – Dinner on your own
- 7:30 p.m. LABORATORY OPEN
FACULTY CONSULTATION

Thursday, May 21

- 8:00 a.m. WRITTEN AND PRACTICAL EXAM

**“STUDENTS MUST TAKE AND PASS THE EXAM AT THIS TIME TO EARN
A CERTIFICATE OF PROFICIENCY”**

- NOON SCHOOL ENDS