

**KENYA STANDARD**

**DKS 2774-5:2021**

ICS 67.12.10

First Edition

# **Grading live animal for meat trade - Specification**

## **Part 5: Indigenous Chicken (*kienyeji*)**



**Kenya Bureau of  
Standards**

Standards for Quality life

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Ministry of Health – Food safety Division  
Kenya Industrial Research and Development Institute  
National Public Health Laboratories Services  
Government Chemist's Department  
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In order to keep abreast of progress in industry, Kenya Standards shall be regularly reviewed. Suggestions for improvements to published standards, addressed to the Managing Director, Kenya Bureau of Standards, are welcome.

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# Grading live animal for meat trade- Specification

## Part 5: Indigenous Chicken (*kienyeji*)

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PUBLIC REVIEW DRAFT

## Foreword

This Kenya Standard was prepared by the Meat and Poultry Products Technical Committee under the guidance of the Standards Projects Committee, and it is in accordance with the procedures of the Kenya Bureau of Standards.

This first edition of the standard was found necessary to address market challenges in grading live indigenous chicken meant for meat trade.

KS 2774 consists of the following parts, under the general title Grading live animals for meat trade:

— *Part 1: Cattle*

— *Part 2: Goat*

— *Part 3: sheep*

— *Part 4: Camel*

— *Part 5: indigenous Chicken*

During the preparation of this standard, reference was made to the following document (s):

Determination of living animals for slaughter: KS 01-837: part 1 and 2

Acknowledgement is hereby made for the assistance derived from this (these) source (s):

Domestic Animal Diversity Network



## Grading live animal for meat trade — Specification

### Part 5: Indigenous Chicken (*kienyeji*)

#### 1 Scope

This Kenya standard specifies the requirements for grading live indigenous chicken (commonly referred to as *kienyeji chicken*) for meat trade.

#### 2 Normative references

There are no normative references in this document.

#### 3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

##### 3.1 Grade:

the defined parameters that segregate live chicken for meat trade into homogenous groups applied by market participants based on age, sex, weight and body condition.

##### 3.2 Body condition:

overall state of an animal body assessed through visual observation and palpation taking into account muscle deposition as it occurs in various parts of the chicken.

##### 3.3 Body condition score:

is the score assigned through visual and palpation appraisal of specific body parts. The extent to which specific skeletal body parts are either hidden or smoothened by flesh. The chicken are thus characterized as excellent, good, or fair.

##### 3.4 Palpation

is a method of feeling with fingers or hands during a physical examination for body condition.

##### 3.5 Live weight:

the weight of a live animal determined through a standard and acceptable method.

##### 3.6 Indigenous chicken (Kienyeji in Kiswahili):

Is a chicken population in a specific location or region that are adapted to the local environment and conditions

##### 3.8 Male bird:

a cockerel or a cock.

##### 3.9 Cockerel:

a male chicken usually 3 to 7 months of age.

### 3.10 Cock or rooster:

a mature male chicken usually over 7 months of age with a large comb and wattle; and a considerable weight and size

### 3.11 Sex:

refers to whether the chicken is male or female. ]

## 4 Requirements for live indigenous chicken presented for trade

### 4.1 General requirements

4.1.1 The live chicken shall be of good health and well-nourished.

### 4.2 Specific Requirements

4.2.1 The eyes of the live chicken shall be bright, nostrils free from discharge, combs and wattles firm and bright in colour with glossy feathers.

4.2.2 The live chicken shall be active, and showing no evidence of diarrhoea or any other disease.

4.2.3 The live chicken shall have glossy scales on the shanks.

4.2.4 The live chicken shall be free from deformities.

## 5 Grading Specifications

5.1 Grading of chicken shall be done in accordance to age, sex, weight, and body condition

5.1.1 **Age:** shall be categorised into 6-10 months, 6-15 months and 6 months and above based on records or estimated based on size and smoothness of the comb characteristic to the breed, the plumage, the length of the spur, and appearance of scales on the shank.

5.1.2 **Sex:** Chicken shall be categorised as either male or female.

5.1.3 **Live Weight:** Shall be based on Kilogram

5.1.4 **Body condition:** Body condition shall be scored as: excellent, good, or fair.

### 5.2 Table 1: Body condition score

S.No	Body condition	Description
1.	Excellent	Thighs: bulging, breast muscles: well-developed, relatively plump that provide smooth contour with the keel. Keel: smoothed
2.	Good	Thighs: less prominent Breast muscles: Moderately developed and convex in shape, Keel: Prominent
3.	Fair	Thighs: no bulging

		Breast muscles: poorly developed along the keel and concave Keel: Protruding
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5.3 The grading shall be based on the parameters outlined in the table 2 below.

Table 2: Grades and grading parameters for Indigenous chicken

S.No	Parameters	Grade A	Grade B	Grade C
1.	Age	6 – 10 Months	6 – 15 months	6 months and above
2.	Sex	Male	Male and female	Male and female
3.	Live weight	2.0 kg (minimum)	1.5 kg (minimum)	No limit
4.	Body Condition	Excellent	Good	Fair

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