

KENYA STANDARD

DKS 2774-6:2021

ICS 67.12.10

First Edition

Grading live animal for meat trade - Specification

Part 6: Improved indigenous chicken (*Improved 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
Food Science and Technology Platform Kenya
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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):

Meat Control Act (Cap 356)

Animal Welfare and Protection Bill

Domestic Animal Diversity Network

Background

Chicken production is the fastest growing and most important enterprise in terms of poverty reduction and food security. There is a growing demand for indigenous chicken meat owing to its unique taste and flavour. However, there are consumer concerns on nutrition, animal welfare issues and fair trade practices. In order to facilitate and expand trade in indigenous chicken, the preparation of this standard was found necessary. It is therefore prudent to develop grading standards for live chicken.

Standards are used extensively throughout the marketing system and they furnish an acceptable common language that buyers and sellers use in trading. It is upon the same standards that market information is disseminated and farmers are paid upon. Poultry firms that base the price paid to the producer on grade yields will grade the product to standards. Processors request grading service to enhance their own quality assurance programs and so they may use the official grade mark on each bird or package.]

Grading live animal for meat trade — Specification

Part 6: Improved indigenous chicken (*Improved kienyeji*)

Scope

[This Kenya standard specifies the requirements for grading live improved indigenous chicken (commonly referred to as Improved kienyeji) 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 that is 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

3.7 Improved indigenous chicken

It is a chicken obtained through selection within indigenous population and cross-breeding with superior *kienyeji* chicken and exotic breeds.

3.8 Exotic breed

A breed that is not native of Kenya

3.9 Superior Kienyeji

Kienyeji chicken with desired traits identified through selection

3.10 Male bird:

a cockerel or a cock.

3.11 Cockerel:

a male chicken usually 3 to 7 months of age.

3.12 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

3.13 Sex:

refers to whether the chicken is male or female.]

4 Requirements for live Improved 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 3-7 months, 3-10 months and 3 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 plumb that provide smooth contour with the keel. Keel: smoothened
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

5.3 The grading shall be based on the parameters outlined in the table 2 below:

Table 2: Grades and grading parameters for Improved Indigenous chicken

S.No	Parameters	Grade A	Grade B	Grade C
1.	Age	3 – 7 Months	3 – 10 months	3 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