



Country of Origin Labeling Process

Dear Valued Supplier,

The new Mandatory Country of Origin Labeling (mCOOL) law became effective on September 30, 2008. The interim final rule setting out the requirements necessary to comply with COOL has been issued. The law and rules will require Raider Red Meats retail meat customers to provide country of origin labeling information for consumers on many of the beef products we sell. The law includes recordkeeping requirements throughout the supply chain for both packers and producers. As a result, TTU will need certain information from you, the customers.

In order to continue to purchase livestock after September 29, 2008, we will need proof of the animals' origin from all producers.

Raider Red Meats will be utilizing the "Continuous Country of Origin Affidavit/Declaration" that was developed by an industry group. To help save time we have included our company name and address to the blank for agent/buyer in this form. This affidavit will be kept on file at TTU and must be completed by someone who has "first hand" knowledge about the origin of the animals. USDA has stated that "composite affidavits" are acceptable. This means that producers may combine affidavits on cattle from other producers with first hand knowledge to support its own affidavit of origin to pass along to the next buyer in the chain.

In addition to having this "Continuous Country of Origin Affidavit/Declaration" on file, and so that we can ensure our strict compliance with the law, we request that you identify the specific origin of each animal or group of animals offered for sale with a designation on the communications regarding those cattle for sale.

Remember, **WE MUST RECEIVE YOUR AFFIDAVIT BEFORE WE MAY CONTINUE TO PURCHASE YOUR LIVESTOCK.** We have placed a form on our Web site, www.meatscience.ttu.edu, and would prefer that you either fax the completed form to (806)742-4003 or bring it with you when you drop off your livestock.

If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Raider Red Meats office at (806)742-2804.

Raider Red Meats
Gordon W. Davis Meat Science Laboratory

Raider Red Meats Indiana & Main Box 42141 Lubbock, TX 79409
Phone: (806)742-2804 Fax: (806)742-4003