

importer of record as determined by CBP, must ensure that records: (1) Provide clear product tracking from the port of entry into the United States to the immediate subsequent recipient, and (2) substantiate country of origin claims and, if applicable, designations of wild or farm-raised and must maintain such records for a period of 2 years from the date of the transaction. Records and other documentary evidence (e.g., shipping receipt from central warehouse) relied upon at the point of sale to establish a product's country of origin and, if applicable, designation of wild or farm-raised, must be maintained at the point of sale or otherwise be reasonably available to any duly authorized representative of USDA at the facility for at least 7 days following the retail sale of the product. In addition, records which identify the

retail supplier, the product unique to that transaction, and the country of origin information, and, if applicable, designation of wild or farm-raised, must be maintained for a period of 2 years from the date the origin declaration is made at retail. Such records may be located at the retailer's point of distribution, or at a warehouse, central office or other off-site location.

Description of Recordkeepers: Individuals who supply covered commodities, whether directly to retailers or indirectly through other participants in the marketing chain, are required to establish and maintain country of origin information for the covered commodities and supply this information to retailers. As a result, producers, handlers, manufacturers, wholesalers, importers, and retailers of

covered commodities will be impacted by this proposed rule.

Burden: USDA estimates that approximately 1,377,000 establishments owned by approximately 1,339,000 firms would be either directly or indirectly impacted by this rule. In general, the supply chain for each of the covered commodities includes agricultural producers or fish harvesters, processors, wholesalers, importers, and retailers. Imported products may be introduced at any level of the supply chain. Other intermediaries, such as auction markets, may be involved in transferring products from one stage of production to the next. USDA estimates that the proposed rule's paperwork burden will be incurred by the number and types of firms and establishments listed in Table 11 of this document.

TABLE 11.—COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH PAPERWORK BURDEN

Type	Firms	Initial costs	Establishments	Maintenance costs	Total costs
Producers:					
Cattle & Calves	1,032,670	61,847,680	1,032,670	133,951,509	195,799,189
Sheep & Lambs	64,170	3,843,208	64,170	8,323,732	12,166,940
Hogs & Pigs	67,150	4,021,683	67,150	8,710,279	12,731,962
Farm-Raised Fish & Shellfish	3,540	212,014	3,540	459,187	671,201
Fishing	76,499	4,581,605	76,452	3,305,62	7,887,230
Fruits & Vegetables	47,596	2,850,574	47,596	1,967,230	4,817,804
Peanut Farming	12,221	731,928	12,221	505,116	1,237,045
Intermediaries:					
Stockyards, Dealers & Market Agencies	7,775	10,177,475	7,775	6,489,500	16,666,975
Livestock Processing & Slaughtering	3,098	4,055,282	3,358	56,055,927	60,111,209
Meat & Meat Product Wholesale	3,185	4,169,165	3,305	2,758,559	6,927,724
Seafood Product Preparation & Packaging	741	969,969	823	686,927	1,656,896
Fish & Seafood Wholesale	2,897	3,792,173	2,980	2,487,294	6,279,467
Frozen Fruit, Juice & Vegetable Mfg	163	213,367	257	214,508	427,875
Fresh Fruit & Vegetable Wholesale	9,026	11,815,034	12,879	10,749,617	22,564,651
Roasted Nuts & Peanut Butter Mfg	140	183,260	159	132,711	315,971
Peanut Wholesalers	83	108,647	83	69,277	177,924
General Line Grocery Wholesalers	3,183	4,166,547	3,993	3,332,807	7,499,354
Retailers	4,512	5,906,208	37,176	217,802,585	223,708,793
Totals:					
Producers	1,303,846	78,088,693	1,303,799	157,222,678	235,311,371
Handlers, Processors, & Wholesalers	30,291	39,650,919	35,612	82,977,128	122,628,047
Retailers	4,512	5,906,208	37,176	217,802,585	223,708,793
Grand Total	1,338,649	123,645,820	1,376,587	458,002,391	581,648,211

The impacted firms and establishments will broadly incur two types of costs. First, firms will incur initial or start-up costs to comply with the proposed rule. USDA assumes that initial costs will be borne by each firm, even though a single firm may operate more than one establishment. Second, enterprises will incur additional recordkeeping costs associated with storing and maintaining records on an ongoing basis. USDA assumes that these activities will take place in each establishment operated by each affected business.

With respect to initial recordkeeping costs, USDA believes that most producers currently maintain many of the types of records that would be needed to substantiate country of origin claims. However, producers do not typically record or pass along country of origin information to subsequent purchasers. Therefore, producers will incur some additional incremental costs to record, maintain, and transfer country of origin information to substantiate country of origin claims made at retail. Because much of the necessary recordkeeping is already developed

during typical farm, ranch, and fishing operations, USDA estimates that the incremental costs for producers to supplement existing records with country of origin information will be relatively small. Examples of initial or start-up costs would be any additional recordkeeping burden needed to record the required country of origin information and transfer this information to handlers, processors, wholesalers, or retailers.

USDA estimates that producers will need 4 hours to establish a system for organizing records to carryout the