

Notices

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This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains documents other than rules or proposed rules that are applicable to the public. Notices of hearings and investigations, committee meetings, agency decisions and rulings, delegations of authority, filing of petitions and applications and agency statements of organization and functions are examples of documents appearing in this section.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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.

[FR Doc. 2026-18218 Filed 9-4-26; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Food Safety and Inspection Service

[Docket No. FSIS-2026-0167]

Notice of Request To Renew an Approved Information Collection: Mechanically Tenderized Beef Products

AGENCY: Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS), U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 and Office of Management and Budget (OMB) regulations, FSIS is announcing its intention to request renewal of the approved information collection regarding the labeling requirements for mechanically tenderized beef products. There are no changes to the information collection. The current approval will expire on June 30, 2027.

DATES: Submit comments on or before November 9, 2026.

ADDRESSES: FSIS invites interested persons to submit comments on this **Federal Register** notice. Comments may be submitted by one of the following methods:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* This website provides commenters the ability to type short comments directly into the comment field on the web page or to attach a file for lengthier comments. Go to <https://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the online instructions at that site for submitting comments.

- *Mail:* Send to Docket Clerk, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food Safety and Inspection Service, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Mailstop 3758, Washington, DC 20250-3700.

- *Hand- or Courier-Delivered Submittals:* Deliver to 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Jamie L. Whitten Building, Room 350-E, Washington, DC 20250-3700.

Instructions: All items submitted by mail or electronic mail must include the Agency name and docket number FSIS-2026-0167. Comments received in response to this docket will be made available for public inspection and posted without change, including any personal information, to <https://www.regulations.gov>.

Docket: For access to background documents or comments received, call (202) 286-2255 to schedule a time to visit the FSIS Docket Room at 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250-3700.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Gina Kouba, Office of Policy and Program Development, Food Safety and Inspection Service, USDA, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Mailstop 3758, South Building, Washington, DC 20250-3700; 202-720-5046.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Mechanically Tenderized Beef Products.

OMB Number: 0583-0160.

Type of Request: Renewal of an approved information collection.

Abstract: FSIS has been delegated the authority to exercise the functions of the Secretary (7 CFR 2.18, 2.53), as specified in the Federal Meat Inspection Act (FMIA) (21 U.S.C. 601, *et seq.*). This statute mandates that FSIS protect the public by verifying that meat products are safe, wholesome, and properly labeled.

FSIS is requesting renewal of the approved information collection

regarding the labeling requirements for mechanically tenderized beef products. There are no changes to the information collection. The current approval will expire on June 30, 2027.

FSIS regulations require the use of the descriptive designation “mechanically tenderized” on the labels of raw or partially cooked needle or blade tenderized beef products, including beef products injected with marinade or solution, unless these products are to be fully cooked at an official establishment (9 CFR 317.2(e)(3)(i)). The Agency also requires that the product name for the beef products include the descriptive designation “mechanically tenderized” and an accurate description of the beef component (9 CFR 317.2(e)(3)(i)).

Establishments using these labels are not required to submit them to FSIS for prior approval, provided the labels meet the criteria for generic approval outlined in 9 CFR 412.2. These establishments must still comply with all labeling requirements, including validated cooking instructions, as specified in 9 CFR 317.2(e)(3). The labeling and recordkeeping activities associated with these requirements are included in the estimated information collection burden. Retail facilities using these labels likewise do not need to submit them to FSIS for approval before use.

FSIS has made the following estimates based upon an information collection assessment:

Estimated annual number of respondents: 555.

Estimated average number of responses per respondent: 61.

Estimated annual number of responses: 33,804.

Estimated total annual burden on respondents: 21,833 hours.

All responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will also become a matter of public record. Copies of this information collection assessment can be obtained from Gina Kouba, Office of Policy and Program Development, Food Safety and Inspection Service, USDA, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Mailstop 3758, South Building, Washington, DC 20250-3700; 202-720-5046.

Comments are invited on: (a) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of FSIS' functions, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of FSIS' estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the method and assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the

burden of the collection of information, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques, or other forms of information technology. Comments may be sent to both FSIS, at the addresses provided above, and the Desk Officer for Agriculture, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, OMB, Washington, DC 20253.

Additional Public Notification

Public awareness of all segments of rulemaking and policy development is important. Consequently, FSIS will announce this **Federal Register** publication online through the FSIS web page located at: <https://www.fsis.usda.gov/federal-register>.

FSIS will also announce and provide a link to this **Federal Register** publication through the FSIS Constituent Update, which is used to provide information regarding FSIS policies, procedures, regulations, **Federal Register** notices, FSIS public meetings, and other types of information that could affect or would be of interest to our constituents and stakeholders. The Constituent Update is available on the FSIS web page. Through the web page, FSIS can provide information to a much broader, more diverse audience. In addition, FSIS offers an email subscription service that provides automatic and customized access to selected food safety news and information. This service is available at: <https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/USFSIS/subscriber/new>.

The available information ranges from recalls to export information, regulations, directives, and notices. Customers can add or delete subscriptions themselves and have the option to password protect their accounts.

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Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for

program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the State or local Agency that administers the program or contact USDA through the Telecommunications Relay Service at 711 (voice and TTY). Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD-3027, found online at How to File a Program Discrimination Complaint and at any USDA office or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by: (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Mail Stop 9410, Washington, DC 20250-9410; (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.

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Jeremy Reed,

Associate Administrator.

[FR Doc. 2026-18231 Filed 9-4-26; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Foreign Agricultural Service

Notice of Request for Approval of an Existing Information Collection in Use Without an Office of Management and Budget Control Number

AGENCY: Foreign Agricultural Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of information collection; request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the intention of the Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) to request approval for an existing collection in use without an Office of Management and Budget (OMB) control number for the Scientific Exchanges Program.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by November 9, 2026 to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: You may send comments, identified by OMB Control Number 0551-0054, by any of the following methods:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* <http://www.regulations.gov>. This portal