



MEAT STANDARDS AUSTRALIA

Standards Manual

Section 5:
Livestock supply

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1 Introduction

The Meat Standard Australia (MSA) Standards Manual is divided into a number of sections. Each section is a standalone document that is issued and amended independently of sections.

The Australian Meat Industry Language and Standards Committee (AMILSC) is the custodian of the MSA Standards.

All sections of the MSA Standards Manual must be used collectively. Certain sections may not be applicable for a specific business, operation, facility or activity. It is the user's responsibility to determine which section is appropriate for their operation.

1.1 Instructions for control of this document

This Standards Manual, available online from MSA, is a controlled document.

Updates to this Standard will occur from time to time. All printed and/or saved copies are uncontrolled and may not be the latest version.

1.2 Owner confirmation

The owner or controller, as registered with the Authorised Authority, shall be informed of any updates relating to the information contained in this Standard. Attached to any updates regarding this Standard will be a form for notification of changes to the owner or controller of the Standard.

1.3 Amendments and updates

Amendments to this Standard will be issued by way of a formal amendment notification from time to time.

1.4 Document control confirmation

Change history

Date	Change description	Issue no.
03 May 2013	Initial draft	0.1
18 July 2013	Second draft	0.2
03 September 2013	Third draft	0.3
27 November 2013	Initial release	1.0
20 March 2015	Second release – inclusions of Led Steer Pathway Requirements as approved at Taskforce (Feb 15) and AMILSC (Mar 15)	2.0
15 November 2016	Third release - Update to 5.1.21 MSA beef carcass specifications, to remove meat colour 1B-3 and update numbering	3.0
14 March 2017	Fourth release – Section 5.2.1 MSA minimum requirements updated to remove the requirement of a minimum of 5mm wool length	4.0
March 2020	Updated to reflect release of MSA beef model V2.0. Update to livestock supply requirements for sick and injured cattle.	5.0

5 Livestock supply

Producers/feedlots and agents are required to be registered with MSA to supply eligible livestock through the MSA system.

5.1 Cattle

5.1.1 MSA minimum requirements

5.1.1.1 On-farm responsibilities

Requirements

- a) Producers are required to be registered with MSA prior to cattle leaving property of dispatch to be eligible to supply cattle for grading
- b) MSA vendor declarations must be delivered with cattle
- c) All cattle must reside on the property of dispatch for a minimum of 30 days prior to dispatch
- d) No entire males or animals showing secondary sexual characteristics are eligible for MSA grading.

Recommendations

- a) Cattle should be managed as a single mob for a minimum of 14 days prior to dispatch for slaughter, this includes no mixing or drafting
- b) Cattle should be on a rising plane of nutrition for the last 30 days prior to slaughter
- c) Cattle are to have access to water outside of transport
- d) Handle and muster animals quietly to reduce stress
- e) Load cattle quietly, preferably with no use of goads and/or electric prodders
- f) Cattle to have access to feed prior to dispatch
- g) No cattle of poor temperament
- h) No cattle that are severely sick or injured at point of transport.

5.1.1.2 Direct consignment

In addition to on-farm responsibilities listed above:

- Road transport
 - a) Slaughter is to occur within 48 hours from the cattle leaving the property of dispatch providing the following requirements are met for road transport:
 - i. The total truck transport time from property of dispatch to the abattoir does not exceed 36 hours
 - ii. Included in the 36 hours transport time, a rest period of up to 12 hours may occur.
 - b) This pathway allows for a lairage period at the plant of up to 12 hours prior to slaughter.
- All other modes of transport - slaughter is to occur no later than the day after dispatch.

5.1.1.3 Saleyard consignment

- In addition to the above on-farm responsibilities:
 - a) Slaughter is to occur within 36 hours of dispatch from property.

5.1.1.4 Led Steer Pathway

- In addition to the above on-farm responsibilities:
 - a) All animals are to be on full feed and water prior to dispatch from the showground
 - b) All animals to be slaughtered within 24 hours of dispatch from the showground
 - c) MSA vendor declaration must accompany cattle to the showground and be submitted to the organising committee
 - d) The showground or other venue must have a MSA producer registration number and provide an MSA vendor declaration for the entire consignment to the abattoir
 - e) Unled cattle associated with competitions are ineligible for this pathway.

5.1.2 Reference material

5.1.2.1 MSA beef carcass specifications

- Ultimate pH equal to or less than 5.70
- Rib fat – minimum 3mm
- Adequate fat coverage over the entire carcass.

5.1.2.2 MSA vendor declaration - beef

- The MSA vendor declaration needs to be the approved form from a paper pad or electronic online version
- Each declaration must have a unique identifier numbers
- Producers/feedlots must keep one copy



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CATTLE VENDOR DECLARATION

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Form 3.4.1 Release date: October 2019

MSA participants must fully complete this declaration accurately for cattle to be eligible for MSA grading. This declaration must accompany the cattle and be delivered to the person responsible for livestock receipt at the processor or saleyard.

Vendor:		MSA registration no. of vendor:	
Address:		Property Identification Code (PIC) of vendor:	
		MSA registration no. of cattle owner (if different):	
Phone no.:		Property Identification Code (PIC) of owner (if different):	
Date of dispatch:		Time of dispatch:	

No. of cattle eligible for MSA grading Males: Females: Total:

Do any of these cattle contain tropical breed (Bos indicus) content? (please tick the relevant box) e.g. Brahman, YES Santa Gertrudis e.g. Angus, NO Hereford

	Yes	No
Have any of the cattle ever been treated with a Hormonal Growth Promotant? (If unsure tick Yes)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are all animals in this lot milk fed vealers? (To qualify as milk fed vealers, calves must still be suckling and must be sent direct to slaughter)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Has this lot of cattle been sold through an MSA licensed saleyard?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Additional information (optional): You can record any individual animals here that differ from the tropical breed content declaration above.

I hereby declare that the information stated in this declaration is true, and that I have read, understood and abide by the MSA requirements for livestock supply.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Name: _____

Please sign (where applicable)		
Saleyard verification	Processor verification	Grader verification
Sign:	Sign:	Sign:
Date:	Date:	Date:
MSA licence no:		Grader code:

5.2 Sheep

5.2.1 MSA minimum requirements

5.2.1.1 On-farm responsibilities

Requirements

- a) Producers are required to be registered with MSA prior to sheep leaving property of origin to be MSA eligible
- b) Minimum two weeks off shears
- c) Fat score ≥ 2 (GR ≥ 6 mm)
- d) HSCW ≥ 16 kg for young lamb, HSCW ≥ 18 kg for all weaned lambs, hogget and mutton
- e) Total time off feed not greater than 48 hours before slaughter
- f) Animals to have access to water at all times while not in transit
- g) Minimum of two weeks at consignment property before dispatch
- h) Maximum time in transit 24 hours
- i) National Vendor Declaration (sheep and lambs) and waybill to be correctly filled out prior to consignment and accompany consignment to saleyards or processor
- j) Entire males or animals showing secondary sexual characteristics are not eligible for MSA grading.

Recommendations

5.2.1.2 Growth rates

- a) 1st and 2nd cross - a minimum of 100 grams/day for two weeks prior to consignment
- b) Merinos – a minimum of 150 grams/day for two weeks prior to consignment.

5.2.1.3 Direct consignment

- a) All categories except ram are eligible.

5.2.1.4 Saleyard consignment

- a) Animals through this pathway must meet pH/temperature window requirements and pHu requirements as outlined in MSA Standards Manual (Section 7 Processors MSA Standards).

5.2.2 Reference material

5.2.2.1 MSA sheepmeat carcass specifications

Carcass specifications				
Category/cipher	Dentition	HSCW	Fat score	GR
Young lamb *YL*	Carcass derived from a young female or castrate sheep that has 0 permanent incisor teeth; has no eruption of permanent upper molar teeth.	≥ 16kg	≥ 2	≥6mm
Lamb *L*	Young sheep under 12 months of age or does not have any permanent incisor teeth in wear.	≥ 18kg	≥ 2	≥6mm
Hogget *H*	Carcass derived from female or castrate male sheep that: has 1 but no more than 2 permanent incisor teeth in wear; in male has no evidence of secondary sexual characteristics	≥ 18kg	≥ 2	≥6mm
Mutton *M*, *W*, *E*	Carcass derived from female sheep that has 1 or more permanent incisor teeth in wear; or a castrated male sheep that has at least one permanent incisor tooth in wear and shows no evidence of secondary sexual characteristics.	≥ 18kg	≥ 2	≥6mm
Ram *R*	Ineligible			

