

# For Dr. Gillespie - ownership, custom meat

**This incident cannot be reopened or updated. If you need further assistance, please submit a new question by clicking the Submit a Question tab.**

## Communication History

Staff Account KG2@askFSIS via Email

04/12/2017 01:30 PM

Hi Pete,

It was a pleasure speaking with you yesterday. Per our phone conversation and to ensure you and your subscribers get the most accurate information from us, I have revised and updated my original response to your questions. Please update your records with this latest response accordingly. Thank you.

Q1. Is there a limit on how many owners there can be for a custom-slaughtered animal [amenable species]?

A1. No.

Q2. Can an owner be an entity instead of an individual [e.g., a group]?

A2. No. 9 CFR 303.1(a)(2) specifies the limitations of and requirements applicable to owners of livestock seeking custom slaughter and processing services. Per [9 CFR 303.1\(b\)\(3\)](#), the custom exempt operator must maintain a record showing the identity of the individual owners' names and the individual owners' household address prior to slaughter. The exemption from inspection of custom slaughtered and processed livestock product limits the use of such livestock products for the private use of the 1) owner of the livestock; 2) members of the owner's household; 3) their nonpaying guests, or 4) their household employees.

Q3. Is there a minimum portion that must be distributed to each owner?

A3. Yes. FSIS would expect to see some portion of that exempt animal being returned to the owner, marked Not for Sale, for the owner's exclusive use in their household.

Best regards,

Kevin J. Gillespie, DVM

PD Staff

*PS. I hope to address your other questions shortly.*

Staff Account KG2@askFSIS via Email

01/06/2016 08:32 AM

Hi Pete,

Thank you for your askFSIS question.

You ask:

Q1. Is there a limit on how many owners there can be for a custom-slaughtered animal [amenable species]?

A1. No.

Q2. Can an owner be an entity instead of an individual [e.g., a group]?

A2. There is past precedent that owners can be a group, club, non-profit, or corporation.

Q3. Is there a minimum portion that must be distributed to each owner?

A3. No. Ownership can be based on shares.

Best regards,  
Kevin J. Gillespie, DVM  
PD Staff

**Rule Response****01/05/2016 01:43 PM**

Your message has been received by the Policy Development Staff (PDS) and will be assigned to a staff specialist for response.

Our goal is to provide an accurate response as quickly as possible—in most instances, this will be within two working days. Some questions, however, require extensive research and will take longer to answer. If you would like to know the status of your question, you can telephone PDS for additional discussion at 1-800-233-3935 between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. CT, Monday through Friday. Please refer to the incident reference number below when calling for clarification.

The reference number for your question is 160105-000055

[You may update your incident here.](#)

Thank you.  
Policy Development Staff

**Customer Pete Kennedy via CSS Web****01/05/2016 01:43 PM**

Is there a limit on how many owners there can be for a custom-slaughtered animal [amenable species]? Can an owner be an entity instead of an individual [e.g., a group]? Is there a minimum portion that must be distributed to each owner?

Thanks for your response.

**Additional Details**

<b>Email Address</b>	<a href="mailto:pete@farmtoconsumer.org">pete@farmtoconsumer.org</a>
<b>ReferenceNumber</b>	160105-000055
<b>NamedIDOptList</b>	Solved
<b>Created</b>	01/05/2016 01:43 PM
<b>UpdatedTime</b>	04/12/2017 01:30 PM
<b>ClosedTime</b>	01/06/2016 08:32 AM
<b>ServiceProduct</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• General Inspection Policy</li> </ul>
<b>ServiceCategory</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Processing</li> <li>• General</li> </ul>
<b>Policy Arena?</b>	Domestic (U.S.) Only
<b>Phone Number</b>	941-349-4984
<b>Establishment Size</b>	Not Applicable
<b>Country Name</b>	United States