

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, LAND REFORM AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

NO. R. 3450

26 May 2023

AGRICULTURAL PRODUCT STANDARDS ACT, 1990 (ACT No. 119 OF 1990)

**REGULATIONS REGARDING THE CLASSIFICATION AND MARKING OF MEAT INTENDED FOR SALE IN THE
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA: AMENDMENT**

The Minister of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development has, acting under section 15 of the Agricultural Product Standards Act, 1990 (Act No.119 of 1990), made the regulations in the Schedule.



A.T. Didiza

Minister for Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development

SCHEDULE

Definitions

1. In this Schedule, "**the Regulations**" means the regulations published by Government Notice No. R. 55 of 30 January 2015.

Amendment of regulation 1 of the Regulations

2. Regulation 1 of the Regulations is hereby amended by --

(a) the substitution for the definition of "mass" of the following definition:

"**mass**' with regard to a carcass, means the warm mass as determined at the time of meat classification;" and

(b) the insertion, after the definition of "**treated meat**", of the following definition:

"**week**' with regard to the age of a boar carcass, means the the first week of the year which is the earliest week with at least 4 days of the month January and where Monday is the first day of the week."

Amendment of regulation 2 of the Regulations

3. Regulation 2 of the Regulations is hereby amended by the insertion of the following sub-regulation after sub-regulation (3):

"(4) The restriction in sub-regulation (1)(c) above shall, where necessary, not apply in the following instances: Provided that the assignee shall be informed in writing on an annual basis by the abattoir concerned:

- (a) Roller-marking of calf, bovine, sheep and goat carcasses, as prescribed in regulations 17, 18 and 19, when such carcasses are destined for export or processing.
- (b) Applying of classification stamp marks on pig carcasses, as prescribed in regulation 15, when such carcasses are destined for export or processing: Provided further that classification markings shall still be indicated on the ears."

Amendment of regulation 6 of the Regulations

4. Regulation 6 of the Regulations is hereby amended by the substitution for sub-regulation (4) of the following sub-regulation:

"(4) All carcasses that are slaughtered at a registered abattoir shall at all times, for the purpose of age classification, be identifiable with the head of such a carcass by attaching same numbered stickers to the carcass and corresponding head: Provided that in the case of the head the sticker shall consist of a label permanently attached to the head".

Amendment of regulation 11 of the Regulations

5. Regulation 11 of the Regulations is hereby amended by --

(a) the substitution for sub-regulation (1) of the following sub-regulation:

"(1) A pig carcass, including the head, with a mass of 20 kg or less on the day of slaughter shall be classified as the class 'Sucking pig'.";

(b) the substitution for sub-regulation (2) of the following sub-regulation:

"(2) A pig carcass, including the head, with a mass of 20,1 kg or more but not more than 110 kg on the day of slaughter, shall be classified as a class as stipulated in column 1 of Table 3 of the Annexure, if the calculated percentage meat of the carcass is as specified in column 2 of the table opposite the class concerned: Provided that boar carcasses up to the age of 22 weeks of which the number of the week of birth --

- (a) has been marked clearly on one or both of the ears, may be included up to 110 kg; or
- (b) has not been marked clearly or not marked at all on one or both of the ears, be included up to 100 kg only.”;

and

- (c) the substitution for sub-regulation (3) of the following sub-regulation:

“(3) A pig carcass, including the head, with a mass of 110,1 kg or more on the day of slaughter or 100,1 kg or more for boar carcasses with the week of birth mark not clear or without the week of birth mark on the ear(s), shall be classified as the class ‘Sausage pig’.”.

Amendment of regulation 12 of the Regulations

6. Regulation 12 of the Regulations is hereby amended by --

- (a) the substitution for sub-regulation (1) of the following sub-regulation:

“(1) The percentage meat of a pig carcass shall be calculated after --

- (a) the fat thickness and muscle thickness have been measured by means of an electronic thickness meter between the 2nd and 3rd last rib, and 60 mm from the midline of the carcass, while the carcass is in a hanging position;
- (b) the fat thickness has been measured by means of an intrascope between the 2nd and 3rd last rib, and 60 mm from the midline of the carcass, while the carcass is in a hanging position; or
- (c) the fat thickness (‘F’) and muscle thickness (‘M’) have been measured by means of a linear measuring device, such as a ruler or calliper, on the split carcass, respectively on the thinnest place above the *gluteus medius* muscle and the distance between the cranial (front) tip of the *gluteus medius* muscle and the dorsal (upper) edge of the vertebral canal, as indicated in Figure 1 below.

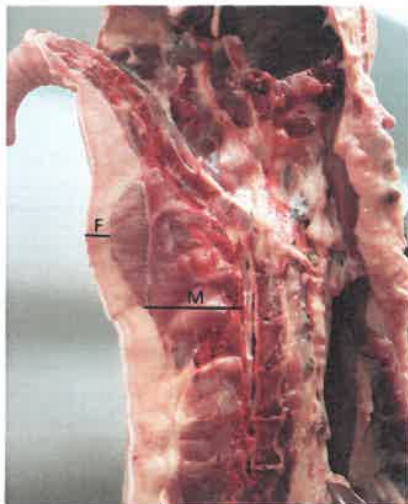


Figure 1: Measuring points for fat thickness (‘F’) and muscle thickness (‘M’); and

- (b) the substitution for sub-regulation (2) of the following sub-regulation:

“(2) The percentage meat shall, depending on the measuring technique used, be calculated by means of the following formulae, where fat thickness and muscle thickness is expressed in mm:

- (a) Percentage meat with electronic thickness meter = $68.052 - (0.830 \times \text{fat thickness}) + (0.068 \times \text{muscle thickness})$.

- (b) Percentage meat with intrascope = $70.952 - (0.891 \times \text{fat thickness})$.
- (c) Percentage meat with linear measuring device = $59.73 - (0.517 \times \text{fat thickness ('F')}) + (0.098 \times \text{muscle thickness ('M')})$.

Amendment of regulation 17 of the Regulations

7. Regulation 17 of the Regulations is hereby amended by the substitution for sub-regulation (2) of the following sub-regulation:

- “(2) Each carcass shall be roller-marked --
- (a) warm on the day of slaughter, before entering the cold rooms; and
 - (b) under supervision of the independent qualified person, directly after classification.”.

Amendment of regulation 18 of the Regulations

8. Regulation 18 of the Regulations is hereby amended by the substitution for sub-regulation (3)(b) of the following sub-regulation:

- “(b) a goat that has been classified as age class --
- (i) A, be applied with blue ink; and
 - (ii) AB, B and C be applied with orange ink.”.

Amendment of regulation 23 of the Regulations

9. Regulation 23 of the Regulations is hereby amended by the substitution for sub-regulation (3) of the following sub-regulation:

- “(3) A quality indication shall not be marked or stamped on the container or outer container of meat or a carcass unless its use is approved by the executive officer on written request: Provided that where required --
- (a) the written request is accompanied by a protocol describing what the quality indication involves and proof of compliance to the protocol; and
 - (b) the owner of the quality indication shall also provide a short summary of the protocol together with contact details, for public information.”.

Amendment of Table 3 in the Annexure to the Regulations

10. Table 3 in the Annexure to the regulations is hereby amended by the substitution for Table 3 of the following Table:

"TABLE 3 / TABEL 3
CLASSES FOR PORK CARCASSES / KLASSE VIR VARKKARKASSE
 (Reg. 11)

Class / Klas	Calculated percentage meat of carcass (%) # / Berekende persentasie vleis van karkas (%) #	Fat thickness measured by means of instruments (mm) / Vetdikte soos met behulp van instrumente gemeet (mm)
1	2	3
Sucking pig / Speenvark	*	*
P	60 and more / 60 en meer	At least 1 but not more than 12 / Minstens 1 maar hoogstens 12
O	At least 55 but less than 60 / Minstens 55 maar minder as 60	More than 12 but not more than 18 / Meer as 12 maar hoogstens 18
R	At least 50 but less than 55 / Minstens 50 maar minder as 55	More than 18 but not more than 24 / Meer as 18 maar hoogstens 24
C	At least 45 but less than 50 / Minstens 45 maar minder as 50	More than 24 but not more than 29 / Meer as 24 maar hoogstens 29
U	At least 40 but less than 45 / Minstens 40 maar minder as 45	More than 29 but not more than 35 / Meer as 29 maar hoogstens 35
S	Less than 40 / Minder as 40	More than 35/ Meer as 35
Sausage pig / Worsvark	*	*
Rough / Ru	*	*

* Not specified / Nie gespesifiseer nie

With due regard to regulation 12(3) / Met inagneming van regulasie 12(3)"

COMMENCEMENT

11. These regulations shall come into operation 6 months after the date of publication thereof.