Rancho Grande Castle Rock Wagyu Beef Program G-9 Specification

1 **REQUIREMENTS**

Beef carcasses certified under this specification shall meet the following requirements:

- a. Genotypic requirements of the American Wagyu Association's (AWA) live animal specification;
- b. Classed as Steer or Heifer carcasses only¹;
- c. Rancho Grande Castle Rock Wagyu U.S. Prime¹; Rancho Grande Castle Rock Wagyu U.S. Choice¹; Rancho Grande Castle Rock Wagyu U.S. Select¹;
- d. Less than 30 months of age with lean color, texture, and firmness, meeting the requirements for A maturity in the U.S. grade it qualifies for¹;
- e. Medium or fine marbling texture^{1,2};
- f. No hump exceeding 2 inches in height³; and
- g. Free of "dark cutting" characteristics.

2 <u>CERTIFICATION</u>

Carcasses to be examined for compliance with this specification shall be clearly identified and presented to an AMS grader for certification. Certification procedures for identification, the removal of preliminary identification marks (or other methods of control) from non-qualifying carcasses, and control of certified carcasses shall be in accordance with established Quality Assessment Division (QAD) procedures.

3 LABELING

Labeling of products derived from certified carcasses must follow Food Safety and Inspection Service regulations and policy guidelines and QAD procedures.

4 FEES

The costs of all grading and certification services performed by an AMS grader involving examinations, supervision, official documentation, and related services shall be borne by the person, group, or plant requesting the service.

¹ Determined in accordance with the "Official United States Standards for Grades of Carcass Beef."

² Evaluated using the USDA-AMS-LS-SB-02 Marbling Texture card (included in the Official USDA Marbling Photographs.)

³ Measured from a line formed by the extension of the top line (including the fat) and measuring the lean muscle (excluding the fat) perpendicular to that line in the center of the hump.



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