

Sale of T-Bone Steaks

Vertebral column (backbone) of cattle greater than thirty months of age is designated as Specific Risk Material (SRM)

An exception was made for the transverse processes of the lumbar vertebrae (see diagram). The diagram demonstrates that about 1 inch of the transverse process must be treated as SRM and the remainder is non-SRM.

It is therefore illegal to sell T-bone steak from an animal over 30 months of age. However, a cut may be offered that contains striploin and fillet and a straight piece of bone which represents all except for 1 inch of the transverse process of the lumbar vertebra.

SRM must be removed, stained with a blue dye and sent for destruction to an SRM rendering plant.

