



Center for Meat Safety and Quality
Department of Animal Sciences
Fort Collins, Colorado
80523-1171

April 20th, 2020

TO: County Livestock and Youth Extension Agents

FROM: Brenna Klauer
Instructor and Meat Judging Coach
Center for Meat Safety and Quality
Department of Animal Sciences

SUBJECT: 2020 Carcass Data Services

This memo is intended to reflect the standard procedure to use when requesting Department of Animal Science services to obtain carcass or ultrasound data for fairs or other functions.

****COVID-19 Update: At this time, we plan to offer the ultrasound service to any county fairs still occurring in 2020. We will update the status of these efforts on July 1, 2020. At any given time, our clearance for these events may be revoked from the university, which would be immediately communicated. During time of service we will comply with all Colorado State University Policies along with ALL state and local measures concerning travel, social distancing, and overall safety. We will keep the safety of our students and of fair attendees as a top priority and may ask for additional safety measures.**

The Meat Science Program in the Department of Animal Sciences will attempt to fulfill all requests for service relative to the collection of carcass information—by either the PREFERRED evaluation of chilled carcasses or by use of ultrasound on the live animal. Such services will be scheduled and accommodated on a first-come, first-serve basis and all requests must be received, **in writing, no later than June 15th, 2020. Requests for services should be made by completing the attached reservation form and submitting it via email or mail to (please do not fax):**

Brenna Klauer
Department of Animal Sciences
Colorado State University
Fort Collins, CO 80523-1171
Tel: (970) 732-3243
E-mail: brenna.klauer@ColoState.edu

When a request for service conflicts with another scheduled carcass/ultrasound data collection event, we will make every effort to find a solution to the problem and keep all parties informed. We would also appreciate any efforts to maximize the efficiency of our travel time through coordination with adjacent or regional counties. If we are not able to resolve the conflict, the entity requesting the service causing the conflict will be notified immediately to provide enough time to explore other options for gathering carcass/ultrasound data. In this method, scheduling errors should be eliminated, and coordination can occur in a standardized, centralized fashion.

Although the Department will do its utmost to ensure quality service, some approaches and recommendations for service are appropriate. When possible, collection of actual carcass data, followed

by a demonstration/presentation, is the ideal system for maintaining accuracy and providing the best educational experience for youth and interested parties. However, due to food safety concerns, the location of livestock processing plants, etc., it may not be possible for some counties to utilize carcass evaluation *per se*. In such cases, ultrasound of live animals, in conjunction with a demonstration/presentation, is acceptable for use with live pigs and sheep. **We are not capable of determining the USDA Quality Grades for live beef animals using the ultrasound technology.** Therefore, we are not able to rank live beef animals, and ultrasounds are not the recommended method. If carcass data for pigs and lambs can be collected, but no subsequent demonstration/presentation of the data is possible (due to packing plant limitations, etc.), then ultrasound is the preferred educational choice for ranking pigs and/or lambs based on carcass characteristics. In general, there is never a need to provide both carcass data and ultrasound data for the same animals.

When ultrasound services are requested, we will require appropriate facilities in order to obtain high quality data. This is of utmost importance when collecting data on swine. The ideal setup for this scenario is a short alleyway that will hold 3-4 animals with some mechanism of restraining (a simple slide gate) one animal at a time. If you are not sure if your facility will be adequate, please contact me ahead of time so we can discuss your setup. We will not scan swine in pens, or an area where the animals cannot be confined. Cattle can be easily scanned in a blocking chute and typically there is no need for more than one chute to be made available. No additional setups are required for lambs or goats. We request you to provide a table and power outlet at a stationary location for all species. **Due to timing and staffing, we cannot be available for ultrasounds for a long time range. Animals need to be lined up and ready to ultrasound one after another.**

For 2020, the rate for providing full carcass assessment services will be \$5.00 per head of livestock/carcasses evaluated, which will include summarizing and ranking the data and a demonstration/presentation of the results to the affected youth or other interested parties. **A minimum charge of \$250 will be assessed, in addition to travel costs, when the number of livestock/carcasses to be evaluated is less than 50 head.** In addition, all travel costs to collect and present the data will be assessed. This includes mileage to and from the point of data collection or presentation (current state rate for vehicle mileage; currently \$0.52 per mile), the standard, state per diem rate for meals, and any lodging costs encountered. All collected fees, excluding travel expenses, will be credited to the Meat Science Program (Intercollegiate Meats Judging Program and Meat Science Graduate Program) in the Department of Animal Sciences. **Please make all checks payable to Colorado State University and either send to Brenna Klauer (address above) or make available at the time services are rendered.**

We hope that by establishing these standardized costs and methods for conducting carcass evaluation services, we will assist counties and other entities in organizing and planning such activities. The Department of Animal Sciences at Colorado State University strongly supports such educational activities and will make every effort to satisfy your needs. If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact me at the address, phone numbers, or E-mail address listed above. Good luck with your 2020 activities!

cc: Dr. Keith Belk, Ken & Myra Monfort Endowed Chair, Animal Sciences

SUBMIT NO LATER THAN June 15th, 2020 TO:

Brenna Klauer, Department of Animal Sciences

E-mail: brenna.klauer@colostate.edu

*****THIS IS A FILLABLE PDF FORM**(type in your responses, save, attach, and email)

County or Fair:		Contact Name:		
Start Time:		Contact Number:		
Address:				
Date	Species	Data Collection (Carcass or Ultrasound)	Estimated Number of Animals	Location

*Ultrasound information collected on Beef cattle will not be summarized and ranked for competitive purposes. It will be provided as raw data only.

- We would like to have the data entered, summarized and presented on the day of collection.
- It is not necessary to have the data entered, summarized and delivered on the day of collection.
- We would like an educational program or demonstration to be presented.

Date of Presentation: _____

Location of Presentation: _____

Topic of Presentation: _____

Will an overnight stay be required? YES NO

Other Notes: