

## Consultation Paper

**Topic:** Proposed legislation to require the labelling of poultrymeat, pigmeat and sheepmeat with regard to country of origin

**Start date of consultation:** Friday, 21<sup>st</sup> September 2007

**Closing date of consultation:** Friday, 19<sup>th</sup> October 2007

### Consultation details

Under the "Agreed Programme for Government" (June 2007), the Agriculture, Food and Forestry section included, as part of its 'consumer focus' the objective of extending mandatory "country of origin" food labelling to sheep, pig and poultry meat.

This initiative is now being moved forward by Government and the Department of Health and Children (DOHC) in consultation with DAFF have requested that the Food Safety Authority of Ireland undertake a public consultation on the proposal to introduce legislation requiring country of origin labelling for certain meats

It is intended to introduce these proposed regulations under section 54 of the Health Act 1947 and that the Regulations will include poultrymeat, pigmeat and sheepmeat as well as meat products and meat preparations containing at least 70% by weight of these meats e.g. ham, luncheon meats, pork sausages, lamb burger, chicken nuggets, chicken Kiev.

It is proposed to define country of origin as the country where the animal from which the meat (or the meat contained in the product or preparation) was derived was reared for most of its life. In addition, if the country of slaughter is different to the country of rearing it will be necessary to indicate both countries.

The regulations will apply in the retail, restaurant and catering industries.

In the retail sector information on origin is to be shown on the label in the case of pre-packaged foods and on a notice in the case of food sold loose. In the case of the restaurant or catering sectors the origin will be indicated on the menu or other suitable presentation.

The FSAI invites you to submit your views in regard to these proposed regulations.

Responses should be submitted by **5pm on Friday, 19<sup>th</sup> October 2007** to:  
[consultation@fsai.ie](mailto:consultation@fsai.ie)

or via post to:

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