**AMS Declaration of Carcass Evaluation**

**Evaluation Requirement for the EU HQB Quota:**

*The carcass from which beef cuts are derived shall be evaluated by an evaluator employed by the national government who bases the evaluation, and a resulting classification of the carcass, on a method approved by the national government. The national government evaluation method, and its classifications, must evaluate expected carcass quality using a combination of carcass maturity and palatability traits of the beef cuts. Such an evaluation method of the carcass shall include, but not be limited to, an evaluation of the maturity characteristics of color and texture of the longissimus dorsi muscle and bone and cartilage ossification, as well as an evaluation of expected palatability traits including a combination of the discrete specifications of intramuscular fat and firmness of the longissimus dorsi muscle.*

**Instructions:** Harvest Facility

Provide this document to the AMS, Livestock and Poultry Program, Quality Assessment Division (QAD) employee for verification of carcass evaluation under the European Union (EU) High Quality Beef (HQB) quota. Provide the lot number, head count, and producer name or identification number (NHTC-approval number) for all lots submitted for evaluation.

**Instructions:** QAD employee conducting the carcass evaluation

Complete the date of the evaluation, the USDA Grader's name, and the USDA Grader's signature indicating that the carcasses have been evaluated in accordance with requirements of the EU HQB quota.

**USDA Verification Statement:**

*Carcasses from the lot(s) below have been evaluated by a USDA, Agricultural Marketing Service, Livestock, and Poultry Program, Quality Assessment Division employee based on the Official United States Standards for Grades of Carcass Beef.*

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Date of Evaluation |  |  |  |  |
| Lot Number |  |  |  |  |
| Head Count |  |  |  |  |
| Producer Name or Identification number |  |  |  |  |
| USDA Grader's Name |  |  |  |  |
| USDA Grader's Signature |  |  |  |  |

**Once completed and signed by the USDA Grader, a copy of the record must be submitted to QAD via e-mail to** **EV.Export@usda.gov****.**