



ASTM International Technical Committee F10 on Livestock, Meat and Poultry Evaluation Systems

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Committee F10 Webpage:

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Established: 2001

Number of Members: 34

Number of Standards: 6

Global Participation: 5 Countries represented

The standards are available in: Volume 15.12 in the *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*

Meetings: F10 meets twice each year, in April and October

SCOPE:

Committee F10 develops standards for livestock, meat and poultry evaluation systems. The Committee may also assist in the development of standards for other technologies or systems with broad effect for livestock, meat or poultry industries. The work of this committee will be coordinated with other organizations and governmental entities having mutual interest

OVERVIEW:

In light of consumer demand for leaner meats and ready-to-cook products, substantial changes have occurred in the way cattle and hogs are marketed and valued. While live, negotiated cash markets still exist, more and more livestock are priced via marketing contracts, grids and formulas designed to send economic signals to farmers, ranchers and feeders about the carcass qualities demanded by the market place. Several technologies and devices have been developed to measure the various attributes such as optical probes, ultrasonic evaluations and imaging technologies that measure fat and lean ratios, loin eye size and several other carcass and meat attributes.

As part of the efforts to protect the health of livestock and poultry and the economic well-being of those industries, new technologies such as radio frequency identification (RFID) have emerged. RFID transponders and transceivers are used by industry to accurately identify and electronically collect and record animal information at the speed of commerce.

The aim of the ASTM F10 committee is to develop standards that cover equipment design, units of measurement, device performance, user requirements and predictive accuracy. These standards are vital as the livestock and meat industries adopt new technologies, and the ASTM voluntary consensus process provides a unique opportunity for industry stakeholders and government to participate in their development.

To date, ASTM Standards regarding meat evaluation device design specifications, performance criteria, user requirements, independent third-party verification and the development and validation of prediction equations have been completed. But the current standards will need to periodically be reviewed and revised, and new standards developed as new devices, technologies and systems are developed and implemented.

The committee is comprised of a diverse range of stakeholders including growers, packers, farmers, auction markets, ranchers, USDA agencies, equipment manufacturers, and other representatives from the public and private sectors as well as academia. New members are always welcome.

Get Involved! If your business is impacted or you have an interest in the new technologies being implemented and used in the livestock, meat and poultry industries, join the F10 committee today and make a difference. To learn more or to join, contact a current member, one of the individuals on the left or go to the ASTM website, www.astm.org/join

