

AQIS Notice Meat: 98/19	NFS: 16, 17
Title: REVISED LAMB INSPECTION PROCEDURES	
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* Central & Regional Office Last Notice 98/18 *OIC Inspection Staff Meat Establishments Last Notice 98/17 *Meat Inspection Staff Last Notice * Managers, AQA Establishments Last Notice * State/Territory Departments Responsible for Agriculture	*Managers, Export Meat Establishments Last Notice *Licensed Meat Exporters Last Notice * Managers, Export Slaughtering Establishments Last Notice 97/17 * Export Meat Industry Organisations Last Notice * AUS-MEAT Last Notice

Purpose

This notice is provided to inform AQIS field staff of changes to the post-mortem inspection procedures for lambs.

Background

There has been differences in post-mortem inspection requirements between export standards and the Australian Standard. The reason for the differences has been due to the requirements of overseas countries such as the United States.

Recent changes in the US lamb post-mortem inspection procedures have allowed changes to be made to lamb inspection in Australia with an observation approach to inspection. The export standards for lamb inspection can now be aligned more closely with the ARMCANZ Australian Standard for the Production of Meat for Human Consumption.

CURRENT EXPORT STANDARDS FOR LAMB POST MORTEM INSPECTION

The current procedural instructions for lamb require the following procedures to be undertaken for

1. VISCERA

Observe

- . Head, if presented.
- . Kidneys, if presented with viscera.
- . Diaphragm and thick skirts.
- . Lungs.
- . Oesophagus.
- . Stomach.
- . Intestines including mesenteric lymph nodes.
- . Hepatic/portal lymph node.

Palpate

- . External surface of heart.
- . Lungs and bronchial and mediastinal lymph nodes.
- . Liver.
- . Spleen.

Incise . Main bile ducts of the liver, transversely.

2. CARCASE

Observe . All external and internal surfaces, including cut muscle.
. All joints.
. Head, if presented with carcase.
. Kidneys, if presented with carcase.
. Diaphragm, if presented with carcase.

Palpate . Lymph nodes- popliteal, precrucial, superficial inguinal/supra-mammary, iliac, lumbar, prescapular, and ischiatic.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

- . See Australian Export Meat Manual, Volume Two
- Essential Requirements
- . Palpation of lymph nodes and suspect lesions and, where necessary, incision to detect disease conditions and/or pathological change.

SANITARY SEQUENCE

- . Observation.
- . Palpation.
- . Incision as required.

REVISED EXPORT STANDARDS FOR LAMB POST MORTEM INSPECTION

The revised procedural instructions for lamb will align the Export Standards with the Australian Standards. The changes will require the following procedures to be undertaken.

Australian Export Standard (except for EU markets)

1. VISCERA

(i)Observe . Head, if presented.
. Kidneys, if presented with viscera.
. Diaphragm and thick skirts.
. Lungs.
. Oesophagus.
. Stomach.
. Liver.
. Spleen.
. Lungs and bronchial and mediastinal lymph nodes.
. Intestines including mesenteric lymph nodes.
. Hepatic/portal lymph node
. Main bile duct

(ii)Palpate . External surface of heart.

(iii)Incise . Main bile ducts of the liver, transversely.

Note: It is acceptable for the company to exercise the option of having an employee incise the main bile duct, prior to the offal being presented for inspection.

2. CARCASE

- Observe**
- . All external and internal surfaces, including cut muscle.
 - . All joints.
 - . Head, if presented with carcase.
 - . Kidneys, if presented with carcase.
 - . Diaphragm, if presented with carcase.
 - . Lymph nodes (LN) - popliteal, precrucial, superficial inguinal/supra mammary, iliac, lumbar, prescapular, and ischiatic (the observation of LN pertains to visually observing the area. Where the LN appears to be enlarged, it should be removed).

For EU markets

1. VISCERA

- (i)Observe**
- . Head, if presented.
 - . Kidneys, if presented with viscera.
 - . Diaphragm and thick skirts.
 - . Oesophagus.
 - . Stomach.
 - . Spleen.
 - . Intestines including mesenteric lymph nodes
 - . Main bile duct.
- (ii)Palpate**
- . External surface of heart.
 - . Lungs, bronchial and mediastinal lymph nodes
 - . Liver and Hepatic/portal lymph node
- (iii)Incise** . Main bile ducts of the liver, transversely.

Note: It is acceptable for the company to exercise the option of having an employee incise the main bile duct, prior to the offal being presented for inspection.

2. CARCASE

- Observe**
- . All external and internal surfaces, including cut muscle.
 - . All joints.
 - . Head, if presented with carcase.
 - . Kidneys, if presented with carcase.
 - . Diaphragm, if presented with carcase.
 - . Umbilical region
 - . Lymph nodes (LN) - popliteal, precrucial, superficial inguinal/supra mammary, iliac, lumbar, prescapular, and ischiatic (the observation of LN pertains to visually observing the area. Where the LN appears to be enlarged, it should be removed).

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

- . See Australian Export Meat Manual, Volume Two
- Essential Requirements
- . Palpation of lymph nodes and suspect lesions and,
where necessary, incision to detect disease
conditions and/or pathological change.

SANITARY SEQUENCE

- . Observation.
- . Palpation as required
- . Incision as required.

Brian Macdonald
Director
Meat Inspection Division