



Traceability in Voluntary Audit-Based Programs

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ARC Branch Quality Systems Verification Programs

- USDA Process Verified Programs
- USDA Quality System Assessment Program
- USDA Export Verification Programs
- Non-Hormone Treated Cattle (NHTC) Program
- Pork for the European Union (PFEU) Program
- ISO Guide 65 Assessments of Certifying Agencies
- National Organic Program (NOP) - (Regulatory)

Other USDA Process Verified Programs

- GIPSA Federal Grain Inspection Service (FGIS)
- AMS Poultry Programs

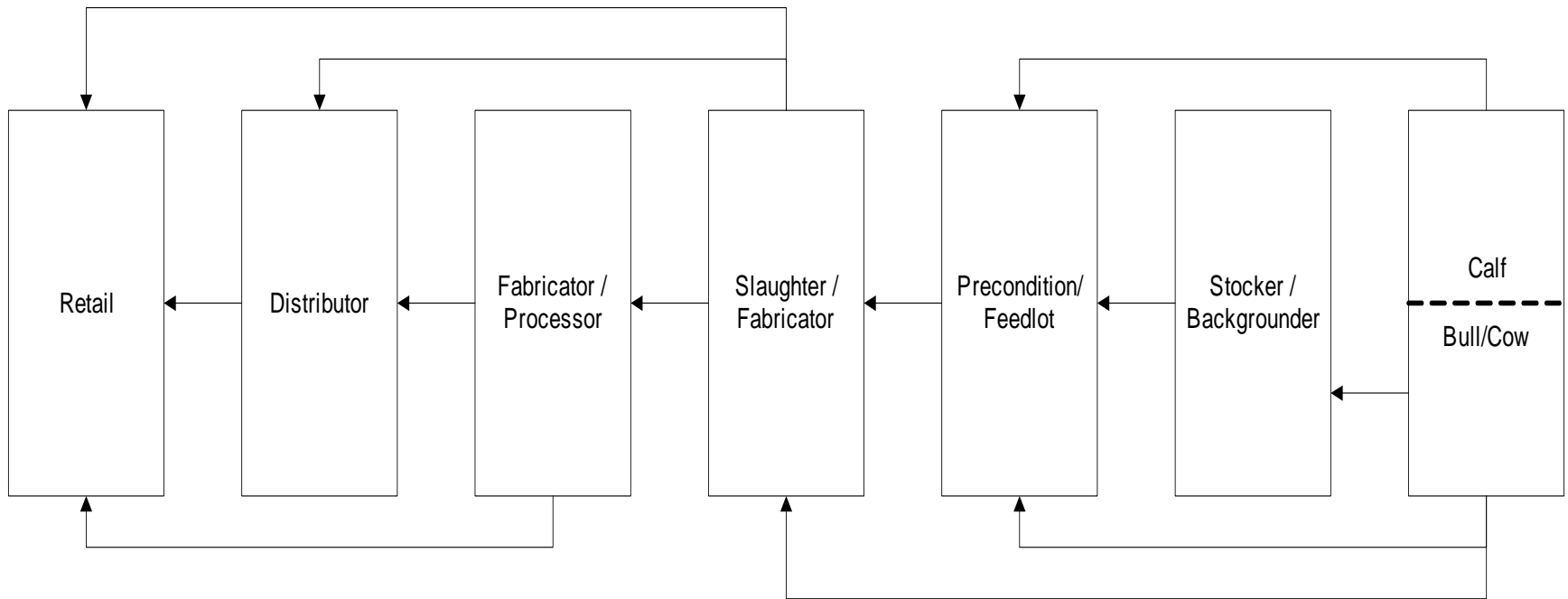
ARC Branch Quality Systems Verification Programs

- Voluntary programs
- Cost recovery basis
- Market focused
 - AMS mission is to facilitate the strategic marketing of agricultural products in domestic and international markets.
 - Audit programs that promote a competitive and efficient marketplace to the benefit of producers, traders, and consumers of U.S. agricultural products.

ARC Branch Quality Systems Verification Programs (QSVP)

- Not intended to replace any Regulations
- Include requirements for identification and traceability
 - Identification and traceability are defined by the approved program and dependent upon the claim.
 - The type of identification is determined by the company **not** by the ARC Branch.
 - The ARC Branch verifies conformance to the requirements and that products are traceable.

Identification and Traceability within ARC Branch Programs



Approved USDA Process Verified Programs



- 35 Approved Programs
 - 2 Foreign Countries – cattle/beef - traceable from ranch through packaging
 - 2 States - cattle
 - 5 Data Service Providers
 - 3 cattle
 - 2 for all species
 - Emphasis on identification and traceability
 - 12 involve packers

Approved USDA Process Verified Programs (continued)

- 35 Approved Programs

- 1 veal and lamb program - traceable from grower farms through packaging

- 9 swine programs

- 6 are swine/pork - traceable from farms through packaging

- 20 cattle programs

- 6 are cattle/beef – traceable from ranch through packaging

- 2 are beef only

Approved USDA Quality System Assessment (QSA) Programs

- 23 Approved Programs
 - All involve cattle
 - 2 States
 - 6 involve packers



Approved NHTC and PFEU Programs

- 12 approved NHTC Programs
 - 6 farm/ranch/feedlots
 - 5 cattle management groups
 - 1 farm/ranch
- 6 approved PFEU Programs

Approved Export Verification (EV) Programs



- Over 100 Approved Beef EV Programs
 - Involve all major packers and numerous fabricators/processors
 - Programs for Japan, S. Korea, Singapore, Taiwan, Hong, Kong, Mexico, and others
- 18 Approved Ovine EV Programs
 - Programs for Canada and Mexico

Approved USDA ISO Guide 65 Programs

- 18 Accredited Programs
 - 1 animal handling
 - 1 traceability in the feed and food chain (ISO 22005 Standard)
 - 16 organic

ARC Branch QSVP Summary



- Voluntary audit-based Programs do involve identification and traceability.
 - The identification method is determined by the company.
- There is a demand for these Programs.
- They do facilitate the marketing of U.S. agricultural products domestically and internationally.
- Claims made are based on industry demands.

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Country of Origin Labeling (COOL)

- April 4, 2005 – implementation of COOL for wild and farm-raised fish and shellfish covered commodities
- September 30, 2008 – implementation of COOL for all other covered commodities
- June 20, 2007 - USDA reopened the comment period for
 - Interim Final Rule for Mandatory Country of Origin Labeling of Fish and Shellfish
 - Proposed Rule for Mandatory Country of Origin Labeling of Beef, Lamb, Pork, Perishable Agricultural Commodities, and Peanuts
- Comments period closed August 20, 2007

Country of Origin Labeling (COOL)

- COOL Retail Surveillance Audits
 - Occur at retail facilities licensed under the Perishable Agricultural Commodities Act (PACA)
 - 1,159 audits were conducted in FY06
 - 470 audits found violations to COOL requirements
 - FY07 – expect to conduct approximately 1,800 audits covering 23 states
 - Within next 3-5 years, approximately 5,000 audits conducted each year covering all 50 states

Country of Origin Labeling (COOL)

- COOL Supplier Traceback Audits
 - FY06 - 9 Retail Surveillance Audits were selected for Supplier Traceback Audits
 - 17 items were traced either to the importer of the item or to the firm(s) responsible for initiating COOL claims
 - 65 of 69 suppliers (94%) provided accurate information on the country of origin and method of production information to purchasers on the initial audit
 - FY07 – expect to conduct audits on 72 items

Country of Origin Labeling (COOL)

- Responsible authority for conducting COOL audits is the Livestock and Seed Program, Standards, Analysis, and Technology (SAT) Branch
 - Currently USDA has Cooperative Agreements with 20 States to assist in conducting audits.

Country of Origin Labeling (COOL) Contact Information

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