

# Activity 6

Thought-Provoking Situations &  
Counting Covered Commodities

---

## Open Discussion

- Advice
- Helpful Hints
- Good Reviewer Practices Recommendations
  - Things to Watch Out for
  - Actions to Avoid

## Reviewer Experiences from the States

---

1. Retail Review Stories from the Field
2. Thought-Provoking Labeling Situations
3. Counting the Number of Covered Commodities Offered for Sale
4. Confusing Covered Commodity Situations
5. Confusing Processed Food Items

## Open Discussion and Examples

---

## Thought-Provoking Situations

When you see a sign like this, what do you do?



- ❑ Does this label comply with COOL?



**Thought-Provoking Situations**

**Thought-Provoking Situations**

- ❑ Bulk produce displayed in a master container labeled for a different product.

When you see these situations, what do you do?



- ❑ The term “American” is not an acceptable adjectival form for country of origin designation.
- ❑ “American Farms”
- ❑ “Product of North America”
- ❑ “Central American Produce”
- ❑ “American Style”



**Thought-Provoking Situations**

**Thought-Provoking Situations**

- ❑ Is it acceptable for a store to cross out incorrect countries?
- ❑ Is there anything else missing?

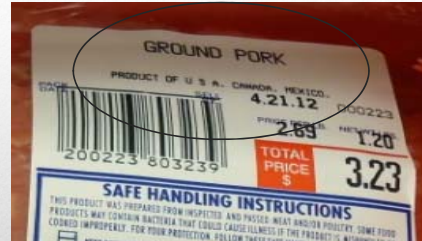


### Thought-Provoking Situations

- It is acceptable for a store to cross out incorrect countries on all affected product items in display.
- Production Steps "Top Sirloin, and Boneless Chicken Breast".
- Ground meat does not require production steps.



### Ground Pork: "Product of U.S.A., Canada, Mexico"



- The US imports very little pork from Mexico.
- Try to select pork products with "Product of Mexico" designations for records verification.

- Should this origin label raise any questions for a reviewer?

### Ground Pork: "Product of U.S.A., Canada, Mexico"



- Use of Checkboxes
- Is this example legible and clearly stated?
- Is this example an NC?



- ❑ If "Other" category is checked, is a country name or State abbreviation printed legibly?
- ❑ This label is acceptable. Each situation is a new judgment call.
- ❑ "N.C." on the line means the origin is North Carolina.



## Thought-Provoking Situations

- ❑ Effectiveness of stickers is a judgment call in each situation.
- ❑ Stickers may be used in conjunction with signs as long as the designations are accurate.



## Thought-Provoking Situations

- ❑ Are there sufficient stickers in this display?
- ❑ Is this display COOL compliant?



## Thought-Provoking Situations

- ❑ Effectiveness of Stickers
- ❑ Stickers Used in Conjunction with Signs
- ❑ Commingled Covered Commodities – Multiple Country Labels



### Counting Covered Commodity Items

What is the correct count for this display of melons?



- Watermelon is offered for sale in one display cut into halves and quarters; in another, they are sold whole.
- What is the watermelon commodity count in this example?



### Counting Covered Commodity Items

Two (2) commodity items:  
whole honeydew melon and whole watermelon.



Two (2) commodity items:

Cut watermelon and whole watermelon.



**Counting Covered Commodities**  
 “Yellow or Zucchini Squash” Are both summer squash?

“Veggie Slices” = green and yellow squash

**Counting Covered Commodities**

- This display is one covered commodity (summer squash).
- Both signs need to be labeled with country of origin.

“Stoplight pepper packs” are a familiar example of commingled sweet bell peppers that each look different, but when sold together, represent a single commodity subject to COOL.

Can you think of other, similar examples of commingled products?

## Confusing Processed Food Items

### Processed Food Item:

Covered commodity combined with other substantive food ingredients

- Corn & Butter Sauce

What other frozen products are confusing when determining if they are covered by COOL or not?



## Confusing Processed Food Items

### Processed Food Item:

Covered commodity combined with other substantive food ingredients

- California Orange Shark Steak



## Confusing Processed Food Items

### Processed Food Item:

Covered commodity combined with other substantive food ingredients

- Tilapia Stuffed with Imitation Crab

What other products with multiple ingredients pose challenges for COOL retail reviews?



## Confusing Processed Food Items

### Processed Food Item:

Covered commodity that has undergone specific processing resulting in a change in character of the commodity (cooking, curing, smoking, restructuring)



- Sundried Tomatoes

## Confusing Processed Food Items

### Processed Food Item:

Covered commodity that has undergone specific processing resulting in a change in character of the commodity (cooking, curing, smoking, restructuring)

- Cut Swimming Crab
- Fresh Blue Swimming Crab



## Confusing Processed Food Items

- Cut Swimming Crab
- Fresh Blue Swimming Crab

All descriptions that COOL staff located from suppliers indicate this product or some variation of it is fresh, quick frozen. It is not cooked, and therefore is not a processed food item.

