

Young Chicken Feet Defect Values*

An establishment may develop processes, programs or procedures to ensure that its young chicken feet are eligible to bear the mark of inspection. The quality Accept/Reject values are applied to post-scald, chilled young chicken feet after they have been sorted by the plant. The quality Accept/Reject values for designated lots are based on a sample size of 50 randomly selected feet.

Non-Processing Defects:	Dimension	Accept	Reject
<p>1 Inflammatory Process - sore, wound or other defect associated with an active inflammatory process including, but not limited to, sanguineous (hemorrhagic), edema, fibrinous, or cheese-like exudate and/or hyperemia.</p> <p>Examples include, but are not limited to, bumblefoot, laceration, infection, or ammonia burn associated with edema, necrosis, gangrene, or sanguineous fluid.</p>	Any	2	3
<p>2 Resolving or Healing Wound - sore, wound, or other tissue condition showing evidence of resolving or healing not associated with an active inflammatory process.</p> <p>Examples include thickening of the skin, callus, scab, ammonia burn, dermatitis, tendonitis, or synovitis (not associated with active inflammation).</p>	Small ($\leq \frac{1}{2}$ inch)	13	14
	Medium ($>\frac{1}{2}$ inch to 1 inch)	6	7
	Large (>1 inch)	3	4
<p>3. Bruise - tissue damage that resulted from trauma, not associated with signs of inflammation. A bruise associated with an inflammatory process is recorded in the “Inflammatory Processes” category.</p> <p>Examples include red to black or greenish discoloration of the skin and/or underlying tissues associated or not associated with visible infiltration of blood or blood clots, and bruising associated with bone fractures.</p>	Small ($\leq \frac{1}{2}$ inch)	6	7
	Medium ($>\frac{1}{2}$ in. to 1 inch)	3	4
	Large (>1 inch)	2	3
<p>4. Compound Fracture – a bone fracture that has caused an opening in the skin. A compound fracture associated with bruising is not scored in the “Bruise” category. A defect containing a compound fracture and bruising is scored only once in the “Compound Fracture” category.</p>	Any	5	6

* Example of process control material that the establishment could use to document process control for the harvesting of young chicken feet

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Processing Defects:	Dimension	Accept	Reject
<p>5. Cuticle - the outer, or epidermal, layer of skin. Examples include any cuticle attached after scalding to remove the cuticle. A cuticle associated with a scab, callus, bruise, or mutilation is not scored/counted twice, e.g., a callus with attached cuticle is scored only once in the callus defect category and not twice (once in the callus category and once in the cuticle category).</p>	Small ($\leq \frac{1}{2}$ inch)	3	4
	Medium ($> \frac{1}{2}$ in. to 1 inch)	2	3
	Large (>1 inch)	2	3
<p>6. Extraneous Material - organic or inorganic material or carcass tissue observed on the paw that is not attached by natural attachments, also includes attached feathers when present. Examples include, but are not limited to, ingesta, grease, grease stains, unidentified material, identifiable material, i.e., plant fiber, seeds, dirt, metal, rust, unattached toe nail, unattached cuticle, unattached feathers (down, filoplums/hairs, bristle feathers), unattached skin or other carcass tissue, and attached feathers.</p>	Small ($\leq \frac{1}{2}$ inch)	3	4
	Medium ($> \frac{1}{2}$ inch to 1 inch)	2	3
	Large (>1 inch)	1	2
<p>7. Mutilation - post-mortem processing defect due to dressing and/or processing of the slaughtered bird or processing of the feet. Mutilation associated with bruising is not scored/recorded as mutilation. A defect containing tissue damage and bruising is scored/counted only once in the bruise category. Mutilation defects associated with acute inflammation are scored under the “Resolving or Healing Wound” category or under the “Inflammatory Process” category when associated with chronic inflammation. Examples include, but are not limited to, a cut or laceration of the skin and/or underlying tissues, missing more than two digits, broken or crushed bone without an associated opening through the skin, and joint separation.</p>	Any	7	8
<p>8. Toenail - the hard keratin dorsal plate of the claw at the end of the digits of the foot. It does not include the softer keratin plate that remains at the end of the digit when the hard dorsal plate of the cuticle that covers softer keratin plate is removed.</p>	Any	4	5

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