Food Safety and Inspection Service, USDA

§ 311.26 Emaciation.

Carcasses of livestock too emaciated to produce wholesome meat, and carcases which show a serous infiltration of muscle tissues, or a serous or mucoid degeneration of the fatty tissue, shall be condemned. A gelatinous change of the fat of the heart and kidneys of well-nourished carcases and mere leanness shall not be classed as emaciation.


§ 311.27 Injured animals slaughtered at unusual hours.

When it is necessary for humane reasons to slay a sick animal at night or on Sunday when the inspector cannot be obtained, the carcase and all parts of all livestock except for cattle shall be kept for inspection, with the head and all viscera except the stomach, bladder, and intestines held by the natural attachments. If all parts are not so kept for inspection, the carcase shall be condemned. If, on inspection of a carcase slaughtered in the absence of an inspector, any lesion or other evidence is found indicating that the animal was sick or diseased, or affected with any other condition requiring condemnation of the animal upon ante-mortem inspection, or if there is lacking evidence of the condition which rendered emergency slaughter necessary, the carcase shall be condemned. The parts and carcases of cattle slaughtered in the absence of an inspector shall not be used for human food.


§ 311.28 Carcases of young calves, pigs, kids, lambs, and foals.

Carcasses of young calves, pigs, kids, lambs, and foals are unwholesome and shall be condemned if (a) the meat has the appearance of being water-soaked, is loose, flabby, tears easily, and can be perforated with the fingers; or (b) its color is grayish-red; or (c) good muscular development as a whole is lacking, especially noticeable on the upper Shank of the leg, where small amounts of serous infiltrates or small edematous patches are sometimes present between the muscles; or (d) the tissue which later develops as the fat capsule of the kidneys is edematous, dirty yellow, or grayish-red, tough, and intermixed with islands of fat.

§ 311.29 Unborn and stillborn animals.

All unborn and stillborn animals shall be condemned and no hide or skin thereof shall be removed from the carcase within a room in which edible products are handled.

§ 311.30 Livestock suffocated and hogs scalded alive.

All livestock which have been suffocated in any way and hogs which have entered the scalding vat alive shall be condemned.

§ 311.31 Livers affected with carotenosis; livers designated as "telangiectatic," "sawdust," or "spotted."

(a) Livers affected with carotenosis shall be condemned.

(b) Cattle livers and calf livers showing the conditions sometimes designated as "telangiectatic," "sawdust," or "spotted" shall be disposed of as follows:

(1) When any or all of the conditions are slight in the organ, the whole organ shall be passed for human food without restriction.

(2) When any or all of the conditions are more severe than slight and involve less than one-half of the organ, while in the remainder of the organ the conditions are slight or nonexistent, the remainder shall be passed for human food without restriction and the other portion shall be condemned.

(3) When any or all of the conditions are more severe than slight and involve one-half or more of the organ, the whole organ shall be condemned.

(4) The divisions of an organ into two parts as contemplated in this paragraph for disposition, shall be accomplished by one cut through the organ. This, of course, does not prohibit incisions which are necessary for inspection.

(c) "Telangiectatic," "sawdust," or "spotted" livers and parts of livers which are condemned for human food may be shipped from an official establishment for purposes other than
human food in accordance with §314.10 of this subchapter.

§311.32 Vesicular diseases.

(a) Any carcass affected with vesicular disease shall be condemned if the condition is acute and if the extent of the condition is such that it affects the entire carcass or there is evidence of absorption or secondary change.

(b) Any carcass affected with vesicular disease to a lesser extent than as described in paragraph (a) of this section may be passed for human food after removal and condemnation of the affected parts, if the carcass is otherwise healthy.

§311.33 Listeriosis.

Carcasses of livestock identified as U.S. Suspects because of a history of listeriosis shall be passed for human food after condemnation of the head if the carcass is otherwise normal.

§311.34 Anemia.

Carcasses of livestock too anemic to produce wholesome meat shall be condemned.

§311.35 Muscular inflammation, degeneration, or infiltration.

(a) If muscular lesions are found to be distributed in such a manner or to be of such character that removal is impractical, the carcass shall be condemned.

(b) If muscular lesions are found to be distributed in such a manner or to be of such character that removal is practical, the following rules shall govern the disposal of the carcasses, edible organs, and other parts of carcasses showing such muscular lesions. If the lesions are localized in such a manner and are of such character that the affected tissues can be removed, the non-affected parts of the carcass may be passed for human food after the removal and condemnation of the affected portion. If a part of the carcass shows numerous lesions, or if the character of the lesion is such that complete extirpation is difficult and uncertainty accomplished, or if the lesion renders the part in any way unfit for human food, the part shall be condemned.

(c) If the lesions are slight or of such character as to be insignificant from a standpoint of wholesomeness, the carcass or parts may be passed for use in the manufacture of comminuted cooked product, after removal and condemnation of the visibly affected portions.

§311.36 Coccidioidal granuloma.

(a) Carcasses which are affected with generalized coccidioidal granuloma or which show systemic changes because of such disease shall be condemned.

(b) Carcasses affected with localized lesions of this disease may be passed for human food after the affected parts are removed and condemned.

§311.37 Odors, foreign and urine.

(a) Carcasses which give off a pronounced odor of medicinal, chemical, or other foreign substance shall be condemned.

(b) Carcasses which give off a pronounced urine odor shall be condemned.

(c) Carcasses, organs, or parts affected by odor to a lesser degree than as described in paragraphs (a) and (b) of this section and in which the odor can be removed by trimming or chilling may be passed for human food, after removal of affected parts or dissipation of the condition.

§311.38 Meat and meat byproducts from livestock which have been exposed to radiation.

Meat and meat byproducts from livestock which have been administered radioactive material shall be condemned unless the use of the radiation was in conformity with a regulation or exemption in effect pursuant to section 409 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act.

§311.39 Biological residues.

Carcasses, organs, or other parts of carcasses of livestock shall be condemned if it is determined that they are adulterated because of the presence of any biological residues.