Community scale for the classification of carcases of adult bovine animals

Carcasses of adult bovine animals shall be classified by assessment respectively of:

(i) conformation (six classes: S, E, U, R, O, P);
(ii) fat cover (five classes: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5).

In order to be given an S classification, the carcase must have superior conformation and must be without defect in respect of its essential parts.

In order to be given an E classification, the carcase must have excellent conformation and must be without defect in respect of its essential parts.

In cases of U, R, O and P conformation, carcases whose three essential parts are not of a homogeneous nature shall be placed in the class applicable to two of the three parts.

NB: The photographs for the different conformation and fat classes relate to carcases in the middle of the class.

European Commission
Directorate-General for Agriculture and Rural Development