



Meat Grading & Certification Branch

**CHICAGO MERCANTILE EXCHANGE BEEF CARCASS
GRADING PROGRAM**

Purpose

This Instruction sets forth the procedures for receiving, controlling, and reporting livestock and carcass information for cattle delivered under Chicago Mercantile Exchange (CME) futures trading contracts.

Policy

Refer to [CME Chapter 101, Live Cattle Futures, 10103.C, Carcass Graded Deliveries](#).

Responsibilities

CME will:

Notify the Meat Grading and Certification (MGC) Branch Office of:

- CME certificate numbers/delivery identification numbers
- Lot number
- Delivery date
- Slaughter location
- Number of "delivery units" for large lot deliveries
- Delivery time for each lot

The MGC Branch Livestock Clerk or Meat Grader shall:

At the time of Receiving:

1. Be in the pen area when the cattle are delivered.
2. Record the following information on the CME Carcass Grading Worksheet (MGC-CME-112):
 - a. Delivery Point Information (plant name, location and establishment number)
 - b. CME certificate number
 - c. CME lot number
 - d. Arrival date
 - e. Arrival time

- f. Slaughter date (if applicable)
 - g. Pen number
 - h. Pen seal number (if not direct to slaughter)
 - i. Packer lot number
 - j. Total number of cattle in lot
 - k. Total live weight of cattle
3. The plant's truck scale or live cattle scale may be used to determine the net weight of the lot. Ensure that each lot weighs 40,000 pounds. A tolerance of +/- 5% is allowed. Thus, the acceptable weight range for a 40,000 pound lot is 38,000 to 42,000 pounds. "Large lot deliveries" may consist of one to ten 40,000 pound unit(s). A tolerance of +/- 5% is allowed. Scales should be balanced and zeroed out prior to weighing.
 4. Examine live cattle for the following CME specification requirements:
 - a. Cattle must be healthy
 - b. Cattle must be in sound condition, i.e., no crippled or obvious external injuries
 - c. Cattle that possess predominate dairy breed characteristics are not eligible for delivery
 - d. Cattle that exhibit a prominent hump are not eligible for delivery
 5. All non-complying cattle are ineligible for delivery and must be excluded from the lot. Non-complying cattle will be held in separate pens, and will become the property of the slaughter plant.
 6. If the cattle are not offered for immediate slaughter, seal the pen and record the pen seal number.
 7. Contact the CME Clearing House Delivery Manager at (312) 930-3172 or (312) 930-3185. Notify the CME Clearing House of the following:
 - a. Slaughter plant
 - b. CME certificate and lot information
 - c. All complying lots
 - d. The reason(s) for all non-complying cattle or lots

At the time of Slaughter:

1. If a complying lot was not slaughtered directly after examination for specification compliance, the MGC Branch employee shall break the pen seal and maintain visual control of the cattle into the slaughter area.

2. Ensure that the complying lot is separated from other lots. The cattle may be marked with paint or chalk utilizing normal plant procedures to keep the lots segregated.
3. Ensure that plant slaughter supervisors are aware that the CME cattle are entering the slaughter operation.
4. The plant's lot identification system will maintain identification of the lot through the slaughter process and cooling process.
5. Identify the lot by placing a CME stamp on each carcass within the lot.
6. Obtain the number of condemned livers and condemned carcasses from the kill floor personnel and record the data on an MGC-CME-112, CME Carcass Grading Worksheet (Exhibit A) form. If the count is not available, note in that information in the appropriate location on the MGC-CME-112 form.

At time of Grading:

1. In plants that no longer yield grade the grader must assign a yield grade to each qualifying carcass.
2. Record the following information per carcass on the MGC-CME-112 form:
 - a. If over 30 months of age (determined by dentition on the slaughter floor)
 - Check the box that indicates "Over 30 Months"
 - Enter the hot carcass weight
 - Input only this information on carcasses "Over 30 Months" on the worksheet
 - b. If eligible to grade Prime, Choice, Select, or Standard
 - Enter the hot carcass weight
 - Enter the quality grade
 - Enter the yield grade
 - c. If "Sub-Standard" (Commercial, Utility, Cutter, or Canner)
 - Enter the hot carcass weight
 - Enter "Un" for ungraded
 - Enter the yield grade

d. If “ineligible” for quality grade due to blood splash, callous, etc.

- Enter the hot carcass weight
- Enter the yield grade
- In the Number of Ineligible Carcasses and Reason section on the MGC-CME page make the statement: “carcass on page _____, weighing _____ pounds, is ineligible for quality grade due to _____”

The MGC-CME-112 form is available from MGC Branch Templates. Complete and distribute this form in accord with Using the MGC-CME-112 CME Carcass Grading Worksheet.

Include any carcasses that the Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) inspectors are holding for further review and any carcasses held for regrading.

3. Do not record information regarding:
 - a. Carcasses condemned by FSIS
 - b. “Lost” carcasses
4. Carcasses must receive the final grade within 3 business days after slaughter in accord with the following:
 - a. For carcasses graded 1 business day after slaughter -- the top third of the Select grade must be held another day for additional chill and regrading
 - b. For carcasses graded 2 business days after slaughter -- the top third of the Select grade may be held for regrading
5. Total the number of graded, retained, condemned, and “lost” carcasses to ensure that the live and carcass numbers are equal.
6. Immediately following final grading, complete an LS-5-3, Agricultural Products Certificate (Exhibit B) and enter a charge of \$350.00 per load (40,000-pound unit) in the “Other Charges” section.
7. Distribute the LS-5-3 in accord with MGC Instruction 426, Preparation and Distribution of Meat Grading and Certification Official Documents.

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Exhibit A

CME CARCASS GRADING WORKSHEET - SUMMARY

Plant Name	EST No	Plant Location
0	0	0
CME Certificate No. 0	CME Lot No. 0	
No. Cattle in Lot 0	Livers Condemned 0	
Certificate Number 0	Grade Date 01/00/00	Graders EQC 0

QUALITY AND YIELD GRADES

YIELD GRADE	PRIME	CHOICE	SELECT	STANDARD	SUBSTANDARD	TOTAL
1	0	0	0	0	0	0
2	0	0	0	0	0	0
3	0	0	0	0	0	0
4	0	0	0	0	0	0
5	0	0	0	0	0	0
QUALITY ONLY	0	0	0	0		0
TOTAL	0	0	0	0	0	0

WEIGHT RANGE

UNDER 550	550 - 600	601 - 900	901 - 950	Over 950
0	0	0	0	0

TOTAL OVER 30 MONTHS OF AGE

0

☐ THIS DOCUMENT HAS BEEN REVISED

CME CARCASS GRADING WORKSHEET

Plant Name				EST No		Plant Location					
CME Certificate No.				CME Lot No.				Sheet		1 of	
Arrival Date				No. Cattle in Lot				Carcasses Condemned			
Arrival Time				Total Live Weight				Livers Condemned			
Slaughter Date				Grade Date				Carcasses under 550		0	
Pen Number				Regrade Date				Carcasses over 900		0	
Pen Seal Number				Total Carcass Weight		0		Certificate Number			
Packer Lot Number				Dressing Percentage				Graders EQC			
Over 30 Mon	Wt	Quality	Yield	Over 30 Mon	Wt	Quality	Yield	Over 30 Mon	Wt	Quality	Yield
☐		P Ch Se S Un ____	0 1 2 3 4 5 ____	☐		P Ch Se S Un ____	0 1 2 3 4 5 ____	☐		P Ch Se S Un ____	0 1 2 3 4 5 ____
☐		P Ch Se S Un ____	0 1 2 3 4 5 ____	☐		P Ch Se S Un ____	0 1 2 3 4 5 ____	☐		P Ch Se S Un ____	0 1 2 3 4 5 ____
☐		P Ch Se S Un ____	0 1 2 3 4 5 ____	☐		P Ch Se S Un ____	0 1 2 3 4 5 ____	☐		P Ch Se S Un ____	0 1 2 3 4 5 ____
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☐		P Ch Se S Un ____	0 1 2 3 4 5 ____	☐		P Ch Se S Un ____	0 1 2 3 4 5 ____	☐		P Ch Se S Un ____	0 1 2 3 4 5 ____
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☐		P Ch Se S Un ____	0 1 2 3 4 5 ____	☐		P Ch Se S Un ____	0 1 2 3 4 5 ____	☐		P Ch Se S Un ____	0 1 2 3 4 5 ____

Number of Ineligible Cattle/Carcasses and Reason:

CME CARCASS GRADING WORKSHEET - CONTINUATION

Plant Name					EST No		Plant Location					
0					0		0					
CME Certificate No.		0			CME Lot No.				0			Sheet <u>2</u> of <u>0</u>
Over 30 Mon	Wt	Quality	Yield	Over 30 Mon	Wt	Quality	Yield	Over 30 Mon	Wt	Quality	Yield	
☐		P Ch Se S Un ____	0 1 2 3 4 5 ____	☐		P Ch Se S Un ____	0 1 2 3 4 5 ____	☐		P Ch Se S Un ____	0 1 2 3 4 5 ____	
☐		P Ch Se S Un ____	0 1 2 3 4 5 ____	☐		P Ch Se S Un ____	0 1 2 3 4 5 ____	☐		P Ch Se S Un ____	0 1 2 3 4 5 ____	
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☐		P Ch Se S Un ____	0 1 2 3 4 5 ____	☐		P Ch Se S Un ____	0 1 2 3 4 5 ____	☐		P Ch Se S Un ____	0 1 2 3 4 5 ____	
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Exhibit B

[illegible]