



Worthwhile Operational Guidelines & Suggestions

BROILER PROCESSING TIMELY INFORMATION – MAY 2009

Quality Standards for Inspected of Chicken Paws

Chicken paws have become a significant and lucrative export product for the broiler industry. In 2008, US integrators have exported over 500,000 metric tons of chicken paws valued at over quarter of a billion dollars. Most chicken paws are destined for Asia, with China requiring mark of inspection on all imported paws. Similar to Finished Product Standards currently required of all processed broiler carcasses at post-chill, the USDA has implemented acceptable defect values for broiler chicken feet (paws):



http://www.fsis.usda.gov/OPPDE/rdad/FSISDirectives/6210_2/Defect_Chart.pdf

According to the USDA, an establishment may develop processes, programs or procedures to ensure that chicken feet are eligible to bear the mark of inspection. The quality Accept/Reject values are provided for both Processing and Non-processing Defects on chicken feet. The quality Accept/Reject values for designated production lots are applied on a sample of 50 feet randomly chosen after chilling and sorting by the plant personnel. Because of space constraints, these specifications will be listed in the June and July issues of WOGS.



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