



Vereniging - Association

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Letter to Contributors and users of the RMAA price information system (Pork)

The Red Meat Abattoir Association received a letter from SAMIC, the assigned appointed by DAFF as to illegal actions pertaining to descriptions in the **Pork Price Reporting** and a threat of suspension of the system if these descriptions are not removed.

This follows a request by Representatives of the pork abattoirs on a differentiation in the pork prices due to the vast differences in the marketing of pork in the wide weight range of 20 - 100 kg as prescribed in the Classification regulation. This change was made to the price system approximately 18 months ago at the request of the pork abattoirs.

The instruction by SAMIC stems from the 4 weight categories requested and the reference to B (P-S) with baconer, C (P-S) for cutters, P (P-S) for cutters and H (P-S) for Heavy baconers.

Following a request for clarity by the department, it was indicated that the differentiation of weights within the PORCUS system should be regarded as a trade issue and should the terminology as referred form an integral part of the Pork trade environment, to revisit this aspect of the regulation.

We will in the meantime remove the reference in this price reporting i.e., Porkers, Baconers, Cutters and Heavy B (Please not this wording is not used in the report)

The weight categories will however remain for reporting purposes

This request however did highlight the need to have another discussion on the current regulations pertaining to the pork industry, as the current description is outdated with reference to the modern pork industry ex meat content. This matter is also currently being investigated and researched by SAPPO in order to make representation to the department. We will request a discussion at the standards committee of the Department at their earliest convenience after the submission, to clarify this aspect of the current meat classification regulation

Thank you for your indulgence with this matter. Should you have any queries or comments pertaining to this aspect you are welcome to contact me directly.

Regards

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