TO: ALL LICENCED MEAT EXPORTERS
MANAGEMENTS OF ALL AUS-MEAT ACCREDITED ENTERPRISES

ATTENTION: Officer in Charge AUS-MEAT Standards:

AUS-MEAT LANGUAGE CHANGES – BEEF RETAIL CLASSIFICATIONS

PURPOSE

The purpose of this Advice is to inform Accredited Enterprises of changes to the criteria for the Beef Retail Classifications, set out in Table 2 of the Domestic Retail Beef Register (DRBR) Edition 3 Version 1, as amended 19 May 2011.

AUS-MEAT Advice 02/11 advised that the dentition criteria for the Alternative Beef Categories Young Beef (YG) and Young Steer (YGS) as detailed in previous AUS-MEAT Advice 2/10 have been reviewed and subsequent to this review process have now been revoked.

In making these changes the Australian Meat Industry Language and Standards Committee has reviewed the Beef Retail Classifications detailed in the DRBR and has determined Table 2 and the AUS-MEAT Language be amended as applicable to include the following changes:

a. The Alternative Carcase Categories *YG and YGS* in the AUS-MEAT Language should revert to the definition prior to 1 June 2010 to remove complexity for export markets.

b. An option to use the complementary assessment of Physiological Age, “Maturity”, using ossification, for animals which have erupted a maximum of four (4) permanent incisors be retained for defining the retail descriptor “YOUNG” in the Domestic Beef Retail Classification for domestic retail product derived from Alternative Carcase Categories *YP* and *YPS* when assessed by processing Enterprises to have a revised “Maturity OM ≤200”.

c. The Beef Retail Classifications be revised and the previous Classification “INTERMEDIATE” be removed in order to simplify the number of classifications for consumers.

d. All other retail product derived from Alternative Carcase Categories *YP* and *YPS* be described using the Beef Retail Classification “MATURE” (unless otherwise assessed by Maturity OM ≤200 as eligible to be described using the Beef Retail Classification “YOUNG”).

e. The term “ECONOMY” be approved as an alternate to the term “BUDGET” wherever it appears in the AUS-MEAT Language for the description of domestic carcases by processing Enterprises.

Domestic Retail Beef Register (DRBR)

These changes are now detailed in Table 2 of the Domestic Retail Beef Register (DRBR) which can be found at:

Date of Implementation

The changes to the Beef Retail Classifications detailed in this Advice are effective 1 June 2011.

Further enquiries on the Beef Language Category changes contact AUS-MEAT Limited Ph (07) 3361 9200, Fax (07) 3361 9222, e-mail ausmeat@ausmeat.com.au.

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GENERAL MANAGER
STANDARDS & TECHNICAL OPERATIONS
Previous References: AUS-MEAT Advice(s) 02/10