



Standard Practice for User Requirements for Livestock, Meat, and Poultry Evaluation Devices or Systems¹

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1. Scope

1.1 This practice covers the requirements for users of livestock, meat, and poultry evaluation devices or systems used to measure and record composition or quality constituents of live animals, carcasses, and individual cuts of meat, when those devices or systems provide data that is used to determine economic value. Areas covered include: installation, operator training, operation, verification, inspection and maintenance of these evaluation devices or systems, and documentation of procedures for retention of original data.

1.2 *This standard does not purport to address all of the safety concerns, if any, associated with its use. It is the responsibility of the user of this standard to establish appropriate safety and health practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.*

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 *ASTM Standards:*²

F2463 Terminology for Livestock, Meat, and Poultry Evaluation Systems

3. Terminology

3.1 For definitions relating to livestock, meat, and poultry evaluation systems, see Terminology F2463.

3.2 *Definitions:*

3.2.1 *device operator, n*—any individual whose job responsibilities include the operation of an evaluation device or system.

3.2.2 *document, n*—permanent physical record, paper or electronic.

3.2.3 *documentation, n*—use of documents in authenticating or substantiating an act that may include user's guides,

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² For referenced ASTM standards, visit the ASTM website, www.astm.org, or contact ASTM Customer Service at service@astm.org. For *Annual Book of ASTM Standards* volume information, refer to the standard's Document Summary page on the ASTM website.

technical manuals, setup and installation instructions, labeling, and procedures for retaining original data.

3.2.4 *original data, n*—initial data recorded by the device or system.

3.2.5 *production day, n*—period not exceeding 24 consecutive hours beginning with the initial production shift.

3.2.6 *user, n*—person or entity that employs an evaluation system or device to determine value of live animals, carcasses, or individual cuts of meat or poultry.

4. Significance and Use

4.1 There are several live animal or carcass evaluation devices or systems used or under development for use in determination of economic value of live animals, carcasses, or individual cuts of meat. The correct use of these devices or systems may affect the reliability of the data.

4.2 This practice provides user requirements for installation, operator training, operation, verification, inspection, maintenance, and retention of original data.

5. Procedure

5.1 *Installation*—Accurate and consistent results can only be obtained from a device or equipment that is properly installed and operated. The user shall maintain documentation that, at the time of installation, the measuring device was properly installed according to design specifications and manufacturer's requirements.

5.2 *Operator Training:*

5.2.1 The user shall establish a documented training program which shall include an operator manual to ensure device operators are familiar with the design and operating characteristics of the devices or systems that the user installs, maintains, and operates. The user shall properly train device operators and maintain documentation that device operators are properly trained. Assistance in operator training may be obtained from several sources including, but not limited to, device manufacturer, manufacturer device manuals, or trained service personnel.

5.2.2 For those devices or systems requiring an operator, the user shall develop and maintain individual operator performance records, including individual operator error rates, which

shall be measured against standards established by the user. The user shall have a documented corrective action plan for identifying and correcting potential sources of operator error specific to the evaluation device or system. The user shall maintain records documenting when it has implemented its corrective action plan.

5.3 Operation:

5.3.1 User shall ensure that the device or system is operated as recommended by the manufacturer, consistent with the manufacturer's current instruction manual, unless an alternative method of use has been established by the user consistent with ASTM Committee F10 standards and disclosed to the seller or appropriate government agency, or both, when required by law or regulation as an alternate method.

5.3.2 User shall develop, document and make available to the seller and appropriate government agency, when required by law or regulation, a contingency plan for any alternate value determination process to be used in the event of equipment failure.

5.3.3 User shall disclose to the seller and appropriate government agency, when required by law or regulation, a planned change in the type of device or system used for value determination prior to implementation.

5.4 *Verification*—User shall verify and document the accuracy of a device or system by the proper test method, prior to the initial use of the device on each production day or more frequently if recommended by the manufacturer. Re-

verification of the accuracy of the device should occur whenever damage is suspected to have occurred, when significant repairs have been made, or as circumstances warrant.

5.5 *Inspection*—The user shall, utilizing manufacturer's recommendations, develop an inspection checklist and conduct and document the inspection in conjunction with the production day verification (see 5.4). The inspection shall include the device or system, all auxiliary equipment, and environmental conditions that may affect the device or operator performance.

5.6 Maintenance:

5.6.1 User shall perform routine maintenance as needed or as recommended, or both, by the manufacturer.

5.6.2 Inaccurate devices shall be corrected or removed from use by the user.

5.7 Retention of Original Data:

5.7.1 The user shall establish and document procedures used for retention of original data.

5.7.2 The user shall develop and implement procedures to document the exclusion of original data or substitution of data for original data. The user shall disclose to the seller any time the user excludes original data or substitutes data for original data.

6. Keywords

6.1 evaluation devices or systems; livestock; meat; poultry; user requirements

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