

50th Summer Tour Highlights Northern Minnesota

Northwestern Stockmen's Association Host Successful Tour

By Kaitlyn Root, MSCA Executive Director

On June 25, the Northwestern Stockmen's Association, one of 21 local affiliate associations of the MSCA, hosted the 50th Annual MSCA Summer Tour with headquarters in Thief River Falls, Minnesota. The tour brought in around 300 attendees from Minnesota and surrounding states, and it was a beautiful day to highlight northern Minnesota.

This year's tour included seven different stops: Didrikson Farms, a fourth-generation family cattle and grain farm and past NCBA Environmental Stewardship Award winner; DigiKey, a leading global commerce distributor; Waage Farms, a fourth-generation family farm including a feedlot with five hoop buildings; Hanson's Dairy, a fourth-generation

Ayrshire and Holstein dairy; Northland Community and Technical College, a comprehensive two-year community and technical college; Green-

bush Vet Clinic; and Eeg Cattle, a family show cattle operation.

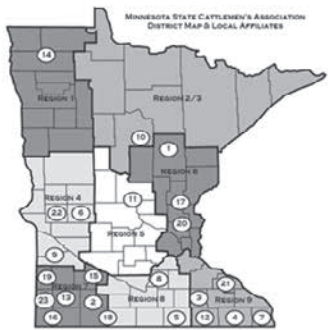
Shoutout to all of the sponsors and vendors that made the tour one for the books, and

congrats to the Northwestern Stockmen on hosting a wonderful event!

For photos showcasing the tour, visit pages 10 & 11.

MSCA

MSCA is a grassroots organization consisting of over 20 local cattlemen's groups, providing the greatest opportunity for producer input and policy recommendations



MINNESOTA STATE CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION
DISTRICT MAP & LOCAL AFFILIATES

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Central Minnesota Cattlemen | 12. Mower County Cattlemen |
| 2. Cottonwood Cattle Producers | 13. Murray County Cattlemen |
| 3. Three Rivers Cattlemen | 14. Northwestern Stockmen |
| 4. Fillmore County Cattlemen | 15. Redwood Area Cattlemen |
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| 9. Midwest Cattlemen | 20. Tri-County Cattlemen |
| 10. Minnesota Cattlemen | 21. Wadena County Cattlemen |
| 11. Mississippi Valley Cattlemen | 22. West Central Cattlemen |
| | 23. Pipestone Cattlemen |

Minnesota State Cattlemen's members, did you know you can pay your local affiliate dues online? Use the link below to renew your membership for the state and local association!

<https://www.mnsca.org/become-a-member/membership-application>



See pages 10 & 11 for more Summer Tour photos

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**KAITLYN ROOT**

Executive Director
Office: 763-479-1011

Greetings!

This column is going to highlight something I feel passionately about – grassroots

efforts. MSCA and NCBA are both grassroots organizations, and members should feel extremely proud to be part of both organizations.

Dustin Wiese, MSCA region 2/3 director, and I recently returned from our travels to San Diego, California, for NCBA's Summer Business Meeting. The Summer Business Meeting is one of two annual meetings to set policy for NCBA.

This meeting reminded me of the importance of grassroots policies, which were passed by fellow cattlemen and cattlewomen while in California.

NCBA and MSCA policy books both are filled with directions from our members. Each time we search through our policy books and read through resolutions, we are reading the thoughts of actual cattle producers. The policy process is designed to ensure cattle producers' voices are represented at the state and national Capitols.

During the Summer Business Meeting, several existing NCBA policies were renewed and amended, and policies were passed by NCBA members on improving disas-

ter relief and risk management programs, advocating for reduced capital gains tax and more.

I'd like to encourage you all to get involved with the policy process at the local, state and national level. We may not always agree on every policy decision made or every resolution passed, but it is important we work together during this process.

We want to hear your voice, and it is crucial for you to be involved so you can feel represented.

**JAKE THOMPSON**
President

Hello, fellow cattlemen and cattlemen.

The first half of summer has flown by, or in most cases around the state, floated by. At our place, we went from calving to bull sale to breeding to grass and now I find myself sneaking haying in between rains and preparing for ultra-

sounding time. I always gauge the halfway point of summer off our county fair which just finished up last week.

The past few months have brought MSCA quarterly meetings, the Summer Tour (hosted by Northwestern Stockmen's Association) and PAC event, in Thief River Falls, Minnesota. What a great couple of days to celebrate all that northern Minnesota has to offer.

I would like to thank everyone who helped put those events together as a great time was had by all with some great tour stops. Around 300 people attended the tour, and 24 teams competed for the corn hole tournament that goes to support the PAC.

The MSCA tour is a great event to network between old,

new and potential members of the association and for a local association to highlight what their region has to offer. I believe that the 2024 tour did just that.

Once again, thank you to everyone who attended and to the vendors who helped make this tour such a successful event.

The NCBA Summer Business Meeting was held the second week of July with Kaitlyn and Dustin Wiese attending in San Deigo, California. Sounded like great weather with much policy discussed and passed over the course of a few days.

August is right around the corner, and that means Farmfest in Redwood County Aug. 6-8. MSCA will once again be serving our famous Big Beef

Sandwiches. This is the second largest fundraiser for our association, and we could really use some helping hands.

If you are able to attend and willing to give some time to help serve the thousands of sandwiches, please contact Krist Wollum or email kaitlyn@mnsca.org.

MSCA is a membership-based association that is the voice for cattlemen across the state. Please be willing to talk to your neighbors and friends and if not already, get them to become members.

Strength is in numbers, and we want to represent the cattlemen in the state to the best of our ability.

Hope to see you at Farmfest Aug. 6-8.

**RACHEL GRAY**
President-Elect

Hello from northern Minnesota. I hope that the weather is starting to straighten out in your area of the state. In the North Country, we have been unusually wet and cold.

Most people up here did not start haying until one week ago as we were completely under water. We are finally able to get in the fields and it finally feels like summer.

Thankfully it seems that the cattle prices have held most projections that I am reading are talking about the good prices continuing on into 2025.

If you were able to attend Summer Tour, I am sure you enjoyed it as much as I did. The tour was very well attended.

As summer goes on, think about attending Farmfest and of course stopping at the Cattlemen's booth for a beef sandwich and also one of the many grazing seminars or events in your area. I know as I have been watching for upcoming events there seems to be a lot of grazing workshops spread throughout the state.

I hope that your summer is going well, that your calves are growing big and that you are getting some hay and crops put up. Hope to see you at Farmfest.

**ERIC ZELTWANGER**
Cow/Calf Council Chair

Greetings fellow Cattlemen,

As you sit down to read this you are probably preparing for, or have just wrapped up, your county fairs. Hopefully you were able to see some animals that have been cared for by some of the next generation of cattle producers.

I know this is one of the highlights of my year. This

time of year also means Farmfest. If it isn't too late, swing into the monoslope on the Farmfest grounds and help a Great Team serve BEEF sandwiches.

This is one of the MSCA's biggest fundraisers for the year, and it is made possible by a great donation from American Foods Group and an amazing team of volunteers that help serve a ton of beef to the people of Farmfest. It is also a place where we network with others in agriculture and have the chance to meet with our legislators and discuss issues in ag.

Unfortunately, this time of year is also a time to start looking towards fall. State

Zeltwanger . . .
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Minnesota Cattleman

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ROSEMARY GUSTAFSON
CattleWomen President

Hello from northern Minnesota where summer and county fairs are in full swing! The only common factor with the weather across the state is that it has not been ideal. We are very lucky where we are located that we have not experienced flooding or heavy hail.

Here is a quick recap on our 33rd Annual MN State Beef Ambassador Competition which was held on June 14 in Waite Park, Minnesota.

Alicia Holtz of Little Falls, Minnesota, was selected as the 2023-2024 Scholarship Achievement recipient, receiving a \$750 scholarship sponsored by the Minnesota State Cattlemen's Association. Holtz also received a custom belt buckle sponsored by Armstrong Farms.



2024-2025 Minnesota State Beef Ambassador Team pictured left to right, Riley Rickford, Aubree Paplow, Alicia Holtz (peeradvisor), Emily Hass, Rosemary Gustafson (program director), not pictured KayLea Berg

Aubree Paplow of Sanborn, Minnesota, was awarded the \$500 Scholarship, and Matalyn Martinson of Otsego, Minnesota, was awarded the \$200 scholarship. Those selected to serve on the 2024-2025 MN State Beef Ambassador Team are: KayLea Berg, Barnesville; Emily Hass, Cambridge; Riley Rickford, Barnesville; and Aubree Paplow, Sanborn. Alicia Holtz, Little Falls, will serve as the team's peer advisor.

The team has already been hard at work advocating across the state. Congratulations to the new team!

The MN CattleWomen Summer Banquet and tours of Grand Champion and Northern Genetics was well attended and enjoyable!

Emma Heiden, Rushford, was awarded Outstanding Collegiate member; Nikay Anderson of Aitkin was awarded CattleWoman of the Year; Kevin Hoge and the Schiefelbein family were both awarded Friend of the CattleWomen; and Lori Beckel was conferred the Lifetime Achievement Award. We congratulate all of the recipients and thank them for their service throughout the years!

Thank you, 2024 Beef Alliance Members

THANK YOU to the following businesses that have committed to support members of the Minnesota State Cattlemen's Association as a part of the Minnesota Beef Alliance Program for 2024. If you are interested in learning more about the Beef Alliance program, contact Angie Ford at mnsccamembership@gmail.com.

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Purina Animal Nutrition
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Zoetis

Select

Minnesota Farm Bureau
ADM
Northwest Lighting Systems
Performance Livestock Analytics
Kent Nutrition Group

Presidential

Wieser Concrete
Professional Ag Marketing

* Indicates giving above base level for that category!

As I write this, just getting back home after a two-day conference emphasizing farm safety and mental health, I can't help but share a little of what I brought back.

As we start thinking about fall and harvest, physical safety is always a priority. Mental wellbeing should also not be overlooked.

This year with the stresses of crop conditions across the state we need to share as a community that resources exist for coping with farm and rural stress.

Text: FARMSTRESS to 898211 or call 833-600-2670. This is a free, completely confidential helpline open 24/7.

If you or someone you know is struggling with stress, anxiety or depression, call or text. Calls are answered by trained counselors. Sometimes it's easier to talk to someone you don't know.

If you are experiencing business, financial or legal problems, they will connect you to that kind of help as well. We all know farming and ranching isn't an easy way of life, but there's support out there!

As we look towards our next upcoming event, we have opened registration for our Sept. 28 event "Disease: The One Chain You Need to Break" sponsored by Neogen. The event will be held at the fairgrounds in Aitkin with support from the Central Minnesota Cattlemen's Association.

We plan to deep dive into biosecurity practices on farm

and ways to keep livestock healthy and productive. It is shaping up to be a full day of hands-on learning. Registration is limited to 30, sign up at mncattlewomen.org/events.

Enjoy the rest of the summer! If you are at the State Fair Aug. 23, stop by the Christensen Stage to support our ambassador team as they host Beef Bingo. Hope to see you there!



Alicia Holtz of Little Falls, Minnesota, was selected as the 2023-2024 Scholarship Achievement recipient of the MN State Beef Ambassador program, receiving a \$750 scholarship sponsored by the Minnesota State Cattlemen's Association.



JOSIAH EBELING
Feeder Council Chair

(July 15) – Last week's mostly steady prices in the north and softer by \$2 in the south will be retried this week to ascertain price direction. The results last week were a range of live prices in the north from \$190-\$198 with mainly \$198 transactions late week.

In the south, live sellers in Texas cashed cattle at \$188 with some grid cattle setting

the base at \$191. Kansas cattle moved from \$188 to \$191 but one high quality group sold early last week at \$317 dressed.

Sales volumes were up from the previous week but remained light as packers reach a point where adding more inventory will mean boosting prices.

This past week's slaughter at 601,000 UP 79,000 from the previous holiday week and

down 32,000 head from last year. The fed cattle portion of the weekly slaughter continues to make a larger percentage of the total slaughter than prior years with cow slaughter of both dairy and beef cows in decline.

The latest report shows carcass weights at 885# up 3# from prior week and 27# heavier than last year. Carcass weights will

be fundamental in determining total beef production.

The combined steer and heifer weights can easily be influenced when the proportion of steers to heifers in the weekly slaughter changes. Quality grade was down .1 percent at 82.80 percent.

Zeltwanger . . .continued from page 2

fair is right around the corner and that is a sign summer is over, kids will head back to school and cool weather will follow.

Take a break in the sum-

mer heat to make a plan for the things that can help make the cold weather easier. If it is getting that waterer fixed so you don't have to mess with it in the cold or adding a

gate in a fence to make moving through animals easier, consider the project and what it would be worth to have done. I know for me the hard part can be starting them, but

they are almost always better when done.

I hope everyone reading this has had a good summer and that your calves are heavy and your cows fat.





State Fair

The Minnesota Beef Council will once again have a presence at the Minnesota State Fair from Aug. 22-Sept. 2! Come visit the booth located in the Dairy Building by the butter heads. If you would like to volunteer at the booth, con-

tact our office at (763) 479-1011 or email the intern, Baleigh Peterson, at intern@mnbeef.org. Volunteers will receive an admission ticket into the fair, t-shirt and malt ticket to be used at the Dairy Bar located in the Dairy Building.

Beef Nutrients and Farming Background Fuel High School Athlete's Track Success



Brynn Bakken

MAPLE PLAIN, Minn. — The 2024 high school track season has wrapped up with the conclusion of the MSHSL State Track Meet. Amongst athletes who competed was Brynn Bakken, a student from Beaver Creek, Minnesota. Brynn attends Beaver Creek High School and just completed her 9th grade year.

Bakken advanced to the state meet in the 4x100 relay, 200-meter and 100-meter dashes, placing 9th, 3rd and 2nd respectively. For the 4x100 meter relay, Brynn was accompanied by Trinity Olson (7th grade), Ava Steinhoff (9th

grade), and Brynn Rauk (12th grade).

One might wonder what makes a young athlete like Brynn so successful? Besides talent, Bakken's success can be attributed to family, hard work and dedication to proper diet and sleep habits. Brynn's brother has served as a motivator for her to get in the weight room and giving tips on how to build and maintain muscle. Her parents have also played a large part, finding trainers, new opportunities and providing equipment, motivation and encouragement.

Being raised on a beef farm, Brynn not only understands the value of hard work, but also the importance of consuming beef for optimal sports performance. With 10 essential vitamins and minerals, beef is a powerful, protein-packed option for athletes.

"Beef is something that I eat daily as an athlete," Brynn stated. It provides me with the protein and nutrients needed to maintain the busy lifestyle I have. Eating a healthy meal before and/or after games or practice helps me prepare and

recover for races."

The Bakken's family-owned farm, BLAC-X, was established in 2001. Richard Bakken, Brynn's grandpa, started farming in 1966 and is still farming to this day with his two sons. The farm raises angus and simmental-cross cows as well as feeding angus cattle in their feedlot. Brynn continues to be involved in the farm, helping with chores that translate into greater muscle build and a strong work ethic for sports.

When asked what her favorite thing is about being raised on a beef farm, Brynn said, "Of course, the beef. Having steaks, burgers, roasts, or beef jerky is always something I enjoy. To top it all off, my dad does a fantastic job at preparing the meat. He is one of the best guys at cooking a steak to the perfect temperature."

There's no doubt that Brynn's future is a bright one. Through continued hard work in both the weight room and on the farm, coupled with a dedicated diet fueled by beef, Brynn Bakken is sure to run fast and go far.

Minnesota Beef Council Intern



Baleigh Peterson

The Minnesota Beef Council is excited to have Baleigh Peterson on their team for the summer as their Communications Intern. Baleigh grew up on a small seedstock operation near Gibbon, Minnesota. She has been highly involved in 4-H, FFA and shows cattle as part of the American Simmental Association. Baleigh will be going into her senior year at the University of Minnesota where she is studying agricultural communication and marketing with a minor in animal science. Baleigh will be working with the council through Labor Day assisting with a variety of promotional efforts including the State Fair booth. You can check out her blog posts featuring "The People Behind the Plate" at mnbeef.org.

MNBC GRILLING RECIPE

SMOKED TRI-TIP WITH GRILLED CORN ELOTE



Summer is in full swing! Mix up your usual grilling favorites to bust out this smoked Tri-Tip for your next gathering or family night meal. Smoked beef, grilled corn, delicious results.

INGREDIENTS:

- 1 beef Tri-tip Roast (3 to 4-1/2 pounds)
- Spice Paste
- 1/3 cup olive oil
- 2 teaspoon granulated garlic
- 1 teaspoon paprika
- 1.5 teaspoon kosher salt
- 1 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper
- 2 teaspoon ancho Chile powder

Grilled Corn Elote

- 3 ears fresh corn, husked
- 3/4 cup mayonnaise
- 2 teaspoon fresh lime juice
- 1 Tablespoon fresh cilantro
- 1/2 cup Cotija cheese
- 1 teaspoon kosher salt
- 1 teaspoon ancho Chile powder

COOKING:

1. Combine oil, salt, pepper, garlic, Chile powder and paprika in small bowl to form a paste. Spread evenly onto all surfaces of beef Tri-Tip Roast.
2. Add wood chunks, chips or pellets to smoker according to manufacturer's instructions. Preheat smoker to 225°F.
3. Insert ovenproof meat thermometer so tip is centered in thickest part of roast, not resting in fat. Place roast in smoker, according to manufacturer's instructions. Set timer for 2 hours depending on desired smoke flavor. Smoke roast 2 to 3 hours for medium doneness. Carefully remove roast from smoker when meat thermometer registers 135°F. Let rest for at least 10 minutes. The temperature will continue to rise to 145°F for medium rare, 160°F for medium.
4. Carve roast across the grain into 1/2-inch-thick slices. Serve alongside grilled corn Elote.

GRILLED CORN ELOTE

Place corn on grid over medium, ash-covered coals. Grill, 10 to 14 minutes (over medium heat on preheated gas grill, 8 to 10 minutes) turning on all sides. Remove corn and let cool. Carefully cut corn kernels from cob and set aside.

In a medium size bowl combine, mayo, lime juice, seasoning, corn, cilantro, and cheese; let chill covered, for at least 30 minutes or overnight.

Nutrition information per serving, 4: 400 Calories; 241.2 Calories from fat; 26.8g Total Fat (7 g Saturated Fat; 0.02 g Trans Fat; 6.2 g Polyunsaturated Fat; 12.1 g Monounsaturated Fat); 101 mg Cholesterol; 704 mg Sodium; 8 g Total Carbohydrate; 1.2 g Dietary Fiber; 2 g Total Sugars; 34 g Protein; 0 g Added Sugars; 72.5 mg Calcium; 2.5 mg Iron; 542 mg Potassium; 0.05 mcg Vitamin D; 0.24 mg Riboflavin; 13.2 mg NE Niacin; 0.77 mg Vitamin B6; 1.93 mcg Vitamin B12; 326 mg Phosphorus; 6.2 mg Zinc; 37.7 mcg Selenium; 131 mg Choline.

This recipe is an excellent source of Protein, Niacin, Vitamin B6, Vitamin B12, Phosphorus, Zinc, Selenium, and Choline, and a good source of Iron, Potassium, and Riboflavin.

* Based on a 2,000-calorie diet

** Percent Daily Values are based on a 2,000-calorie diet

For more tasty beef recipes, visit us on the web at www.mnbeef.org.



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Lab-Grown Protein Stumbles, But Our Vigilance Remains

By Mark Eisele, NCBA President

Last summer, NCBA passed a policy on lab-grown protein for the first time. Unlike the plant-based Impossible and Beyond fake meat that we are familiar with, lab-grown protein is a new technology that takes animal cells and grows them in a bioreactor. If that sounds a bit unappetizing, you're not alone.

It turns out consumers would rather have beef raised by farmers and ranchers, not burgers grown in test tubes. These lab-grown protein companies, backed by millions of dollars from celebrities and hedge funds, were once predicting the end of traditional agriculture and a new era of "manufactured" meat. Today, they are singing a different tune.

Recently, a company called SCiFi Foods shut down operations after running out of money to commercialize lab-grown protein. In 2023, SCiFi Foods built a manufacturing facility in San Leandro, California, and had big plans to sell a burger made from a mix of lab-grown protein and plant-based imitations. In a note from the co-founders, they blamed con-

sumer choice and politics as the reasons their idea never got off the ground. They stated:

"Unfortunately, in our case, great technical execution just wasn't enough. In the last few years, the zeitgeist around meat alternatives went from boom to bust, calling into question the viability of blended products. At the same time, the regulatory progress on cultivated meat in the U.S. has seemingly stalled despite last year's historic approvals, and cultivated meat got dragged into the U.S. political culture wars with Florida and Alabama proactively banning the sale of products yet to be on the market. With all this risk, combined with today's capital markets, it became effectively impossible for us to raise the tens of millions SCiFi needed for a small commercial launch; much less the hundreds of millions needed for full commercialization."

It's no surprise that as consumers learned more about lab-grown protein, they wanted nothing to do with it. At the same time, numerous states have introduced or passed

legislation on lab-grown meat — instituting labeling requirements or banning it outright. In Washington, NCBA has worked with members of Congress to introduce the bipartisan FAIR Labels Act that would require

clear labeling of lab-grown products, so consumers know exactly what is in their shopping cart. As the U.S. Department of Agriculture is expected to finalize a rule later this year about what to call lab-grown

protein, NCBA will continue working to make sure an accurate name like "lab-grown" or "lab-cultured" is used rather than a name that would slander

Lab-Grown... continued on page 7



IN-PERSON BQA TRAINING

LOCATION:

Farmfest - Livestock Tent
28366 County Hwy 13
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North end of the show site between 6th & 7th Street near Minnesota Farm Bureau's tent

 **THURSDAY, AUGUST 8, 2024**

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Wisconsin Hosting Stockmanship & Stewardship Event

Registration is now open for a Stockmanship & Stewardship event, August 28-29, at the Grant County Fairgrounds in Lancaster, Wisconsin. Funded in part by the Beef Checkoff, Stockmanship & Stewardship is a unique educational experience for cattle producers featuring low-stress cattle handling demonstrations, Beef Quality Assurance (BQA) training, facility design sessions and industry updates.

“Educational programs like Stockmanship & Stewardship elevate producers’ commitment to continuous improvement through BQA principles,” said Amy Radunz, Wisconsin Beef Council President. “By participating in Stockmanship & Stewardship, cattlemen and women are demonstrating to

consumers that they are striving to produce the highest quality, safest beef possible.”

During the event, producers can become BQA certified, network with fellow cattlemen and women, participate in hands-on demonstrations led by animal handling experts, and learn innovative management techniques. Industry experts will cover topics such as nutrition, pasture management, trailer maintenance, manure management, and selecting for sustainability through genetics. There will also be a tour of the University of Wisconsin Lancaster Ag Research Station. Stockmanship & Stewardship is sponsored by the National Cattlemen’s Beef Association (NCBA), Neogen, and the Beef Checkoff-funded National Beef

Quality Assurance program. Local sponsors for the Lancaster location include, Wisconsin Cattlemen’s Association, Wisconsin Beef Council, UW Madison Division of Extension, Iowa State Extension, Iowa Cattlemen’s Association, Iowa Beef Industry Council, Illinois Extension, Illinois Beef Association, Murray’s Dairy Farm and Refrigeration, Cor-teva Agriscience, and Axiota Animal Health.

“Neogen is dedicated to the advancement of human and animal well-being through science and technology,” said Elizabeth Wonsowski, livestock director of marketing at Neogen. “As a leader within the beef industry and proud partner of cattle ranchers and beef production, we recognize the important role

that education and resources play in helping the cattle industry continue to grow in a healthy and sustainable way. We are proud to support NCBA and the Beef Checkoff through the Stockmanship & Stewardship program. Together, we can fuel a brighter future of global food security.”

For more information, complete agenda, fees and to register, visit www.StockmanshipAndStewardship.org. Cattle producers attending Stockmanship & Stewardship are eligible for reimbursement through the Rancher Resilience Grant. To apply for a grant to cover registration costs and two nights hotel, visit www.ncba.org/producers/rancher-resilience-grant.

Links to third-party websites should not be considered an endorsement by the Beef Checkoff of the actual website or the company or organization that owns/manages that website.

About the Beef Checkoff

The Beef Checkoff was established as part of the 1985 Farm Bill. The Checkoff assesses \$1 per head on the sale of live domestic and imported cattle, in addition to a comparable assessment on imported beef and beef products. States may retain up to 50 cents of the dollar and forward the other 50 cents per head to the Cattlemen’s Beef Promotion and Research Board, which administers the national Checkoff program, subject to USDA approval.

Lab-Grown... continued from page 6

traditional cattle production.

Despite beef’s popularity and wins in the marketplace, we can’t rest on our victories. Just this past month, the U.S. Department of Defense (DOD) released a plan to pour \$500 million of taxpayer money into lab-grown protein research by a company called BioMADE. I firmly believe our nation’s military heroes should not be fed untested food like lab rats, they should be enjoying the highest quality, real protein like beef. Immediately, NCBA called out this funding and we even got Congressman Don Bacon, a retired Air Force Brigadier General, to introduce an amendment blocking the DOD from funding lab-grown protein. NCBA is keeping the pressure up to ensure only real food goes into our service members’ rations.

Your daily hard work on the farm or ranch contributes to the highest quality beef in the world. Beef is the king of summer barbecues and celebratory dinners; we continue to see strong demand, and we are driving lab-grown imitators out of business. Still, we must always remain vigilant and continue sharing the environmental, economic and social benefits raising cattle has on our communities and the world.

Thank you for trusting us to be your partner in fighting for real beef, and thank you for your membership in NCBA.



2024

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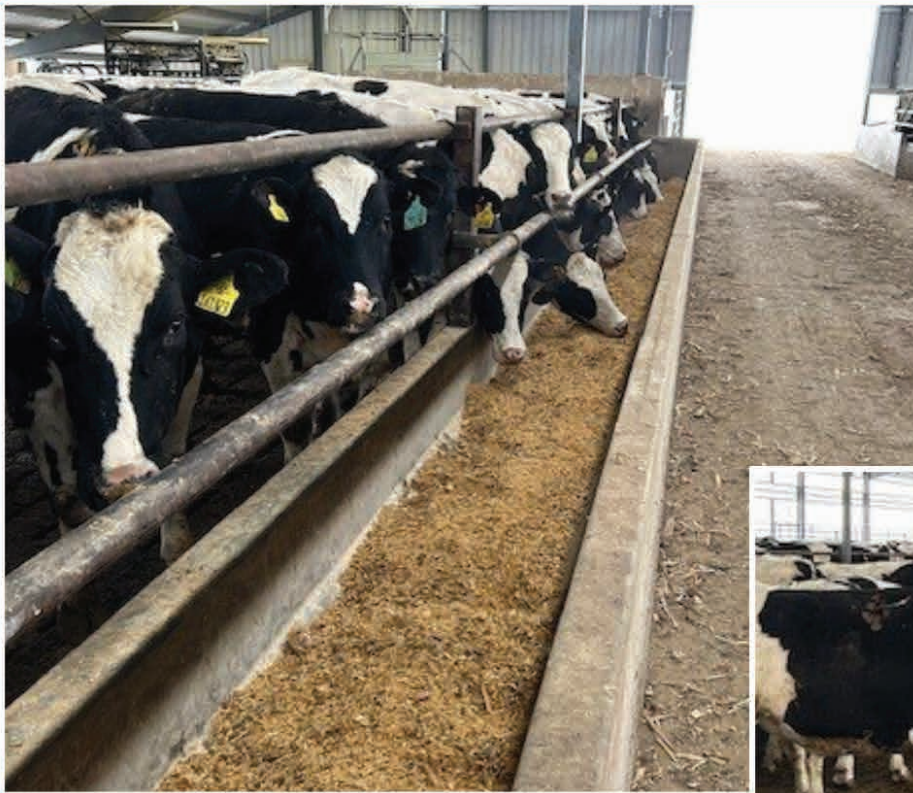


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Where Was NCBA?

By Colin Woodall, NCBA CEO

NCBA's ability to manage crisis situations is known far and wide. We spend an incredible amount of time identifying potential threats, researching those threats, and putting a plan together on how we will respond if faced with that particular event. We then run internal staff drills to get everybody prepared for their role in the response. We have spent years preparing for the eventual return of foot and mouth disease (FMD). That preparation includes ongoing internal drills, sharing our information with other livestock groups, and participating in drills conducted by state and federal agencies to ensure our partners are equally as prepared. We are ready to spring into action and protect our industry.

We are prepared for FMD because we know the disease and understand what will happen when an outbreak occurs. However, what happens when we are faced with an unknown disease? Back in mid-March, I received a phone call from our Checkoff-funded Issues Management Team informing me of an emerging animal health issue where an unknown disease was making dairy cows sick in Texas. Our issues response training and preparation kicked in, and we began by working with our partners in Texas, other livestock groups and state agencies to learn as much as we could, as fast as we could. Once we had the basics of the situation, we conducted a call with our officers, executive committee and the executive staff officers from state beef councils, policy affiliated organizations and breed affiliates. We knew we needed to inform the beef team before the story started to garner press attention. The first rule of an issues response is to ask, "Who else needs to know?"

After informing our partners, we immediately began to monitor for media pickup. For those of you who have been to our headquarters office in Denver, you have seen the Checkoff-funded Digital Command Center where we have tools to see what is being said in mainstream media and social media to determine how widely a story spreads. It was clear when the story began to

gain traction that the focus was on milk. Now, we had to decide how to proceed. Since beef was not the focus, we decided it was best to provide support to our friends in the dairy industry rather than leading the response and drawing attention to ourselves. Internally, we call this the "not breaking into jail" approach which simply means we do not want to do anything that may make us the star of a story by drawing the media's attention. We were going to help our partners respond without drawing undue attention on us since beef cattle had not been identified with the same health conditions.

It was several weeks before we discovered that H5N1, or Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza, was the cause of the sick-

ness we were seeing. We had not seen that before, so while it was good to finally know the cause, our ability to respond remained a challenge. Once it was decided by the White House and USDA to test ground beef for H5N1, we knew we had to ramp up our engagement and communication since beef was now the focus. Fortunately, the tests revealed H5N1 was not a threat to the beef supply, but those tests were done in the early part of Beef Month in May. We had to adjust our beef promotion plan to make sure the consumer knew we were taking this seriously. As soon as the negative tests came in, we were back to promoting Beef Month and the kick-off to summer grilling season. Here we are, four months into this response, and we are

still engaging and monitoring the situation.

Now, I have had a lot of questions about why we were not more vocal during the response. Hopefully, what I shared with you above gives you more insight into our strategy. There are issues where we will be the lead and will dominate the messaging. Responding to FMD will be an example of that. There will still be times when we are most effective at providing behind-the-scenes support on issues where we are not targeted. Regardless, we are always engaged and looking out for the best interests of our industry.

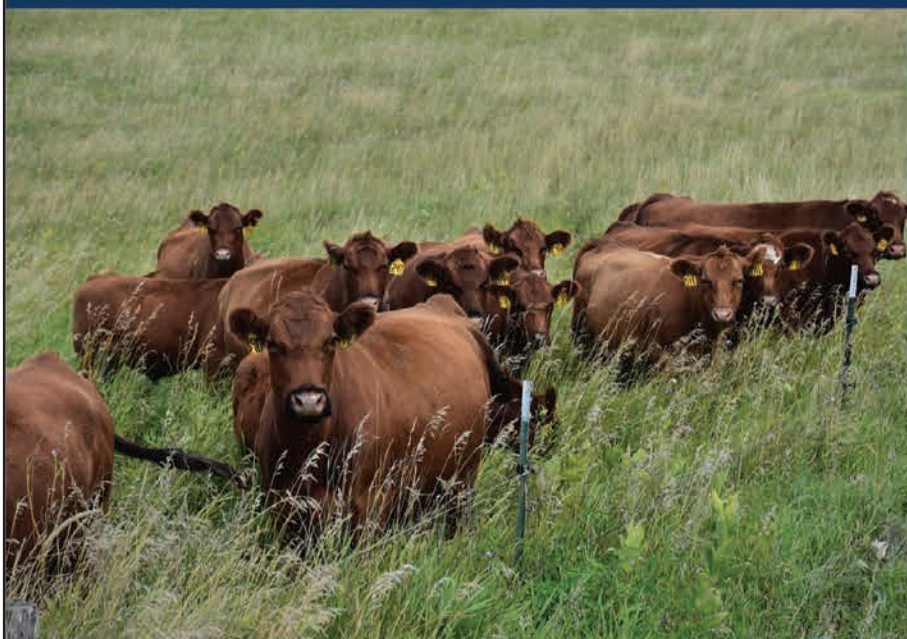
Let me leave you with this. About five weeks into this crisis, I received a phone call letting me know the White House

was considering a stop-movement order for all cattle as a way to control this outbreak. Thanks to our relationships in D.C., we were able to provide all the data to illustrate what a bad idea that would be. Our engagement and information got the White House to back off. Can you imagine the economic damage caused by stopping the movement of all cattle in this country? It probably would have been even worse than we could have imagined, but it was NCBA who stopped it. This illustrates that even a behind-the-scenes approach can lead to big wins. We are always ready to respond to a crisis, and our response to the H5N1 crisis proved it. That is NCBA looking out for you and our industry.



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NEWS BRIEFS

USDA Offers Disaster Assistance to MN Ag Producers

SAINT PAUL, Minn., June 27, 2024 – Agricultural operations in Minnesota have been significantly impacted by recent rain and flooding. The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has technical and financial assistance available to help farmers and livestock producers recover from these adverse weather events. Impacted producers should contact their local USDA Service Center to report losses and learn more about program options available to assist in their recovery from crop, land, infrastructure, and livestock losses and damages.

USDA Disaster Assistance

Producers who experience livestock deaths in excess of normal mortality or sell injured livestock at a reduced price may be eligible for the Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP). To participate in LIP, producers will have to provide acceptable documentation of death losses or evidence of reduced sales resulting from an eligible adverse weather event and must submit a notice of loss to the USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) no later than the annual program payment application date, which is 60 calendar days following the calendar year in which the loss occurred. The LIP payment application and notice of loss deadline is March 3, 2025, for 2024 calendar year losses. Livestock producers who experience losses related to tornadoes should check with their local FSA office for LIP eligibility criteria.

Meanwhile, the Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees, and Farm-Raised Fish Program (ELAP) provides eligible producers with compensation for feed and grazing losses. For ELAP, producers are required to complete a notice of loss and a payment application to their local FSA office no later than the annual program application deadline, Jan. 30, 2025, for 2024 calendar year losses.

FSA also offers a variety of direct and guaranteed farm loans, including operating and emergency farm loans, to producers unable to secure commercial financing. Producers in counties with a primary or contiguous disaster designation may be eligible for low interest emergency loans to help them recover from production and physical losses. Loans can help producers replace essential property, purchase inputs like livestock, equipment, feed and seed, cover family living expenses or refinance farm-related debts and other needs.

Additionally, FSA offers several loan servicing options available for borrowers who are unable to make scheduled payments on their farm loan programs debt to the agency because of reasons beyond their control.

The Farm Storage Facility Loan Program (FSFL) provides low-interest financing so producers can build, repair, replace, or upgrade facilities to store commodities. Loan terms vary from three to 12 years. Producers who incurred damage to or loss of their equipment or infrastructure funded by the FSFL program should contact their insurance agent and their local USDA Service Center. Producers in need of on-farm storage should also contact USDA.

More Information

Additional USDA disaster assistance information can be found on farmers.gov, including USDA resources specifically for producers impacted by heavy rain and flooding. Those resources include the Disaster Assistance Discovery Tool, Disaster-at-a-Glance fact sheet and Loan Assistance Tool. Additionally, FarmRaise offers an FSA educational hub with LIP and ELAP decision tools as well as farm loan resource videos. For FSA and NRCS programs, producers should contact their local USDA Service Center. For assistance with a crop insurance claim, producers and landowners should contact their crop insurance agent.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender.

Cattle Producers Sign Joint Statement and Send Letter Raising Brazilian Beef Concerns

Statement Strengthens Oversight of Lab-Grown Protein and Promotes Cattle Health

HERMOSILLO, Mexico – On May 15, leaders of the National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA), Confederación Nacional de Organizaciones Ganaderas (CNOG), and Canadian Cattle Association (CCA) signed a joint statement to continue advocating for greater oversight of emerging lab-grown proteins, protecting cattle from animal diseases, and promoting the sustainability of the cattle industry. This action builds on the recent statement signing with Cattle Australia and furthers the international partnerships between cattle producers.

"The signing of this joint statement is an important step that unites cattle producers across North America and around the world to promote and protect efficient cattle production," said NCBA President and Wyoming rancher Mark Eisele.

Following the joint statement signing, NCBA, CNOG, and CCA also signed a letter addressed to U.S. Trade Representative Katherine Tai, Secretaria de Economía Raquel Buenrostro Sanchez, and Minister of Export Promotion, International Trade and Economic Development Mary Ng urging the U.S., Mexican, and Canadian governments to re-engage in opening markets for beef exports and provide stronger science-based oversight of beef imports. Unfortunately, the three governments have expanded market access for beef imports while providing little opportunities for beef exports. If this continues, it will place North American cattle producers at a competitive disadvantage to other beef producers, including South America.

"I am also pleased that American, Mexican, and Canadian cattle producers are standing together to hold our trade partners accountable. For the United States, we have significant concerns that Brazil continues to have access to the U.S. market even though they have a repeated history of failing to disclose animal health concerns, including cases of atypical BSE," Eisele added. "We continue urging our respective governments to protect the beef supply by blocking Brazilian imports. We are pleased to be partners on these issues and act as the voice of cattle farmers and ranchers to our respective governments."

The letter and joint statement were signed at the CNOG 2024 convention in Hermosillo, Sonora, Mexico by NCBA President Mark Eisele, CNOG President Sr. Homero García de la Llata, and CCA President Nathan Phinney.

House Farm Bill Includes Top Cattle Industry Priorities

The National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA) on May 20 announced support for the Farm Bill crafted and released by House Agriculture Committee Chairman Glenn "GT" Thompson (R-PA)—the Farm, Food, and National Security Act of 2024. The bill includes numerous priorities for America's cattle producers, strengthens essential USDA programs, and protects farmers and ranchers from emerging threats.

"America's cattle producers don't ask for much from the federal government, but we do need a few essential programs that protect our industry from foreign animal diseases, reward voluntary conservation, and keep farms and ranches in business after a natural disaster," said NCBA President and Wyoming rancher Mark Eisele. "Chairman Thompson's Farm Bill supports these critical needs for the cattle industry, and I am very grateful that the Chairman listened to groups like NCBA when writing this bill. We strongly support this legislation and urge Congress to pass this bill."

Chairman Thompson's Farm Bill is the result of months of stakeholder input and dialogue with farmers and ranchers. NCBA members have been involved in these conversations and had the opportunity to weigh in on Farm Bill priorities.

The House Farm Bill addresses several key priorities for the cattle industry including:

Protecting the cattle industry from foreign animal disease.

Increasing funding for the National Animal Health Laboratory Network (NAHLN), National Animal Disease Preparedness and Response Program (NADPRP), and National Animal Vaccine and Veterinary Countermeasures Bank (NAVVCB).

Strengthening resources for the U.S. Customs and Border Protection "Beagle Brigade" dogs that screen shipments, luggage, and people coming into the United States to prevent the spread of pests and disease.

Improving disaster relief programs to deliver payments to cattle producers by expanding the Livestock Indemnity Program to cover 100% of the cost of an attack by a federally protected predator and allowing for supplemental payments for the loss of unborn calves.

Protecting voluntary conservation and eliminating government mandates, while also supporting popular programs like the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP).

Recognizing that food is national security by directing the Secretary of Agriculture to review the cybersecurity, foreign dependence, and supply chain risks to American agriculture.

Upping support for feral swine eradication efforts by providing \$150 million of funding for USDA-APHIS and USDA-NRCS.

Boosting local processing capacity by incorporating the A-PLUS Act and allowing livestock markets to invest in small meatpacking facilities.

The bill also includes numerous other provisions that support cattle producers and strengthen our food and national security.

USDA Awards \$22.2 Million in Farm Bill Funding to Protect Animal Health

USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) announced they are awarding more than \$22.2 million to enhance prevention, preparedness, early detection and rapid response to the most damaging diseases threatening U.S. livestock. These 81 new projects, led by 48 states, universities, industry organizations, and veterinary diagnostic laboratories, will increase our nation's ability to rapidly respond to and control animal disease outbreaks. USDA is awarding this funding through the 2018 Farm Bill's National Animal Disease Preparedness and Response Program (NADPRP) and the National Animal Health Laboratory Network (NAHLN). These funds will further help to protect the U.S. cattle herd from the threat of foreign animal diseases.

IMPORTANT DATES:

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Aug. 6-8, 2024 - Farmfest – Redwood County

Dec. 6-7, 2024 - 2024 Minnesota Cattle Industry Convention – River's Edge Convention Center, St. Cloud

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For more details on events listed above, visit www.mnsca.org

NEWS BRIEFS

Cattle Producers Celebrate Supreme Court Decision

WASHINGTON (June 28, 2024) – Today, the National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA) welcomed the Supreme Court's decision in the case *Loper Bright Enterprises v. Raimondo*—a decision that reins in the legal concept of Chevron deference and reduces overreaching regulations from federal agencies that lack congressional authority.

"Our elected officials in Congress should be making our laws, not unelected bureaucrats at federal agencies," said NCBA President Mark Eisele, a Wyoming cattle rancher. "Cattle producers have experienced numerous instances of federal agencies enacting overreaching regulations on our farms and ranches, exceeding their authority granted by Congress. I am glad the Supreme Court is reining in these federal agencies and putting power back in the hands of those elected to represent us in Washington."

While the case of *Loper Bright Enterprises v. Raimondo* does not directly involve cattle production, the case challenged a legal concept known as Chevron deference, which gives federal agencies the authority to interpret statutes they consider vague. Chevron deference takes its name from the Supreme Court case

Chevron U.S.A., Inc. v. Natural Resources Defense Council where the court decided that as long as Congress has not directly spoken on an issue and legal statutes are open to interpretation, courts should defer to federal agencies. Federal agencies have frequently used Chevron deference to implement a number of regulations without specific legislation being passed by Congress.

"In the last four decades, Congress has ceded authority to unelected federal bureaucrats who make the regulations that impact farmers and ranchers every day," said NCBA Chief Counsel Mary-Thomas Hart. "Long-term, this decision will impact almost every regulation that NCBA has worked on. The decision puts Congress back in the driver's seat for crafting policy, reins in the administrative state, and strengthens accountability by ensuring that the people we elect are the ones crafting our nation's laws."

NCBA previously joined other national agricultural and business organizations in submitting an amicus brief to the Supreme Court arguing for the overruling of Chevron deference.

NCBA Concludes Successful Summer Business Meeting

MSCA represents Minnesota Cattle Producers at Meeting

SAN DIEGO (July 10, 2024) – Grassroots members of the National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA) concluded a successful Summer Business Meeting in San Diego, CA. Cattle producers discussed top issues facing the cattle industry including risk management, taxes, and business regulation.

"Our grassroots members are the backbone of NCBA, and I am extremely proud of how they made their voices heard through our centuries old grassroots policy process," said NCBA President and Wyoming rancher Mark Eisele. "The policies passed at the Summer Business Meeting will direct our association's advocacy efforts in Washington to strengthen our industry's profitability, reduce crippling government regulation, and safeguard our way of life for the future. Thank you to everyone who attended this meeting and spoke up on the issues facing our industry."

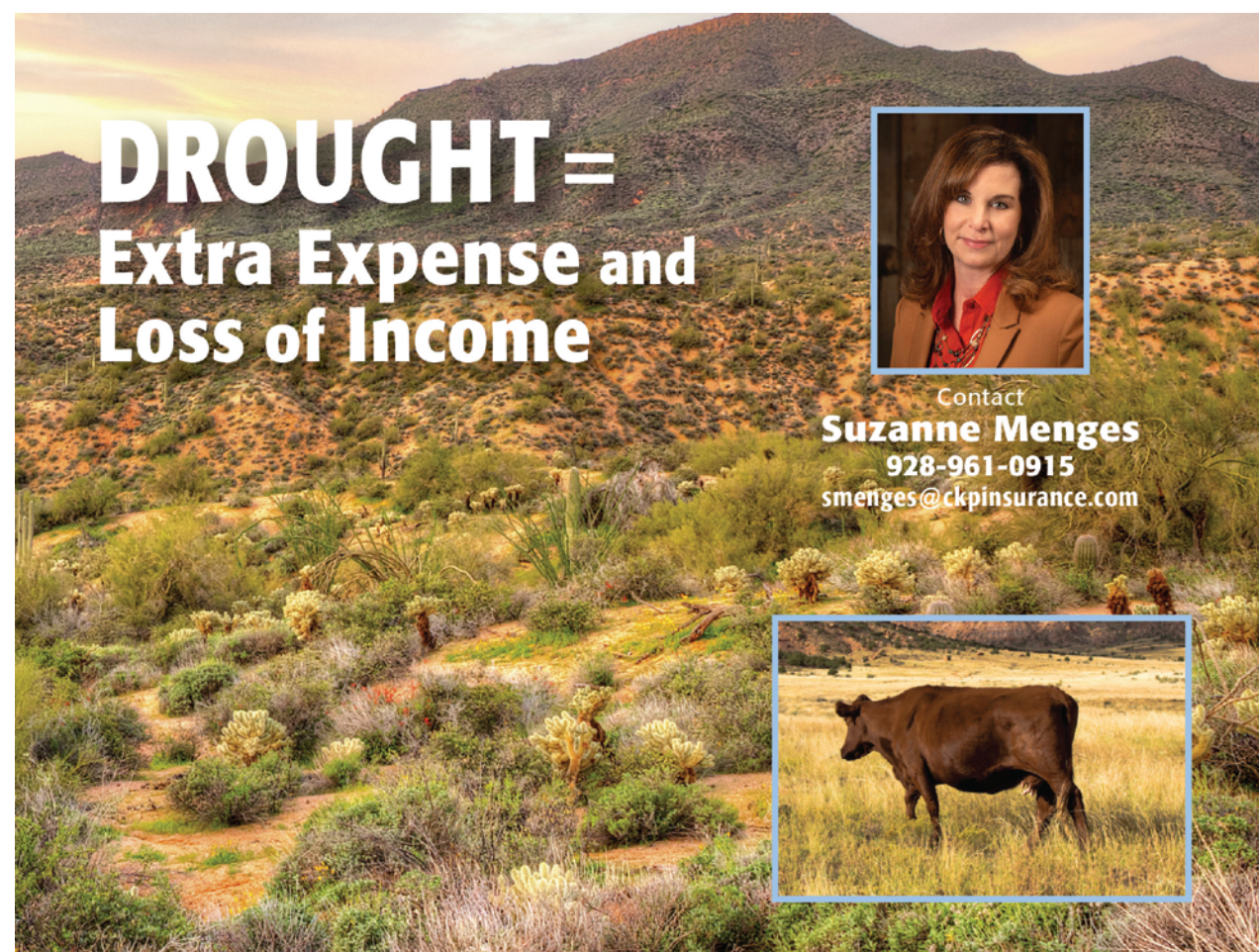
The new policies passed by NCBA members direct the association to improve disaster relief and risk management programs, advocate for reduced capital gains tax, and oppose burdensome business registration and reporting requirements like the Corporate Transparency Act. Several existing policies were also renewed or amended.

NCBA members also discussed the implementation of USDA's new animal disease traceability rule that will take effect in November.

"The USDA rule moves the cattle business forward allowing more efficient and accurate means of tracing animal movement in the event of a disease outbreak, which is crucial as diseases like Foot-and-Mouth Disease continue to spread around the globe," said Eisele. "USDA has made the decision to switch from visually readable to both visually and electronically readable tags for certain classes of cattle moving interstate. NCBA has already secured funding to help defray the cost of making this change and we will continue pushing for additional funding and privacy for producer data. NCBA policy also supports the work of U.S. CattleTrace, which is an extremely important partner in the efforts to increase the adoption of EID tags and overall herd traceability. CattleTrace is an excellent resource for producers seeking to implement a traceability program for their herd."


USDA's traceability rule updates a previous 2013 rule that requires intact cattle 18 months of age or older, rodeo and exhibition cattle, and dairy cattle moving interstate to have a visually readable ear tag. The new traceability rule simply switches the type of tag from visually readable to both electronically and visually readable. This new rule will take effect on Nov. 5, 2024.

The Summer Business Meeting is one of two annual meetings to set policy for NCBA. Learn more about the NCBA grassroots policy process at ncba.org.



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NEWS BRIEFS

NCBA Statement on Latest USDA Packers & Stockyards Rule

WASHINGTON (June 25, 2024) — Today, National Cattlemen's Beef Association Vice President of Government Affairs Ethan Lane released a statement on the U.S. Department of Agriculture's latest proposed Packers and Stockyards rule Fair and Competitive Livestock and Poultry Markets:

"USDA's newly proposed rule is a direct attack on cattle producer profitability. By creating criteria that effectively deems any innovation or differentiation in the marketplace improper, USDA is sending a clear message that cattle producers should not derive any benefit from the free market but instead be paid one low price regardless of quality, all in the name of so-called fairness."

MPCA Proposes Changes to Feedlot Permits

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) released proposed changes to two permits that regulate the state's largest animal feedlots. These permits regulate the discharge of pollutants from livestock production areas and restrict the volume of pollutants entering state waters via manure land application. Proposed changes would have the greatest benefit in regions of Minnesota where nitrate can move easily through the soil and into groundwater.

Comment Period, Public Meetings

The MPCA will host public meetings around the state. More information and updates will be posted, when available, on the MPCA's events and meetings web page. They are scheduled at the following dates and locations:

Monday, July 15, 6 p.m. at Paynesville High School, 795 Business 23 W.

Monday, July 22, 6 p.m. at Fairmont Knights of Columbus, 920 E. 10th St.

Wednesday, July 24, 6 p.m. at Chatfield Center for the Arts, 405 Main St.

The MPCA will conduct a 45-day public notice period for the proposed NPDES and SDS permits at the same time. Submit comments via the MPCA public comment webpage from June 24 to Aug. 9. Comments also can be submitted by U.S. mail: Minnesota Pollution Control Agency c/o George Schwint, 12 Civic Center Plaza, Ste. 2165, Mankato, MN 5600.

Read MPCA's full press release here: <https://www.pca.state.mn.us/news-and-stories/mpca-proposes-changes-to-feedlot-permits-to-protect-waters-from-nitrate-pollution>

Farmfest Volunteers Needed

When: August 6-8, 2024

Where: Redwood County

The MSCA will once again be selling our Big Beef Sandwiches at Farmfest this year. If you are interested in volunteering to help serve sandwiches, contact Kaitlyn at kaitlyn@mnsca.org. This is one of our largest fundraisers, and all help is appreciated!

House Agriculture Committee Holds Hearing on EPA Overregulation

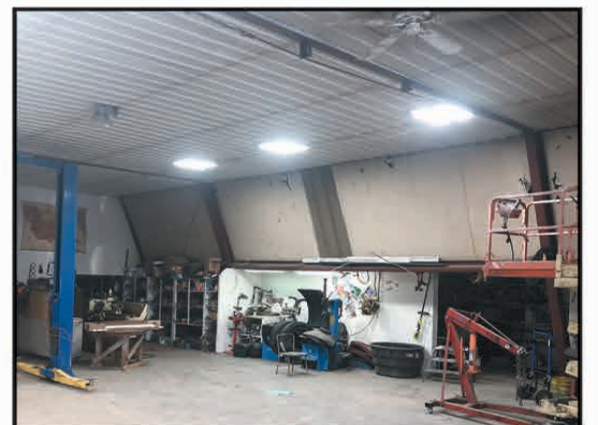
July 14 - Last week, the House Agriculture Committee held a hearing on the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) burdensome regulations that are negatively impacting farmers and ranchers. State agriculture officials and trade association leaders testified how EPA's regulatory efforts have raised costs and increased uncertainty

for farmers and ranchers. Chairman GT Thompson (PA) highlighted that while USDA has made great strides to strengthen the cattle and beef supply chain, at the same time EPA is proposing rules that would weaken the supply chain and significantly increase compliance costs for cattle producers.



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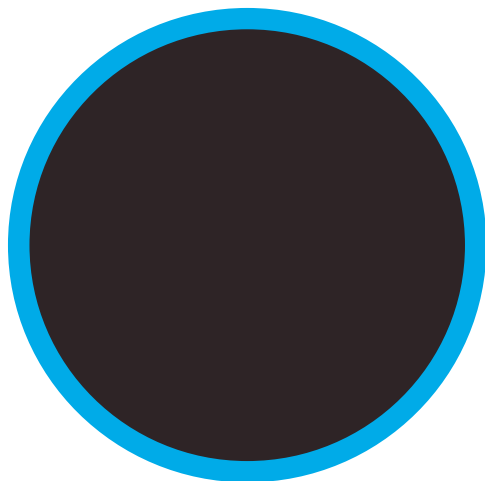


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¹Stromberg BE, et al. *Cooperia punctata*: Effect on cattle productivity? *Vet Parasitol.* 2012;183(3-4):284-291.
²Merck Animal Health National FECRT Database.

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MSCA/NCBA Partnered Membership Application Form

Name _____ Phone _____ Email _____

Address _____ ☐ YES I would like to receive the Policy Pen E-Bulletin

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Type Ops: ☐ Feeder ☐ Cow-Calf ☐ Seedstock ☐ Stocker ☐ Dairy ☐ Associate

Method of Payment: ☐ Check ☐ Credit Card ☐ Invoice Me

Credit Card Type: ☐ Master Card ☐ Visa ☐ Discover

Card # _____

Expiration Date ____/____/____ Signature _____

Make Checks Payable to: "MSCA" (No Cash Please)

Return Form & Payment To: MSCA Treasurer

PO Box 12, Maple Plain, MN 55359

Recruited By: _____

Questions Call: (763) 479-1011 or email: mnsca@mnsca.org

MN State Cattlemen's Association Dues \$100

Junior Dues \$25

Local Cattleman Association Dues (Optional)

Contact your local association to join

NCBA Membership Dues (Optional)

(Select the appropriate classification and add to MN State Cattlemen dues)

| | |
|----------------------|---|
| 1-100 - \$160 | Stocker/feeder - (#hd ____ x38¢) + \$2027 |
| 101-250 - \$320 | = |
| 251-500 - \$480 | |
| 501-750 - \$693 | Associate Dues (NCBA Dues →) _____ |
| 751-1000 - \$960 | Individual - \$160 |
| 1001 -1250 - \$1227 | Business - \$213 |
| 1251 - 1500- \$1493 | Student (24 or younger) - \$53 |
| 1501 - 1750 - \$1760 | |
| 1751 - 2000 - \$2027 | |

Total Dues Enclosed This Membership _____