Vietnam denies sale of fake eggs

Vietnamese health authorities confirmed on December 29 that Chinese made synthetic eggs were not being sold in markets around the country.

This confirmation came after certain revelations made in the Chinese media stated that companies were using fraudulent technology to make fake eggs.

Nguyen Cong Khan, head of Vietnam Food Administration, reaffirmed that health authorities had so far not found any fake eggs in markets anywhere in the country, but added that his department would visit markets and do more intensive checks to clarify the situation further.

Meanwhile, the Animal Breeding Department claimed that it was impossible to manufacture uncooked fake eggs and that only cooked eggs were possible to be reproduced artificially.

Many companies in China teach people how to produce fake eggs fraudulently by chemicals and certain technologies. Internet ads teach people that eggs can be produced from calcium carbonate, starch, resin, gelatin, alum and some other chemical products.

Normally the method involves putting a raw egg into a mould to which calcium chloride is added along with some coloring dye. The 'yolk' is then shaped into a round mould. Calcium chloride is used to create the desired effect and by further adding a yellow pigment an egg yolk is produced.

In another mould 1 / 3 raw egg white is poured and similar to the method of making an egg yolk, some chemicals are added to produce the egg shell. A perfect looking egg can take about 1 hour to dry. To make the egg white, various ingredients such as a white powder and alum are mixed together.

The hard shell of an egg is formed by pouring paraffin wax over it which is then left to dry. When consumers use these eggs, small bubbles can be seen during the frying process.

The cost to produce a fake egg is much cheaper than a real egg. Though most people will not be able to tell the difference between a real egg and a fake egg.

By Nguyen Khanh - Translated by Cat Tuong

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