



The Minnesota Cattlemans

The Official Newspaper of the Minnesota State Cattlemen's Association®

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Volume 27 | Edition 2 | March 2024

MSCA Represents Producers at NCBA CattleCon

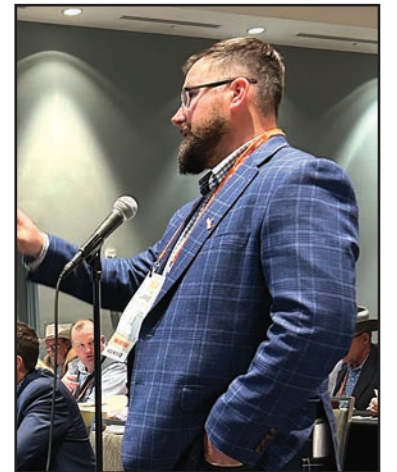
Minnesotans were well-represented at this year's NCBA CattleCon in Orlando, Florida. MSCA Executive Director Kaitlyn Root, MSCA President Jake Thompson, MSCA Membership and Industry Relations Chair Angie Ford, MSCA member Glen Graff and MSCA member Mike Landuyt represented Minnesota in Orlando, along with Minnesota Beef Council staff, Cattlemen's Beef Board representatives and other Minnesota cattle producers.

This event offers opportunities to network with cattle producers across the country and impact NCBA's policy.

Grassroots efforts are showcased each year through NCBA's CattleCon. MSCA worked to ensure Minnesota cattle producers' voices were heard on a national level during policy committee meetings this year.

Resolutions

The MSCA passed a resolution on disaster payments and amended two other already



Left: MSCA member Mike Landuyt addresses the audience during the Region III Meeting at NCBA's convention. Landuyt served as the Region III Vice President, and the newly elected Region III Vice President is Charlie Beshar from Missouri. **Center:** MSCA Executive Director Kaitlyn Root shares an update on Minnesota events/current issues during the Region III Meeting at convention. Root discussed wolf predation, deer depredation, the proposed elk transfer in NE MN and highlighted the challenges producers in southeastern Minnesota face due to the current attention on drinking water and nitrate levels. **Right:** MSCA President Jake Thompson presents a resolution on disaster payments during the Ag and Food Policy Committee Meeting at convention.

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
5. Freeborn County Cattlemen	16. Rock-Islebees Cattlemen
6. Glacial Ridge Cattlemen	17. Snake River Cattlemen
7. Houston County Cattlemen	18. South Central Cattlemen
8. Le Sueur County Area Cattlemen	19. Southwest Cattlemen
9. Midwest Cattlemen	20. Tri-County Cattlemen
10. Minnesota Cattlemen	21. Wabasha 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>

existing NCBA policies.

MSCA President Jake Thompson presented a resolution on disaster payments during the Ag and Food Policy Committee Meeting at convention.

The MSCA, along with the Iowa Cattlemen's Association, passed this resolution in support of basing disaster assistance payments off of accurate loss based on carrying capacity for producers who



MSCA President Jake Thompson, MSCA Membership and Industry Relations Chair Angie Ford and MSCA Executive Director Kaitlyn Root pictured at the 2024 NCBA CattleCon.

CattleCon ... continued on page 15

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NEWS - TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL



Minnesotans gather in Orlando at NCBA's 2024 CattleCon.



KAITLYN ROOT
Executive Director
Office: 763-479-1011

Hello all!
Happy spring! Even though it doesn't really feel like we had winter this year. I am sure this warmer than usual weather has kept you all busy on your

operations with projects you wouldn't typically get to during the winter. Although the productivity is a positive, let's hope for some moisture soon.

The Minnesota State Cattlemen's Association has kept busy this winter with attending local association meetings and University of Minnesota Cow/Calf Days to speak about the MSCA and what we do for our members. We take advantage of these opportunities to share our work, and it has been great to meet most of you at these meetings!

We had a fabulous time networking with cattle producers from around the country and

learning about NCBA's policy priorities at NCBA's CattleCon in February. This event highlights grassroots efforts and offers opportunities to learn about how NCBA fights for cattle producers. I highly encourage you all to attend this convention and watch for the Rancher Resilience Grant to help cover convention costs.

Minnesota's Legislative Session began Feb. 12 and will run through May 20. We are monitoring and addressing legislative concerns, with our top priorities including advocating for producers in southeastern Minnesota with drinking water concerns; deer depredation

and animal predation; fighting against harmful wildlife relocation; supporting proper labeling on lab-grown meat; and fighting against any moratoriums on feedlots.

It is crucial that we meet with representatives during the legislative session to discuss priorities. Join the MSCA on Thursday, April 25, from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. on the front lawn of the Minnesota Capitol in St. Paul while we grill steak for legislators and staff.

This is your opportunity to meet with representatives and share the story of beef production with them. Hope to see you all there!



JAKE THOMPSON
President

Greeting fellow cattlemen and cattlemen,
What a beautiful winter/spring it has been so far. I know here at our farm, not having

to constantly move snow has made chores a lot lighter.

We had our quarterly meeting in Aitkin, MN, earlier this month. It was a great turn out and a productive meeting, and I wanted to thank Kevin and the Central Cattlemen for hosting.

Reports from around the state and sectors were given along with updates on NCBA CattleCon 2024, Alliance to Advance Climate Smart Agriculture (formerly known as R.I.P.E). Bruce Kleven gave his legislative update which is always action packed.

We did pass some interim policy on renewable energy

on farmland. This is a growing problem with solar farms coming into areas and eating up very large amounts of land at rates that farmers and ranchers cannot compete with. We also elected a new Region One Director, James Widner.

Discussion was had on wolf policy and strategizing for the best possible solution for the future. It is great to be able to move the quarterly meetings around the state to get as much local involvement as possible. If your local would like to host a meeting, please reach out to Kaitlyn to get it scheduled.

As more annual meetings

take place for the local chapters, please don't hesitate to reach out if you would like someone to give a state update. MSCA had representation at most the U of M Cow/Calf Days and every local that has asked for an update from the board.

Mark your calendars for April 25 as we venture down to St. Paul to the Capitol for the annual Steak on a Stick event. This is a great event for MSCA to meet and interact with many different state legislators while enjoying a perfectly grilled, high quality, steak.

Cheers!



RACHEL GRAY
President-Elect

Good morning from the north. What a wild winter or lack of winter! We cannot believe our lack of snow and the warm weather.

We have completed our calving season and overall, it was successful. Of course, calving 90 heifers, you run into the occasional issue, but the calves are healthy, and the heifers are good mommas.

This year we made some additions to the things we had in our calving supplies. We made sure that we had a brand of colostrum/energy gel and a bottle of oxygen. The oxygen came in handy if we had a calf that was a little slow or a bit large.

We had a couple calves over

100 pounds, and they perked up right away with the addition of the colostrum/energy paste and oxygen. We simply used a solo cup on the end of a small oxygen tank to get oxygen to the calf. It came in especially handy on the couple of cold nights we had when a calf was born and got a little chilled.

We got the calf into hot water, gave the gel and oxygen. In about 40 minutes it was back to its mom and nursing well. I hope your calving season goes well.

I will have the chance to speak to the Minnesota Senate Agriculture Committee on the 25th of March. Minnesota is declaring March 24th Women in Ag Day. That will coincide with the National Women in Ag Day.

The Senate Agriculture Committee has asked a few women to come and give a brief overview of their industry and what we do on our farms and ranches. I will be bringing a beef producer perspective to the floor.

Gray . . .
continued on page 15



ERIC ZELTWANGER
Cow/Calf Council Chair

Greetings fellow cattlemen, I hope that this finds you and your operations enjoying what may be the best winter I can remember (at least for those of us with livestock). West central Minnesota has been as snow-free and warm as I could wish for, even warmer than we wanted some days.

We received some moisture this winter, ours came in the form of four inches of rain between Christmas and New Years. Not ideal for the producers who run their cows on farm fields for the winter, but it did hold the dust down for a couple days.

Since then, we have had little to no snow fall and lots of black

ground is showing. As nice as that makes the winter, it can be concerning that we do not have much moisture going into spring. We are coming off two years where we had just enough sub-soil moisture to grow a crop, but the grass sure struggles.

We can only look up and pray we will be taken care of. Some of the more experienced farmers tell me, "It takes a long time to get very dry, but it can get really wet in short order." All I know for sure is we will take whatever we get and do the best we can with it!

With all the talk of weather done, we can get on to being cowboys. The guys that calve early are enjoying the weather and those of us getting set to start have our fingers crossed it can stay nice.

The calves that are coming this spring look like they will be highly sought after whenever you decide to market them. I sound like a broken record, but I would encourage producers to watch the markets and take protection where you need it.

Zeltwanger . . .
continued on page 3

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, ltimber1616@gmail.com

Past President - Grant Breitkreutz
Redwood Falls, MN 56283
(507) 430-0607, gdbreitkreutz@hotmail.com

Advisor to the Board of Directors - Mark Pankonin
Lamberton, MN 56152
(507) 220-1412, mpank8@yahoo.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, circlescco@hotmail.com

Region - 5 Darv Keehr
Pierz, MN 56364
(320) 630-6337, dkeehr@brainerd.net

Region - 6 Ryan Anderson
Milaca, MN 56353
(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

Minnesota Cattleman

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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

Hello from northern Minnesota where we, along with the rest of the state, are enjoying what looks to be a very early spring. Although this winter has not been a typical Minnesota winter, it has made traveling around the state easier, like this past weekend when I was able to travel to Aitkin for the MSCA Quarterly Meeting. There is such value in gathering together to hear a statewide perspective on our industry.

Instead of snow and below zero temperatures, there is mud which is always an unwelcome challenge for calving cattle. With calving on everyone's minds, our MN State Beef Ambassador team decided to host an interactive day of learning for young men and women age 14 to 19 in Kimball, MN on April 20 entitled Calving Camp!

This hands-on day focuses on bringing the group through different stations related to calving and having them hone their skills without the pressure of a living calf. Section One: Suit up and lube up to run through difficult calving simulations with Helga the dystocia cow and Dr. Joe Armstrong.

Section Two: Grant Crawford of Merck Animal Health will take the group through real life ear tagging with frozen ears as well as DNA sampling, EID tags, proper vaccine handline.

Section Three: Melissa Holtz of Purina Nutrition will explore the nutrition needed for a successful calving and a healthy calf from day one to weaning. Registrations are filling up fast at mncattlegirls.org/events. We are seeking sponsors for this event who will be recognized publicly. Contact myself or another Cattlewoman if interested.

Also, at top of mind as we head into busy season – mark your calendars for the 33rd Annual MN State Beef Ambassador competition Friday, June 14, at the Park Event center in Waite Park, MN – this is a change from being held during the MN Beef Expo!

The day will kick off with our Ambassador competition where contestants will showcase their passion for the cattle industry and advocacy. This is free to attend and all are welcome to come and show their support for our youth.

At noon, we move over to Grand Champion Meats for lunch and then delve into the world of quality meat production with an exclusive tour of their facility. We conclude the day with a social, steak dinner and awards ceremony. The entire day is open to all!

We want this day to be family focused and multigenerational. Sign up for Ambassador & Summer Banquet on our website under Events.

Our latest newsletter is on our website. Please follow us on Facebook or Instagram on [@MNCattleWomen](https://www.facebook.com/MNCattleWomen) and on our website at <https://www.mncattlegirls.org/>.

I look forward to seeing everyone up north for the MSCA Summer Tour in Thief River Falls. It will be a novelty to head north for a change, instead of south!

Zeltwanger . . .continued from page 2

If you don't understand the options available, reach out to other cattlemen, your banker, or a marketing agent to help determine which may be right for your situation. Livestock Risk Protection numbers have gone from 100,000 cattle covered five years ago to around five million last year. With input prices where they are, we need to capture every dollar we can to stay in the game.

I encourage everyone to check out the bulls they have

and if they need to retire, now is the time to get them updated. Minnesota has lots of great cow guys selling bulls. Find someone you can talk to about your program and figure out how you can help each other make better BEEF!

To wrap up, I want to encourage everyone to pray for a bountiful season, not just rain. If I can help in any way, reach out, my wife says I spend a lot of time on the phone anyway!

Thank you, 2024 Beef Alliance

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 mnscamembership@gmail.com.

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- Merck Animal Health*
- Minnesota Beef Council
- Minnesota Corn Growers Association
- Roto-Mix
- CKP Insurance
- Form-A-Feed

Producers Livestock

- AgCountry Farm Credit Services

Choice

- Purina Animal Nutrition
- Artex
- Dry Creek Trucking
- 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!



JOSIAH EBELING
Feeder Council Chair

Spring is here, manure spreaders are rolling. Planters and diggers are outside ready for the calendar to say it's ready.

Show lists were smaller in the south and modestly larger in Nebraska. The message from the processors is continuing small slaughter numbers until they can better manage the margins — either by increasing box prices or decreasing cash prices. Cattle owners will continue to attempt to leverage their position of declining fed supplies and convert the advantage into higher prices. No

activity is expected until later in the week.

Cash prices last week were \$2-4 higher. In the north live trades were reported from \$185-\$187 with dressed prices from \$292-\$300. In the south a few early sales in Kansas were reported at \$186 with later prices at \$185 in both Texas and Kansas.

Balancing feedlot supplies, weekly slaughter, and finally beef demand is a work in progress. It remains unknown if a slaughter rate of 590,000 a week repeatedly is going to back up cattle in the nation's feedlots or if this slaughter level is supporting the current supplies of fed cattle and available cows. The cow slaughter is in decline comprising an important part of the weekly slaughter. Packers can't buy more cows for slaughter because of the channel for marketing cows is limited. Fed supplies can be tweaked from week to week to arrive at the minimum number

necessary for plant operations to continue.

This past week's slaughter was 583,000 head –16,000 smaller than the previous week and one of the smallest non holiday slaughter volumes in a long time. The slaughter was 48,000 under last year. Processors margins continued to struggle with box prices gaining sufficient ground to match the necessary margin for a profit.

The latest report shows carcass weights at 876# up 2# from prior week and 8# 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 .4% at 84.00%

Hope everyone has a safe spring planting and calving season!



New MSCA Producer Members Welcomed

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NEW MSCA Producer Members – first time members and members who have dropped their membership for over two years.

How to redeem the free pour-on?

1. Become a MSCA Producer Member at mnsca.org/become-a-member
2. The MSCA will mail you a voucher with a verification code after we verify that you are a new Producer Member.
3. Follow the instructions on the voucher to redeem your free liter of pour-on.

How long will this member benefit be offered?

This is a *limited-time Producer Member benefit* – be sure to take advantage of the program while you can!



Beef Nutrition Education Hub

The National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA), which works for the Beef Checkoff, has recently re-launched the Beef Nutrition Education Hub at <https://beef-nutritioneducation.org/>. It's an education portal managed by nutrition scientists and registered dietitians, tailored to support the health and nutrition community's needs.

Health and nutrition professionals have access to a variety of complimentary resources, including evidence-based educational webinars, podcasts



featuring credentialed health experts, and immersive learning experiences. Many of these resources have been approved for continuing professional ed-

ucation units by the Commission on Dietetic Registration and the American College of Sports Medicine.

Twin Cities Live

Each month, Minnesota Beef Council conducts a beef-focused segment on Twin Cities Live (KSTP-TV at 3:00 p.m. on week-days). Ashley Kraemer, Communications Director, was on in January, with Soups and Stews.

MNBC ST. PATRICK'S DAY RECIPE

RUSTIC CORNED BEEF & POTATO BAKE



INGREDIENTS:

- 12 ounces Corned Beef Brisket, coarsely chopped
- 1 tablespoon butter, divided
- 1/2 cup chopped onions
- 2 teaspoons chopped fresh thyme

HORSERADISH BUTTER:

- 1 tablespoons grated, jarred horseradish
- 1 tablespoon butter, softened
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper

POTATO WEDGES:

- 1 cup shredded Swiss cheese
- 1/4 cup shredded Parmesan cheese
- 2 cups potato wedges

OPTIONAL GARNISH:

- sliced green onions

COOKING:

1. Heat oven to 375°F. Prepare Horseradish Butter; set aside. Melt 2 teaspoons butter in large nonstick skillet over medium heat. Add onion and thyme; cook and stir 3 to 4 minutes or until onion is tender. Remove from heat; stir in Corned Beef and horseradish-butter mixture. Meanwhile, coat bottom and sides of 9-inch glass pie plate with remaining 1 teaspoon butter; set aside.
 2. Arrange 1/2 of potato wedges in single layer over bottom of pie plate; stick remaining potato wedges upright around the edge of the pie plate. Combine cheeses in small bowl. Sprinkle potatoes with 1/2 of cheese mixture. Top with corned beef mixture and remaining cheese mixture. Press firmly with spatula to compact layers; cover with aluminum foil.
 3. Bake in 375°F oven 25 to 30 minutes or until heated through. Uncover; continue baking 3 to 5 minutes or until cheese is melted and edges begin to brown. Let stand 5 minutes. Cut into wedges.
- Cook's Tip: If using deli Corned Beef and frozen prepared roasted potatoes, increase covered baking time to 35 minutes.

Nutrition information per serving: 445 Calories; 252 Calories from fat; 28g Total Fat (13 g Saturated Fat; 11 g Monounsaturated Fat; 121 mg Cholesterol; 1130 mg Sodium; 121 g Total Carbohydrate; 1.5 g Dietary Fiber; 27 g Protein; 2.5 mg Iron; 2.6 mg NE Niacin; 0.3 mg Vitamin B6; 2.3 mcg Vitamin B12; 5.1 mg Zinc; 33 mcg Selenium. This recipe is an excellent source of Protein, Vitamin B12, Zinc, and Selenium; and a good source of Iron, Niacin, and Vitamin B6.



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Top of Class 2023



QUESTIONS?
Contact Jon Dilworth
at jon@mnbeef.org
or call 763-479-1011

MBC Board Meeting

The next Minnesota Beef Council Board of Directors Meeting is scheduled for May 1 & 2, 2024. This meeting will be at the Minnesota Beef Council Office in Maple Plain, MN.

Minnesota Beef Council Events

- March 14-17, 2024 - MAMP Convention St. Cloud, MN
- April 4, 2024 - MN Top of Class applications due
- April 19, 20, 2024 - BBQ Spring Training
- April 21-23, 2024 - State FFA Convention
- May 1-2, 2024 - MBC Board of Directors Meeting - Maple Plain, MN .
- May 6-8, 2024 - Urban Ag Day



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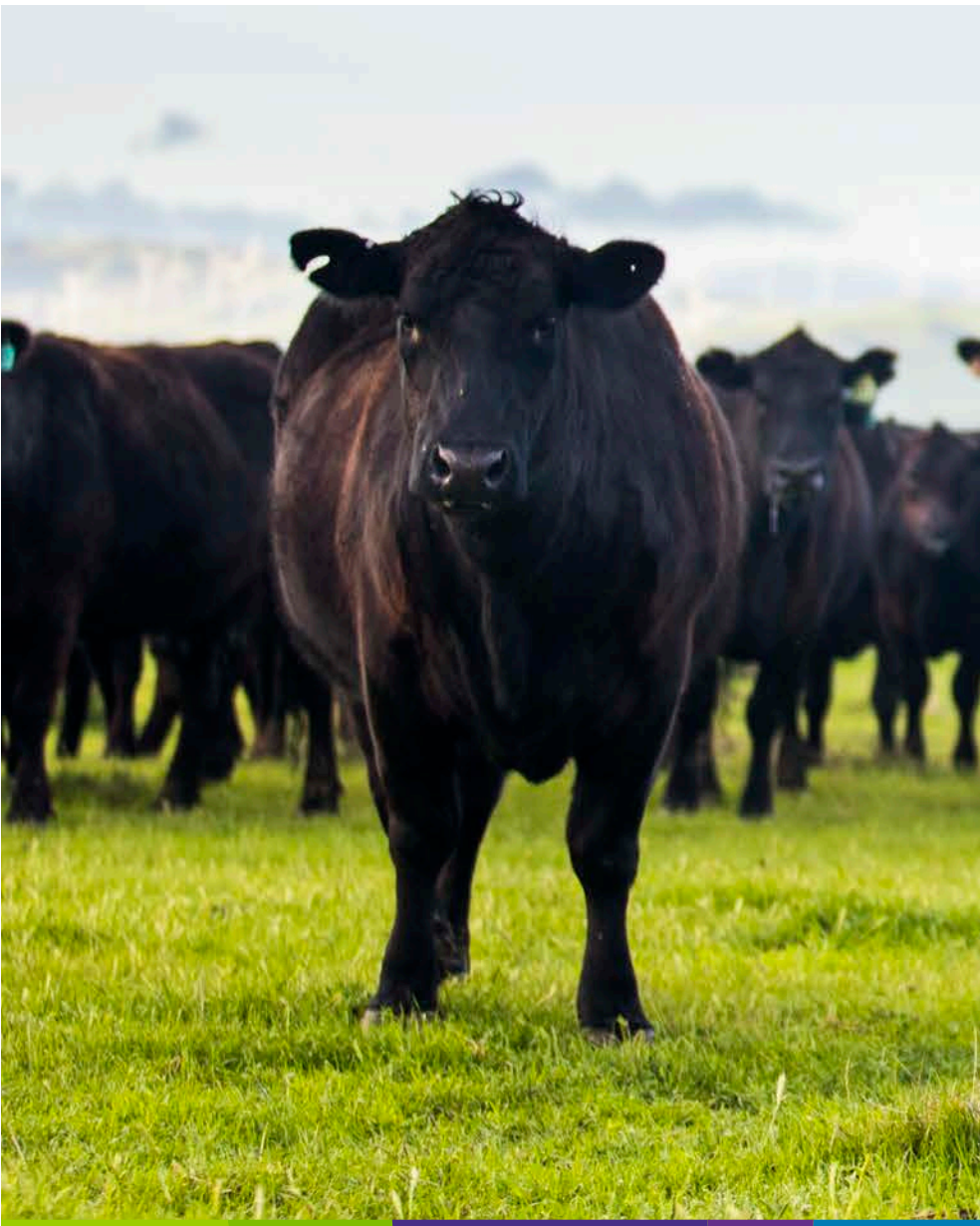
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AAA #: 20663945 // ACT. BW: 89 // ADJ. WW: 698
Woodhill Blueprint X Connealy Commonwealth

CED	BW	WW	YW	SC	HP	MARB	RE	\$M	\$C
6	1.5	73	121	0.26	13.3	0.66	0.68	74	261



AAA #: 20780934 // ACT. BW: 72 // ADJ. WW: 789
Wilks Regiment 9035 X Bar S Sure Deal 5202

CED	BW	WW	YW	SC	HP	MARB	RE	\$M	\$C
9	0.9	84	147	0.66	13.8	0.43	0.97	61	257



AAA #: 20664035 // ACT. BW: 100 // ADJ. WW: 727
Deer Valley Wall Street X CLWTR Beacon Ally D72

CED	BW	WW	YW	SC	HP	MARB	RE	\$M	\$C
-5	4.5	72	131	1.87	13.8	0.32	0.43	57	228



AAA #: 20863295 // ACT. BW: 82 // ADJ. WW: 767
Tehama Tahoe B767 X Ellingson Dominance 2079

CED	BW	WW	YW	SC	HP	MARB	RE	\$M	\$C
7	-0.4	69	124	2.01	13.2	0.45	0.80	60	227



AAA #: 20790107 // ACT. BW: 87 // ADJ. WW: 712
Wilks Regiment 9035 X Bar S Sure Deal 5202

CED	BW	WW	YW	SC	HP	MARB	RE	\$M	\$C
3	2.3	86	157	0.87	11.1	0.16	0.75	60	268



AAA #: 20785271 // ACT. BW: 86 // ADJ. WW: 811
Wilks Regiment 9035 X Bar S Sure Deal 5202

CED	BW	WW	YW	SC	HP	MARB	RE	\$M	\$C
6	0.9	68	126	0.15	11.8	0.47	0.60	60	223



AAA #: 20760153 // ACT. BW: 79 // ADJ. WW: 742
DB Iconic G95 X G A R Ingenuity

CED	BW	WW	YW	SC	HP	MARB	RE	\$M	\$C
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How Western Policy Impacts the Entire Cattle Industry

By Mark Eisele, NCBA President

As I begin my term as NCBA president, first and foremost I want to say thank you. It is an honor to advocate for the industry I have worked in my whole life, and I look forward to serving this association and protecting a bright future for the next generation.

I started my career as a hired hand on a ranch just north of Cheyenne, Wyoming, and over the years I bought into the ranch until I eventually became its sole owner. Today, my ranch is a family operation, and nothing brings me more joy than to work alongside my wife, children and grandchildren. When I was starting out in the cattle industry, all I wanted to do was raise cattle and raise a family in the rural community that shaped me, but I quickly found out this business is much more complicated. Getting involved with my county and state cattle associations was imperative. Before long, I faced the same environmental activist litigation and government red tape threatening many ranchers today, and I turned to NCBA for help. Seeing NCBA go to the ring to fight for an individual cow-calf producer like me showed me the value of banding together to defend our common interests as farmers and ranchers.

I graze my cattle on a mix of public and private lands, which is a common practice

in much of the West but may sound very different to the rest of the country. In my part of the world, many ranchers hold either a lease or a permit to graze on public lands owned by the federal government. The agencies — either the Bureau of Land Management or the Forest Service — charge us a grazing fee per Animal Unit Months (AUM) and set specific regulations for when we can graze, how many head we have on the land, and how long we can be there. Access to the forage on these federally owned grazing lands is crucial in the summertime, and it is one of the key components keeping the ranching industry alive in the West.

Ranching is inseparable from our U.S. history, and cattle have been grazing these landscapes since the earliest days of Western settlement. In 1934, the Taylor Grazing Act set up the grazing districts and permit system we still use today, and also enshrined in law the role of livestock grazing as a tool for managing and maintaining vast Western landscapes. Additional legislation in the 1970s further solidified this concept by requiring the federal government to balance multiple uses of public lands, such as grazing, timber, mining and recreation.

Why does any of this matter for the producers living in Virginia, Pennsylvania, Mississippi,

Nebraska, or Texas? Public lands ranchers are often the first target of federal government regulation because we depend on access to public lands and, in many cases, cannot survive operating solely on our private property. We are also the first targets for environmental activists and their deep pockets for litigation. We are a testing ground to see if their strategies can succeed in harming folks on private lands as well. We are often the first to shoulder new government rules and regulations that make it harder to stay in business, with the government testing how far it can push its reach into your backyard. The Endangered Species Act (ESA) is a perfect example of a federal law that has been weaponized, both inside the administration and outside, to restrict cattle producers. ESA listings and the habitat designations can tie a producer's hands behind their back, barring them from grazing — or doing other management activities — on the land. They can also block producers from taking action to protect their cattle from predators like the gray wolf. In the last three years alone, the Biden administration not only failed to delist the fully recovered gray wolf, they've actually proposed adding more predators to the equation in some areas. Their proposal to airdrop grizzly bears into Washington state is one ex-

ample of a choice made far away in Washington, D.C., where bureaucrats don't have to deal with an apex predator around their children and their cattle herd.

If you need proof of the administration's ability to squash the industry through the ESA, even on private lands, look no further than the designation of the northern long-eared bat. Even a species that is declining due entirely to natural causes can be weaponized to slow grazing, fence construction, and other human activities — whether they happen on public land or private.

As NCBA president, this is one issue I am committed to working on so we can get back

to our job of raising cattle without worrying about more red tape from Washington, D.C.

No matter where you raise cattle or what policy issue is most urgent to you, I encourage you to make your voice heard. A great opportunity to get involved is coming this spring when NCBA hosts the annual Legislative Conference. This event will occur from April 17-19, 2024, in Washington, D.C., where you will have a chance to meet with policymakers face-to-face to discuss the issues impacting our way of life. I hope to see you there!

Thank you for the opportunity to serve, and thank you for putting your trust in NCBA.

IMPORTANT DATES:

April 17-20 – NCBA Legislative Conference – Washington D.C.

April 25 – Steak on a Stick – 11 a.m.- 1 p.m., Upper Mall at the Capitol in St. Paul

June 24, 2024 – MSCA Quarterly Meeting & PAC Event – Huck Olson Memorial Civic Center, Thief River Falls

June 25, 2024 – Summer Tour – hosted by Northwestern Stockmen's Association – Thief River Falls

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

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



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NEWS BRIEFS

Wyoming Cattleman Becomes New NCBA President

Mark Eisele, a Wyoming rancher, ascended to the role of NCBA president during the 2024 Cattle Industry Convention, held this week in Orlando, Florida. Eisele, along with his wife, Trudy, and their children, operate the historic King Ranch near Cheyenne, Wyoming, grazing both public and private lands.

The 2024 NCBA officer team, approved by the NCBA Board of Directors, took office at the end of this year's convention. Buck Wehrbein of Nebraska was named president-elect and Gene Copenhaver of Virginia was elected vice president. Kim Brackett of Idaho was elected chair of the NCBA Policy Division and Skye Krebs of Oregon was elected policy vice chair. Dan Gattis of Texas and Nancy Jackson of Mississippi were elected as chair and vice chair, respectively, of the NCBA Federation division. Brad Hastings of Texas will continue to serve as NCBA treasurer.

Eisele's focus during his time as president is to advocate for opportunities to strengthen the industry for future generations and for producers' freedom to operate. Protecting property rights and reinforcing the cattle industry's position as an ally in preserving open spaces and wildlife habitat through managed grazing practices will be a top priority.

"I manage both public and private lands and am often asked why protecting public land ranching is important. Aside from it being a part of how we raise cattle in the West, it's also an important place to draw a line in the sand. If public lands are closed to cattle, or we're regulated to the point that we can't run cattle on public lands, it will only be a matter of time before activists end up on the doorstep of every farmer and rancher in the country, looking to restrict private property and water rights. I want NCBA to make sure that can't happen," he said. "Grazing is good and beef is a valuable protein. We need flexibility in the way we produce it. Those are the simple messages I want to get across to decision makers."

During the year ahead, Eisele also expects to tackle ongoing Farm Bill negotiations as NCBA works to secure reauthorization of animal health provisions, expand the accessibility and funding of risk management and disaster relief programs, and protect voluntary conservation programs. The significant challenge posed by federal government tax policies, particularly the Death Tax, will also be top of mind.

MPCA Shares Proposed Multi-Agency Protocol for Fish Kills

Public invited to comment on draft guidance

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) today released a statewide, multi-agency protocol that clearly shows how agencies work together when investigating fish kills in Minnesota. The new guidance includes investigation process, communications expectations, and strategies for reducing fish kills. MPCA seeks public comment on this draft protocol.

In 2023, the Minnesota Legislature passed a law mandating the development of a fish kill response protocol. A fish kill is the unexpected, sudden death of large numbers of fish in a certain area. The fish kills addressed in the new protocol include those related to the discharge or runoff of pollutants from the land through incidents like toxic spills, runoff of manure, pesticides or fertilizers, and high-temperature wastewater or stormwater discharges.

The MPCA collaborated with Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA), Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) to develop the draft protocol. The protocol lays out what happens when a fish kill occurs and how best to unify response and staffing to minimize damage and exposure.

It includes:

Clear explanation of roles and responsibilities.

The MDA leads a fish kill response for pesticide and fertilizer incidents.

The MPCA leads a fish kill when there are environmental impacts from the release of hazardous substances.

The DNR serves as a support when a pollutant discharge/release causes injury to fish, wildlife, waterways and/or public lands and often leads investigation of non-urgent fish die-offs.

In cases when an urgent fish kill presents a threat to public health and safety, agencies will coordinate with MDH. If there are concerns regarding impacts to drinking water or fish consumption, MDH may test nearby wells and notify landowners of threats to drinking water.

Definition for "urgent" and "non-urgent" fish kills.

Urgent fish kills are related to pollution or a spill; have a high impact; and are recent and ongoing. Urgent fish kill response is typically lead by the MPCA or MDA.

Non-urgent fish kills are winter or summer die-offs; linked to a disease or pathogen; have low impact.

Non-urgent events are typically led by the DNR.

The protocol also better describes the process of notifications and subsequent general communications required during an investigation and includes strategies that will prevent future fish kills. The agencies will review the protocol every five years.

The public comment period begins March 11 and ends May 10. Members of the public are invited to review the draft protocol and submit comments by visiting the public comment page or by U.S. mail to : Minnesota Pollution Control Agency c/o Justin Watkins, 7381 Airport View Drive, Rochester, MN 55902. Submit comments by May 10, 2024.

Public Meeting

The MPCA will host a virtual public meeting to review the details of the draft protocol on April 16 at 10 a.m. Visit the public meeting page to learn more.

NCBA Hails Limited SEC Rule as Win for Cattle Producers

NCBA Advocacy Protected Family Farmers and Ranchers from Burdensome Regulation

WASHINGTON (March 6, 2024) – Following continuous advocacy by the National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA), the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) released a limited greenhouse gas disclosure rule that omits the requirement for large publicly traded companies to release greenhouse gas emissions data from private companies in their supply chain. This type of data, known as Scope 3 reporting, could have increased burdens on family farmers and ranchers whose beef is processed or sold by publicly traded companies.

"This limited SEC rule is a win for America's farmers and ranchers," said NCBA President Mark Eisele, a Wyoming rancher. "Since this proposal first arose in 2022, NCBA has worked to educate policymakers on the harmful unintended consequences caused by overreaching Scope 3 regulations. The final SEC rule that omits supply chain emissions reporting entirely is a testament to NCBA's engagement with federal agencies and Congress to defend America's cattle producers."

In 2022, the SEC proposed a rule to require publicly traded companies to release data on their direct (Scope 1), energy and electricity (Scope 2), and supply chain (Scope 3) greenhouse gas emissions. The Scope 3 requirement was especially concerning to the cattle industry, because numerous farmers and ranchers have their beef processed by publicly traded companies or sold by publicly traded restaurants and retailers. These large companies have the resources to hire consultants and

calculate emissions, but individual producers lack those same resources. NCBA has also raised privacy concerns, especially in light of court decisions that have solidified the right to producers' data privacy.

"Cattle producers have a track record of sustainability and conservation, and EPA data confirms that beef cattle are responsible for just 2% of total U.S. greenhouse gas emissions," said NCBA Chief Counsel Mary-Thomas Hart. "With industry-wide emissions data already available from the EPA and the USDA Life Cycle Assessments, forcing individual farms and ranches to calculate and report emissions creates a costly and unnecessary burden."

In addition to submitting technical comments to the SEC, individual NCBA members also submitted 7,406 emails to the SEC Commissioners and members of Congress detailing their concerns with the rule. NCBA also backed legislation like the Protect Farmers from the SEC Act, introduced by Rep. Frank Lucas (R-OK), Sen. John Boozman (R-AR), and Sen. Mike Braun (R-IN), to exclude agriculture from the Scope 3 requirement.

"NCBA's grassroots members made a huge difference in this fight and thanks to your engagement, the entire industry is protected from what could have been an incredibly burdensome regulation," said Idaho rancher and NCBA Policy Division Chair Kim Brackett. "To the producers who spoke up and submitted the over 7,000 comments to the SEC, thank you. Today is the perfect example of why the whole cattle industry benefits from having NCBA working on our behalf in Washington."

New MDA Grants Available to Aid in Weather Resilience

Recognizing the risks posed by extreme weather, the Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) is offering a new grant opportunity to help eligible producers make their operations more resilient to drought, flooding, and severe weather events like storms, tornadoes, and straight-line winds.

The Preparing for Extreme Weather Grant, also referred to as the Prepare Grant, offers one-time competitive grants of up to \$10,000 for Minnesota livestock and specialty crop producers to buy and install supplies and equipment for weather event preparation. It requires a 50 percent match.

"In the past few years, we've seen examples of extreme weather like record flooding and drought affect farming operations throughout Minnesota," said MDA Commissioner Thom Petersen. "These grants will help producers bolster their operations and get ahead of the curve in terms of anticipating and managing the risks of future weather events."

For the purposes of this grant program:

Livestock includes beef and dairy cattle, swine, poultry, goats, mules, bison, sheep, horses, farmed cervids (deer, elk), ratites (flightless birds including emu), and llamas.

Specialty crops include fruits and vegetables, tree nuts, dried fruits, horticulture and nursery crops, and floriculture. See USDA's list of Specialty Crops for further examples.

Eligible projects include — but are not limited to — water tanks, pipelines, and wagons/trailers; wells (new improvements, fixes, replacement pumps); irrigation equipment (including drip irrigation); fans; misters; livestock shade systems; and windbreaks.

The MDA expects to award 50 to 75 grants with the \$500,000 available for this program and encourages producers to apply early. Applications will be accepted through 4 p.m. Central Time on April 23, 2024, and the MDA will notify applicants as soon as possible, but no later than May 31, about whether their proposal was funded.

NEWS BRIEFS

Full grant details and the request for proposals (RFP) can be found on the MDA website.

The Preparing for Extreme Weather Grant is funded by the Agricultural Growth and Research Initiative (AGRI) Program, which supports advances in Minnesota's agricultural and renewable energy sectors.

Application Opens for Livestock Investment Grants

The Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) is once again accepting applications for the Agricultural Growth, Research, and Innovation (AGRI) Livestock Investment Grant. Minnesota livestock farmers and ranchers looking to make improvements to their operations are encouraged to apply.

Livestock Investment Grant funds can be used for equipment purchases and physical improvements to help start, improve, or expand livestock operations in Minnesota. Examples of reimbursable investments include — but are not limited to — the construction or improvement of buildings or facilities for producing livestock, watering systems, fencing, feed equipment, and livestock waste management equipment.

The MDA will award up to \$650,000 in this round of Livestock Investment Grants using a competitive review process. Applicants may apply for up to 10% of their project's total cost, with a maximum grant award of \$25,000. Only expenses incurred after the grant contract has been signed by all parties are eligible for reimbursement.

All principal operators of livestock farms in Minnesota are invited to apply, including those who have received Livestock Investment Grants in the past. However, preference will be given to applicants or farms that have not previously been awarded a grant. Only one application will be accepted per farm.

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

Applications for the grant will be accepted until 4 p.m. Central Time on Thursday, May 2, 2024. Visit the AGRI Livestock Investment Grant web page to access the full request for proposals (RFP) for further eligibility details.

Funding for the Livestock Investment Grant is made available through the MDA's AGRI Program, which administers grants to farmers, agribusinesses, schools, and more throughout the state of Minnesota. The AGRI Program exists to advance Minnesota's agricultural and renewable energy sectors.

Additional Farmland Succession Support Announced

Farmers and agricultural landowners looking for assistance in creating succession plans for their properties have a new support available through the Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA).

The MDA has hired Jim Molenaar as its farmland access and succession teams coordinator. In this newly created role, Molenaar will advocate for and guide farmers and ag landowners through the succession process, bringing in additional outside team members that are necessary for success. These team members could include, but are not limited to, legal experts, accountants, and farm business management (FBM) instructors. There is no cost for this service for those who participate.

"I'm thrilled to partner with the MDA to provide this support to Minnesota's farmers and producers," said Molenaar. "The transfer of farmland to the next generation is integral to the future of agriculture in Minnesota, and I look forward to leveraging my expe-

riences to help farmers and their families successfully transition their legacies."

Molenaar is an experienced and trusted advisor on the topic of succession and farm ownership. In addition to his new role, he works as a Farm Advocate for the MDA, where he offers one-on-one assistance for Minnesota farmers who face crisis caused by either a natural disaster or financial problems. He is also a retired instructor for the FBM program.

According to USDA, the average age of Minnesota farmers has reached an all-time high of 57.4 years. This new position is just one tool the MDA provides to help transfer ag land and operations to beginning and emerging farmers, ensuring the continued strength and resilience of the state's agricultural economy. Its FarmLink program brings together those who are looking for ag land, farming operations, or mentors with retiring farmers and landowners who want to see their farms or farming operations continue. The agency also offers the Beginning Farmer Tax Credit and the Down Payment Assistant Grant programs.

Molenaar's contact information, as well as further details about the MDA's other land access and succession tools, can be found on the agency's website.

The farmland access and succession teams coordinator position is made possible with support from the Southern Agricultural Center of Excellence.

USDA Finalizes Voluntary "Product of USA" Label Claim

On March 11, at the National Farmers Union Annual Convention, U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Secretary Tom Vilsack announced the finalization of a rule to align the voluntary "Product of USA" label claim with consumer understanding of what the claim means. Secretary Vilsack also announced USDA is awarding \$9.5 million to 42 projects through the Local Meat Capacity grant program to expand processing options for the meat and poultry industry and new actions to ensure transparency and a fair and competitive market in the U.S. seed industry.

"Today's announcement is a vital step toward consumer protection and builds on the Biden-Harris Administration's work to bolster trust and fairness in the marketplace where smaller processors can compete," said Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack. "This final rule will ensure that when consumers see 'Product of USA' they can trust the authenticity of that label and know that every step involved, from birth to processing, was done here in America."

USDA's final "Product of USA" rule allows the voluntary "Product of USA" or "Made in the USA" label claim to be used on meat, poultry and egg products only when they are derived from animals born, raised, slaughtered and processed in the United States. The rule will prohibit misleading U.S. origin labeling in the market, and help ensure that the information that consumers receive about where their food comes from is truthful.

USDA's final "Product of USA" rule is supported by petitions, thousands of comments from stakeholders, and data from a nationwide consumer survey.

Under the final rule, the "Product of USA" or "Made in the USA" label claim will continue to be voluntary. It will also remain eligible for generic label approval, meaning it would not need to be pre-approved by USDA's Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) before it can be used on regulated product, but would require the establishment to maintain documentation on file to support the claim. The final rule also allows the use of other voluntary U.S. origin claims on meat, poultry and egg products sold in the marketplace. These claims will need to include a description on the package of the preparation and processing steps that occurred in the United

States upon which the claim is made.

USDA has also published an updated labeling guidance on the use of voluntary U.S.-origin label claims to provide examples of claims and the types of documentation that establishments may maintain to support use of the claims. The guidance will be open for public comment for 60 days after publishing in the Federal Register. Public comments can be submitted at www.regulations.gov.

Establishments voluntarily using a claim subject to the final rule will need to comply with the new regulatory requirements by January 1, 2026, and are encouraged to do so as soon as practicable after the publication of this final rule.

Limited Opportunity to Graze on 22 WPAs

The Morris Wetland Management District in Morris, MN is accepting bids for farming 49 acres in 2024 at Lubenow WPA and grazing opportunities in six counties of west central Minnesota. The 22 grazing units range in size from 28 to 374 acres and are available for 2 to 3 years. Producers must follow all federal and state regulations. Applicants must complete and submit a bid sheet and the first page of the special use application from each bid packet. Applicants must complete and submit a bid sheet. Bid sheets and grazing plans are available by contacting J.B. Bright at (320) 287-0689 or jb_bright@fws.gov. Completed bids must be submitted by 1 p.m. on March 27, 2024. Sealed bids may be mailed to: Morris WMD, Attn: JB Bright, 43875 230th Street, Morris 56267-5404, or emailed to jb_bright@fws.gov. Units will be allocated using a competitive bidding process and the winning bidders will be notified by COB March 28, 2024.

Utilize LIP for Wolf Depredation Losses

The Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) provides benefits to eligible livestock owners or contract growers for livestock deaths in excess of normal mortality caused by eligible loss conditions, including eligible adverse weather, eligible disease and attacks by animals reintroduced into the wild by the federal government or protected by federal law, including wolves. In addition, LIP provides assistance to eligible livestock owners that must sell livestock at a reduced price because of an injury from an eligible loss condition.

The occurrence of an eligible loss condition in and by itself does not determine eligibility for eligible livestock losses. The livestock owner or contract grower must provide evidence acceptable to FSA that the eligible cause of loss not only occurred but directly caused loss or death.

LIP payments for livestock death losses, adjusted for normal mortality, are calculated by multiplying the national payment rate for the applicable livestock category by the number of eligible livestock in that category times the producer's share. The LIP national payment rate for eligible livestock owners is based on 75 percent of the average fair market value of the livestock.

For eligible livestock owners, LIP payments for injured livestock that are sold at a reduced price due to an eligible adverse weather event or eligible attack are calculated by multiplying the national payment rate for the applicable livestock category minus the amount that the livestock owner received for the eligible livestock in that category times the livestock owner's share.

Interested livestock owners may inquire about LIP benefits at their local county FSA office.



When to help a cow or heifer that is calving

By Joe Armstrong DVM, UMN Cattle Production Systems Extension Educator

One question I get every year during calving season is, how do I know when it's time to jump in and intervene when a cow or a heifer is calving? Of course, we want to help these cows and these heifers when we think there might be issues, but we also know that jumping in too early can be detrimental and delay everything that much further. Every time that we go and move a cow or check a cow, and they're in the middle of their calving process, we've caused a delay.

What happens when we interrupt a cow that is calving?

- When we interrupt a cow that is calving, evolutionarily, they're programmed to prioritize their own life and stop calving.
- If the cow feels threatened in any way, or they're disrupted in the calving process, they shut everything down in case they have to run.
- Even people the cow knows well can disrupt the calving process.

So how do we know when it's time to jump in and inter-

vene? We have to know what normal is. If we know what normal looks like, it makes it easier to notice when something's going wrong.

In the normal labor process, there are three stages.

Labor Stage 1 - Dilation of the cervix

- Cows have small contractions that are really far apart.
- Can take up to 24 hours in total.
- Observable for four to eight hours.
- Cow begins pacing and separating themselves from herd.
- Often the cow seems uncomfortable, standing up and lying down repeatedly.
- Often the cow's tail is elevated.

Labor Stage 2 - Delivery of calf (calves)

- Begins with the appearance of the water bag or calf and ends when all calves are completely out of the cow.
- The cow is usually on her side with strong contractions that last 30 seconds

to one minute

- On average, Stage 2 lasts for approximately 30 minutes for a mature cow.
- On average, Stage 2 lasts for approximately 60 minutes for a heifer.

Labor Stage 3 - Delivery of placenta(s)

- Can occur right away or up to 12 hours later.
- If delivery of the placenta takes longer than 24 hours, the placenta is considered retained.
- Retained placentas are associated with metritis and delayed return to estrus.

Intervening in Stage 1

If you see an animal in Stage 1 for longer than 6 hours with no appearance of a water bag or calf to indicate the start of Stage 2, it's time to start being worried and consider intervening. Bring the cow up to the chute to check and see if she is dilated. It may be she is having difficulty dilating or that the calf is malpositioned.

Intervening in Stage 2

Most questions are centered around Stage 2. We see parts of a calf or we have a

water bag out, and people are wondering, "How long do I let that cow or that heifer go before I jump in to make sure things are okay?" There are several papers out there that help us determine what we should do in this situation. The papers look at the average length of Stage 2, whether it's a cow or a heifer. When we look at cows, it doesn't take that long and it's very surprising how short of a time period it takes.

- In the average cow, Stage 2 lasts between 20 and 30 minutes from the appearance of a water bag or calf until the calf is on the ground.
- With a mature cow, if you don't see progression, you don't see that calf coming out more and more, and the cow has been in Stage 2 for 30 minutes, it's time to jump in. There's no reason to wait.

Don't worry about trying to figure out when the cow actually started versus when you noticed her in Stage 2. If you have cameras, and you can

look and see, great. Start the clock whenever you notice she's in Stage 2.

With heifers, it takes longer.

- On average, it takes between 50 minutes and an hour for a heifer to start and finish Stage 2.
- If you see the heifer is making no progression, or she's been in Stage 2 for an hour and the calf is not most of the way out, it's time to jump in.

Progression

Progress is the continual exposure of more calf as it is pushed out of the cow. We want to continually see more of the calf as contractions continue to happen. This can be slow, and often the calf appears to gain ground and then lose it, but we want to see slightly more of the calf with each set of contractions. If contractions stop for an extended period of time or we don't see more of the calf over a 30-minute period, it is time to intervene.

Armstrong...
continued on page 15

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ISO Farmfest Committee Volunteers

The current MSCA Farmfest Committee has dedicated their time towards managing MSCA's fundraiser at Farmfest for the past 15 years, and they are now searching for individuals to take over their positions. The Farmfest Committee organizes and manages one of the MSCA's largest fundraising events each year – selling our “Big Beef Sandwiches” at Farmfest! This includes lining up food deliveries prior to the event, organizing shifts for volunteers, setting up and managing the serving stations and more.

If interested in serving on the Farmfest Committee, contact Kaitlyn Root at kaitlyn@mnsca.org.

Our dedicated Farmfest Committee will train interested volunteers in during this year's Farmfest Aug. 6-8, 2024. This is the perfect opportunity to become more involved with the MSCA!

Gray ... continued from page 2

I hope to stress the fact the producers all over Minnesota work hard to produce the best beef we can in an efficient way, while paying attention to the land and soil. Check out the website for the Women in Ag Day at the Capitol for more information about the event: <https://sites.google.com/umn.edu/womeninagdayatthecapitol/home>.



CattleCon ... continued from page 1

have documented use of best management practices which have therefore increased their carrying capacity above the county average. This resolution is designed to support continued payments for every producer, whether they have documented best management practices approved by the NRCS or not, but it highlights that producers who have increased their carrying capacity due to these approved practices, should be



Schiefelbein Testifies in Support of “Lab Grown” Meat Labeling Bills

On Monday, March 4, MSCA Member Don Schiefelbein testified in the Senate Ag Committee in support of two bills enforcing “cell-cultured” or “lab-grown” labels to be required on lab grown meat products. This is a way for the state of Minnesota to be proactive with this issue.

“We are not running away from competition. We believe we can stand fiercely and defend the greatest animal protein in the market. But we think it is absolutely essential that consumers know what they are buying.”

– Don Schiefelbein, MSCA Member/Cattle Producer

Armstrong ... continued from page 14

Positioning

The other piece of normal is recognizing calf position. We can tell a little bit without reaching in and looking at the calf's feet. Normal positioning is for both front feet to be forward with a head right behind, nestled in between the hooves. You should see front feet first, followed by a nose, the crown of the head, and then the rest of the calf. One of the things you can look for right away is, which direction the hooves are pointing.

- If the calf is positioned correctly and coming head first, the bottom of the

hooves should be pointed towards the belly and udder of the cow.

- If the bottom of the hooves are pointing towards her tail and spine, then the calf is upside down or the calf is coming backward and they are back feet.
- If we see that front feet are coming, but we see a lot of legs without a head following, we have to suspect a malpositioned calf with a head back.

What if you see nothing? No calf at all.

If you see the water bag appear or break, that starts Stage 2, but what if no calf appears? The most common reason

would be a breech. A breech calf is where all four feet and the head of the calf are facing towards the front of the cow, towards her head. All you will feel when you reach in is a tail. This is the most extreme example of no progress - a clear start of Stage 2 without seeing continually more of the calf (because you saw no calf or maybe just a butt or tail).

Intervening safely

When you do intervene, when you decide it's time to help, your safety is most important. Working in a chute or especially a chute that's designed for calving intervention is very important because it allows you to be safe. Are

there situations where veterinarians work without a chute? Absolutely, but a chute is safest for the people involved.

Some people will argue that a chute puts the animal at risk, especially if they go down while calving, and that it is nearly impossible to work on a down cow in the chute. This can be true, but we have to prioritize human safety. There are compromises, of course. If we get the cow to the chute, especially with a beef animal, you can now get a halter on. Then we can either attach that halter to something and let the cow out of the chute or attach the halter to the chute and back the cow up to where the cow is at less risk if they go down.



MSCA Executive Director Testifies on Elk Management Concerns

On Thursday, March 7, MSCA Executive Director Kaitlyn Root testified in the Senate Environment, Climate and Legacy Committee against a statutory change which would allow the MN DNR to increase elk herd populations even when crop and fence damage payments have been increasing.

“Elk populations meet or exceed the DNR's population goals for the state of Minnesota. Increasing elk populations at a time with soaring elk depredation claims seems contradictory. I ask you to not forget about agricultural producers as you consider this statutory change.”

– Kaitlyn Root, MSCA Executive Director

For more information on these bills and the MSCA testimony, visit your March 8 Policy Pen e-newsletter.

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2024 Top of Class Application Opens

The Minnesota Beef Council opened applications for the 2024 Minnesota Top of Class Program which is sponsored by the MSCA.

The Top of Class program is a dynamic year-long educational experience featuring a couple of two-day in-state seminars along with an out-of-state experience to conclude the program. The program is designed to develop the skills of Minnesota's beef industry leaders so they may maximize their impact and effectiveness in local, state, national, and international arenas.

Schedule:

In-state seminars: Session I – June 12 & 13 (St. Paul, Minnesota)
Session II – October 23 & 24 (St. Paul, Minnesota)

Out-of-state seminar: Session III – January 7 – 10, 2025 (Denver, Colorado)

For more information and to apply, visit <https://mnbeef.org/Media/MNBeef/Docs/2024-top-of-the-class-application.pdf>.

Application Deadline - April 5, 2024

Email Jon at jon@mnbeef.org for more information. You can also find the application on the Minnesota Beef Council website under the "About Us" page.

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Steak On A Stick

Join the Minnesota State Cattlemen's Association for lunch on the Upper Mall at the Minnesota State Capitol in St. Paul!

Thursday, April 25

11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Sign Up a New Member Today - Help MSCA Grow!

Minnesota State Cattlemen's Association/National Cattlemen's Beef Association

MSCA/NCBA Partnered Membership Application Form

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Expiration Date ____/____/____ Signature _____

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

Return Form & Payment To: MSCA Treasurer

PO Box 12, Maple Plain, MN 55359

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

MN State Cattlemen's Association Dues \$100

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251-500 - \$480

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501-750 - \$693

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751-1000 - \$960

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1001-1250 - \$1227

Student (24 or younger) - \$53

1251 - 1500 - \$1493

1501 - 1750 - \$1760

1751 - 2000 - \$2027

Total Dues Enclosed This Membership _____