

**MONTANA SYMBOL OF EXCELLENCE
2025 CARCASS STANDARDS**

SOE Standards			
Measurement	Unit/Scale	Minimum	Maximum
Hot Carcass Weight	Pound	160	220
Carcass Length	inch	30	
USDA Muscling Score	1 to 3	2	3
Loin Muscle Area	Sq. In.	6.5	10.0
10th Rib Back Fat	Inch	0.4	0.8
NPPC Fat Free Lean	Pound	90.0	
NPPC Fat Free Lean	Percent	52.5	
NPPC Marbling Score	1 to 6,10	2	5
NPPC Color Score	1 to 6	3	5
NPPC Firmness Score	1 to 3	2	3
NPPC Wetness Score	1 to 3	2	3
Live Abnormalities		none	none
Carcass Abnormalities		none	none

MED Standards			
Measurement	Unit/Scale	Minimum	Maximum
Hot Carcass Weight	Pound	160	235
Carcass Length	inch	29.5	
USDA Muscling Score	1 to 3	1	
Loin Muscle Area	Sq. In.	5.0	14.0
10th Rib Back Fat	Inch	0.1	1.2
NPPC Fat Free Lean	Pound	75.0	
NPPC Fat Free Lean	Percent	48.0	
NPPC Marbling Score	1 to 6,10	1	5
NPPC Color Score	1 to 6	2	6
NPPC Firmness Score	1 to 3	2	3
NPPC Wetness Score	1 to 3	2	3
Live Abnormalities		none	none
Carcass Abnormalities		none	none

LOW Standards			
Measurement	Unit/Scale	Minimum	Maximum
Hot Carcass Weight	Pound	160	235
Carcass Length	inch	29.5	
USDA Muscling Score	1 to 3	1	
Loin Muscle Area	Sq. In.	5.0	14.0
10th Rib Back Fat	Inch	0.1	1.2
NPPC Fat Free Lean	Pound	75.0	
NPPC Fat Free Lean	Percent	47.0	
NPPC Marbling Score	1 to 6,10	0	10
NPPC Color Score	1 to 6	1	6
NPPC Firmness Score	1 to 3	1	3
NPPC Wetness Score	1 to 3	1	3
Live Abnormalities		none	none
Carcass Abnormalities		none	none

**MONTANA SYMBOL OF EXCELLENCE
2025 ULTRASOUND STANDARDS**

SOE Standards			
Measurement	Unit/Scale	Minimum	Maximum
NPPC Fat Free Lean	Percentage	52.5	
Calculated HCW (Final weight x 73%)	Pounds	160	220
10th Rib Back Fat	Inches	0.4	0.8
Loin Muscle Area	Inches ²	6.5	10
Live Abnormalities		none	none

MED Standards			
Measurement	Unit/Scale	Minimum	Maximum
NPPC Fat Free Lean	Percentage	48	
Calculated HCW (Final weight x 73%)	Pounds	160	235
10th Rib Back Fat	Inches	0.1	1.2
Loin Muscle Area	Inches ²	5	14
Live Abnormalities		none	none

LOW Standards			
Measurement	Unit/Scale	Minimum	Maximum
NPPC Fat Free Lean	Percentage	47	
Calculated HCW (Final weight x 73%)	Pounds	160	235
10th Rib Back Fat	Inches	0.1	1.2
Loin Muscle Area	Inches ²	5	14
Live Abnormalities		none	none

Swine qualifying for SOE are broken down into 2 categories; heavy and light carcass divisions. They are broken down by hot carcass weight (HCW). Heavy carcasses are: ≥186 to ≤220 HCW and Light carcasses are ≥160 to ≤185 HCW.