



Agricultural Marketing Service

[Doc. No. AMS-LP-25-0485]

United States Standards for Grades of Carcass Beef

AGENCY: Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice; extension of comment period for request for comments on beef grade standards.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) is extending the public comment period by 90 days on its Request for Information (RFI) concerning revisions to the United States Standards for Grades of Carcass Beef. Stakeholders requested additional time to allow for the completion of research on dentition given that AMS is seeking comments on eliminating the skeletal maturity requirement for carcasses determined by dentition, or documents verifying age, to be under 30 months of age.

DATES: The comment period for the document originally published on July 8, 2026, (91 FR 42172) is extended 90 days. Comments must be submitted on or before December 7, 2026.

ADDRESSES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments electronically at <https://www.regulations.gov>, or to Chad Nelson, 451 East Deere Street, West Point, NE 68788. All comments should reference docket number AMS-LP-25-0485, the date of submission, and the page number of this issue of the *Federal Register*. All comments received will be posted without change, including any personal information provided.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For additional information, please contact Chad Nelson, National Meat Supervisor, Livestock and Poultry Program, phone (402) 281-8704; or email at chad.nelson2@usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: An RFI published in the *Federal Register* on July 8, 2026 (91 FR 42172), seeks public feedback on revisions to grade standards for beef including whether the skeletal maturity requirement should be eliminated for carcasses determined by dentition, or documents verifying age, to be under 30 months of age.

The RFI established a 60-day comment period, ending September 8, 2026. During the initial comment period, AMS received requests from stakeholders for an extension of 90 days. Additional time would allow for the completion of ongoing dentition research and for the review of resulting data and scientific information to inform comments.

AMS is extending the comment period for the RFI by an additional 90 days. Comments must be submitted on or before December 7, 2026.

Melissa Bailey,
Associate Administrator,
Agricultural Marketing Service.

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