

September 28, 2001

FSIS Docket Clerk  
Docket #00-036A  
Dept of Agriculture  
Food Safety and Inspection Service  
Room 102 Cotton Annex Building  
300 12<sup>th</sup> St. SW  
Washington, DC 20250-3700

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Nell Kubesh

To Whom it May Concern:

I am writing in response to the proposed rulemaking regarding the definition and labeling of U.S. cattle and beef products.

As a Montana beef producer, I strongly support the definition of US cattle and beef products for labeling purposes as "born, raised, slaughtered and processed in the United States." All other definitions mislead consumers and damage the integrity of the U S beef industry.

Ours is a family corporation which raises wheat and cattle, supporting 3 families.

Cattle and beef products that were born and partially raised in another country should not be labeled as a product of the U S.

We buy clothes, cars and many other manufactured goods that bear the country of origin label; yet there is no requirement for this label for the food we feed to our families. We believe that consumers should have that choice.

I strongly support a mandatory labeling program with a uniform, consistent definition for domestic origin as born, raised, slaughtered and processed in the United States.

I oppose the petition submitted in Sept., 2000, that would allow imported beef products to be fed in the U S for 100 days, processed in the United States and would receive a country of origin label, "Beef: Made in U.S.A."

It is my hope the FSIS will implement meaningful labeling regulations for cattle and beef products. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Nell Kubesh  
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Glendive, Mt. 59330