

United States Department of Agriculture Agricultural Marketing Service Livestock and Poultry Program 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Stop 0249 Washington, DC 20250 AWA Specification May 23, 2025 Page 1 of 2

## Live Animal Specification American Wagyu Association's Specification for Characteristics of Cattle Eligible for Approved Programs Claiming Wagyu Influence

## 1 SCOPE

This specification sets forth the requirements for live cattle from which carcasses can be derived for certification in approved branded beef programs claiming Wagyu influence. Cattle may qualify for the breed influence specification of these branded beef programs by meeting the genotype requirements specified below.

## 2 **REQUIREMENTS**

Cattle eligible for Wagyu Fullblood (100 % Wagyu), Wagyu Purebred (93.75% Wagyu minimum), and Wagyu influence or American Wagyu certified beef programs must be born, raised and harvested in the United States and meet one of the following:

- 2.1 Cattle eligible for Wagyu Fullblood (100% Wagyu) certified beef programs must have positive identification (e.g., ear tags, tattoos, brands), be registered with the American Wagyu Association and DNA parent verified through the American Wagyu Association to both sire and dam. Both parents must be registered by the American Wagyu Association.
- 2.2 Cattle eligible for Wagyu Purebred (93.75% Wagyu minimum) certified beef programs must have positive identification (e.g., ear tags, tattoos, brands) be registered with the American Wagyu Association and DNA parent verified through the American Wagyu Association to both sire and dam. Both parents must be registered by the American Wagyu Association.
- 2.3 Cattle eligible for Wagyu influence or American Wagyu certified beef programs, must have positive identification (e.g., ear tags, tattoos, brands) and be traceable to verifiable Wagyu parentage (e.g., registration certificates, affidavits) to at least one parent (Fullblood or Purebred) that is registered with the American Wagyu Association. The American Wagyu Association parental registration certificate requirement will be effective January 1, 2030, and thereafter.



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2.4 The registration categories can be viewed at <u>www.wagyu.org</u>

## **3 VERIFICATION**

**3.1 Genotype.** Compliance with genotype requirements shall be determined and controlled through a quality management program approved and monitored by the Livestock and Poultry Program.

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