



AW Supplier/Producer Manual



Authentic Wagyu is a USDA Process Verified Program for the following claims:

- Source Verified to the ranch of origin and documented group age information
- Breed Verification via American Wagyu Association Registration and DNA Parent Verification to American Wagyu Association Herd book
- Product Quality Labeling – meets Authentic Wagyu Beef Program G-162 Specification which includes the marbling score of 800/Moderately Abundant⁰⁰ or higher for the Authentic Wagyu Label
- Traceability Verification of Finished Authentic Wagyu Product

Complete the Authentic Wagyu Enrollment Form/Agreement ENR 002 and submit to Authentic Wagyu via email or mail. Feel free to schedule a call with an Enroller to learn more or request help in completing your enrollment form.

- 1. The Authentic Wagyu Enrollment Form ENR 002 must be completed each time you enroll cattle in the AW program.**
- 2. An Enroller will reach out via phone or email to set up a convenient time to learn more about your operation, the claims that fit your program and the group of calves you plan to enroll. Training/evaluation will be done with each enrollment. Plan for a 30-minute phone call and have your records available.**
 - a. Calving records must be submitted prior to a Verification Certificate being released for SAV.
 - b. Records/documents may be emailed or mailed. Copies submitted via mail must be **photocopies of the ORIGINAL records**. All records must be retained for 3 years.
 - c. Authentic Wagyu Program Requirements (RQMT 002) outlines acceptable records/documentation.
- 3. What happens when the Enroller calls and who should go through training?**
 - a. The Enroller will go through phone training with the person/people who work on a day-to-day basis with the cattle being enrolled. **Whomever goes through phone training should be the person available for the audit.** Please have a copy of your AW Enrollment Form ENR 002 available during training.
 - b. During the training, calving and breeding records must be available. If this is a re-enrollment, it is helpful to have the final documents from your previous enrollment.
 - c. Authentic Wagyu staff will ask if you plan to purchase your PCTs from Authentic Wagyu or from another vendor. PCTs from other vendors will require additional documentation and fees. If you purchase your PCT from another source, request a Non-AW PCT Tag Agreement ENR 005 or ENR 006 from your Enroller. Once

your group age and source enrollment in Authentic Wagyu is approved by Authentic Wagyu staff, calving records have been received and your PCTs have been ordered/approved, your SAV enrollment is almost complete. The tamper-evident PCTs can be applied to the group of enrolled calves and once this is accomplished the animal is considered SAV enrolled.

- d. You are responsible for the purchase and placement of the tamper-evident program compliant (PCT) RFID tags. The PCTs are linked to the Verification Certificate.
4. A Verification Certificate is created for all cattle enrolled in Authentic Wagyu program. The Authentic Wagyu Verification Certificate documents each PVP claim and date of claim approval. The Verification Certificate and Tag Manifest may be accessed by contacting your Enroller. Please email or phone the Lot Identification of the group you are requesting the certificate for so we can ensure you will be provided with the proper Verification Certificate. When requesting documents always be sure and check your junk or spam folder on your computer.
5. Authentic Wagyu is NOT a tagging program, however a PCT is utilized to verify program enrollment. Authentic Wagyu is a Marketing Program. Every enrolled animal must wear a RFID tamper-evident Program Compliant Tag (PCT) prior to leaving the ranch of origin. All PCTs purchased from Authentic Wagyu will be tamper-evident RFID tags with “840” or “900” 15-digit numbering scheme. Producers have the option to supply their own tamper-evident program compliant RFID tags. (see program compliant tag options for additional requirements)

PROGRAM COMPLIANT TAGS (PCT)

The Authentic Wagyu PCT/RFID are available for \$XXX/head. Tags are shipped directly to your ranch.

Producers have the option to supply their own tamper-evident program compliant RFID tags. Producers who supply PCTs from outside the Authentic Wagyu PCT order system will provide a completed Non-AW Tag Agreement (ENR 005 or ENR 006) along with required documentation (electronic unloadable file of 15-digit unique animal ID numbers) and fees (\$XX per animal). The Authentic Wagyu Enroller will verify with the Supplier/Producer if the non-Authentic Wagyu PCT is a tamper-evident 840 coded RFID tag. Note 840 coded tamper-evident RFID tags will have the U.S. shield printed on the front and back of the tag. “Unlawful to remove” is also printed on the back.

To purchase “840” tags your premise must be registered. Tag numbers allocated to you will be uploaded to the National Animal Identification System (NAIS) database. Producers are responsible for the purchase and placement of the Authentic Wagyu PCT or outside source PCT documented and recorded by American Wagyu Association. (*Authentic Wagyu has the option to use 900 series coded tags on a case-by-case basis.*)

REPLACEMENT TAGS

Tamper evident 840 PCT tags purchased from Authentic Wagyu may be used as a replacement tag with proper documentation. Please contact Authentic Wagyu prior to calves leaving the ranch of origin to submit the replacement tag number and information about the animal with the lost tag. Proper documentation is required for the animal to be included on the tag manifest. Document any replacement tag numbers used on Tag Reconciliation Form ID 400.

Replacement tags are available on a case-by-case basis. Following the enrollment, you will receive a Replacement Tag Request Form ID 006 which is used to submit a replacement tag request. The cost of replacement tags for Authentic Wagyu is \$XXX/RFID. All replacement tags must be paid for prior to issue. Additional information can be found on Authentic Wagyu Program Requirements RQMT 002.

RQMT 001 Participation Requirements



Approved Supplier/Producers

Only approved Supplier/Producers may enroll cattle in the Authentic Wagyu program. To become an approved, Supplier/Producer, they must complete the Authentic Wagyu Enrollment Form and Agreement ENR 002, complete Supplier/Producer Training and submit copies of documentation and records pertaining to the PVP points for each verification claim the calf group is being enrolled. After completion of documented requirements for each PVP claim, the Supplier/Producer is placed on the Approved Supplier/Producer List for that verification claim. The Supplier/Producer may enroll cattle in Authentic Wagyu Source and Group Age if requirements are met. Authentic Wagyu program compliant tags (PCT) must be applied prior to cattle leaving the ranch of origin to be considered enrolled. Documentation and records must be maintained at the ranch for a minimum of three years.

All cattle enrolled in Authentic Wagyu PVP programs will be enrolled in a calving group for Source and Group Age Verification.

Authentic Wagyu Enrollment Form/Agreement

The first step to becoming an approved Supplier/Producer is the completion of the Authentic Wagyu Enrollment Form/Agreement ENR 002. This form is available upon request from Authentic Wagyu or may be downloaded from <https://wagyu.org/> Supplier/Producers will not be eligible to enroll cattle in Authentic Wagyu until the Enrollment Form/Agreement is completed and received by Authentic Wagyu staff. ENR 002 must be completed for each enrollment.

Supplier/Producer Training

Prior to cattle enrollment, producers must complete Supplier/Producer Training with an Authentic Wagyu Enroller who will assess and evaluate the risk associated with the enrollment. The Authentic Wagyu Enroller may request additional documentation prior to an operation being accepted as an approved Supplier/Producer for the Authentic Wagyu PVP program. Training and evaluation will occur with each cattle enrollment.

The Authentic Wagyu Enroller will review the Supplier/Producer's enrollment application for eligibility and accuracy. The Authentic Wagyu Enroller will then train and document the Supplier/Producers understanding of the basic responsibilities of records management, audit support, policy, and procedures for use of program compliant tags and data entry of all program information for which the Supplier/Producer is enrolling and determine the scope of the Producer's knowledge to assign a risk assessment for each Supplier/Producer enrollment. Supplier/Producers must pass an onsite audit (if required) for the specific claims in which they enroll. Onsite audits are subject to approval by the Authentic Wagyu Quality Manager

Program Compliant Tags for Animal Identification

Once calves are enrolled in Authentic Wagyu, they will be identified with an Authentic Wagyu Approved Program Compliant Tag (PCT). Producers that do not purchase their PCT from Authentic Wagyu must complete an ENR 005 non-AWA 840 series PCT Tag Agreement or ENR 006 Non-AWA 900 series PCT Tag Agreement, supply an acceptable electronic file of 15-digit unique animal ID numbers for tamper evident RFID tags and pay associated fees. Only qualifying calves, properly enrolled in Authentic Wagyu may be tagged with official tamper evident PCTs. These tags, with their unique 15-digit tag number, identify each unique animal with that number and its original ranch location (premise). Authentic Wagyu tags are tied to each individual enrollment group for specific PVP claims the Supplier/Producer enrolls in the Authentic Wagyu program. RFID tags will be sold in groups of 20 for the Authentic Wagyu program. Producer/Suppliers must inform Authentic Wagyu if a tag is lost, and a replacement tag is used. The replacement tag number will not correspond to the TSU number submitted for DNA results. The Replacement tag must be documented on ID 004 and a copy sent to AW. Replacement tags

are issued on a case-by-case basis by contacting Authentic Wagyu and submitting a completed ID 006 Replacement Tag Request form.

Documentation/Record and Retention Requirements

Photocopies of records pertaining to the PVP program claim(s) you enroll your calf crop in must be submitted prior to each cattle enrollment. The original records must be kept on-site or electronically for a minimum of three years. Additionally, a copy of the Authentic Wagyu Participation Requirements and Authentic Wagyu Program Requirements must be always kept on-site or electronically accessible.

Program Audits and Producer Onsite Audits

Authentic Wagyu completes an annual in-house program audit. The enrollment and training review will evaluate the risk of Supplier/Producer ranch practices and the potential need to conduct onsite audits rather than desk audits to approve a Supplier/Producer for Source and Age. Producers will be notified by an Authentic Wagyu Enroller if an onsite will be needed to complete SAV enrollment. The risk assessment of the Supplier/Producer must be placed in their file and maintained. The determination of risk considers the following:

- **Source:** How the source of cattle supplied is identified and verified.
 - Low risk: Ranch-raised, individually identified and segregated from other calving groups.
 - Medium risk: Commingled with different calving groups or calves that are not sourced to the ranch of origin enrolling in the program. Records are available to document source and identification.
 - High risk: Commingled with different calving groups or purchased calves without individual identification.
- **Group Age:** How the age of cattle supplied is recorded and verified.
 - Low risk: Individual calving dates recorded, or first calf born, and bull turnout date recorded in ranch records.
 - High risk: No dates recorded for first born date of a given calving group in ranch records. Not eligible for age verification.
- **Harvested in USA:** Animals will be delivered and harvested at a processing plant in the USA.
 - Low risk: Shipping documents will show delivery to specific harvest facility, DNA TraceBac will train individual Harvest Facilities located in USA and USDA Grader/Remote Grading will provide documentation to Harvest Facility in USA for G-162 Specification.
 - High risk: Not a USDA Graded Facility in the USA.
- **Breed Verification via American Wagyu Association Registration and DNA Parent Verification to American Wagyu Association Herd Book** – All calves must be out of a

Registered AWA Sire or Dam. DNA from the enrolled calf will be confirmed back to either the sire, dam or both animals by DNA verification to AWA Herd Book.

- **Low risk:** The calf/calves' sire or dam or the sire and dam are Registered in the American Wagyu Association Herd Book. The calf/calves DNA sample confirms one or both parents are Registered in the AWA Herd Book.
- **High risk:** The calf/calves' parents are not Registered in the American Wagyu Association Herd Book, or no DNA sample is submitted, or calf/calves DNA sample does not confirm American Wagyu Association Herd Book parents.
- **Product Quality Labeling – meets Authentic Wagyu Beef Program G-162 Specification which includes the marbling score of 800/Moderately Abundant⁰⁰ or higher for the Authentic Wagyu Label** – Carcass will be graded at the harvest facility by an USDA Grader or via USDA Remote Camera grading. The carcass must meet the G-162 Specification to use the Authentic Wagyu label.
 - **Low risk:** Harvest Facility is approved USDA Remote Grading or has an onsite USDA Grader. Carcass meets the G- 162 Specification. The Harvest Facility is trained, and documents appropriate Authentic Wagyu Label will be placed on the meat products from the approved carcass for marketing.
 - **High risk:** Harvest Facility is NOT approved for USDA Remote Grading and does not have access to a USDA Grader. Carcass DOES NOT meet the G162 Specification. No Authentic Wagyu label will be placed on any meat products.
- **Traceability Verification of Finished Authentic Wagyu Product**
 - **Low risk:** Harvest Facility has been trained by DNA TraceBack® to perform random DNA TraceBack sampling. Random Samples return results consistent to sampled meat products to actual animal DNA.
 - **High risk:** Harvest Facility is not an approved DNA TraceBack® sampling facility and does not want to perform DNA TraceBack sampling. Carcass cannot wear and Authentic Wagyu meat product label.

Supplier/Producers who have not had an onsite audit for Group Source and Age, conducted in the past year, will be entered into the random annual 3% or 2 pull. The random onsite pull is used to maintain the integrity of the program and to improve the efficiency of program procedures. By enrolling in Authentic Wagyu, the Supplier/Producer agrees to comply with audit procedures and to present documentation or records requested by the Authentic Wagyu program representatives for audit.

Feedback Form

An Authentic Wagyu Feedback Form is available upon request from Authentic Wagyu. Suppliers/Producers may submit comments, concerns and suggestions related to their experience with Authentic Wagyu on this form.

RQMT 002 Participation Requirements

	AW Program Requirements	
---	--------------------------------	---

Authentic Wagyu is a USDA Process Verified Program for the claims listed below:

- **Born, raised and harvested in USA / Product of USA**
- **Source Verified to the ranch of origin and documented group age information**
- **Breed Verification via American Wagyu Association Registration and DNA Parent Verification to American Wagyu Association Herdbook**
- **Authentic Wagyu Product Labeling meets Authentic Wagyu Beef Program G-162 Specification which includes the marbling score of 800/Moderately Abundant⁰⁰ or higher for the Authentic Wagyu Label**
- **Traceability Verification of Finished Product**

Source and Group Age verification and enrollment is the foundation of the Authentic Wagyu program.

To enroll in Authentic Wagyu Verified PVP programs:

Each enrollment group of calves must be enrolled by the original owner, from the ranch of origin. Calves that have left the ranch of origin are not eligible for enrollment.

By enrolling cattle in Authentic Wagyu Verified programs, the Supplier/Producer acknowledges they are the original owner and responsible for the purchase and placement of AW official program compliant tags (PCT) or complete an ENR 005 if using 840 PCT or ENR 006 if using 900 series PCT in addition to furnishing an approved tag manifest and must pay additional fees associated with supplying tamper-evident, 15-digit RFID tags. Enrolled cattle must be tagged prior to leaving the ranch of origin to be considered enrolled in the Authentic Wagyu PVP.

Documented Group Age /Record and Retention Requirements:

AW documented “Group Age” will be the age of the oldest calf enrolled. By enrolling cattle in AW programs, the Supplier/Producer agrees to the following:

- **All cattle enrolled in AW programs will have a known Group Age of month/day/year.**
- **Recording the actual date of birth of the first calf born within the group being enrolled.**
- **All calves enrolled as a group will share the birth date of the first calf born.**
- **A record of individual birth dates or first calf born (along with additional management records) will be maintained on-site or electronically for a minimum of three years.**
- **Supplier/Producers who calve year around or have an extended breeding season beyond (60-120 days) must supply management and/or calving records to show documented age by group is within a specific calving window.**
- **The Supplier/Producer will be required to provide shipping documents, tag manifest and verification certificate to the buyer or processor of the calves in the enrollment group when they leave the ranch of origin and move to the feedyard or processor. In addition, Supplier/Producers must retain a copy of the shipping document for their ranch records and send a copy to Authentic Wagyu staff.**

Source Documentation and Record and Retention Requirements:

- **Management records relevant to the enrolled calf crop must be maintained on-site for a minimum of three years.**

Breed Verification Documentation Requirements:

- **The enrolled animal(s) must have a Registered Sire or Dam (at minimum) in the American Wagyu Association Herd Book.**
- **The Supplier/Producer must tag Authentic Wagyu enrolled calves with a PCT and submit a DNA sample using a Tissue Sampling Unit (TSU) to AWA prior to the animal leaving the ranch of origin.**
- **The AWA will collect submitted TSU samples and forward them to the DNA TraceBack® Lab for AWA parentage testing. The Supplier/Producer has the option**

to purchase an RFID/TSU combo PCT from AWA with matching identification numbers. Or the Supplier/Producer can send TSUs to AWA clearly documented by tag number and TSU Flag number for testing. DNA parentage results from DNA TraceBack® will be recorded in the AWA software. Inconclusive results for a Fullblood will downgrade the animal to a Pureblood because only one parent Wagyu parent was identified. If results are inconclusive for Pureblood or Percentage Wagyu animal the animal will become non-conforming to the program.

- **The Supplier/Producer must tag the animal with an approved PCT prior to leaving the ranch of origin. If the DNA parentage sample does not provide conclusive results to a Registered Wagyu parent the tested animal will become a Fall Out.**
- **Fall Out cattle must be designated uniquely with a unique ear tag. Report Fall Out cattle to AW Staff on the AW Tag Manifest before the animal leaves the ranch of origin.**
- **The Supplier/Producer will be an AWA member to obtain DNA parentage. The Supplier/Producer will provide sire or dam registration number along with a TSU sample at minimum 3 months prior to harvest date.**

Traceability Verification of Finished Authentic Wagyu Product Documentation Requirements:

- **The Supplier/Producer must use a Harvest Facility that has been trained or will be trained by DNA TraceBack to perform random DNA TraceBack sampling.**
- **Supplier/Producer must supply AW with Harvest Facility name, address and contact information to facilitate DNA TraceBack's ability to train Harvest Facility personnel.**
- **DNA TraceBack will supply Authentic Wagyu with reports on enrolled cattle DNA/Parent Verification. All samples will be taken from AW enrolled animals. AW animals that Fall Out will be reported to DNA TraceBack as they are reported to AW to ensure the minimum sampling requirement has been met yearly.**
- **Random Sampling will occur at the Harvest Facility, DNA TraceBack will choose which carcass will be sampled and work directly with the Harvest Facilities to obtain the samples. AW has no input on which animal/carcass to sample. DNA TraceBack will request samples based on these parameters as a baseline:**
 - **4 samples/year (all primals) for every 1,000 head registered in AW**
 - **8 samples/year (all primals) for every 2,000 head registered in AW**

Once these baseline numbers are met for the program additional sample parameters will be added.

Product Quality Labeling – meets Authentic Wagyu Beef Program G-162 Specification which includes the marbling score of 800/Moderately Abundant⁰⁰ or higher for the Authentic Wagyu Label:

- **Supplier/Producer must use a Harvest Facility that utilizes USDA Graders or is approved for USDA Remote Grading. If the Harvest Facility is not approved, they can make an application to USDA Remote Grading at minimum 3 months prior to harvest date. All fees incurred are not the responsibility of Authentic Wagyu or AWA.**
- **Supplier/Producer must supply AW with Harvest Facility name, address and contact information to ensure FSIS label approval for establishment.**
- **Supplier/Producer must choose an appropriate AW percentage label or generic AW label for each animal at minimum 3 months prior to harvest.**
- **The Harvest Facility will supply Authentic Wagyu/AWA documentation to determine if the G-162 Specification has been met on each enrolled carcass.**

Fall Out Procedures for 1. Breed Verification Documentation, 2. Traceability Verification of Finished Authentic Wagyu Product, and 3. Product Quality Labeling meets Authentic Wagyu Beef Program G-162 Specification which includes the marbling score of 800/Moderately Abundant⁰⁰ or higher for the Authentic Wagyu Label

The calf will be a Fall Out/disqualified if:

- **The TSU sample returns inconclusive results, or the enrolled calf is not sired by an AWA Sire or AWA Dam. The Supplier/Producer must visually identify calf to ensure it will not be mistakenly identified as enrolled at delivery time to the harvest facility. Producers will provide a viable TSU sample to AWA for DNA testing and pay appropriate fees.**
- **The Harvest Facility being used is NOT approved for USDA Grading and has NOT been approved by DNA TraceBack® for TraceBack Sampling. Any animal delivered to a Harvest facility that does not meet those requirements will result in the delivered animals becoming Fall Outs. Animals will not be approved to wear the Authentic Wagyu Label. Suppliers/Producers cannot market carcasses/meat as Authentic Wagyu.**

- **The carcass(es) cannot meet the G162 Specification if the harvest facility does not utilize USDA Grading services or submit the grading documentation to USDA. All enrolled carcasses must meet the G-162 Specifications to carry the Authentic Wagyu label. All carcasses are considered non-conforming until AW receives USDA Graded Marbling Data Scores.**
- **Ensure Authentic Wagyu receives USDA Grading marbling data. All carcasses must grade 800 or greater by a USDA Grader (onsite or remote) to be an Authentic Wagyu labeled carcass or meat product.**