



Ted Reichmann

President, Minnesota State Cattlemen's Association

Hi All!

Summer is in full swing in Central Minnesota! The crops and livestock are doing quite well and the weather has been very cooperative. We have been very fortunate as we have been on the dry side, but have been getting timely rains to keep us going. I know that to the North and West the weather has been a real pain as it can't seem to stop raining. I wish that the weather could straighten up and give each area what it needs in order to give each area its full potential.

The markets have been supportive to the Beef industry, finished cattle have been good and there is solid demand for feeders. It seems that if we can keep the general economy stable we may be able to keep our industry on solid ground for the foreseeable future.

As many of you are aware the summer tour is fast approaching. I hope to see you all in Morris July 12 and 13 for a look at the industry in West Central Minnesota. The West Central Cattlemen's will be hosting this year's tour, and they have a tremendous set of stops for us to view. As I have said in the past this is one of the best ways to find ideas and network with other producers that can help in the future at our home operations. I hope that you accept the invitation to attend this fantastic event.

Farmfest planning is well under way, the dates this year are August 3-5. I hope that we can have an even more successful event than last year. I am very proud of how this event is taking shape, it looks like at this time that we will be having increased support from both Industry partners and some very generous local cattlemen's groups. This event is a time when we have a chance to become much more visible as an industry. Keep in mind this is an election year and we will have the opportunity to meet one on one with many of the politicians that we will be voting for in November. The event also provides important revenue source for MSCA. A successful Farmfest ensures MSCA has the financial resources to carry out the organizations mission, that is protecting your profitability! We can easily accomplish a successful event if we have strong support from our membership.

I regret that I need to inform you at this time that we are looking for a new executive director. The executive board has received a letter of resignation from Steve May. I would like to take this time to thank Steve for everything that he has done in the past year in helping to improve the organization. I truly appreciate what Steve has done for us and I would like everyone to know what a pleasure it has been to work so closely with someone as talented as him.

The executive board has been moving forward with the process of identifying a candidate to recommend to the MSCA Board of Directors as Steve's replacement. Our goal is pretty ambitious, but we would like to be in a position to present a recommendation to the full board of directors at the July 12th meeting. After summer tout, MSCA has two major events remaining this year. It is very important that we don't lose any ground on the excellent progress we made during Steve's time as Exec. I look forward to the busy schedule that is before us and hope to see you at our upcoming events!

Regards, Ted



Mike Feikema

Chairman, MSCA Feeder Council

Greetings once again.

As spring gives way to summer the crops in our area are looking very good and corn spraying is getting underway. The rain has slowed progress in this department but hopefully the sun will return soon and work can start again. The cattle market is trending downwards into its summer lows but all things considered is still a pretty good market.

From a supply side the cattle market remains very favorable so as long as we can keep demand in decent shape we should be alright. One interesting thing to note is the higher than normal placements in IA NE and SD. They don't measure MN but one can assume that MN would be following the same trend. The lower feed costs that we enjoy up here are slowly moving cattle this way.

Don't forget to mark the dates of the MN Cattlemen's State Beef Tour on the 12th and 13th of July. Check out page 5, West Central has put together a wide array of tour stops that look to be very interesting and informative and will be a good opportunity to see how other cattlemen run their operations and also be able to take some ideas home and improve your own operation.

Also the MSCA BOD meeting and PAC Golf Outing and Steak Fry events on July 12th are very important. As Ted has indicated, Steve May has resigned and the organization needs to make sure we build on the successes Steve has brought. The PAC Golf Outing is also our opportunity to raise some funds to aid candidates this fall that are strong supporters of Minnesota's Agriculture industry.

Also please be thinking ahead to MSCA's next event after Summer Tour, Farmfest is August 3-5. We have had the honor of serving beef to a number of US Secretary's of Agriculture and many of state and federal senators and representatives at Farmfest. This a great opportunity to network with major government decision makers. Hope to see you all up in "West Central County!" Sincerely, Mike Feikema



Tim Nolte Chairman, MSCA Cow-Calf & Stocker Council

It is June! This spring's calving season weather in Central Minnesota was the best I have ever seen. Some of the old timers say they have never seen such a dry March and April as we had this year. Kind of wet right now, so haying isn't moving to fast right now. The livestock market is down some from April highs. It looks like the our market is following a very cranky stock market.

I learned something last week that got my attention! PETA owns shares in many big name companies. An example is McDonalds, who happens to be one of the biggest purchasers of U.S. produced beef here in the United States. Being a stock holder is another way for PETA to try getting in behind closed doors with their anti-meat message. While McDonalds sells meat and potatoes to the general public and are making some money doing that, don't assume PETA can't impact them or the other stock holders. You and I both know that the majority of McDonalds stock holders are not farmers or ranchers. Those other stock holders are going to mostly be folks that don't understand agriculture and may be easily misled on animal care issues.

Another group that continues to get my attention with their back door policies is the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS). If you are not familiar with this outfit's operations, you should be. They use sickly looking cats and dogs in TV ads to feed off people's emotions and collect huge piles of donated money. They use that money to advance the destruction of the livestock industry. Hardly a penny of those millions of dollars goes to helping cats and dogs. The HSUS is not your local animal shelter. Don't let them fool you and tell your cousins that live in the big city about HSUS. The HSUS is not what they appear to be in their slick TV ads.

The up coming summer beef tour sure looks like a good one. Hope to see you there. Tim

P.S. The wolves just keep on killing livestock and the federal government still has its stinking boot squarely on our neck!

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Cattlemen's Calendar

2010

July 12 MSCA BOD Quarterly Mtg/Golf Outing
July 13 MN Beef Tour (West Central Cattlemen)
(Morris MN - see page 7 for details)

July 28-Aug 1 NCBA Summer Conference (Denver, CO)
Aug 3-5 Farmfest Gilfillan Estates (Redwood Falls area)
Sep 11 MSCA Quarterly Mtg (tentative date)
Sep 14-16 NCBA Legislative Conference (DC)
Oct 1 Open Lot Agreements (Corrective Actions Due)
Oct 21-24 Beef Expo (MN State Fair Grounds)
Dec 3-4 MSCA Annual Convention & Trade Show
(Jackpot Junction - Redwood Falls MN)

2011

Feb 2-5 NCBA Annual Convention (Denver)
Dtd TBD MN Beef Tour, Rock-Nobles Cattlemen

2012

Dtd TBD MN Beef Tour, Mississippi Valley Cattlemen