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NCBA statement on Canadian WTO complaint against U.S. Cool law

Released by NCBA 10/7/09

The following is a statement from the National Cattlemen's Beef Association regarding today's announcement that the Canadian government will formally proceed with a World Trade Organization (WTO) dispute settlement process against U.S. mandatory country-of-origin labeling (COOL).

"Canada's decision to move forward with their complaint against U.S. COOL regulations is unfortunate, due to the potential retaliatory action that could be taken against U.S. beef. Since COOL was first proposed, we've continued to have concerns about its potential implications on our relationship with our top two trading partners-not to mention its impact on domestic feeder cattle markets at our borders to the North and South.

"The U.S. imports and adds value to Mexican and Canadian livestock through our feedlots, processing and infrastructure; and we export this value-added finished product back to Mexican and Canadian consumers. Any disruptions to either of these markets will have a significant economic impact on our industry. Unfortunately, it's becoming clear that COOL has damaged these critically important trading relationships, and is not putting any additional money into the pockets of cattlemen."

In order to gain a better understanding of COOL's effects on the entire beef chain, NCBA has asked the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to reinstate a joint Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS)/Economic Research Service (ERS) study entitled, "Economic Analysis of Country of Origin Implementation Costs for Producers and Processors in the Beef, Pork and Lamb Industries" that was to be completed in cooperation with the Livestock Marketing Information Center (LMIC). Unfortunately, the FY 2010 Agriculture Appropriations Bill did not direct USDA to reinstate the funding for this purpose. NCBA is continuing to urge USDA to prioritize this project.

Canada and Mexico are our top two trading partners, together accounting for 59% of total U.S. beef, beef variety meat and processed beef product export revenues last year. It is likely that Mexico will join Canada in proceeding with a formal WTO dispute settlement process. For more information, visit: http://w01.international.gc.ca/MinPub/Publication.aspx?lang=eng&publication_id=387683&docnum=296

2009 Convention Info

42nd Missouri Cattle Industry Convention and Trade Show

Dec. 11 & 12

University Plaza Hotel/Springfield Expo Center - Springfield, Mo.

For a schedule of events, visit www.mocattle.com.

[payments](#)

[USDA responds to New York Times story on E.coli](#)

[Save your Ralgro Wheels](#)

[Activists with hidden agenda 'should be held accountable,' AAA says](#)

[Exciting IRA opportunity](#)

Upcoming Events & Meetings

Bates County

Oct. 13, 7 p.m.

MO-KAN Livestock Market

Passaic, Mo.

St. Clair County

Oct. 13, 7 p.m.

Smith's Restaurant

Collins, Mo.

Vernon County

Oct. 15, 7 p.m.

Vernon County Fairgrounds

Rustlin' & Romancin' the West

Oct. 24, 6 p.m.

Boone County Fairgrounds

See below for information on the Mellor Trailer partnership information.

We are now accepting recommendations for award recipients-

- Cattlemen of the Year
- Pioneer Award
- Beef Industry Award.
- Candidates for officers and Regional VP's for 1,3,5, and 7.
 - Regional VP's for 1 (Steve Kreuger), 5 (Gary Copenhaver) and 7 (Ben Fizette) are eligible for re-election to finish out their two year terms.
- 2nd Vice President

Also, any resolutions need to be submitted to the office **prior to Nov. 20th.**



Members to receive discount with Mellor Trailers

Mellor Trailers in Booneville, Mo. is offering a discount to all Missouri Cattlemen's Association members (with proof of membership). Membership forms are available at the time of sale.

Discounts include:

10% discount off parts and accessories

\$100.00 off trailer purchases **upto \$5000.00**

\$200.00 off trailer purchases **from \$5000.00 to \$10,000.00**

\$300.00 off trailer purchases **from \$10,000.00 to \$15,000.00**

\$400.00 off trailer purchases **from \$15,000.00 to \$20,000.00**

\$500.00 off trailer purchases **from \$20,000.00 and up**

Discounts may not apply to certain items already discounted or on promotions. Please call for details.

PLUS! In conjunction with Elite Trailers and Mellor Trailers, MCA is rewarding one member with the free use of an Elite trailer (as shown above) for one year, which will be given at the Missouri Cattle Industry Convention and Trade show. To be eligible for this reward, an MCA member must pre-register for the MCA Convention and Trade Show. Furthermore, the member must be present at the convention awards banquet to win.

Mellor Trailer Sales

1550 West Ashley Road
Boonville, Missouri 65233
877-882-8433

(660) 434-6519
Columbia, Mo.

Randolph County

Oct. 22, 6:30 p.m.
Sheltered Workshop
Moberly, Mo.

Boone County

Oct. 27, 6:30 p.m.
Perche Creek Cafe at
Little General

Stockmanship and Stewardship Tour

Nov. 9, 6 p.m.
cfoster@ytex.com
St. Joseph, Mo.

MCA Executive Meeting

Nov. 12, 10 a.m.
Cattle Industry
Headquarters
Columbia, Mo.

MCA Convention and Trade Show

Dec. 11 & 12
University Plaza
Hotel/Springfield
Expo Center
Springfield, Mo.

Young Cattlemen's Conference

Feb. 23 & 24
MCA Headquarters
Columbia, Mo.

Open Monday -Saturday
7:30 am - 5:30 pm

I-70 Exit #101 and
1 mile north on Hwy 5

For more information, contact MCA at (573)499-9162 or at cattleinfo@mocattle.com.

Checking in on the Checkoff

Pat Wood, Sedalia (re-elected)

John Ridder, Marthasville

Gerald Campbell, Licking (re-elected)

*Congratulations to these newly elected board members!
There are a total of 13 board members from across the state
that oversee the checkoff funded programs in Missouri*

Learn more at www.mobeeff.com, www.mybeefcheckoff.com or email john@mobeeff.com

Congratulations to South Central Cattlemen's Association

MCA now has a new county affiliate. We warmly welcome South Central Cattlemen's Association, which consists of Howell, Oregon, Shannon, Doglass and Ozark counties. This organization is headed by president Wayne Nichols of Pamona.

Agriculture Appropriations Bill is good for rural Missouri, says Skelton

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Congressman Ike Skelton (D-MO) announced today that the U.S. House of Representatives has approved H.R. 2997, the Fiscal Year 2010 Agriculture Department Appropriations Conference Report. The legislation would provide \$121.2 billion for agriculture, conservation, rural development, nutrition, and university extension programs during the coming fiscal year. It would also include two important provisions supported by Congressman Skelton - emergency relief to dairy farmers and a remedy to an international trade dispute that had been problematic in America's agricultural trade policies with China.

"I am pleased that the United States Congress has come through for rural America. This Department of Agriculture spending bill funds a number of programs vital to my farmers in the Fourth District, including commodity supports, the Farm Service Agency, and agricultural research initiatives, and to all of us who reside in rural Missouri. I am particularly pleased that the legislation provides a major financial boost to farm-operating and farm-ownership loans, which help farmers pay for equipment and acquire land.

"The Department of Agriculture spending bill also provides emergency relief to American dairy producers who are experiencing a terribly difficult economic climate. The bill appropriates \$350 million in assistance to dairy farmers - \$290 million in direct payments and \$60 million to purchase cheese and other dairy products to reduce surpluses. I worked to secure these emergency funds in the House of

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Representatives and am grateful they were included in the conference report.

"Important to Missouri pork and beef producers, the legislation also fixes an international trade dispute regarding poultry imports that had been brewing for a number of years between the United States and China. I am hopeful that this remedy will open the door for China to buy more American pork and beef products. Trade is an indispensable part of the agricultural market and trade opportunities for producers must be expanded," said Skelton.

H.R. 2997 was approved by the U.S. House of Representatives by a vote of 263 to 162. The U.S. Senate must consider the legislation before it is sent to the President for his signature.

Central Missouri Feed and Supply offers members discount

Central Missouri Feed and Supply is partnering with Missouri Cattlemen's Association to offer a 5 percent discount to all MCA members when they purchase electronic fence supplies. Plus, every time that 5 percent discount is used, another 5 percent goes to MCA.

For more information, contact Brian Lease, owner of Central Missouri Feed and Supply.

2707 W Rt. F
Clark, MO 65243

(573) 641-5639

(800) 641-5629

threebarl@socket.net

Consumer group names 10 riskiest foods - Beef's not on the list!

Released by the Livestock Marketing Association 10/8/09

A study released this week by the Center for Science in the Public Interest - a group that has criticized theater popcorn and Chinese cuisine for its alleged lack of nutritional value - this week released the results of its study of the "10 riskiest foods" - and beef didn't make the list.

"Leafy greens" topped the list, followed in descending order by the foods that present the greatest threat of food-borne illness: eggs, tuna, oysters, potatoes, cheese, ice cream, tomatoes, sprouts and berries. The report implicates those foods in 40 percent of all food-borne illness outbreaks.

Livestock and Farm Protection Task Force forms to fight cattle theft

When Gov. Nixon signed House Bill 62 and increased penalties of cattle theft, the former Cattle Theft

Task Force was expanded to the new Livestock and Farm Protection Task Force.

The task force consists of local and county law enforcement officers, state highway patrol officers, livestock market employees and Missouri Cattlemen's Association representatives.

With two meetings done, the task force's mission is to look at successes and downfalls and to increase communication in law enforcement training of law enforcement and producers.

The task force is making great strides to catch the perpetrators more quickly and encourages producers to be more vigilant in taking inventory and quickly reporting any stolen cattle.

For more information or to report stolen cattle, call 1-866-AG-THEFT.

--Jeff Windett

Agriculture Secretary Vilsack announces \$1.7 billion in Conservation Reserve Program rental payments

Released by FSA 10/7/09

WASHINGTON - Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack today announced that USDA will distribute approximately \$1.7 billion in Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) rental payments to participants across the country in fiscal year 2010.

"President Obama and I are committed to conservation and environmental stewardship and this program provides the tools and resources to enable America's producers to be responsible caretakers of their land," said Vilsack. "I encourage interested producers to consider enrolling their land through continuous sign-up opportunities."

Producers holding about 758,000 contracts on 424,000 farms will receive an average of \$51.52 per acre. The number of contracts is higher than the number of farms because producers may have multiple contracts on a single farm. The payments allow producers to earn an average of \$4,104 per farm enrolled in the program.

Included in the totals are 391,000 contracts, approximately 4.4 million acres, for CRP's continuous sign-up and 369,000 contracts, approximately 29.4 million acres, for general sign-up. Under continuous sign-up, producers may enroll high priority conservation practices such as filter strips, riparian buffers and wetland restorations at any time.

Currently, enrollment stands at approximately 31 million acres, making CRP the largest public-private partnership for conservation and wildlife habitat in the United States. This voluntary program helps agricultural producers safeguard environmentally sensitive land. Producers enroll in CRP and plant long-term, resource-conserving covers to improve water quality, control soil erosion and enhance habitats for waterfowl and wildlife. In return, USDA provides producers with annual rental payments. CRP contract duration is from 10 to 15 years.

USDA issues other CRP payments throughout the year. These payments include a 50 percent expense reimbursement for establishing and managing cover as well as incentive payments for enrolling eligible high priority conservation practices.

The table, located at www.fsa.usda.gov/Internet/FSA_File/apportstate.pdf, lists acreage enrollments by state, number of contracts, number of farms, acres enrolled and CRP projected rental payments for fiscal year 2010.

For more information on CRP, producers should contact their local FSA office or at www.fsa.usda.gov.



USDA responds to New York Times story on E.coli

Released by the Livestock Marketing Association 10/70/09

USDA Tom Vilsack late Monday issued a statement listing actions the agency has taken to reduce E.coli in ground beef. He was responding to a New York Times story on Sunday that told the story of a 22-year-old Minnesota woman who was paralyzed from tainted beef traced to an E.coli outbreak in 2007. The story described the beef's travel through the food chain and questioned both USDA's and the industry's food safety protocols.

"We all know we can and should do more to protect the safety of the American people, and the story in (the Times) will continue to spur our efforts to reduce the incidence" of E.coli, Vilsack said. He outlined a long list of what he called "aggressive" efforts to improve food safety. These include:

Increased meat facility inspections, involving greater sampling to monitor the products going into ground beef. The Times story noted that the tainted ground beef came from a mix of beef from packing plants in Nebraska, Texas, Uruguay and South Dakota.

Started testing additional components of ground beef, including bench trim, and issuing new instructions to USDA employees, asking that they verify that plants follow sanitary practices in processing beef carcasses.

Issued draft guidelines for industry to further reduce the risk of contamination.

Vilsack also said the agency "is also looking at ways to enhance traceback methods and will initiate a rulemaking in the near future to require all grinders, including establishments and retail stores, to keep accurate records of the sources of each lot of ground beef."

Save your Ralgro Wheels

Wheels for Bucks: Turn those empty wheels into cash!

For every 10 empty wheels (or every 5 empty Magnum Strips) received, Schering Plough will donate a full wheel of Ralgro! These full wheels will be auctioned off Friday evening, Dec. 12 during the Cattlemen's Foundation Fund-Raising Auction.

The proceeds will be split equally between the MCF Scholarship Fund to assist young people achieve a higher education and leadership and youth development activities supported by the Missouri Cattlemen's Association.

So get with your neighbors and start saving those wheels NOW!!!
Get them to the Cattle Industry Headquarters or bring them with you to the Convention! Just don't forget to turn them in!

Activists with hidden agenda 'should be held accountable,' AAA says

Released by the Livestock Marketing Association 10/7/09

The pro-industry, Animal Agriculture Alliance (AAA), recently said it's concerned about the "growing number of activist groups" that are sending individuals to work undercover at livestock facilities "solely for the purpose" of capturing videotape that shows the mishandling of animals.

LMA last week warned members of these activist tactics, urging members to learn as much as they can about potential employees before hiring them, including demanding and thoroughly checking out past work references.

AAA said in cases of animal mishandling, all parties should be held accountable, including the persons responsible for taping the alleged abuse.

In a statement, AAA said it's concerned that the activist, undercover employees providing the tapes are not being held accountable for their failure to follow company animal care policies, and for not immediately reporting mistreatment to authorities of the businesses they infiltrate. Instead, AAA said, the videos are "produced and released directly to the media - often months later - allowing the alleged mistreatment to continue."

When an investigation confirms animal abuse has occurred, "all individuals involved should be held accountable, disciplined and prosecuted to the full extent of the law - including those who participated in such acts solely for the purpose of recording them," AAA said. Echoing LMA's recommendations to members, the AAA "strongly encourages" all livestock owners "to implement animal care guidelines, provide employee training, and establish animal care policies, holding all employees accountable for their actions."

Time is running out!

Are you 70 1/2 or older? Do you know someone who is 70 1/2 or older?

Do you or they own an IRA or other tax qualified asset?
Time is running out!

You only have until December 31, 2009 to make the most tax efficient donation to the Missouri Cattlemen Foundation that the IRS has probably ever allowed.

You will probably never have this chance again to help to children of Missouri with the help of the IRS. Yes, the IRS will help you contribute to the foundation.

Call your tax preparer and call our partners at APEX Financial LLC to find out if you qualify for this exciting opportunity. Call 800-843-9429 or 573-876-6011 and tell them you want to talk about a Missouri Cattlemen Foundation Contribution.

Remember time is running out! You have until December 31 to take advantage of this opportunity.

As always, MCA Membership is the key to the success of the organization. Without producers who back our association our voice is not as strong. Ask your friend, neighbor and fellow cattlemen to join the thousands of cattlemen in supporting the Missouri Cattlemen's Association.

For more industry news visit:

[Missouri Cattlemen's Association Website](#)

[Missouri's Cattlemen Foundation Website](#)

[Missouri Beef Industry Council Website](#)

[National Cattlemen's Beef Association Website](#)

[Missouri Department of Agriculture Website](#)

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Do you have questions, comments or suggestions?

Would you like to advertise in our newsletter?

If so, please contact Kaity Kerwin at (573) 499-9162 (Ext. 233) or kaity@mocattle.com.