

Comments on country of origin labelling of food by Mrs Margaret Anne Ryan
written on the fifth of January 2016.

In what I take it is considered item one of the consultation draft I would like to make these comments:-

- *The proposed labels shown **on page 35 Figure 1** are a good example of what would be easy to read and understand on ALL packaged and /or frozen foods.*
- ***On page 37** the proposed label change for imported food with multiple or single origin , the image at **figure 2** is definitely the better one, do **not** like the image at **figure 3** at all as it is not saying where the produce is grown(or manufactured) and that is the current issue , NOT knowing the origin of the ingredients.*
- ***Item 2** of the consultation draft:- on **page 7** are two examples of bar charts and also the kangaroo in the triangle logo and my comments are as follow:- The kangaroo in the triangle logo **should only be allowed** if the **entire contents are of Australian origin**. The actual bar chart is ok providing there is the indication underneath it saying 25%, 50% etc as some people may not understand that the first line meant 25% etc.*
- ***On page/s 10 and 11** my preference is for the bar charts that show the percentages in increments of **ten-10%,20%** and so on. This is because it is **important** to **know exactly how much foreign food/ingredients/product is being foisted on us**.*
- ***Page 15** I prefer the label that specifies the ingredients were 100% Australian and the label that refers to only part of the ingredients were Australian grown or produced **should NOT** be allowed to have the kangaroo triangle logo.*
- ***Page 17** The logo that is shown where the ingredients might only be an average of the Australian origin because of it being a seasonal product there is the bit in the example that says scan barcode for more info, do you expect that every consumer will have the capability to scan the bar code to get the further information or are you expecting people to go to a staff member (that is if the store still hires people!!!) and get them to scan it for you or are you going to insist on stores having scanners set up for people to use (similar to ones that are in some Kmart stores for people to check the price of a product before they get to the checkout). Not sure how this could be listed unless it just said – seasonal produce, at least 25% Australian ingredients rest are from Canada, China and India.*
- ***Page 19** The logo with the wording packed in Australia from “%” ingredients is the best one so that people know exactly how much of the ingredients are Australian.*

As you may have gathered by now my preference is for all labels to be really specific in their information.

I can only speak for my own preferences and that is to always be able to tell where the ingredients (in the case of food whether fresh, frozen , canned or dried)are grown and then where the ingredients were packed.

In the case of non food items such as clothing etc the label should say where the material was produced or grown (ie steel produced in China, cotton for a shirt grown in India)and so on.

The Australia logo of the kangaroo in the triangle should not be allowed to be used on any product where there is the slightest bit of overseas ingredient/product in it.

If we get really strict with this labelling issue then it will not only help the consumer when buying anything know whether it will be something they are buying that is genuinely Australian or not it will also increase employment through companies starting up that will be making various labels and you never know it might actually help people start up fully fledged Australian owned, Australian staffed, Australian products used companies.