



**Beef Quality Audit:**  
“Key” shortcomings that must be addressed  
by the industry?

**Quality Challenges**  
Ranked according to priority, 1991 to 2011

1991	1995	2000	2005	2011
External Fat	Overall Uniformity	Overall Uniformity	Traceability	Food Safety
Seam Fat	Overall Palatability	Carcass Weights	Overall Uniformity	Eating Satisfaction
Overall Palatability	Marbling	Tenderness	Instrument Grading	How and Where Cattle Were Raised
Tenderness	Tenderness	Marbling	Market Signals	Lean, Fat, and Bone
Overall Cutability	External and Seam Fat	Reduced Quality Due to Use of Implants	Segmentation	Weight and Size
Marbling	Cut Weights	External Fat	Carcass Weights	Cattle Genetics

Source: NQQA



**Producer Feedback Results**

- Off-Label Drug Use
  - > 25% producers use medications other than directed on a drug products label without being directed by a veterinarian
- Withdrawal Times
  - < 47% use written records to determine withdrawal dates

	Off-Label Drug Use	Withdrawal Times
Frequency of Use	Overall Response	Overall Response
Always	4.2	46.7
Usually	4.1	26.9
Sometimes	17.5	14.8
Never	74.2	11.7