wool and wool products identified by the HTS numbers for 1994 listed in Table 1, the Department proposes to use the conversion factors listed in the same table that correspond to each listed HTS number. The Department's Economic Research Service (ERS) has developed these conversion factors and maintains them in an import library. For sheep meat, these conversion factors take into account removal of bone, weight lost in processing or cooking, and nonsheep components of the sheep products. The conversion factors for wool products are used to determine the raw fiber content of imported wool products, and take into account fiber loss during processing, fabric trim loss, and cutting loss for wool.

Factors in determining the number of live sheep equivalents include (1) The weight of the imported sheep meat, the weight of imported wool and wool product and the corresponding conversion factors, (2) the average carcass weight of 57 pounds for domestic mature sheep as published by the Department's National Agricultural Statistics Service in the March 1995 edition of the 1994 Livestock Slaughter Summary, (3) a dressing percentage of 50 percent, and (4) an equivalent live weight of 114 pounds for domestic mature sheep (57 lbs. \div 50% = 114 lbs.). The dressing percentage of 50 percent is widely recognized as the average dressing percentage for sheep in the United States. The formula for calculating importer volume of production for imported wool and wool products will use the listed conversion factors and a clean wool yield of 52.8 percent, as published by ERS in the 1992 Weight, Measures, and Conversion Factors for Agricultural Commodities and Their Products, to convert clean wool to a greasy wool basis. In the absence of official data for carcass weights, live weights, dressing percentage and wool yield percentages of sheep from importing countries, the Department believes that the proposed carcass weight, the dressing percentage, the live weight, and the percentage of clean wool yield will, on the average, be most representative of carcass weights, dressing percentages, live weights and clean wool yield percentages of sheep from which imported sheep products are derived.

Imported live sheep require no conversion and each head of imported live sheep would be counted in determining total volume of production for importers. Calculation procedures for both imported sheep meat and imported wool and wool products follow:

Imported Sheep Meat

To calculate the live sheep equivalents of imported sheep meat, an importer would first multiply the total weight of imported sheep meat for each applicable HTS number by the specified conversion factor to determine the total carcass weight equivalent. The importer would then divide the total carcass weight equivalent by the average carcass weight of 57 pounds to determine the equivalent number of live sheep. Because the carcass weight of 57 pounds represents the equivalent live weight of 114 pounds (57 lbs. \div 50% = 114 lbs.), it is not necessary to convert the carcass weight to a live weight equivalent. The Department proposes that the number of live animal equivalents be rounded to the nearest whole number. If the decimal is less than 0.5, or greater, the number of head of sheep would be rounded upward i.e., 7.5 = 8.0). If the decimal is less than 0.5, the number of head of sheep would be rounded downward (i.e. 7.49 = 7.0). The following examples illustrate two typical calculations:

Example I

Sheep Meat (Bone-in)
HTS Classification Number: 0204100000
Item Name: Carcasses and half carcasses
of lamb, fresh or chilled
Assume: Company X imports 1,000
pounds of bone-in sheep meat
Conversion factor: 1.00
Average carcass weight: 57 pounds
1,000 pounds × 1.00 = 1,000 pounds of
carcass weight equivalent.
1,000 pounds carcass weight equivalent
÷ 57 pounds per carcass = 17.5 or
18 live sheep equivalents.

Example II

Sheep Meat (Boneless)
HTS Classification Number: 0204232000
Item Name: Other meat of sheep, fresh or chilled: Boneless: lamb
Assume: Company X imports 1,000 pounds of boneless sheep meat Conversion factor: 1.52
Average carcass weight: 57 pounds 1,000 pounds × 1.52 = 1,520 pounds of carcass weight equivalent.
1,520 pounds carcass weight equivalent ÷ 57 pounds per carcass = 26.6 or

27 live sheep equivalents. Imported Wool and Wool Products

To calculate the number of live sheep equivalents of imported wool products, the imported would first multiply the total weight of imported wool products for each applicable HTS number by the corresponding conversion factor to determine the total weight of clean wool. The importer would then divide the total weight of the clean wool

equivalent by 52.8 percent, to convert the clean wool to a greasy wool basis. Finally, the importer would divide the total pounds of greasy wool by the calculated average live weight of 114 pounds to determine the number of live sheep equivalents. The Department proposes that the number of live animal equivalents be rounded to the nearest whole number. If the decimal is 0.5 greater, the number of head of sheep would be rounded upward (i.e., 7.5 = 8.0). If the decimal is less than 0.5, the number of head of sheep would be rounded downward (i.e., 7.49 = 7.0). The following example illustrates a typical calculation:

Example

Wool and Wool Products HTS No. 6201110010 -Item Name: Mens or boys overcoats of wool or fine animal hair Assume: Company X imports 1,000 overcoats weighing 2,000 pounds into the United States. Conversion factor: 0.9774 $2,000 \text{ pounds} \times 0.9774 = 1954.8 \text{ pounds}$ clean wool content 1954.8 pounds of clean wool content ÷ 52.8 percent = 3702.3 pounds of greasy wool. 3702.3 pounds of greasy wool ÷ 114 pounds = 32.5 or 33 live sheep equivalents.

The HTS numbers, the conversion factors, and other information used to calculate number of live sheep equivalents apply only to the initial referendum described herein.

The 1994 HTS classification numbers and conversion factors for imported sheep and sheep products and wool and wool products are as follow:

TABLE I.—HTS AND CONVERSION FACTORS FOR IMPORTED SHEEP AND SHEEP PRODUCTS

HTS	CF
Live Sheep	
0104100000	1.00
Sheep Meat	
0204100000 0204210000 0204222000 0204224000 0204232000 0204234000 0204300000 0204410000 0204422000 0204424000 0204432000 0204432000 0204434000	1.00 1.00 1.00 1.00 1.52 1.52 1.00 1.00 1.00 1.52 1.52