



MEAT AND POULTRY

GS1 US X12 EDI Implementation Guidance
for USDA Country of Origin Labeling Requirements

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THE GLOBAL LANGUAGE
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1 INTRODUCTION

The Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002¹, the 2002 Supplemental Appropriations Act², and the Food, Conservation and Energy Act of 2008³ amended the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946⁴ to require retailers to notify their customers of the country of origin of covered commodities. The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Country of Origin Labeling (COOL) Rule⁵ requires retailers, such as full-line grocery stores, supermarkets, and club warehouse stores, to notify their customers with information regarding the source of certain foods. Covered commodities contained in the law include muscle cut and ground meats for beef, veal, pork, lamb, goat and chicken.

2 OVERVIEW OF COUNTRY OF ORIGIN LABELING

The rule⁶ requires COOL labels to include specific information regarding the three production steps: where the animal was born, raised and slaughtered. Examples of labels include:

- For meat derived and processed in the U.S., the label will state: “Born, Raised, and Slaughtered in the United States.”
- For meat derived from animals born outside the United States, an example label could state: “Born in Mexico, Raised and Slaughtered in the United States.”
- For meat derived from animals imported for immediate slaughter, an example label could state: “Born and Raised in Canada, Slaughtered in the United States.”
- Labels for imported meat are unchanged by this rule. Those labels will read: “Product of [Country X].”

Regarding terminology and statements used within COOL:

- For muscle cut covered commodities, Harvested equates to Slaughtered.
- For chicken muscle cut covered commodities, Hatched equates to Born.
- Data abbreviations are permitted. Brn for Born, Htchd for Hatched, Raisd for Raised, Slghtrd for Slaughtered, Hrvstd for Harvested.
- Connective terms such as “and”, “in the”, etc. are not required in the COOL statement. For example, “BRN Mexico RAISD HRVSTD US” is permitted.
- Commas, hyphens, and slashes between country names are not required.

Refer to the USDA Agricultural Marketing Service, Country of Origin Labeling website⁷ for updates and guidance on labeling, Frequently Asked Questions, abbreviation guidance and other news on COOL.

¹ <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/PLAW-107publ171/pdf/PLAW-107publ171.pdf>

² <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/PLAW-107publ206/pdf/PLAW-107publ206.pdf>

³ <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/PLAW-110publ246/pdf/PLAW-110publ246.pdf>

⁴ <http://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/DownloadDocument?documentID=312230&version=1>

⁵ <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2013-05-24/pdf/2013-12366.pdf>

⁶ This section is an excerpt from the USDA Agricultural Marketing Service, FAQs – COOL Labeling Provisions Final Rule, September 20, 2013. <http://www.ams.usda.gov/AMSV1.0/getfile?dDocName=STELPRDC5105133>

⁷ <http://www.ams.usda.gov/AMSV1.0/ams.fetchTemplateData.do?template=TemplateM&navID=CountryofOriginLabeling&ri ghtNav1=CountryofOriginLabeling&topNav=&leftNav=CommodityAreas&page=CountryOfOriginLabeling&acct=cntryoforg nlbl>

3 ASC X12 TRANSACTIONS

To assist in providing COOL mandated information to the retailer, ASC X12 Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) transaction sets may be used to assist with the recordkeeping requirements, whereby the product's origin information is included with information supplied to the retailer. Transaction sets used are the 810 Invoice, 856 Ship Notice/Manifest, and 880 Grocery Products Invoice.

The following EDI recommendations were developed to assist the meat and poultry industry members with adoption of a common solution set, thereby reducing implementation and maintenance costs among trade parties. The recommendations are consistent with ASC X12 standards and GS1 US implementation guidelines. Additionally, these recommendations accommodate other covered commodities beyond meat and poultry.

The following information is subject to change, based on future rulings or guidance by the USDA, Agricultural Marketing Service.

3.1 ASC X12 810 INVOICE

- For all VICS⁸ EDI implementation guidelines, versions 4010 and forward
- For all UCS⁹ implementation guidelines, versions 4010 and forward
- For all X12¹⁰ standard versions 4010 and forward

To convey the COOL information, the PID Product ID/ Item Description segment at Detail Position 0600 (or position 060 in X12 version 4010) is used.

- PID01 - F (Freeform)
- PID02 – MSG (Market Segment)
- PID03 – not used
- PID04 – not used
- PID05 – Country of Origin Labeling statement; to a maximum of 80 characters
- Example:
 - Born Mexico, raised and harvested in US
 - PID*F*MSG***BRN MEXICO RAISD HRVSTD US~
 - Product of USA and Canada
 - PID*F*MSG***PRODUCT OF USA AND CANADA ~

⁸ VICS – Voluntary Interindustry Commerce Solutions, issued by GS1 US

⁹ UCS – Uniform Communication Standard, issued by GS1 US

¹⁰ X12 - Accredited Standards Committee X12, X12 Electronic Data Interchange standard

3.2 ASC X12 856 SHIP NOTICE/MANIFEST

- For all VICS EDI implementation guidelines, versions 4010 and forward
- For all UCS implementation guidelines, versions 4010 and forward
- For all X12 versions 4010 and forward

To convey the COOL information, the PID Product ID/ Item Description segment at Detail Position 0700 (or position 070 in X12 version 4010) is used. Use one hierarchy level in the 856 Ship Notice/Manifest transaction set. The PID segment at the Pack level would typically be used. The Tare or Item level may be used instead of the Pack level, depending on the product.

- PID01 - F (Freeform)
- PID02 – MSG (Market Segment)
- PID03 – not used
- PID04 – not used
- PID05 – Country of Origin Labeling statement; to a maximum of 80 characters
- Examples:
 - Born Mexico, raised and harvested in US
 - PID*F*MSG***BRN MEXICO RAISD HRVSTD US~
 - Product of USA and Canada
 - PID*F*MSG***PRODUCT OF USA AND CANADA ~

3.3 ASC X12 880 GROCERY PRODUCTS INVOICE

- For all UCS implementation guidelines, versions 4010 and forward
- For all X12 version 4010 and forward

To convey the COOL information, the G69 segment at Detail Position 0200 (or position 020 in X12 version 4010) is used.

- G6901 – Country of Origin Labeling statement; maximum of 45 characters.
- Examples:
 - Born Mexico, raised and harvested in US
 - G69*BRN MEXICO RAISD HRVSTD US~
 - Product of USA and Canada
 - G69**PRODUCT OF USA AND CANADA ~

For more information about the use of GS1 Standards in the fresh foods supply chain, including meat and poultry, please visit www.gs1us.org/freshfoods



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IAPMO

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