

# IMPORTANT LABELLING OF NON-UK BEEF

Latest information from the British Cattle Movement Service (BCMS) indicate that the number of cattle imported into the UK is on the rise.

You will be aware that the compulsory indications permit that where beef comes from animals that were **born, raised and slaughtered** in the same Member State or same non-EC country, instead of showing separate indications for birth and rearing, your labelling can be shown as ***'Origin: [name of Member State] or [non-EC country]'***.

I would like to draw to your attention that during our visits, the RPA Inspectors are seeing an increase of labelled beef from imported cattle being found labelled and batched as "Origin UK"

As the enforcing body the RPA would like to highlight the fact that a large number of imported cattle are being slaughtered, especially at Over Thirty Month plants and RPA wish to make operators aware of this so that they can label accordingly; i.e.

- Born in NL
- Reared in NL/UK
- Slaughtered in UK (plus plant number).

**Operators should ensure that the carcasses of these cattle are not boned and batched with UK origin beef.**

**This also includes animals imported outside the E.U. which under Cattle Identification Regulations 2007 have to be retagged and given a 'UK' passport and ear tag. It is the operator's responsibility to ensure that these are identified in appropriate records and labelled accordingly.**