



26 October 2017

(17-5822)

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Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade

Original: English

### NOTIFICATION

The following notification is being circulated in accordance with Article 10.6

1.	<b>Notifying Member:</b> UNITED STATES OF AMERICA <b>If applicable, name of local government involved (Article 3.2 and 7.2):</b>
2.	<b>Agency responsible:</b> Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS), Department of Agriculture (USDA) [1231] <b>Name and address (including telephone and fax numbers, email and website addresses, if available) of agency or authority designated to handle comments regarding the notification shall be indicated if different from above:</b> Please submit comments to: USA WTO TBT Enquiry Point, Email: <a href="mailto:usatbtep@nist.gov">usatbtep@nist.gov</a>
3.	<b>Notified under Article</b> 2.9.2 [ ], 2.10.1 [ ], 5.6.2 [ ], 5.7.1 [ ], <b>other:</b> [X] Transparency
4.	<b>Products covered (HS or CCCN where applicable, otherwise national tariff heading. ICS numbers may be provided in addition, where applicable):</b> Pork carcasses. Meat, meat products and other animal produce (ICS 67.120).
5.	<b>Title, number of pages and language(s) of the notified document:</b> United States Standards for Grades of Pork Carcasses (5 page(s), in English)
6.	<b>Description of content:</b> The U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) is seeking public comment on revisions to the United States Standards for Grades of Pork Carcasses (pork standards). The last revision to the pork standards occurred in 1985 and the standards no longer accurately reflect value differences in today's pork products. Modern pork production is characterized by products with improved color and higher marbling content, two factors that have been consistently identified by researchers as the main components affecting pork eating quality.
7.	<b>Objective and rationale, including the nature of urgent problems where applicable:</b> Prevention of deceptive practices and consumer protection
8.	<b>Relevant documents:</b> 82 Federal Register (FR) 48971, 23 October 2017.
9.	<b>Proposed date of adoption:</b> To be determined <b>Proposed date of entry into force:</b> To be determined
10.	<b>Final date for comments:</b> 22 December 2017
11.	<b>Texts available from: National enquiry point [ ] or address, telephone and fax numbers and email and website addresses, if available, of other body:</b> <a href="https://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2017/TBT/USA/17_4789_00_e.pdf">https://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2017/TBT/USA/17_4789_00_e.pdf</a>