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# Information sheet: Proposed improvements to the Export Control (Meat and Meat Products) Rules 2021

## Introduction

Australia's agricultural export legislation came into effect on 28 March 2021. It includes the *Export Control Act 2020* (the Act) and Export Control Rules for various commodities (the Rules). These set out the operational requirements that must be met to export specific goods from Australia (e.g. meat).

The Export Control (Meat and Meat Products) Rules 2021 (the Meat Rules) regulate the export of meat and meat products from Australia. They set out:

- which meat and meat products are regulated
- export conditions that must be complied with.

When the new legislation began in March 2021, the Meat Rules replaced the previous relevant legislation, including the Export Control (Meat and Meat Products) Orders 2005.

The proposed improvements to the Meat Rules are outlined below and should be read with the [Act](#) and the [Rules](#).

## Chapter 8: Official marks and carton seals

Part 3, Chapter 8 of the Meat Rules specifies official marks for the purposes of the Act for meat and meat products that are intended to be exported.

### 'Australia Inspected (lamb)' official mark

Section 8-11 of the Meat Rules provides for the design of the 'Australia Inspected (lamb)' official mark, including the required dimensions for a normal size mark and a small size mark.

It is proposed the Meat Rules be updated to include a provision for the dimensions of a computer-generated mark that is an 'Australia Inspected (lamb)' official mark. The computer-generated mark would be a mark applied to a computer-generated label or tag, with the following dimensions (mm):

- width of oval mark: 24
- height of oval mark: 17
- breadth of lamb frame: 15
- height of lamb frame: 6
- height of letters: 2
- height of establishment registration number: 5

### 'Australia Approved' official mark

Section 8-16 of the Meat Rules provides for the design of the 'Australia Approved' official mark, including the required dimensions for a normal size mark and small size mark.

It is proposed the Meat Rules be amended to include a provision for the dimensions of a large size mark and computer-generated mark that is an Australia Approved official mark. The large size mark would be able to be applied in the same circumstances as a normal size mark. The computer-generated mark would be a mark that is applied to a computer-generated label or tag.

The table below provides the proposed dimensions of an 'Australia Approved' official mark:

| Section                                     | Large size mark (mm) | Computer-generated mark (mm) |
|---|----------------------|------------------------------|
| Width of mark                               | 65                   | 24                           |
| Height of mark                              | 45                   | 17                           |
| Height of letters                           | 8                    | 2                            |
| Height of establishment registration number | 10                   | 5                            |

This change will allow for greater flexibility for the sizing of official marks.

#### **'Australia Approved (lamb)' official mark**

Section 8-17 of the Meat Rules provides for the design of the 'Australia Approved (lamb)' official mark, including the required dimensions for a normal size mark and a small size mark.

It is proposed the Meat Rules be amended to include a provision for the dimensions of a computer-generated mark that is an Australia Approved (lamb) official mark. The computer-generated mark would be applied to a computer-generated label or tag, with the following dimensions (mm):

- width of oval mark: 24
- height of oval mark: 17
- breadth of lamb frame: 15
- height of lamb frame: 6
- height of letters: 2
- height of establishment registration number: 5

#### **Carton Seal official mark**

Section 8-19 of the Meat Rules outlines the design of the 'Carton Seal' official mark, including the details to be included. Subsection 8-19(1) provides an image of the design of the carton seal, with substitutions provided in section 8-19(3).

Paragraph 8-19(3)(a) of the Meat Rules currently specifies that the registration number of the registered establishment where operations to prepare the meat or meat products for export were carried out, is to be substituted for 'A'.

It is proposed the Meat Rules be improved to allow for either the:

- 1) registration number of the registered establishment, or
- 2) a resemblance of the 'Australia Inspected' official mark (which includes the registration number of the registered establishment),

to be substituted for 'A' on the carton seal official mark.

This change is to allow for industry to use either a resemblance of the 'Australia Inspected' official mark or the registration number of the registered establishment substituted for 'A' on carton seals.

## Further information

Email [exportlegislation@agriculture.gov.au](mailto:exportlegislation@agriculture.gov.au)

Website: [Improved agricultural export legislation](#)

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