



FOOD UNIT NOTICE

SUBJECT: Australian Standard Alternative Equivalent Procedures

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Distribution of Notice:

Western Australian (WA) domestic and Tier 1 registered abattoir food businesses covered by the Australian Standard for the Hygienic Production and Transportation of Meat and Meat Products for Human Consumption (AS 4696: 2007), the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources (DAWR), relevant *Food Act 2008* enforcement agencies and Authorised Officers (Meat Inspectors).

Purpose:

Under the *Australian Standard for the Hygienic Production and Transportation of Meat and Meat Products for Human Consumption AS 4696:2007* (AS 4696:2007) there is provision for recognition of the equivalence of alternative techniques. This applies to all matters including the schedules and is published as a Food Unit Notice to the AS 4696:2007.

This Food Unit Notice replaces Schedule 2 as published in AS 4696:2007. Techniques prescribed in this Food Unit Notice are applicable to all WA domestic and Tier 1 registered abattoir food businesses in relation to the application of post-mortem meat inspection procedures.

Actions:

The Australian Meat Regulators Group (AMRG) has developed [“Guideline 2019:1 – Post Mortem Meat Inspection - Alternative Techniques to Schedule 2 of AS 4696:2007” \(PDF 369 KB\)](#) (Guideline). The Guideline is an attachment to and is to be read in conjunction with this Notice.

Six (6) *Food Act 2008* (WA) Fact Sheets that outline the Australian Standard Alternative Equivalent Procedures have been prepared as follows:-

- *Food Act 2008* (WA) Fact Sheet 17: Australian Standard Alternative Equivalent Procedure: Risk-based Review of Post-mortem Inspection CLA of Sheep & Goats
- *Food Act 2008* (WA) Fact Sheet 18: Australian Standard Alternative Equivalent Procedure:

Risk-based Review of Post-mortem Inspection of Spleens of Sheep & Goats

- *Food Act 2008 (WA)* Fact Sheet 19: Australian Standard Alternative Equivalent Procedure: Minimal risk inspection for tuberculosis in cattle and buffalo inspection
- *Food Act 2008 (WA)* Fact Sheet 20: Australian Standard Alternative Equivalent Procedure: Risk-based review of routine visual inspection of pigs
- *Food Act 2008 (WA)* Fact Sheet 21: Australian Standard Alternative Equivalent Procedure: Risk-based Review of Post-mortem Inspection of Kidneys in Pigs
- *Food Act 2008 (WA)* Fact Sheet 22: Australian Standard Alternative Equivalent Procedure: Risk-based Review of Post-mortem Inspection of Kidneys in Sheep and Goats

The information contained in the above Fact Sheets was provided to the Australian Meat Regulators Group in support of the changes to the meat inspection procedures content in the Australian Standard for the Hygienic Production and Transportation of Meat & Meat Products for Human Consumption (AS 4696:2007).

Relevant *Food Act 2008* enforcement agencies

Relevant *Food Act 2008* enforcement agencies that provide meat inspection services at abattoirs under the *Food Act 2008* are to include the Australian Standard Alternative Equivalent Procedures listed in the Guideline into the meat inspection procedures. Meat Inspectors and other relevant staff are to be communicated with regarding the new Equivalent Alternative Procedures.

Domestic and Tier 1 registered abattoirs covered by AS 4696:2007

Domestic and Tier 1 registered abattoirs covered by AS 4696:2007 that implement company-based meat inspection under the *Food Act 2008 (WA)* are to include the Australian Standard Alternative Equivalent Procedures listed in the Guideline into meat food business's approved arrangement. Meat Inspectors and other relevant staff are to be trained in the new Equivalent Alternative Procedures, ensuring that this training is documented.

Meat Inspectors

Meat Inspectors authorised under the *Food Act 2008 (WA)* with the relevant *Food Act 2008 (WA)* enforcement agencies are to ensure that the new Equipment Alternative Procedures listed in the Guideline are implemented.

Resources

Australian Meat Regulators Group

- [AMRG Guideline 2019:1 – Post Mortem Meat Inspection - Alternative Techniques to Schedule 2 of AS 4696:2007 \(PDF 369 KB\)](#)

WA Department of Health

- [Food Act 2008 \(WA\) Fact Sheet 17: Australian Standard Alternative Equivalent Procedure: Risk-based Review of Post-mortem Inspection CLA of Sheep & Goats \(PDF 252 KB\)](#)
- [Food Act 2008 \(WA\) Fact Sheet 18: Australian Standard Alternative Equivalent Procedure: Risk-based Review of Post-mortem Inspection of Spleens of Sheep & Goats \(PDF 244 KB\)](#)
- [Food Act 2008 \(WA\) Fact Sheet 19: Australian Standard Alternative Equivalent Procedure: Minimal risk inspection for tuberculosis in cattle and buffalo inspection \(PDF 257 KB\)](#)
- [Food Act 2008 \(WA\) Fact Sheet 20: Australian Standard Alternative Equivalent Procedure: Risk-based review of routine visual inspection of pigs \(PDF 379 KB\)](#)
- [Food Act 2008 \(WA\) Fact Sheet 21: Australian Standard Alternative Equivalent Procedure: Risk-based Review of Post-mortem Inspection of Kidneys in Pigs \(PDF 260 KB\)](#)
- [Food Act 2008 \(WA\) Fact Sheet 22: Australian Standard Alternative Equivalent Procedure: Risk-based Review of Post-mortem Inspection of Kidneys in Sheep and Goats \(PDF 358 KB\)](#)

More information

Contact your [local government](#) for further information

or

Contact the Food Unit

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