



01 June 2011

**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as detailed in previous **AUS-MEAT Advice 2/10** have been reviewed and subsequent to this review process **have now been revoked**.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 \leq 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 \leq 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 carcasses 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: <http://www.ausmeat.com.au/industry-standards/domestic-retail-beef-register.aspx>

Date of Implementation

The changes to the Beef Retail Classifications detail 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