



## April 11 Update

**Dairy Country-of-Origin Labeling (COOL) Act of 2014:** Rep. Jared Huffman, D-Calif, has cosponsored H.R. 3935, the “Dairy Country-of-Origin Labeling (COOL) Act of 2014” authored by Rep. Mark Pocan, D-Wis., that would mandate country of origin labeling for dairy products. California Dairy Campaign (CDC), California Farmers Union (CFU) and National Farmers Union have long supported mandatory country-of-origin labeling of agricultural products and helped to defeat efforts to weaken mandatory COOL of meat during the farm bill debate. **Bill Summary:** Dairy COOL Act of 2014 - Amends the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 to define dairy product for country of origin purposes. Requires a retailer of a covered commodity that is a dairy product to designate the origin of the covered commodity as: (1) each country in which or from which the one or more dairy ingredients or dairy components of the covered commodity were produced, originated, or sourced; and (2) each country in which the covered commodity was processed.

**Submit Comments in opposition to the fresh meat imports from Brazil:** The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) extended the comment period for its proposal to allow fresh meat imports from Brazil. CDC and CFU have joined a nationwide effort with NFU raising objections to the USDA proposal calling for far greater oversight of the safety of imports. More than 650 comments have now been received and most are negative due to the concern that importing fresh meat could introduce food and mouth disease (FMD) into the United States. All are encouraged to submit comments on the proposal prior to the April 22 deadline. *Comments can be just a few sentences stating opposition to imports of fresh meat from Brazil due to the threat it poses to U.S. livestock.* To submit comments to USDA go to [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) and type APHIS-2009-0017 and click on “Comment Now!”

**USDA Fact Sheet on DAIRY PROGRAMS** - The Dairy Margin Protection Program replaces MILC and will be effective not later than Sept. 1, 2014, through Dec. 31, 2018. The margin protection program offers dairy producers: (1) catastrophic coverage, at no cost to the producer, other than an annual \$100 administrative fee; and (2) various levels of buy-up coverage. Catastrophic coverage provides payments to participating producers when the national dairy production margin is less than \$4 per hundredweight (cwt). The national dairy production margin is the difference between the all-milk price and average feed costs. Producers may purchase buy-up coverage that provides payments when margins are between \$4 and \$8 per cwt. To participate in buy-up coverage, a producer must pay a premium that varies with the level of protection the producer elects.

[http://www.fsa.usda.gov/Internet/FSA\\_File/2014\\_farm\\_bill\\_customers.pdf](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/Internet/FSA_File/2014_farm_bill_customers.pdf)

### Upcoming Meetings & Events

**Community Forum on the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) Trade Agreement: What's the Impact?** Special focus on the local impacts of past free trade agreements by local speakers. A representative from Congressman Ami Bera's district office will be present. **Thursday, April 17th, 7:00pm Elk Grove Public Library 8900 Elk Grove Blvd, Elk Grove, CA 95624**

**Join us for our next California Dairy Campaign (CDC) board meeting scheduled to take place on Wednesday, April 30<sup>th</sup> in the CDC Turlock office.** All CDC members and friends are welcome to join us. Please RSVP to CDC Office Coordinator Bertha Medina at 209-632-0885.