

COMMISSION DECISION
of 26 August 2005
authorising methods for grading pig carcasses in the Netherlands

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(Only the Dutch text is authentic)

(2005/627/EC)

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EEC) No 3220/84 of 13 November 1984 determining the Community scale for grading pig carcasses ⁽¹⁾, and in particular Article 5(2) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Article 2(3) of Regulation (EEC) No 3220/84 provides that the grading of pig carcasses is to be determined by estimating the content of lean meat in accordance with statistically proven assessment methods based on the physical measurement of one or more anatomical parts of the pig carcass. The authorisation of grading methods is subject to compliance with a maximum tolerance for statistical error in assessment. This tolerance was defined in Article 3(2) of Commission Regulation (EEC) No 2967/85 of 24 October 1985 laying down detailed rules for the application of the Community scale for grading pig carcasses ⁽²⁾.
- (2) By Commission Decision 87/131/EEC ⁽³⁾, the use of one method for grading pig carcasses in the Netherlands was authorised.
- (3) Due to technical adaptations, the Government of the Netherlands has requested the Commission to authorise the use of a new formula for the apparatus HGP 2 used at present under the Decision 87/131/EEC as from 1 July 2006, and to authorise a new method for grading pig carcasses, and has therefore submitted the elements required in Article 3 of Regulation (EEC) No 2967/85.
- (4) The evaluation of this request has revealed that the conditions for authorising these grading methods are fulfilled.
- (5) No modification of the apparatuses or grading methods may be authorised except by means of a new Commission Decision adopted in the light of experience gained. For this reason, the present authorisation may be revoked.

(6) For the sake of clarity, Decision 87/131/EEC should be repealed and replaced by a new decision.

(7) The measures provided for in this Decision are in accordance with the opinion of the Management Committee for Pigmeat,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

The use of the following methods is hereby authorised for grading pig carcasses pursuant to Regulation (EEC) No 3220/84 in the Netherlands:

- (a) the apparatus termed Hennessy Grading Probe (HGP 2) and the assessment methods related thereto, details of which are given in Part 1 of the Annex;
- (b) the apparatus termed VISION system (VCS 2000) and the assessment methods related thereto, details of which are given in Part 2 of the Annex.

Article 2

Modifications of the apparatuses or the assessment methods shall not be authorised.

Article 3

Decision 87/131/EEC is hereby repealed.

Article 4

This Decision is addressed to the Kingdom of the Netherlands.

Done at Brussels, 26 August 2005.

For the Commission

Mariann FISCHER BOEL

Member of the Commission

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 301, 20.11.1984, p. 1. Regulation as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 3513/93 (OJ L 320, 22.12.1993, p. 5).

⁽²⁾ OJ L 285, 25.10.1985, p. 39. Regulation as amended by Regulation (EC) No 3127/94 (OJ L 330, 21.12.1994, p. 43).

⁽³⁾ OJ L 51, 20.2.1987, p. 50. Decision as last amended by Decision 94/566/EC (OJ L 215, 20.8.1994, p. 27).

ANNEX

Methods for grading pig carcasses in the Netherlands

PART 1

Hennessy Grading Probe (HGP 2)

1. Grading of pig carcasses shall be carried out by means of the apparatus termed as Hennessy Grading Probe (HGP 2).
2. The apparatus shall be equipped with a probe of 5,95 millimetres in diameter (and of 6,3 millimetres at the blade on top of the probe) containing a photodiode (LED Siemens of the type LYU 260-EO and photodetector of the type 58 MR) and having an operating distance of between 0 and 120 millimetres. The results of the measurements shall be converted into estimated lean meat content by means of the HGP 2 itself as well as a computer linked to it.
3. The lean meat content of the carcase shall be calculated according to the following formula:

$$\hat{Y} = p \hat{Y}_{\text{gilt}} + (1 - p) \hat{Y}_{\text{castrate}} (\%)$$

where:

$\hat{Y}$ = the estimated percentage of lean meat in the carcase,

$\hat{Y}_{\text{gilt}}$ = $61,38 - 0,74 X_1 + 0,13 X_2$ (%),

$\hat{Y}_{\text{castrate}}$ = $59,35 - 0,67 X_1 + 0,13 X_2$ (%),

where:

X_1 = the thickness of back-fat (including rind) in millimetres, measured at six centimetres off the midline of the split carcase, between the third and fourth last ribs,

X_2 = the thickness of muscle in millimetres, measured at the same time and in the same place as X_1 ,

p = $1 / (1 + \exp(-\eta))$,

where:

η = $-3,277 - 0,4580 X_1 + 0,3038 X_2 + 0,007777 (X_1)^2 - 0,001792 (X_2)^2 - 0,002557 X_1 * X_2$

This formula shall be valid for carcasses weighing between 50 and 120 kg.

4. However, as from 1 July 2006, the lean meat content of the carcase shall be calculated according to the following formula:

$$\hat{Y} = 60,85 - 0,745 X_1 + 0,133 X_2$$

where:

$\hat{Y}$ = predicted lean meat percentage,

X_1 = the thickness of back-fat (including rind) in millimetres, measured at six centimetres off the midline of the split carcase, between the third and fourth last ribs,

X_2 = the thickness of muscle in millimetres, measured at the same time and in the same place as X_1 .

This formula shall be valid for carcasses weighing between 50 and 120 kilograms.

PART 2

VISION system (VCS 2000)

1. Grading of pig carcasses shall be carried out by means of the apparatus termed VISION system (VCS 2000).
2. The apparatus VISION system (VCS 2000) is a picture-processing system for automatically determining the trade values of pork-carcass-halves. The system is used online within the slaughtering production system where via a camera system the carcass halves are automatically filmed. The picture data is then processed in a computer by special picture-processing software.
3. The lean meat content of the carcase shall be calculated according to the following formula:

x1	-0,02578308	x2	0,01819554	x3	-0,01880347
x4	0,01336851	x5	0,03402026	x6	-0,00431013
x7	0,01399586	x8	-0,01685383	x9	0,03029107
x10	0,00001618	x11	0,00003510	x12	0,00017285
x13	-0,00006323	x14	-0,00007814	x15	0,03852565
x16	0,03703442	x17	0,04915633	x18	0,16952262
x19	-0,07474948	x20	-0,00000064	x21	-0,00000045
x22	-0,00000217	x23	0,00007137	x24	0,00001311
x25	0,00005955	x26	0,00021689	x27	0,00003631
x28	0,00003996	x29	0,00010888	x30	0,00000010
x31	-0,00002481	x32	-0,00003633	x33	-0,00000496
x34	-0,00000991	x35	-0,00000980	x36	-0,00001532
x37	-0,00000254	x38	-0,00000886	x39	0,00064604
x40	-0,00057968	x41	0,00012513	x42	-0,00002055
x43	-0,00000035	x44	-0,00001008	x45	-0,00017158
x46	0,00019477	x47	-0,00329811	x48	0,00018512
x49	0,02520693	x50	-0,02466706	x51	-0,00286098
x52	-0,01983356	x53	-0,00012369	x54	-0,04044495
x55	0,00069282	x56	0,00025689	x57	0,00403378
x58	0,00028090	x59	10,79585085	x60	-0,65106186
x61	-0,29583150	x62	0,16410084	x63	0,06306376
x64	-2,22708974	x65	0,09886817	x66	0,55302524
x67	-1,38136772	x68	-12,51618138	x69	-2,65248635
x70	9,08361318	x71	-0,00003025	x72	-0,00043013
x73	-0,00083619	x74	-0,00013210	x75	0,00002221
x76	-0,00007579	x77	-0,00031534	x78	-0,00001867
x79	-0,00003067	x80	0,00002421	x81	-0,00026088
x82	0,00067359	x83	0,00024535	x84	-0,00000847
x85	0,00003206	x86	0,00007141	x87	0,00006951
x88	-0,04465410	x89	0,01774709	x90	-0,03618843
x91	-0,02700865	x92	-0,02221780	x93	-0,03644020
x94	-0,01766434	x95	0,00516267	x96	-0,02958650
x97	-0,01189834	x98	0,00184860	x99	0,00894691
x100	0,01586154	x101	-0,01265988	x102	-0,00912249
x103	0,02734395	x104	0,13333009	x105	0,18105960
x106	-0,06387375	x107	0,03471900	x108	0,21910356
x109	-0,12423421	x110	0,09408101	x111	0,01363443
x112	0,06193271	x113	-0,02802852	x114	0,02757767
x115	0,00035641				

4. Descriptions of the measurement points and the statistical method can be found in Part II of the Dutch protocol forwarded to the Commission in accordance with Article 3(3) of Regulation (EEC) No 2967/85.

This formula shall be valid for carcasses weighing between 50 and 120 kilograms.