



TEXAS CATTLE FEEDERS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

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Amarillo by Morning, or at least by Oct.28. The 2009 TCFA Annual Convention is growing close and TCFA members from throughout Cattle Feeding Country and points far beyond are packing up and heading to Amarillo. Anticipation has been building and the Cattle Feeders Event of the Year is only days away.



For those of you who pre-registered, you should have received your Convention registration packet in the mail this week, containing your name badges, event tickets, pocket program and brochure for the Beef-PAC Auction. **Don't forget to bring your registration packet with you to Amarillo!** If you registered after Oct. 20, you can pick up your registration packet at the Ambassador Hotel on Wednesday or at the Amarillo

Civic Center on Thursday.

Want to avoid the crowds and get a jump on your Christmas shopping? Browse through the **Beef-PAC Auction brochure** included in your registration packet. The Beef-PAC Auction is sure to have something for everyone with items ranging from fishing and hunting trips to top of the line western hats to fine jewelry. Not able to get to Amarillo but still interested in bidding on an auction item? Give Shannon Standley a call at the TCFA office and the staff will carry your bid for you.

If you need to reach a member of the TCFA staff or someone attending the Convention, you can call the TCFA Registration desk at (806) 378-2318 or the Market desk at (806) 378-2343 or (806) 378-2475.

We'll see you all in Amarillo!

Note: There will be no TCFA Newsletter next week due to the Convention. But you'll see extensive coverage in articles and photos in upcoming editions.

Taiwan Will Accept Bone-In Beef From The U.S. for the first time in six years, Taiwan's Department of Health announced today (Friday). The new protocol, expected to take affect Nov.1, will replace current Taiwanese restrictions which limit U.S. beef imports to boneless product from cattle younger than 30 months of age.

USMEF Spokesman Joe Schuele told *Meatingplace.com* that the new protocol will include a transitional stage in which Taiwan will allow U.S. bone-in, boneless and variety cuts derived from cattle younger than 30 months of age. After 180 days of the transitional period, the two countries are expected to consult on what to do next, which could include expanding to full access.

"While U.S. exporters are confident that all beef and beef products produced in the United States are safe regardless of age, the U.S. beef exporting industry is prepared to temporarily limit beef exports to Taiwan to products from cattle less than 30 months of age under a program verified by USDA as a transitional measure to ensure an orderly expansion to a full market opening," the American Meat Institute, National Meat Association and USMEF said in a letter to Ag Secretary Tom Vilsack.

At the request of beef producers, USDA has established an age-verification Quality System Assessment program to facilitate compliance with Taiwan's protocol. "U.S. beef exporters are committed to being responsible participants and stakeholders in Taiwan's marketplace," the trade associations wrote. Taiwan bought \$128 million worth of U.S. beef in 2008.

House Ag Committee Passes Bill On Derivatives: After two years of hearings, the Committee approved legislation to establish regulations on derivatives. Supporters say the legislation brings accountability to the derivatives market by installing federal oversight of Over The Counter (OTC) products, such as swaps, for the first time. The bill institutes a clearing-and-trading requirement for all OTC swap transactions between dealers and large market participants that are accepted by a clearinghouse. Non-cleared swaps must be reported, with major participants and dealers adhering to strengthened capital and margin requirements.

Chairman Collin C. Peterson (D-Minn.) said, "The clearing and exchange trading requirements, along with strong position limits provisions, will increase transparency in the market place, will benefit end users by not submitting them to onerous cash collateral requirements, and will hold swap dealers and major swap

participants to new standards for capital, margin, business conduct and other requirements to reduce their ability to again place our financial system in dire straits." Provisions in the bill would:

- Institute a clearing requirement for swaps and security-based swaps with derivative clearing organizations tasked with determining which swaps must be cleared;
- Provide for exemptions from the clearing requirement for commercial end users who are not swap dealers or major swaps participants;
- Hold swaps dealers and major swap participants accountable through margin, capital, business and other conduct requirements;
- Require cleared, listed swaps to be traded on regulated exchanges;
- Require reporting and public disclosure of swap transactions;
- Allow CFTC to impose position limits on swaps and SEC to impose position limits on security-based swaps;
- Provide for exclusive jurisdiction of swaps products under the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, with security-based swaps products placed under the exclusive jurisdiction of the Securities Exchange Commission;
- Call for CFTC and SEC consultation in rulemaking regarding swap and security-based swap provisions; and
- Require CFTC to set trading limits for physically-deliverable commodities, in order to prevent excessive speculation.

Ranking member Frank D. Lucas (R-Okla.) called the legislation's passage "another step on the road to creating a pragmatic regulatory structure to the derivatives market".

What Causes Antibiotic Resistance? "There Are No Scapegoats," according to a new report by the American Academy of Microbiology.

Key points made in the report include:

- Resistance is often portrayed as an undesirable consequence of antibiotic abuse or misuse. This view is simplistic and inaccurate. The rate of antibiotic resistance emergence is related to all uses of these drugs, not just misuse, and the total amount of antibiotics used and the environment also play roles. The main driving factor behind resistance may actually be a lack of adequate hygiene and sanitation, which enables rapid proliferation and spread of pathogens.
- Each antibiotic is injurious only to a certain segment of the microbial world, so for a given antibacterial there are some species of bacteria that are susceptible and others not. Bacterial species insusceptible to a particular drug are "naturally resistant." Species that were once sensitive but eventually became resistant to it are said to have "acquired resistance."
- Antibiotic resistance is never going to go away. No matter how many drugs we throw at it, no matter how much money and resources are sacrificed to wage a war on resistance, it will always prevail. Humans are forced to coexist with the fact of antibiotic resistance. Public health officials, clinicians and scientists must find effective ways to cope with antibiotic resistant bacteria harmful to humans and animals and to control the development of new types of resistance.

To read the full report, go to

http://academy.asm.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=296&Itemid=66.

COOL Gets Hit From Down Under: Add Australia to the list of countries unhappy with United States' Mandatory Country-Of-Origin Labeling (COOL) law. During a visit to Washington, Australian Trade Minister Simon Crean shared his country's concerns over COOL with U.S. Trade Rep. Ron Kirk. Few details about the exchange were disclosed. *Feedstuffs* reported that it is unclear whether Crean and Kirk reached any agreement on issues that were raised, which included the Aussies' push for better market access for its agricultural imports.

Meanwhile, Australia Announced Plans To Lift A Blanket Ban On Beef Imports from countries that have been affected by BSE. Australian trade officials said, unless this action is taken, Australia is at risk of international legal action by countries subject to the ban. The ban will be lifted in March 2010, according to Australian media. The country's chief medical officer said ending the ban poses no risk to humans and that Australia would now be operating in compliance with the same international protocols observed by the U.S., Canada, New Zealand and other nations.

TCFA At Work For You...

In Recent Weeks, TCFA Staff:

- Represented TCFA at the United States Animal Health Association's annual meeting to share cattle feeder views on issues including TB, brucellosis, fever tick and animal identification regulations.
- Spoke to East Asian government officials on cattle feeding industry issues.
- Participated in a public meeting with EPA and New Mexico Department of Agriculture to discuss the recently adopted EPA Region 6 general permit for CAFOs in New Mexico. (**Reminder:** Permit renewal application deadline for existing CAFOs is Dec. 3.)
- Organized fundraisers for key elected officials.
- Represented TCFA at NCBA meetings on a new organizational structure and possible dues changes.
- Visited Cargill's Dodge City facility to observe the instrument (camera) grading system that is being installed there and at other plants.
- Began two new projects with Amarillo radio station KGNC-AM: a weekly report on cattle industry issues heard each Tuesday at 5:55 a.m. and a 30-minute program on cattle feeding that airs Sundays at 10:30 a.m.

TCFA staff has also been to eight feedyards for safety training over the last 30 days, training approximately 150 people over that time. So far in 2009, the TCFA Safety Training Trailer has been to 41 yards, training a total of 829 people.

In September, South Korea Had Its Highest Volume Of Beef Imports Since January 2008 with a total of 21,750 tons, according to *Meat and Livestock Australia*. Imports of U.S. beef were up 32% from August at 6,972 tons, the highest volume since October 2008. During September, U.S. beef enjoyed a 32% share of the Korean market, trailing only Australia (56%).

Animal Rights: Hopefully The Buckeye State Will Buck The Trend, but HSUS and other activist groups have forced changes in production practices in two more states. Michigan's governor has signed a bill establishing state animal confinement standards that will phase out the use of battery cages in egg production, pork gestation stalls and veal crates. And California's governor has signed a bill banning tail docking in the state's dairy industry.

In Ohio, livestock and poultry producers worked with their state legislature to produce a ballot item designed to protect their industry from the activist agenda. On Nov. 3, voters can approve a state constitutional amendment to create the Ohio Livestock Care Standards Board. Backers of the proposed amendment say the Standards Board would keep control of the state's agriculture "under the guidance of Ohio experts including family farmers, food safety experts, veterinarians and consumers."

If you'd like to know more about the Ohio effort, a report from NCBA's *Cattlemen To Cattlemen* program is available by going to <http://www.cattlementocattlemen.org/uDocs/C2C-102009-ohio.wmv>.

AMI Challenges Meatless Mondays: AMI Senior Vice President for Public Affairs Janet Riley, during an appearance on CNN's "Lou Dobbs Tonight," criticized the Baltimore City Schools' adoption of the "Meatless Monday" campaign, a program done in association with the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. Under this program, students in Baltimore have a vegetarian-only option on Mondays.

The Bloomberg School is also home to the Center for a Livable Future and the Grace Spira Project named for the late animal rights activist Henry Spira. The Meatless Monday campaign seeks to link meat and poultry consumption to reduced public health and environmental harm.

While the Meatless Monday campaign claims their effort is part of an "education" effort for school children, Riley told Lou Dobbs that it was more aptly called "indoctrination." Riley said that by taking meat completely off the menu one day a week, the school district was denying students freedom of choice. "I am not suggesting that every child be forced to eat meat every day," said Riley. "What I am suggesting is that children and parents should have the ability to choose what they want to eat."

Riley pointed out that the meat and poultry included in the school lunch program might be the only source of protein some kids get during the day, since three-fourths of the children in Baltimore qualify for free and reduced breakfasts and lunches. She also noted that 75% of school children are already not getting enough protein in their diets according to federal data.

To view the video segment, click to <http://www.cnn.com/video/#/video/bestoftv/2009/10/20/sylvester.meat.mondays.cnn>.

Are Dairy Products Next In Line For COOL? Yes, if three senators from dairy states have their way. U.S. Senators Sherrod Brown (D-Ohio), Al Franken (D-Minn.) and Russ Feingold (D-Wisc.) have introduced a bill that would extend COOL to dairy products. S.1783 has been referred to the Senate Ag Committee.

An Educational Website, RanchTV.org, Has Been Launched By Texas AgriLife Extension. The site, which offers more than 150 short videos on beef cattle industry topics, can be reached at <http://ranchtv.org>.

"The goal of the online digital library is to provide cattle producers easy access to information that will help their bottom line and teach best management practices," said Dr. Dan Hale, professor and Extension meat specialist. From low-stress cattle handling to food safety and grid marketing, RanchTV includes information about almost every aspect of beef production.

RanchTV will be an evolving online learning center for cattle producers, with many more videos scheduled to be added over the year. "It is the goal to continually add new videos on the latest issues facing the beef cattle industry," Hale said. The online learning center was developed in part through the Beef Checkoff funds provided by the Texas Beef Council.

TCFA Sponsor Spotlight. TCFA is proud to recognize its top sponsors whose efforts help deliver top-notch services to members.

This week's spotlight shines on



Intervet/Schering-Plough Animal Health has been a faithful supporter of TCFA, with sponsorships of the TCFA Annual Convention and Summer Meeting, Fed Beef Challenge and Junior Fed Beef Challenge, and TCFA Best Safety Practices Awards. Intervet/Schering-Plough Animal Health is one company now and will continue the strong commitment to the success of TCFA members, delivering innovative animal health products such as NUFLOOR[®] (florfenicol) antibiotic, ZILMAX[®] (zilpaterol hydrochloride) feed additive, RALGRO[®] (zeranol) and REVALOR[®] (trenbolone acetate/estradiol) implants, BANAMINE[®] (flunixin meglumine) non-steroidal anti-inflammatory, VISTA[®] vaccines, NASALGEN[®] intranasal respiratory vaccine, CAVALRY[®] 9 clostridial vaccine, SAFE-GUARD (fenbendazole)[®] dewormer, and ULTRA SABER[®] (lambdacyhalothrin/piperonyl butoxide) pour-on, all supported by the industry's top technical service and sales teams. For more information, please go to www.intervetusa.com.

Please note: All links are still available at <http://www.tcfa.org> under This Week's Newsletter links.