

901:3-31-15

Standards for kinds and classes, and for cuts of raw poultry.

(A) The following standards specify the various classes of the specified kinds of poultry, and the requirements for each class:

- (1) All poultry sold whole must have all parts present or have "parts missing" contingent with the label, e.g., "Frying Chicken with Parts Missing."
- (2) Chickens - Rock Cornish Game Hen or Cornish Game Hen.

A Rock Cornish game hen or Cornish game hen is a young immature chicken (usually 5 to 6 weeks of age) weighing not more than 2 pounds ready-to-cook weight, which was prepared from a Cornish chicken or the progeny of a Cornish chicken crossed with another breed of chicken.

- (a) Rock Cornish Fryer, Roaster, or Hen.

A Rock Cornish fryer, roaster, or hen is the progeny of a cross between a purebred Cornish and a purebred Rock chicken, without regard to the weight of the carcass involved; however, the term "fryer," "roaster," or "hen" shall apply only if the carcasses are from birds with ages and characteristics that qualify them for such designation under subdivision (b) or (c) of this subparagraph.

- (b) Broiler or Fryer.

A broiler or fryer is a young chicken (usually under 13 weeks of age), of either sex, that is tender-meated with soft, pliable, smooth-textured skin and flexible breastbone cartilage.

- (c) Roaster

A roaster is a young chicken (usually 3 to 5 months of age), of either sex, that is tender-meated with soft, pliable, smooth-textured skin and breastbone cartilage that may be somewhat less flexible than that of a broiler or fryer.

- (d) Capon

A capon is a surgically unsexed male chicken (usually under 8 months of age) that is tender-meated with soft, pliable, smooth-textured skin.

- (e) Hen, Fowl, or Baking, Stewing, or Roasting Chicken.

A bird of this class is a mature female chicken (usually more than 10 months of age) with meat less tender than that of a roaster, and nonflexible breastbone tip.

(f) Cock or Rooster.

A cock or rooster is a mature male chicken with coarse skin, toughened and darkened meat, and hardened breastbone tip.

(3) TURKEYS

(a) Fryer-Roaster Turkey

A fryer-roaster turkey is a young immature turkey (usually under 16 weeks of age), of either sex, that is tender-meated with soft, pliable, smooth-textured skin, and flexible breastbone cartilage.

(b) Young Turkey.

A young turkey is a turkey (usually under 8 months of age) that is tender-meated with soft, pliable, smooth-textured skin, and breastbone cartilage that is somewhat less flexible than in a fryer-roaster turkey. Sex designation is optional.

(c) Yearling Turkey.

A yearling turkey is a fully matured turkey (usually under 15 months of age) that is reasonably tender-meated and with reasonably smooth-textured skin. Sex designation is optional.

(d) Mature Turkey or Old Turkey

(Hen or Tom)

A mature or old turkey is an old turkey of either sex (usually in excess of 15 months of age) with coarse skin and toughened flesh.

(4) DUCKS

(a) Broiler Duckling or Fryer Duckling.

A broiler duckling or fryer duckling is a young duck (usually under 8 weeks of age), of either sex, that is tender-meated and has a soft bill and

soft windpipe.

(b) Roaster Duckling

A roaster duckling is a young duck (usually under 16 weeks of age), of either sex, that is tender-meated and has a bill that is not completely hardened and a windpipe that is easily dented.

(c) Mature Duck or Old Duck.

A mature duck or an old duck is a duck (usually over 6 months of age), of either sex, with toughened flesh, hardened bill, and hardened windpipe.

(5) GEESE

Young Goose

A young goose may be of either sex, is tender-meated, and has a windpipe that is easily dented.

(6) GUINEAS

(a) Young Guinea

A young guinea may be of either sex, is tender-meated, and has a flexible breastbone cartilage.

(b) Mature Guinea or Old Guinea.

A mature guinea or an old guinea may be of either sex, has toughened flesh, and a hardened breastbone.

(B) The following standards specify the requirements for the specified cuts of poultry:

- (1) "Breasts" shall be separated from the back at the shoulder joint and by a cut running backward and downward from that point along the junction of the vertebral and sternal ribs. The ribs may be removed from the breasts, and the breasts may be cut along the breastbone to make two approximately equal halves; or the wishbone portion, as described in subparagraph (3) of this paragraph, may be removed before cutting the remainder along the breastbone to make three parts. Pieces cut in this manner may be substituted for lighter or heavier pieces for exact weight-making purposes and the

package may contain two or more of such parts without affecting the appropriateness of the labeling, e.g., "chicken breasts". Neck skin shall not be included with the breasts, except that "turkey breasts" may include neck skin up to the whisker.

- (2) "Breasts with ribs" shall be separated from the back at the junction of the vertebral ribs and back. Breasts with ribs may be cut along the breast-bone to make two approximately equal halves; or the wishbone portion, as described in subparagraph (3) of this paragraph, may be removed before cutting the remainder along the breastbone to make three parts. Pieces cut in this manner may be substituted for lighter or heavier pieces for exact weight-making purposes and the package may contain two or more of such parts without affecting the appropriateness of the labeling as "breasts with ribs." Neck skin shall not be included, except that "turkey breasts with ribs" may include neck skin up to the whisker.
- (3) "Wishbones" (Pulley Bones), with covering muscle and skin tissue, shall be severed from the breast approximately halfway between the end of the wishbone (hypocondrium) and front point of the breastbone (cranial process of the sternal crest) to a point where the wishbone joins the shoulder. Neck skin shall not be included with the wishbone.
- (4) "Drumsticks" shall be separated from the thigh by a cut through the knee joint (femorotibial and patellar joint) and from the hock joint (tarsal joint).
- (5) "Thighs" shall be disjuncted at the hip joint and may include the pelvic meat, but shall not include the pelvic bones. Back skin shall not be included.
- (6) "(Kind) legs" shall be the poultry product which includes the thigh and the drumstick, i.e., the whole leg, and may include the pelvic meat, but shall not include the pelvic bones. Back skin shall not be included.
- (7) "Wings" shall include the entire wing with all muscle and skin tissue intact, except that the wingtip may be removed.
- (8) "Backs" shall include the pelvic bones and all the vertebrae posterior to the shoulder joint. The meat shall not be peeled from the pelvic bones. The vertebral ribs and/or scapula may be removed or included without affecting the appropriateness of the name. Skin shall be substantially intact.
- (9) "Stripped backs" shall include the vertebrae from the shoulder joint to the tail, and include the pelvic bones. The meat may be stripped off of the pelvic

bones.

- (10) "Necks", with or without neck skin shall be separated from the carcass at the shoulder joint.
- (11) "Halves" are prepared by making a full-length back and breast split of an eviscerated poultry carcass so as to produce approximately equal right and left sides.
- (12) "Quarters" consist of the entire eviscerated poultry carcass, which has been cut into four equal parts, but excluding the neck.
- (13) "Breast quarter" consists of half a breast with the wing and a portion of the back attached.
- (14) "Breast quarter without wing" consists of a front quarter of a poultry carcass, from which the wing has been removed.
- (15) "Leg quarter" consists of a poultry thigh and drumstick, with a portion of the back attached.
- (16) "Thigh with back portion" consists of a poultry thigh with back portion attached.
- (17) "Leg with pelvic bone" consists of a poultry leg with adhering meat and skin and pelvic bone.
- (18) "Wing drummette" consists of the humerus of a poultry wing with adhering skin and meat attached.
- (19) "Wing portion" consists of a poultry wing except that the drummette has been removed.
- (20) "Cut-up poultry" is any cut-up or disjointed portion of poultry or any edible part thereof, as described in this section.
- (21) "Giblets" consist of approximately equal numbers of hearts, gizzards and livers, as determined on a count basis.
- (22) "Ready-to-cook poultry" means any dressed poultry free from protruding pinfeathers, vestigial feathers (hair or down as the case may be) and from

which the head, feet, crop, oil glands, trachea, esophagus, entrails, mature reproductive organs, and lungs have been removed, and with or without the giblets, and which is suitable for cooking without need of further processing. Ready-to-cook poultry also means any cut-up or disjointed portion of poultry or other parts of poultry that are suitable for cooking without need of further processing.

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