



Sydney Royal Carcase Competitions

The Royal Agricultural Society of NSW (RAS) Cattle Committee endeavours to improve the Sydney Royal Carcase Competitions each year, building on previous years and where possible, providing additional information for Exhibitors.

In 2026, in addition to the regular live scanning, abattoir slaughter floor data, chiller assessment data and competition scores, images of every carcase were again collected using MEQ cameras. Access to the MEQ images will be provided to all Exhibitors, via a link that we will share by email.

The additional data allowed cross checking between the data sets and the images to be confident the scores for each trait and carcase were appropriate. Where possible this was done using multiple data points. Carcase graders and MEQ camera operators viewed all carcasses. We cross checked data and images for carcasses from each of the three plants used to process the cattle.

Specifically, we cross checked any EMA's and Rib fat measurements that were significantly different to scans and found carcase results to be more accurate.

As rib fat measurements can be verified using the MEQ cameras, and p8 measurements are unable to be verified, in 2026 rib fat was used in the Market Specification scores. p8 fat measurements are supplied for Exhibitor information, however are not used in any scoring allocations.

A MLA / MSA saleable meat yield calculation was used.
This calculation uses HSCW, EMA and rib fat.

You may notice the MSA Index values are a little lower than may have been expected. For cattle exhibited at the Easter Show to qualify for MSA grading, with animals coming from multiple vendors, the Showground is approved in the same way as a saleyard MSA pathway. This means there is a 5 point deduction on the MSA index for all animals.

The Cattle Committee are committed to continued review of the Carcase Competitions, and information that is provided to Exhibitors.