

§ 590.544

(1) Sifters and conveyors used for other than dried albumen shall be cleared of powder when such equipment is not to be used for a period of 24 hours or longer.

(2) Collector bags shall be cleaned as often as needed to maintain them in an acceptable clean condition.

(d) Powder shall be sifted and the screen shall be replaced whenever torn or worn.

(e) Accumulations of large particles or lumps of dried eggs shall be removed from the sifter screens continuously.

(f) All openings into the drier around ports, augers, high-pressure lines, etc., shall be closed to the extent possible during the drying operation to prevent entrance of nonfiltered air.

(g) Openings into the drying unit shall be closed when the drier is not in use, except when the drying unit has been completely emptied of powder and wet washed. This includes, but is not limited to, openings, for the air intake and exhaust systems, nozzle openings, ports, augers, etc.

§ 590.544 Spray process powder; definitions and requirements.

(a) Definition of product:

(1) *Primary powder* is that powder which is continuously removed from the primary or main drying chamber while the drying unit is in operation.

(2) *Secondary powder* is that powder which is continuously and automatically removed from the secondary chamber and/or bag collector chamber while the drying unit is in operation.

(3) *Sweep-down powder* is that powder which is recovered in the brush-down process from the primary or secondary chamber and conveyors.

(4) *Brush bag powder* is that powder which is brushed from the collector bags.

(b) Secondary powder shall be continuously discharged and mixed with the primary powder by methods approved by the Administrator.

(c) Edible dried egg products, including edible ingredients which may be added to such dried products, may be dry-blended: *Provided*, That the blending is done in a room as provided in § 590.548 or in a closed blending system and in accordance with clean, sanitary

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practices and such procedures as may be prescribed by the Administrator.

(d) Any edible dried egg powder may be reconstituted, repasteurized, and redried when accomplished in a clean, sanitary manner and in accordance with such procedures as may be prescribed by the Administrator.

(e) Edible dried egg powder obtained from the sweep down, screenings, brush bag (except for brush bag powder from albumen driers), and improperly dried or scorched powder shall be reconstituted, repasteurized, and redried.

(f) Approximately the first and last 175 pounds of powder from the main driers for each continuous operation shall be checked for improperly dried or scorched powder.

§ 590.546 Albumen flake process drying facilities.

(a) Drying facilities shall be constructed in such a manner as will allow thorough cleaning and be equipped with approved intake filters.

(b) The intake air source shall be free from foul odors, dust, and dirt.

(c) Premix-type burners, if used, shall be equipped with approved air filters at blower intake.

(d) Fermentation tanks, drying pans, trays or belts, scrapers, curing racks, and equipment used for pulverizing pan dried albumen shall be constructed of approved materials in such a manner as will permit thorough cleaning.

(e) Sifting screens shall be constructed of approved materials in such a manner as will permit thorough cleaning and be in accordance with the specification for the type of albumen produced.

§ 590.547 Albumen flake process drying operations.

(a) The fermentation, drying, and curing rooms shall be kept in a dust-free clean condition and free of flies, insects, and rodents.

(b) Drying units, racks, and trucks shall be kept in a clean and sanitary condition.

(c) Drying pans, trays, belts, scrapers, or curing racks, if used, shall be kept in a clean condition.

(d) Oils and waxes used in oiling drying pans or trays shall be of edible quality.

(e) Equipment used for pulverizing or sifting dried albumen shall be kept in a clean condition.

§ 590.548 Drying, blending, packaging, and heat treatment rooms and facilities.

(a) *General.* Processing rooms shall be maintained in a clean condition and free of flies, insects, and rodents. The drying, blending, and packaging rooms shall be well-lighted and have ceilings and walls of a tile surface, enamel paint, or other water-resistant material.

(1) The floors shall be free from cracks or rough surfaces where water or dirt could accumulate.

(2) The intersections of the walls and floors shall be impervious to water and the floor shall be sloped for adequate drainage.

(3) Metal storage racks or cabinets shall be provided for storing of tools and accessories.

(b) Dry blending of edible egg products, including adding edible dry ingredients, and/or packaging of spray-dried products shall be done in a room separate from other processing operations. Dry blending may also be done in other areas: *Provided*, That it is accomplished in an approved closed blending system.

(1) Blending and packaging rooms for pasteurized products shall be provided with an adequate positive flow of approved outside filtered air.

(2) Blending and packaging equipment and accessories which come into contact with the dried product shall be of an approved construction without open seams and of materials that can be kept clean and which will have no deleterious effect on the product. Service tables shall be of approved metal construction without open seams and surfaces shall be smooth to permit thorough cleaning.

(3) Package liners shall be inserted in a sanitary manner, and equipment and supplies used in the operation shall be kept off the floor.

(4) Utensils used in packaging dried eggs shall be kept clean at all times and whenever contaminated shall be cleaned and sanitized. When not in use, scoops, brushes, tampers, and other similar equipment shall be stored in

sanitary cabinets or racks provided for this purpose.

(5) Automatic container fillers shall be of a type that will accurately fill given quantities of product into the containers. Scales shall be provided to accurately check the weight of the filled containers. All equipment used in mechanically packaging dried egg products shall be vacuum cleaned daily.

(c) The heat treatment room shall be of an approved construction and be maintained in a clean condition. The room or rooms shall be of sufficient size so that product to be heat treated can be so spaced to assure adequate heat and air circulation. The room shall have an adequate heat supply and a continuous air circulation system.

§ 590.549 Dried egg storage.

Dried egg storage shall be sufficient to adequately handle the production of the plant and shall be kept clean, dry, and free from objectionable odors.

§ 590.550 Washing and sanitizing room or area facilities.

(a) This room or area shall be well lighted, and of sufficient size to permit operators to properly wash and sanitize all equipment at the rate required by the size of the operation. Adequate exhaust shall be provided to assure the prompt removal of odors and vapors and the air flow shall be away from the breaking room. If the washing and sanitizing is not done in a separate room, it shall be in an area well segregated from the breaking areas and be well ventilated with air movement directed away from the breaking operations so that odors and vapors do not permeate the breaking areas.

(b) Ceiling and walls shall have a surface of tile, enamel paint, or other water-resistant material.

(c) Floors shall be adequately sloped for proper drainage, be free from cracks or rough surfaces where water and dirt could accumulate and the intersections with walls shall be impervious to water.

§ 590.552 Cleaning and sanitizing requirements.

(a) *Cleaning.* (1) Equipment used in egg processing operations which comes