

USDA might not meet July deadline for GMO labeling rule, Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue says

Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue told representatives from the National Association of Farm Broadcasting [April 24] that his agency may not make the July 29 deadline to publish a final rule on labeling genetically modified food. [According to Feedstuffs](#), he said during the April 24 meeting that while the department has been working toward that goal, he would like to be closer to meeting it than the department is now.

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Perdue blamed White House Office of Management & Budget reviews for the delay, even though he said USDA had asked for an expedited process.

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A delay in publishing the final rule could cause several problems. It leaves the food and grocery industries, along with food importers, in a bind because they don't know how to implement labeling changes. Because this is a mandatory change and is likely to have stringent size and location requirements, manufacturers and label designers need to start working on designs. Also, in the absence of federal regulations, states such as [Vermont, which passed its own labeling law](#) — and was preempted by federal action — might take action to enforce their own laws.

Read full, original post: [Perdue: USDA may miss GMO labeling rule deadline](#)