

# MEATS EVALUATION AND MANAGEMENT

## 3-4 Member Team

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### IMPORTANT NOTE

*Please thoroughly read the General CDE Rules Section at the beginning of this handbook for complete rules and procedures that are relevant to State FFA Career Development Events.*

#### I. PURPOSE

This event develops employment skills for students who are interested in experiencing and pursuing a career opportunity in the meat industry. Those who participate will become more knowledgeable consumers of meat and meat animal products and/or involved in the industry of marketing and managing. There are many job opportunities today that deal directly with the information provided in this contest. Students may continue studies in meat and food sciences related disciplines or go on to work in the meat industry at the processing, wholesale or retail levels.

#### II. OBJECTIVES

- A. Develop employment skills for students who are interested in exploring or pursuing career opportunities in the meat animal industry.
- B. Assist the local agricultural education instructor in motivating students to become knowledgeable consumers of meat animal products and/or involved in the industry of meat animal marketing and merchandising.
- C. Develop broader analytical skills, critical thinking strategies and an understanding of appropriate meat terminology for high school students.
- D. Develop the ability to evaluate meat animal products in order to optimize economic returns to producers and industry as well as to meet the needs of the consumer.
- E. Develop cooperation and communication skills.

#### III. EVENT RULES

- A. Contestants will report for instructions (9:00 am) to the Animal Science Building, Room 123. Contestants must come prepared to work in a cold storage room.
- B. There will be no handling of wholesale cuts, exposed ribeyes of beef carcasses or identification cuts during the contest. Contestants shall not use any mechanical aid or tabular material aids in arriving at a decision. Failure to comply with these rules, as well as all other customary contest procedures, will be sufficient cause for disqualification of a contestant.
- C. All participants are expected to be prompt at their stations throughout the event; no provision will be made for tardiness and will cause late participants to lose event points.
- D. No conversation will be allowed between participants after the individual activities begin. Conversation among participants constitutes disqualification.

#### IV. EVENT FORMAT

- A. Team Make-Up
  - 1. Each team will be comprised of 3 or 4 members. The top 3 members' scores will be used to determine the total team score.
  - 2. Schools with less than three contestants may enter one or two individuals

to compete for individual honors.

3. Alternates will be allowed to participate in the contest providing there is room and dependent on the number of teams entered.

B. Equipment

1. Clothing-Participants must come to the event prepared to work in a cold storage facility (approximately 4 C) for approximately two hours. Participants are required to wear protective clothing 1) hairnets, 2) warm clothing and 3) proper footwear.
2. Each participant must bring No. 2 pencils and a clean clipboard. Participants must not bring any blank paper, notes, training aids, other electronic items, purses or backpacks.

C. Event Schedule

1. Each contestant shall complete the event in the time allotted:
  - a. Identify 30 retail cuts (1 minute/cut)
  - b. Quality and Yield grade – 4 beef carcasses (10 minutes)
  - c. Four Placing Classes (10 minutes/class)
  - d. Placing two classes and Questions (Placing: 10 minutes/class & Questions: 10 questions)

D. Identify 30 Retail Cuts (210 pts)

1. Participants will identify 30 retail meats cuts found on the “Meats Identification Card.”
  - a. Only the cuts listed on the Retail Cuts Coding sheet are eligible to be used in this event.
  - b. Participants will be given one point for correct species identification, one point for correct primal cut identification, one point for correct cookery and three points for correct retail trade name.
  - c. Answers will be recorded on a computerized scorecard.
  - d. CLARIFICATION OF TERMS FOR RETAIL ID
    - CHOP—Smaller, flat cuts of meat, usually from the pork, veal or lamb rib, loin or shoulder, generally ranging from ½” to 1½” in thickness. A chop usually is of a size to be a single meal portion.
    - SLICE—A section of meat, usually less than one inch thick, taken from the center or either side of center of the leg of pork, lamb or veal.
    - STEAK—A flat cut of meat, larger than a chop, ranging from ¾” to 1½” of thickness cut from various parts of a beef carcass, or the shoulder of pork and veal. The size of a steak often is sufficient to provide more than one portion.
    - ROAST (Meat Cut)—Cuts of meat larger than steaks, chops or slices (usually two or more inches thick). This cut is intended to serve more than two people.

E. Beef Quality and Yield Grading (80 points)

Participants will quality grade and yield grade four beef carcasses.

1. *Quality Grading*

- a. Participants may or may not use the training aid provided for Beef Grading. If using the Training Aid II (located at end of Meats Evaluation section), the participant may give the carcass skeletal maturity score and lean maturity score and calculate a final maturity.
- b. Then they will assign a marbling score based on USDA standards and then

determine the final quality grade. The participant should complete the section of answers for quality grading on the computerized scorecard.

- c. Ten points are awarded for each correct grade.
- d. Each will be scored for the applicable adjacent grade as follows: 10, 8, 5, 0. However, in the case of “B” Maturity, Select High and Select Low will be awarded zero points.

2. *Yield Grading:*

- a. Participants may or may not use the training aid provided for Beef Grading. If using the Training Aid II, participants may write in the carcass weight which is given for each carcass, estimate the carcass preliminary yield grade based on USDA Standards, and then adjust the preliminary yield grade using “Ribeye Area”, “Carcass Weight,” and “% Kidney, Pelvic and Heart Fat.”
- b. After completing these steps, the participant may write in the final “Yield Grade” to the nearest one- tenth of a grade. The participant should complete the section of answers for yield grading on the computerized scorecard.
- c. Full points will be earned for a correct answer and 1/10th above or below official yield grade. A two-point deduction will be made for 2/10th – 5/10th above or below official yield grade. A four-point deduction for 6/10th – 9/10th above or below official yield grade. Zero points will be awarded for answers 1 yield grade above or below the official yield grade.
- d. *Official United States Department of Agriculture Yield Grades* are 1.0 – 5.9.

F. Four placing classes selected from the following (200 pts)

- 1. One class of 4 beef carcasses
- 2. One class of retail cut - beef, pork or lamb 1 class of 4 pork carcasses
- 3. One class of 4 wholesale pork cuts (hams or pork loins)
- 4. One class of 4 beef wholesale cuts (ribs, rounds, loins, or short loins)

G. Classes with Placing and Questions (100 pts for placing) (50 pts for Questions)

- 1. Two classes will be selected from the list of classes in item VII to be placed.
- 2. Then (10) minutes will be allowed to place each class
- 3. Then 10 questions will be asked covering both classes.

Scan sheets will be used to mark all placing classes, questions, grades, and retail identification. Scan sheets (National Meat Evaluation scansheet - #480-4) will be provided. Visit [www.judgingcard.com](http://www.judgingcard.com) to view a sample sheet. Come prepared with #2 pencils, scan sheets, and clipboard. Individuals completing scan sheets with anything other than a #2 pencil (i.e. pen) will be disqualified.

**V. SCORING**

Retail Meat Cut Identification	210
Quality Grading	40
Yield Grading	40
Placing of 4 Classes	300
Questions on these classes	50
<u>Total Points</u>	
Individual	640
Team	1920

**VI. TIEBREAKERS**

If ties occur, the following events will be used in order to determine award recipients:

- A. Individual
  1. Identification Retail Meat Cuts
  2. Grading
  3. Class Questions
- B. Team
  1. Retail ID total of highest three scores
  2. Grading total of highest three scores
  3. Class questions total of highest three scores

## VII. REFERENCES

This list of references is not intended to be all-inclusive. Other sources may be utilized and teachers are encouraged to make use of the very best instructional materials available. The following list contains references that may prove helpful during event preparation.

- National FFA Core Catalog – <http://shop.ffa.org/cde-materials-c1289.aspx>
- Meat Evaluation Handbook (hard bound)
- Retail Meat Instructional Materials/Instructor Combo Pack
- Retail Meat Team Combo Pack
- Retail Meats Field Guide
- Retail Meats Flash Cards Meats Evaluation and Technology Career Development Event 2012-2016
- Meats Evaluation and Technology Career Development Event
  - Meat Identification Tutorial CD-ROM
  - Meat Buyer's Guide
  - NAMP Meat Posters
  - Beef, Lamb, Pork and Veal Cut Charts
  - Meats Evaluation Scan Forms
  - National FFA CDE Q&A's (2007-2010)
- CEV Multimedia  
1020 SE Loop 289, Lubbock, TX 79404, (800) 922-9965
  - Retail Cuts Identification (DVD)
- Beef Myology - <http://bovine.unl.edu/bovine3D/eng/nIntro.jsp>  
National Cattlemen's Beef Association  
9110 E. Nichols Ave. #300, Centennial, CO 80112, (303) 694-0305/1-800-368-3138  
USDA Marbling Photographs  
Guide to Identifying Meat Cuts  
<https://store.beef.org/>
- American Meat Science Association (AMSA)  
2441 Village Green Place, Champaign, Illinois 61874, (800) 517-2672  
  
<http://www.meatscience.org/page.aspx?id=539>  
Email: [information@meatscience.org](mailto:information@meatscience.org)
  - USDA Marbling Photographs
  - Meat Evaluation Handbook
- Art Services, Inc.  
3015 Earl Place, N.E., Washington, D.C., 20018, (202) 526-5607
  - Beef Ribeye Grids
- NASCO

901 Janesville Avenue, P.O. Box 901, Fort Atkinson, WI 53538-0901,  
1-800-558-9595

- Preliminary Yield Grade Rulers (<http://www.enasco.com/product/C02615N> )
- Beef and Pork Ribeye Grids
- Example Meats Evaluation Websites of Classes and Materials  
<http://aggiemeat.tamu.edu/judging/meatjudging.html>  
<http://animalscience.unl.edu/meats/id/>

#### **VIII. SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS AND FORMS**

- Oklahoma FFA Retail Meats ID
- Scanform: 480-4