

All animals already in the U.S. before July 16, 2008, are deemed to be of U.S. origin, regardless of any foreign markings on such animals.

For the period July 16, 2008, through July 15, 2009, a producer may visually inspect their livestock to determine that there are no markings or other identification that would indicate the animals are of foreign origin. The producer can then issue an affidavit based on this visual inspection (for example, if there are no indications of foreign origin, the producer can sign an affidavit stating the animal is of U.S. origin). R-CALF USA is fighting to make this permanent.

Affidavits

1. If you sell through an auction yard, you can sign the following affidavit and ask your auction yard owner to keep it on file (It can also be used if you typically sell to a single cattle buyer.):

Continuous Country of Origin Affidavit/Declaration:

As an affidavit is deemed by USDA as an official record of Country of Origin, I attest through firsthand knowledge, normal business records, or producer affidavit(s) that all livestock referenced by this document or other communications specific to the transaction and transferred are of _____ origin. Should the origin of my livestock become other than that described above, I agree to notify the buyer/agent when this occurs.

This affidavit/declaration shall remain in effect until revoked in writing by the undersigned and is delivered to _____ (agent/buyer).

Signature	Date	Business/Farm/Ranch Names/Location
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2. You can include the following affidavit along with any health papers, brand inspection documents, check-in sheets, seller or buyer invoices, or as a stand-alone affidavit when you sell a particular lot of cattle:

Origin Declaration Language for Seller/Buyer Invoices and Other Sales Documents with a Continuous Declaration on Record or as a Stand-Alone Declaration of Origin:

I attest that all livestock referenced by this document and transferred are of _____ origin.

Signature	Date
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3. If you are selling cattle directly to a packer, the following affidavit can be filed with the packer (Many packers are sending this language to producers in the form of a letter and asking producers to sign it and return it to the packer.):

Appended Declaration Statement for Immediate/Direct Supplier Transactions to Packers:

I attest that _____ (Insert business name) has maintained, and will maintain, records of livestock origin for one year from the date of delivery of the livestock to the packer/buyer.

I attest that these records reflecting specific transactions are available for inspection for the sole purpose of compliance with an audit as described by the country-of-origin labeling provisions contained in the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 as amended. (P.L. 108-767, USCA section 1638a, 2003).