



Worthwhile Operational Guidelines & Suggestions

BROILER PROCESSING TIMELY INFORMATION – JULY 2009

YOUNG CHICKEN FEET DEFECT VALUES - II

Processing Defects:	Dimension	Accept	Reject
5. Cuticle - the outer, or epidermal, layer of skin. Examples include any cuticle attached after scalding to remove the cuticle. A cuticle associated with a scab, callus, bruise, or mutilation is not scored/counted twice, e.g., a callus with attached cuticle is scored only once in the callus defect category and not twice (once in the callus category and once in the cuticle category).	Small ($\leq \frac{1}{2}$ inch)	3	4
	Medium ($> \frac{1}{2}$ in. to 1 inch)	2	3
	Large (>1 inch)	2	3
6. Extraneous Material - organic or inorganic material or carcass tissue observed on the paw that is not attached by natural attachments, also includes attached feathers when present. Examples include, but are not limited to, ingesta, grease, grease stains, unidentified material, identifiable material, i.e., plant fiber, seeds, dirt, metal, rust, unattached toe nail, unattached cuticle, unattached feathers (down, filoplums/hairs, bristle feathers), unattached skin or other carcass tissue, and attached feathers.	Small ($\leq \frac{1}{2}$ inch)	3	4
	Medium ($> \frac{1}{2}$ inch to 1 inch)	2	3
	Large (>1 inch)	1	2
7. Mutilation - post-mortem processing defect due to dressing and/or processing of the slaughtered bird or processing of the feet. Mutilation associated with bruising is not scored/recorded as mutilation. A defect containing tissue damage and bruising is scored/counted only once in the bruise category. Mutilation defects associated with acute inflammation are scored under the "Resolving or Healing Wound" category or under the "Inflammatory Process" category when associated with chronic inflammation. Examples include, but are not limited to, a cut or laceration of the skin and/or underlying tissues, missing more than two digits, broken or crushed bone without an associated opening through the skin, and joint separation.	Any	7	8
8. Toenail - the hard keratin dorsal plate of the claw at the end of the digits of the foot. It does not include the softer keratin plate that remains at the end of the digit when the hard dorsal plate of the cuticle that covers softer keratin plate is removed.	Any	4	5



Contact: S. F. Bilgili, Ph.D.
 Phone: (334) 844-2612
 E-mail: bilgisf@auburn.edu
 Poultry Science Department
 Auburn University, AL 36849-5416

