

Farmfest Attendees Enjoy Cattlemen Beef Sandwiches in Redwood Falls

The MSCA's food stand at Farmfest has been one of the organization's top fundraisers for over 10 years, and this year's event was nothing short of another huge success for the Cattlemen.

The MSCA sold Big Beef Sandwiches Aug. 6-8 at Farmfest, and we served nearly 2,000 pounds of beef donated by American Foods Group.

The MSCA BOD and MSCA Farmfest Committee would like to thank American Foods Group and Bonanza Beans for helping sponsor the meal, and thank you to all of the volunteers who took time out of their day to help out – we couldn't do it without you!

Not only is Farmfest a fundraiser for the Cattlemen, it also serves as an opportunity to meet with both state and national policy makers to discuss cattle priorities. This year, MSCA leadership discussed elk and deer depredation; wolves and the need for increased US-FWS trapper funding; feedlot permitting; the Packers and Stockyards Act; conservation practices; and more.

Turn to page page 10 for more Farmfest highlights!

MSCA

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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>

It takes a team to put on a successful week at Farmfest for the Cattlemen. Volunteers worked together to serve meals to thousands of Farmfest goers.

See page 10 for more Farmfest photos

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**KAITLYN ROOT**

Executive Director
Office: 763-479-1011

Hello readers, and happy fall season!

Summer really flew by this year, and what a great few months it was. The Cattlemen stayed busy with multiple events including the MSCA Summer Tour in Thief River Falls and NCBA's Summer Business Meeting in San Diego.

Now, we are looking forward to the upcoming Minnesota Cattle Industry Convention in St. Cloud on Dec. 6-7. It seems there is always something to look forward to in this industry!

I wanted to provide you all with a behind-the-scenes look at an important meeting I attended this summer which revolved around grazing discussions.

Ducks Unlimited and Audubon hosted a "Minnesota Grazing Partners Meeting" in July to bring stakeholders together to discuss grazing on state and private lands: challenges, solutions and how to progress. I sat in a room filled with folks who value the importance of grazing, whether they work for a state agency, hunting association, wildlife organiza-

tion, etc., they were there because they are passionate about grazing.

What did I learn?

We have a lot more in common than I originally thought. Even though all of these organizations and agencies may not all agree on every policy or decision being made in Washington, D.C., we all unite around the common goal of showcasing cattle as a solution, not the problem, to our grasslands management and educating the public on grazing benefits.

As stakeholders, we discussed the need for increased public education on grazing and the benefits grazing offers; demand for increased opportunities for grazing on state land; easing restrictions on WPAs; prescribed fires as a tool in the management toolbox; policy

changes that could simplify grazing on public lands; CRP improvements for grazers; and more.

Now, don't get too excited, this was all discussion and we cannot make any overnight changes, but I was genuinely pleased with the discussions we had and am hopeful we can work with these groups to accomplish common goals and improve grazing for cattle producers in Minnesota.

As always, it is crucial we unite where possible – finding commonalities and team partners will help us achieve our goals.

As we enter into this year's harvest season, I wish safety and health for you and your families.

**JAKE THOMPSON**

President

Hello and good day fellow cattlemen and cattlemen,

I hope this finds you productive and safe in this busy time of the year. I find fall to be a great time of the year to harvest all the growth that has

happened throughout the summer, not only in the fields but also in the pastures.

Minnesota State Cattlemen's Association has been working hard to harvest some of the growth that we have seen over the last year and hopefully properly plan for the year to come. We held our quarterly meeting on Sept. 12 at the MN Beef Council office in Maple Plain.

There was really good attendance virtually and in-person. Some items on the agenda of note are: Membership, I am proud to say that our membership has grown over the last year! Kaitlyn has been working extremely hard, and membership has been a high prior-

ity and will continue to be. MSCA summer tour review was a topic of discussion. We are very grateful and thank everyone that made the tour successful and greatly appreciate everyone in attendance. Farmfest was finalized, and it was once again a very successful fundraiser. We had a lot of opportunities to talk policy with multiple politicians and radio interviews. We want to thank everyone who donated their time to make that happen.

The committee that makes Farmfest happen is looking to get more people involved if you are interested in helping out with one of our biggest fundraisers, please get ahold of us.

We are also in current partnership talks with industry partners on increased membership benefits. I would like to strongly encourage renewing memberships and recruiting new members before the upcoming annual meeting Dec. 6-7, 2024, at River's Edge Convention Center in St. Cloud, MN.

This is a great opportunity to take in a wonderful tradeshow and listen in on some great informational industry partners' presentations. There will also be the opportunity to take in some entertainment and fellowship.

Hope to see everyone at the annual meeting Dec. 6-7!

**RACHEL GRAY**

President-Elect

Happy Fall!

I hope you are doing well and that your harvest is in full swing. Here in the north, we are a couple of weeks away from chopping silage.

The weather has been cooperating and we are still out on grass. Thankfully, it has been a great growing season since our spring floods.

I have been watching sales, and it looks like the fall run is just starting. I certainly hope that the decent calf prices hold throughout the fall.

Even though it is early, start considering our annual Minnesota Cattle Industry Convention. Make plans to attend.

We have a great lineup of speakers and presenters along with a fabulous trade show that is growing every year. I think one of the most valuable pieces of the convention is the networking that happens.

It is so important to take a minute, sit down with fellow cattlemen and women, and reconnect or even make new connections. Taking time to learn about our industry, ask questions and engage is so important.

This year, I challenge you to invite someone new to the convention. Try to find at least one friend or fellow producer that you think would benefit from the knowledge we share and connections we make and invite that person to attend. I look forward to seeing you in December.

**ERIC ZELTWANGER**

Cow/Calf Council Chair

Greetings, fellow cattle producers,

As fall rolls around, I start to think of a LOT of projects yet to be done. We are thankful that silage is in the pile and one thing is off that list. I want to encourage everyone to take care of themselves as we get in the thick of harvest and work to beat winter with numerous projects.

While we are busy this fall, please remember to get out and vote! We have some important races this year that can have a big impact on what we do for a living.

Now is also the time to start planning for the state and national conventions. Join us if you are able, as it is a great place to meet and reconnect with like-minded people.

One thing I would like to remind everyone of that can help out is preconditioning calves. Getting calves shots and castrated before the actual stress of weaning is proven to help calves as they come off the cows.

This will help with herd health for you and also has

Zeltwanger . . .
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Minnesota State Cattlemen's Association

PO Box 12
Maple Plain, MN 55359
763-479-1011
www.mnsca.org
mnsca@mnsca.org

Executive Committee

President - Jake Thompson

Barnesville, MN 56514
(218) 329-9293, fourhillfarms2@yahoo.com

President-Elect - Rachel Gray

Blackduck, MN 56630
(218) 766-4929, tlmler1616@gmail.com

Past President - Grant Breittkreutz

Redwood Falls, MN 56283
(507) 430-0607, gdbreittkreutz@hotmail.com

Cow-Calf Council Chair - Eric Zeltwanger

Morris, MN 5626
(320) 766-0066, ericz@springvalley-farms.com

Feeder Council Chair - Josiah Ebeling

Trimont, MN 56176
(507) 236-1511, ebeling7120@gmail.com

Legislative Chair - Krist Wollum

Porter, MN 56280
(507) 530-3854, kkwollum@yahoo.com

Membership Director - Angie Ford

Lake Wilson, MN 56151
(507) 360-7937, angieford7937@gmail.com

Secretary/Treasurer - Kevin Hoge

Aitkin, MN, 56431
(218) 549-3337, flatrock@frontiernet.net

Business Director & Accounting - Heather DeLong

Maple Plain, (763) 479-1011

Executive Director - Kaitlyn Root

Maple Plain, kaitlyn@mnsca.org
Office: 763-479-1011

MSCA Regional Directors

Region - 1 James Widner

Strnadquist, MN 56758
(218)-991-2210, james.widner@hotmail.com

Region - 2 & 3 Dustin Wiese

Pequot Lakes, MN
(218) 537-0096, dustinwiesefwr@gmail.com

Region - 4 Mark Schoenfeld

Dawson, MN 56232
(612) 325-4001, circlesco@hotmail.com

Region - 5 Darv Keehr

Pierz, MN 56364
(320) 630-6337, dkeehr@brainerd.net

Region - 6 Ryan Anderson

Aitkin, MN 56431
(320) 364-0355, royalempireangus@gmail.com

Region - 7 Thomas Salentiny

Fulda, MN 56131
(507) 329-2574, thomassalentiny@gmail.com

Region - 8 Jessica Lambrecht

LeCenter, MN 56057
(952) 994-1249, jessi.lambrecht@gmail.com

Region - 9 Amanda Armstrong

Owatonna, MN 55060
(651) 775-2284, armstrongfarms96@gmail.com

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For Advertising Contact:

Kaitlyn Root, kaitlyn@mnsca.org,
763-479-1011

Post Master Send Address

Corrections to:

Minnesota Cattleman Publications
PO Box 12 • Maple Plain, MN 55359



ROSEMARY GUSTAFSON
CattleWomen President

Greetings from northern Minnesota!

The leaves are beginning to change, and we're in the midst of harvest. As the seasons shift, we are eager to follow the changes in our MN State Beef Ambassador team, who have been busy volunteering at the MN State Fair on the Christensen Stage, the MN Beef Council booth, Farmfest and various local county fairs throughout the summer.

The CattleWomen and our MN State Beef Ambassadors are gearing up for the MN Beef Expo, scheduled for October 17-20. During this event, the Ambassador team will present at the Symposium and also

lead a special session for the Expo's young attendees.

They plan to carry out their yearly scholarship raffle to support the 2025 Scholarship Fund, with the drawing taking place on the Expo's Saturday. Attendees can buy tickets from any Ambassador or by sending an email to MNBeefAmbassadors@gmail.com. In addition to the hospitality tent, the Minnesota CattleWomen are working to enhance the educational opportunities for young people at our "Calf Pen" booth, aimed at those under 14, to inspire them to become future Ambassadors! Come check out the "Calf Pen," the Ambassador booth or our hospitality tent for a warm cup of hot apple cider, some snacks and a cozy spot to unwind!

The MN CattleWomen are collaborating with Neogen to host "Disease: The One Chain You Need to Break." This event will feature two veterinarians from Neogen who will adopt a hands-on approach to disrupting the disease cycle.

They will address H5N1 and its significant impact on

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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the beef industry. Attendees will have the opportunity to participate in hands-on training on injection techniques and discuss the importance of correct injection practices in terms of animal health and product quality. The day will conclude with a discussion on effective control of ectoparasites and the proper application techniques of control methods. The event is scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 28, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in Aitkin, MN. Registration is

open; please sign up now. This event is open to all interested cattle women, members and non-members.

Our membership currently stands at 114 members, and we are eagerly anticipating a productive fall schedule. We are excited to join forces with the rest of the beef industry in Minnesota as the MN CattleWomen refocus on education.

For more details or to register for any event, please visit us at mncattlewomen.org.





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State Fair



The Minnesota Beef Council had a presence at the 2024 Minnesota State Fair with a booth in the Dairy Building. The promotional booth focused on educating fairgoers about beef, especially beef production in Minnesota. Those who stopped at the booth were able to interact by spinning a wheel, answering a question and

taking home a giveaway along with other beef literature. The fair was well attended, with nearly 2 million people at the fairgrounds over the 12 days. We would like to extend a big thank you to all of the volunteers who took the time to help at our booth!



While at the fair, the Minnesota Beef Council also went on air with Twin Cities Live, 5 Eye-witness News at the KSTP booth located on the fairgrounds. Ashley Wulf, Communications Director, presented three different beef dish op-

tions one could find at the fair. The segment can be viewed on our website, mnbeef.org, and can also be found on our Facebook page. The next Twin Cities Live segment will be back in the studio on Tuesday, September 24.

Build Your Base

The Minnesota Beef Council (MBC) offers a program called Build Your Base, a comprehensive sports nutrition program geared towards preparing both high school and college athletes for a successful sports season by utilizing beef as the premier protein. The program was first started by the South Dakota Beef Industry Council and is in partnership with Sanford Health and the Sanford Sports Science Institute. MBC has been implementing the program in Minnesota since 2022. Through Build Your

Base, schools can receive educational resources such as nutrition-based posters and handouts, recipes and meal plans. There is also an opportunity to receive reimbursement for beef served at pre- and post-game team meals along with beef jerky that can be used on bus rides and in weight rooms. If you are interested in having your local school participate in this program, you can contact the Minnesota Beef Council office at 763-479-1011. To learn more and apply, visit mnbeef.org and click on the nutrition tab.

MNBC GRILLING RECIPE SIMPLE BEEF AND BREW CHILI



Fall has begun, which means it's time for tailgating recipes! Whip up this delicious chili that combines the flavors of ground beef, beer, black beans, tomatoes and chili seasonings for your next football game whether that's at the field or watching it in the comfort of your home. For a full collection of tailgating beef recipes, visit mnbeef.org/recipes.

INGREDIENTS:

- 1 pound ground beef (96% lean)
- 1 medium green or red bell pepper, chopped
- 1 can (15 ounces) reduced-sodium or regular black beans, rinsed, drained
- 1 can (14-1/2 ounce) diced tomatoes with green chilies
- 1 bottle (12 ounces) light beer or 1-1/2 cups reduced-sodium beef broth
- 1 packet (1-1/4 ounces) reduced-sodium or regular chili seasoning mix

Toppings:

Sliced cherry tomatoes, sliced green onions, sliced Serrano or jalapeño peppers, chopped onions, lime wedges and tortilla chips (optional)

COOKING:

Heat large nonstick skillet over medium heat until hot. Add ground beef and bell pepper; cook 8 to 10 minutes, breaking beef into 3/4-inch crumbles and stirring occasionally.

Cook's Tip: Cooking times are for fresh or thoroughly thawed ground beef. Ground Beef should be cooked to an internal temperature of 160°F. Color is not a reliable indicator of ground beef doneness.

Stir in beans, tomatoes, beer and chili seasoning. Bring to a boil. Reduce heat; cover and simmer 20 minutes to blend flavors, stirring occasionally. Serve with toppings, as desired.

Nutrition information per serving: 253 Calories; 45 Calories from fat; 5g Total Fat (2 g Saturated Fat; 0 g Monounsaturated Fat); 65 mg Cholesterol; 717 mg Sodium; 22 g Total Carbohydrate; 5.8 g Dietary Fiber; 28 g Protein; 4.4 mg Iron; 5.7 mg NE Niacin; 0.4 mg Vitamin B6; 2.1 mcg Vitamin B12; 5.3 mg Zinc; 17.9 mcg Selenium; 89.5 mg Choline.

This recipe is an excellent source of Dietary Fiber, Protein, Iron, Niacin, Vitamin B6, Vitamin B12, Zinc and Selenium, and it is a good source of Choline.

* 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 mnbeef.org.

MBC Board Meeting

The next Minnesota Beef Council Board of Directors Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 13, 2024.

Minnesota Beef Council Events

September 24 | Twin Cities Live Segment

October 17 - 20 | Beef Expo

October 23 - 24 | Top of the Class session

November 12 | Strategic Planning Meeting

November 13 | MBC Board of Directors Meeting



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Inaction on Traceability is Unacceptable

By Mark Eisele, NCBA President

The future of the U.S. cattle industry hinges on our ability to swiftly respond to disease outbreaks. Yet, some groups and individuals continue to fight the tools that could protect our livelihoods. The most recent rule to come under fire is USDA's animal disease traceability regulation.

In the face of a potential foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) outbreak, every minute counts. The choice between outdated methods and advanced technology could mean the difference between a controlled situation and a nationwide catastrophe. Imagine the chaos of an FMD outbreak, with markets shuttered, and producers frantically searching for nearly illegible metal bright tags in the pouring rain. This is not a future we can afford. Some argue these changes are unnecessary or burdensome, the reality is that clinging to outdated ideas, practices and technology puts our entire industry at risk.

USDA's new rules call for the use of an electronic identification (EID) tag in breeding cattle, 18 months of age and

older, being transported across state lines. This class of cattle has required an ID tag for more than a decade. USDA is simply changing the technology from a metal bright tag to an updated EID tag.

Innovation has always been the backbone of American agriculture. The use of EID tag technology is not just a step forward; it's a necessity for an industry that must be prepared for anything in a time of porous borders and uncertain global politics. USDA's rule will allow cattle to be tracked more quickly in the event of FMD or a similar emergency when time is critical. We all know the metal clips in the ears of cattle are nearly impossible to read after a year or two. We also know that reading them, writing down the information from the tag, and transferring it to a database is slow, cumbersome and subject to human error. These issues can be alleviated by simply running a wand over an EID tag, making traceability faster and less error prone.

There are still issues and concerns with USDA's effort

to upgrade technology. One of the issues that must be addressed is how data is gathered and stored. Producer privacy is paramount to this effort. NCBA has long advocated for tag data to be held by private, third-

party companies, like Cattle-Trace, rather than USDA. A third-party holder of information helps protect producer privacy while also allowing

the rapid traceback required in the event of a disease outbreak. Cost is the other factor NCBA has worked to alleviate. To help lower the costs of USDA's rule,

Inaction on Traceability. . . continued on page 10



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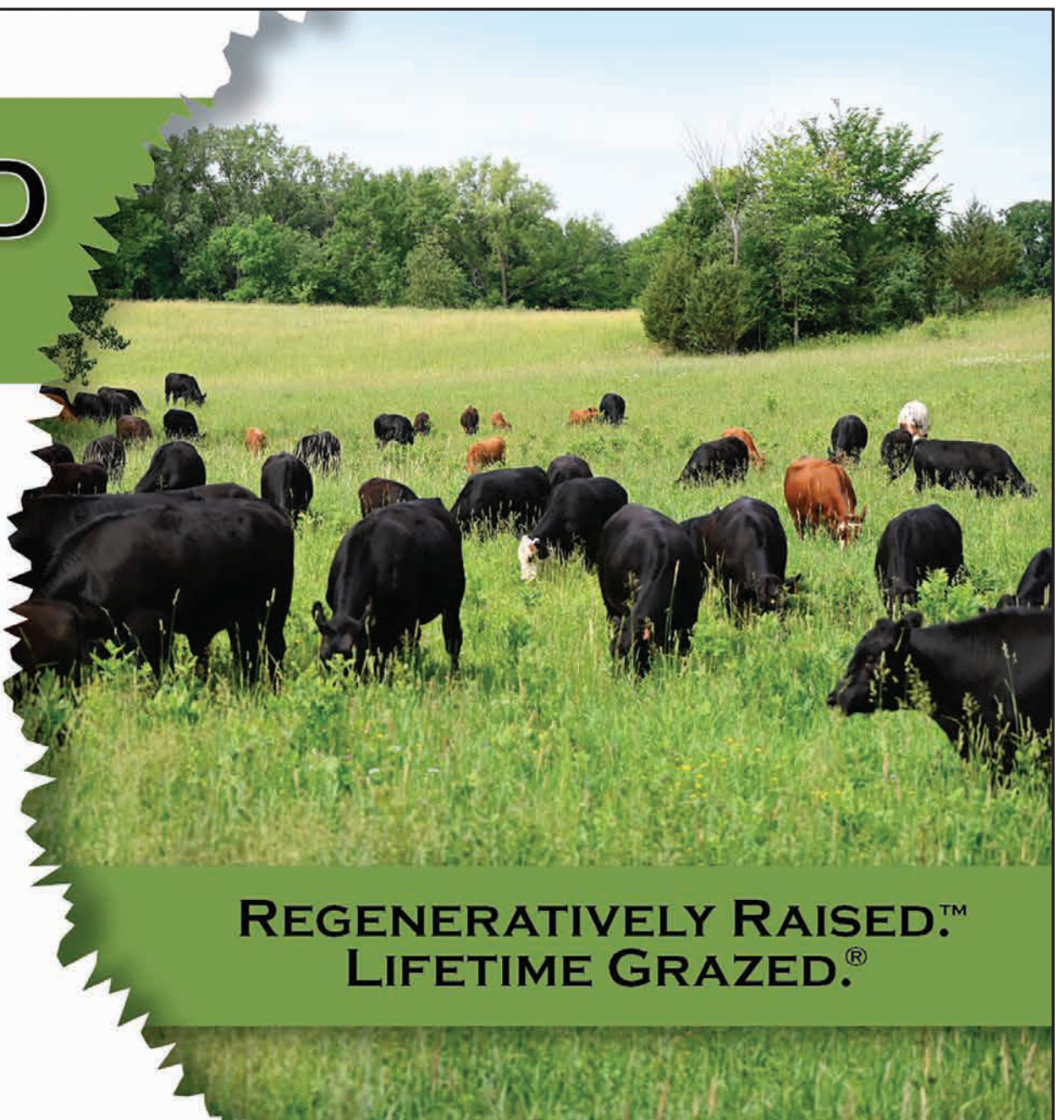
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Nothing Beats the Real Thing

By Colin Woodall, NCBA CEO

In July's edition of National Cattlemen, NCBA president Mark Eisele talked about the work we have done in fighting back against lab-grown protein. This has been a priority issue for us, and Mark did an excellent job recapping recent developments. As I read his article, it got me thinking about all the work NCBA has done on the issue of fake meat, so I wanted to build on the piece he wrote.

In early 2019, Beyond Meat, Incorporated, was listed on NASDAQ with an initial public offering price of \$25 per share. It started trading at almost twice that number and, given the hype around their products, the stock price quickly rose to almost \$235 per share by the end of July. Just a few weeks later, Burger King introduced their Impossible Whopper and it seemed that was all we heard about for weeks. You, as our membership, made it clear that NCBA needed to step up and start punching. Thanks to the policy direction you gave us, we began our campaign and made the term "fake meat" one that was used in daily conversation. We illustrated how the

ingredient lists of these products were similar to dog food. We pushed for accurate labels. More importantly, we were able to prove their claims about our environmental impact were absolutely false and misleading. From news stories to working with Congress, we were able to protect and defend beef.

The interesting thing about Beyond Meat and Impossible Foods is they built their entire marketing campaigns around disparaging real beef. They forgot about the need to create a product the consumer actually wants and is willing to pay for. That became painfully clear to them during the pandemic when the consumer was cleaning out the beef case and leaving behind fully stocked displays of Beyond products. As I am writing this, Beyond Meat's stock is trading around \$6 per share. That is a drop of more than 95% from its high. As I was looking at the historical stock price chart, an article popped up about Beyond Meat with the title "Some Ideas Are Too Bad To Invest In." That pretty much sums up the state of plant-based fake meat.

As Mark wrote about,

though, we're still in the game of defending our industry from lab-grown protein. We're not willing to call this stuff "fake meat" because we don't know how it is produced. We know they take cells from cattle and put them in a bioreactor along with a lot of other stuff that former NCBA President Todd Wilkinson famously calls "goop." It is a good name since the companies have not disclosed what it's comprised of. Do you find it interesting that many of the people funding these companies are also the ones who are firmly against conventional agriculture and love to use the terms "factory farming" and "industrial agriculture?"

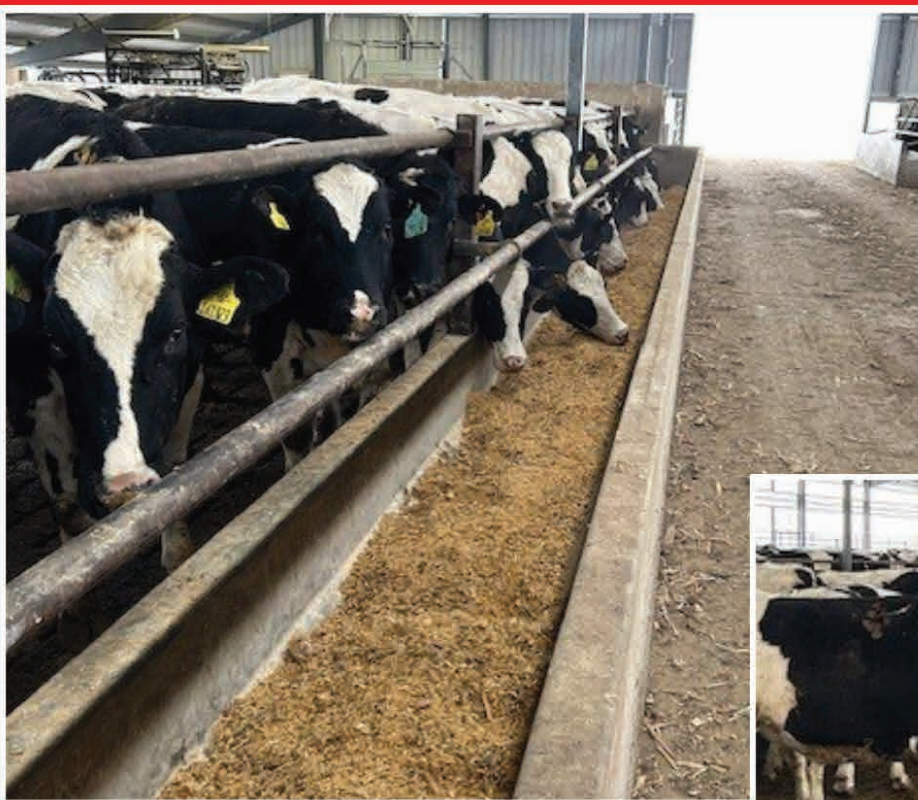
These companies have yet to create a product that imitates beef, but they haven't given up. In the meantime, we have been successful in securing USDA's role in inspecting these products. Lab-grown protein companies like Upside Foods only wanted FDA to have jurisdiction over their manufacturing process. FDA uses a risk-based inspection process which means you might see an inspector once a week, once a month

or possibly once a year. Beef processing plants must have inspectors on the job every day. Since live bovine cells are being used in the bioreactor process, there is no reason to believe they would not be subject to many of the same food borne threats we are. We succeeded in securing USDA's role in the inspection process. That is a huge win for us. We must still work on ensuring these products are labeled accurately for the consumer, but that has not been an easy task with the Biden Administration.

In the meantime, the lab-grown protein companies aren't finding much love. Upside Foods cut its workforce and restructured its leadership team. SCiFi Foods, a California company focused only on lab-grown protein from cattle cells went out of business. Earlier this summer, we discovered that the U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) was preparing to spend your tax dollars to fund another California company called BioMADE in developing a lab-grown protein that would provide nutrient-dense military rations for our men and women in the armed

forces. There is no way NCBA was going to allow our troops to be treated like lab rats when beef is already a nutrient-dense food available today. NCBA was on just about every news station talking about this waste of tax dollars and mistreatment of our armed forces personnel. We had a long line of Senators and Members of Congress offering amendments to stop this. Retired Air Force Brigadier General Don Bacon represents the 2nd Congressional District of Nebraska and made it clear this action by DoD was unacceptable to him as a Congressman and an Air Force veteran. I'm pleased to let you know NCBA killed that DoD project.

Nothing beats beef the way nature intended it to be. The consumer knows it and is showing their support through strong beef demand. The fake meat and lab-grown companies continue to learn this lesson the hard way. This fight is far from being over, but NCBA will continue to lead in defending you.



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Farmfest Photos . . . continued from page 1



Farmfest is the perfect opportunity to meet with Congressional leaders. Pictured is MSCA Executive Director Kaitlyn Root, Congressman Brad Finstad and MSCA President Jake Thompson.



Folks from around MN and neighboring states gather at the Cattlemen's barn to enjoy their beef lunches.



Kaitlyn and Jake met with Minnesota State Legislators to discuss next year's legislative session.

HOTEL BOOKING

MN Cattle Industry Convention
Best Western Plus, St. Cloud, room block

MN Cattle Industry Convention hotel rooms must be reserved by **Tuesday, November 5** to receive the group rate.

Scan the QR code to book online, or call (320) 253-0606 and mention the Minnesota Cattle Convention.



Zeltwanger . . . continued from page 2

positive results farther down the line if you are selling to a feedlot. They would also rather buy calves that have been worked at least once. Also, I would like to stress feed testing your forages this year. If your area was anything like ours this year, we went from dry to wet early. Rain makes grass grow, it also makes putting up quality hay a challenge. I have talked to plenty of producers, myself included, that did not get all their feed put up like they hoped.

Unlike last year, we have lots of it, but it lacks in quality. Take the time to test your forages so you know what your animals will need extra of. Winter is a hard time to catch up on body condition, so it is best to start now and stay ahead of mother nature. I could keep going but like all of you, I have to get out and get some more projects done before it is too late. Like always, I hope your calves are heavy and your cows fat!

Inaction on Traceability. . . continued from page 6

NCBA was able to secure \$15 million in funding for the purchase of EID tags, to ensure cattle producers aren't saddled with added compliance costs. None of us in the agriculture community desire more government intrusion in our businesses or our lives. NCBA has stood on the front lines fighting, and might I say winning, many of those issues for decades. We have always stood for industry solutions to industry problems and worked to be proactive in creating those solutions. Those whose only answer is "no," and

those individuals and groups who would allow perfect to be the enemy of good, have created a vacuum that the government is more than happy to fill. It is past time for us, as cattle producers, to create an industry-led and industry-controlled solution to disease traceability. Our current system and the ability to rapidly respond to a real disease outbreak is insufficient to protect each of us and our livelihoods. Now is the time for the cattle industry to lead, not lag.

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NEWS BRIEFS

NCBA, PLC Opens 2025 Spring Internship Submissions

The 2025 spring internship application process for NCBA and the Public Lands Council (PLC) is now open. The internship provides students with the opportunity to work jointly with NCBA and PLC to advance policies important to animal agriculture.

Key responsibilities for public policy interns include participating in lobbying efforts, communicating with NCBA and PLC members, reviewing Federal Registry notices, participating in meetings with federal agencies, collaborating with Congressional and agency staff and other duties.

Applicants must be a junior or senior undergraduate student or a graduate student. A background in agriculture or the cattle industry is preferred. Applicants must have a minimum GPA of 3.0 and be available for the duration of the internship (January 6, 2025 – Friday, May 9, 2025). Successful applicants will also have excellent research, writing and communications skills.

Visit ncba.org/membership/student-membership/internships/ for more information and to apply.

Farms and Ranches Required to File Ownership Information with U.S. Treasury

Farms and Ranches Structured as Certain Legal Entities Are Required to File Beneficial Ownership Information Reports Under New Law

The National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA) is reminding cattle producers to consult with their tax attorneys regarding the Corporate Transparency Act, with key deadlines approaching at the end of 2024. NCBA's grassroots members recently passed policy at the 2024 Summer Business Meeting directing the association to take action on the Corporate Transparency Act, including outreach and education to cattle producers.

The Corporate Transparency Act was passed by Congress in 2021 and requires companies to report beneficial ownership information to the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN), a division of the U.S. Department of the Treasury. The goal of the legislation is to reduce financial crime, but the new mandate will impact farmers and ranchers whose operations have fewer than 20 employees and are structured as corporations such as limited liability companies (LLC) or companies that are registered with the secretary of state.

"Farmers and ranchers need to speak with their tax attorneys to make sure they are not in violation of this new law, and to submit necessary information to FinCEN before the December 31 deadline," said NCBA Tax and Credit Committee Vice Chair Jeff Magee, a Mississippi cattle producer and former Internal Revenue Service agent. "I strongly encourage you to review the resources on www.fincen.gov/boi to determine if the Corporate Transparency Act applies to your business. Deadlines are coming up soon and failing to comply with the law can carry a fine of \$500 per day and possible jail time. For more information, contact FinCEN and consult your attorney or tax professional."

Farms and ranches that are structured as corporations, LLCs, or other entities that file with the secretary of state may be subject to the Corporate Transparency Act and required to file a "beneficial ownership" report with FinCEN, identifying the individuals who own or manage the operation. For companies registered and operating before January 1, 2024, the deadline to file this report is the end of 2024. Companies registered or created in 2024 have 90 days from the date of registration or creation to file their beneficial ownership report. In 2025, the reporting period will be reduced to 30 days.

These reports require basic identifying information like legal name, date of birth, and home or business address. Resources, including a frequently asked questions document and a Small Entity Compliance Guide, and the filing form are available online at fincen.gov/boi.

Producers with additional questions should contact FinCEN by calling 1-800-767-2825 toll free or 703-905-3591.

Every producers' situation is different, and this information should not be construed as professional advice. Always consult your attorney and/or tax professional to determine how the Corporate Transparency Act impacts you.

EPA Calls for FRRCC Producer Nominations

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced they are looking for producer nominations to serve on the Farm, Ranch and Rural Communities Federal Advisory Committee (FRRCC). NCBA encourages cattle producers to submit nominating letters to join this important committee.

FRRCC usually holds two meetings each year where producers from the agriculture sector give advice and policy recommendations to the EPA administrator. It is critical that cattle producers are on this committee to give valuable feedback from the cattle industry.

Submit nominations to FRRCC@epa.gov, and learn more about the nominating process here: federalregister.gov/documents/2024/07/22/2024-15982/farm-ranch-and-rural-communities-advisory-committee-frcc-call-for-nominations.

CattleCon 2025 Registration Now Open

San Antonio Welcomes Beef Industry With Texas Hospitality

Registration is now open for CattleCon 2025, which will be held in San Antonio, Texas, Feb. 4-6. This annual event is "where the beef industry meets" to conduct business, attend educational sessions, experience engaging speakers and enjoy family fun.

"CattleCon is the industry's biggest event of the year," said Mark Eisele, National Cattlemen's Beef Association president. "Cattle producers from across the country will gather to make decisions, network, learn and have some fun."

CattleCon 2025 officially kicks off on Tuesday, Feb. 4, and the cattle industry will be hard at work guiding both Beef Checkoff and NCBA policy programs. The National Cattlemen's Beef Association, the Cattlemen's Beef Board, American National CattleWomen, CattleFax and National Cattlemen's Foundation will hold annual meetings during the event.

CattleCon attendees can look forward to a variety of educational opportunities including the CattleFax Outlook Seminar, weather and industry updates, sustainability forum and the 32nd annual Cattlemen's College. Cattlemen's College will include two days of classroom sessions followed by a full day of live animal demonstrations in the NCBA Trade Show arena.

Industry leaders will be recognized during the Environmental Stewardship Award Program reception, Beef Checkoff-funded Beef Quality Assurance Awards program and Cattle Feeders Hall of Fame Banquet. More than nine acres of the NCBA Trade Show will provide plenty of room to engage with exhibitors, listen to educational sessions, and enjoy entertainment and daily receptions.

Getting to San Antonio is made easier with discounted flights on United, a registration payment plan and free Thursday trade show registration for FFA and 4-H members. Cattle producers attending CattleCon 2025 are also eligible to apply for the Rancher Resilience Grant, which provides reimbursement for registration and up to three nights hotel. For more information and to apply, visit www.ncba.org/producers/rancher-resilience-grant.

A variety of registration options are available, including super saver rates for those who register early. For more information and to register and reserve housing, visit convention.ncba.org.

SAVE THE DATE

MSCA Summer Tour

July 15, 2025

Little Falls, MN



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www.mnsca.org

NEWS BRIEFS

Rancher Resilience Grant

Apply for the chance to attend NCBA wCattleCon for FREE

Interested in attending Cattlemen's College at Cattle-Con? NCBA has an opportunity for you to attend for free! Visit <https://www.ncba.org/producers> to learn more on how to apply. The first 75 beef cattle producer applicants will receive a fixed grant amount that should cover one full Education registration and up to three nights hotel in San Antonio.

USDA Appoints New Members to the Advisory Committee on Beginning Farmers & Ranchers

Wiese one of appointed individuals

On Aug. 14, The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) announced the appointment of 20 new members to the Advisory Committee on Beginning Farmers and Ranchers. This committee is part of USDA's support for equitable access to USDA's services and programs and creating more market opportunities for local and regional production.

Dustin Wiese, MSCA Region 2/3 director, is one of these appointed individuals.

First established in 1992, the Advisory Committee on Beginning Farmers and Ranchers (ACBFR) advises the Secretary of Agriculture on strategies, policies, and programs that enhance opportunities for new farmers and ranchers.

Legislation Introduced to Reform the ESA

House Natural Resource Chairman Bruce Westerman (AR) and Rep. Dan Newhouse (WA) introduced the ESA Amendments Act recently, which would update the Endangered Species Act (ESA) to provide more timely conservation efforts on America's rangeland. This bill prevents critical habitat designations on private land, requires more economic analysis on possible habitat designations and streamlines the process to remove listings of recovered species.

Bipartisan Legislation to Protect Small Businesses Passes Committee

The House Small Business Committee passed the bipartisan Prove It Act, introduced by Reps. Brad Finstad (MN), Yadira Caraveo (CO) and Nathaniel Moran (TX). This legislation would strengthen small business protections by creating a way for business owners to raise their concerns with regulators who do not properly consider the possible economic impact of new regulations. The bill also allows business owners to ask for a congressional review of a federal agency's work to ensure any new regulation is fully compliant with current law.

Breitkreutzs Chosen as Top Four Finalists for Conservation Award

MSCA members Grant and Dawn Breitkreutz are one of four finalists for the inaugural Minnesota Leopold Award. Grant has served on the MSCA board for 14 years and is the current past president of the association, and Dawn has served on the Farmfest Committee with Grant and has been very involved with the association for many years. They are excellent stewards of the land and role models to many.

At Stoney Creek Farm, located near Redwood Falls, the Breitkreutzs have converted a conventional row crop and cow/calf operation into a regenerative farming showcase. They grow a diverse rotation of corn, soybeans, oats and cereal rye, using a no-till and cover cropping system.

Cattle are grazed across much of their farmland to increase its organic content. In addition to 675 acres of permanent pasture and some remnant prairies to prevent erosion, shoreline along the Minnesota River has been restored.

Visit <https://sandcountyfoundation.org> to learn more about the award and the Breitkreutz operation.

IMPORTANT DATES:

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

July 15, 2025 - MSCA Summer Tour– Little Falls

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

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NEWS BRIEFS

Traceability Rule Announced

Effective date of rule is Nov. 5, 2024

The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) at the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) announced publication of a Final Rule to update the 2013 animal disease traceability rule by requiring visually-readable, electronic identification (EID) of certain cattle prior to interstate movement.

The USDA final traceability rule amends a previous 2013 rule that requires sexually intact cattle 18 months of age or older, rodeo and exhibition cattle, and dairy cattle moving interstate to have an official form of animal identification. The 2013 rule, which cattle producers already comply with, instituted visual ID tags for interstate movement. The new final rule switches producers to electronic ID tags, which are easier to read and would yield a faster traceability response during a foreign animal disease outbreak.

The cattle industry faces immense threats from foreign animal diseases, which can be carried into the country by individual travelers, on contraband products or through regular commerce. It is estimated that a foot-and-mouth disease outbreak in the U.S. would lead to \$221 billion in economic losses.

Only 11% of the U.S. cattle herd is impacted by this final rule. The rule will not take effect for six months to provide time for producers to prepare.

MDA Funding Available to Combat the Spread of Avian Influenza

To combat the spread of avian influenza on Minnesota farms, the Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) is now accepting applications for grants to help livestock producers buy and install preventative equipment for their operations.

Funded through a 2024 legislative appropriation to the MDA's Agricultural Growth and Research Initiative (AGRI) Program, the Protect Grant reimburses up to 80% of the cost of eligible virus prevention measures, with a maximum award of \$10,000 per farm. A 20% cash match is required, which may be reduced by up to \$2,000 for related time and labor costs incurred by the applicant. Approximately \$500,000 will be awarded in this round of grants.

A previous round of Protect Grant funding in early 2024 awarded \$500,000 to 54 producers in 34 counties across the state.

Protect Grant applicants must be the principal operator of a livestock operation in Minnesota that produces and sells at least \$1,000 of livestock products annually. Beginning farmers (those who have farmed for 10 years or less) will be prioritized in this round of awards.

For the purposes of this grant, livestock includes beef cattle, dairy cattle, swine, poultry, goats, mules, bison, sheep, horses, farmed cervids (deer, elk), ratites (flightless birds including emu), and llamas.

Examples of eligible equipment include lasers, sound machines, and other measures to scare wild species away from livestock operations; isolation pens; electronic animal ID systems; air filtration systems; Danish entry systems; and truck washes.

Applications are due by 4 p.m. Central Time on Thursday, October 31, 2024, and the MDA plans to notify applicants of decisions no later than December 18, 2024. Grant awards can only be used for the purchase of eligible items made after grant contract agreements are signed, which is expected to take place in February 2025.

Visit mda.state.mn.us/agri-protecting-livestock-avian-influenza-grantfor for full grant details and to apply.

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2024 MN Cattle Industry Convention

Dec. 6-7, 2024

River's Edge Convention Center
St. Cloud, MN



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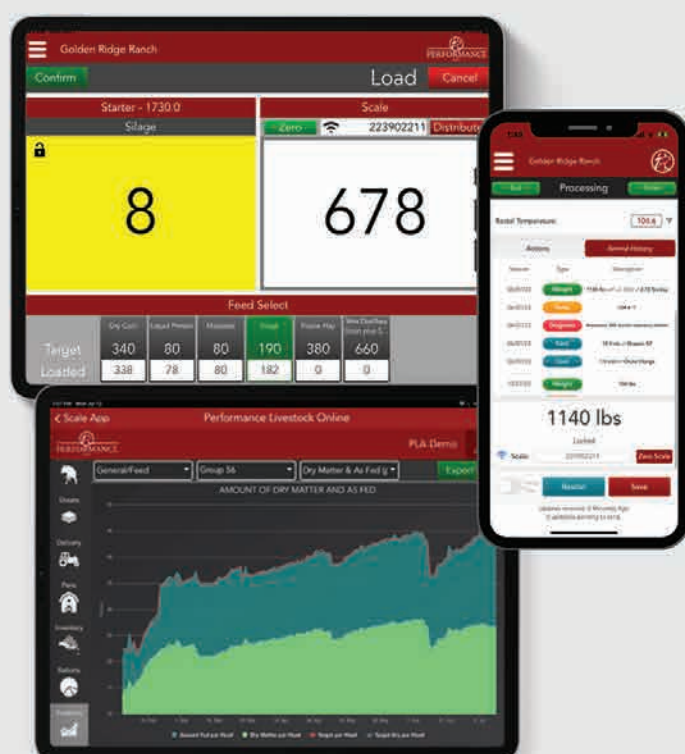


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1751 - 2000 - \$2,154	Total Dues Enclosed This Membership	_____