

ICA Policies that Expire at the December 2011 Annual Meeting

Association Services

AS-1 Membership 2007

WHEREAS, the Iowa Cattlemen's Association has approximately 9,500 members; and
WHEREAS, it is imperative that the Iowa beef industry have maximum representation in a national organization.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Membership Committee of the Iowa Cattlemen's Association encourage regular members of the Iowa Cattlemen's Association to become dues-paying members of the National Cattlemen's Beef Association and urge the Officers and Directors of the Iowa Cattlemen's Association to work toward that end.

Beef Issues

BI-AP-10 Disaster Assistance 2007

WHEREAS, in the event of any future disaster assistance programs gross income may be used as a criteria of eligibility.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, replacement feeder cattle and other purchased inputs be deducted when determining disaster assistance eligibility.

BI-AP-12 Liability of Volunteer Boards 2007

WHEREAS, the Iowa Cattlemen's Association is governed by volunteer leadership and a volunteer Board of Directors which are responsible for establishing policy within the Iowa Cattlemen's Association; and

WHEREAS, the Iowa Cattlemen's Association is considered a non-profit commodity organization; and

WHEREAS, there is growing concern of legal liability in this type of volunteer leadership.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Iowa Cattlemen's Association support legislation absolving liability of volunteer board members.

BI-AP-24 CFSA Committee 2007

WHEREAS, involvement in farm program administration is important.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Iowa Cattlemen's Association Board of Directors encourage members to gain County Farm Service Agency Committee positions, District Soil and Water Commission seats, Township Trustees and Zoning Commissioners, and local conservation work groups.

**BI-PPLEM-13 Environment and Property Rights Representation
2007**

WHEREAS, the Iowa Cattlemen's Association's diverse membership includes producers with experience and expertise in all facets of cattle production; and

WHEREAS, the Iowa Cattlemen's Association employs a professional staff capable of communicating the importance and interests of the cattle industry to elected officials, agencies and the general public; and

WHEREAS, the Iowa Cattlemen's Association has historically been active in preserving and promoting the cattle industry in Iowa.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, if new environmental or property rights legislation or regulation is proposed which would impact the cattle industry, the Iowa Cattlemen's Association will represent cattle producers' interests to the fullest extent possible.

**BI-PPLEM-14 Soil Conservation
2007**

WHEREAS, the preservation of Iowa's productive topsoil is of concern to all segments of society; and

WHEREAS, we have learned a great deal about effective soil conservation practices; and

WHEREAS, Iowa still has a considerable number of marginal acres that are of too high a degree of slope to have acceptable levels of soil loss regardless of conservation practice when intensively row-cropped.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Iowa Cattlemen's Association develop promotional and educational programs to call attention to this problem and promote the conversion of these acres, subject to severe erosion, to grass and forage production, which can only be utilized by ruminant animals and Iowa Cattlemen's Association support that funding of soil conservation cost share be maintained at current funding levels or above.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Iowa Cattlemen's Association work with state and federal government to insure that programs addressing soil conservation recognize the role that the beef industry can play in addressing this problem and that these programs do not discriminate against the beef industry.

**BI-PPLEM-22 REAP Congress
2007**

WHEREAS, the cattle industry in the State of Iowa is comprised of private land consisting of row crop, grazing land and timberland; and

WHEREAS, the actions taken by the Resource Enhancement and Protection (REAP) Congress have a direct impact on existing and future livestock operations through management practices and tax rates.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, only delegates selected by the county Resource Enhancement and Protection (REAP) Committee to the regional REAP meeting be eligible to be selected as delegates to the REAP Congress and that federal, state and county employees and their spouses are not eligible to be delegates to the REAP Congress.

WHEREAS, the actions taken by the Resource Enhancement and Protection (REAP) Congress have a direct impact on existing and future livestock operations through management practices and tax rates.

BI-PPLEM-29**Rhodes Research Farm****2007**

WHEREAS, the Iowa State University Research and Demonstration Farms conduct research applicable to all agricultural interests in Iowa; and

WHEREAS, the Iowa cattle industry depends on research and development of new technologies, and

WHEREAS, the Rhodes Research Farm is one of the few public research farms that is oriented heavily toward beef cattle; and

WHEREAS, the Iowa Department of Natural Resources has proposed a new lake site that may eliminate the Rhodes Research Farm.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Iowa Cattlemen's Association oppose the taking of the Rhodes Research Farm for the purposes of building a lake or other activity other than the present use.

BI-PPLEM-31**Iowa Slough Bill****2007**

WHEREAS, the Iowa Slough Bill provides property tax relief for particular uses of land including: open prairies, forest cover, river and stream banks, and wildlife habitat; and

WHEREAS, the Iowa Slough Bill does not require restoration of such land to a native condition; and

WHEREAS, public assistance for restoration of native habitat is available through various agencies.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, restoration of land to a condition such that a majority of the vegetation is consistent with a native habitat be required, and certified by a government naturalist, prior to being granted property tax relief.

BI-TF-3**Balanced Budget****2007**

BE IT RESOLVED the Iowa Cattlemen's Association support the approach to a balanced budget and more fiscal responsibility in state and national government with any burden being placed on all segments of society equally.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED as Iowa moves to be more fiscally responsible with our tax dollars, the Iowa Cattlemen's Association support a 60% majority necessary to pass any tax increase in the Iowa Legislature.

BI-TF-12**Property Taxes****2007**

WHEREAS, cattlemen and farmers are increasingly concerned about the burden of property taxes; and

WHEREAS, in the past, unfunded mandates have caused property and other local taxes to be increased, and

WHEREAS, property taxes bear a large share of school infrastructure costs.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Iowa Cattlemen's Association support the concept of holding the line or freezing property taxes so that any changes in the state budget not result in higher property taxes and that any mandate, direct or indirect, passed by the Iowa Legislature be fully funded.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Iowa Legislature explore increasing the state sales tax to equitably relieve the property tax burden of paying for school infrastructure costs.

BI-TF-14 **Feedlot Tax Credit**
2007

WHEREAS, the State of Iowa is trying to expand ethanol production and other value added grain processing with the resulting increase in co-products which are extensively used by Iowa's cattle industry; and

WHEREAS, new AFO/CAFO regulations will make it increasingly difficult for Iowa feedlots to compete with other major feeding states due to higher average rainfall.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, new Iowa cattle feedlots, feedlots which expand, and those that build pollution control structures shall receive an income tax credit for their contributions to value added agriculture.

BI-TF-15 **FMD Indemnity Fund**
2007

WHEREAS, the federal government has an indemnity fund to pay producers for their livestock in the event of an FMD outbreak in the US.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the income from the FMD indemnity fund should be handled the same as an involuntary conversion and qualify for two year deferral or replacement.

BI-TF-34 **Iowa Inheritance Tax**
2007

WHEREAS, the family farm is and should continue to be the backbone of agriculture in Iowa; and

WHEREAS, a family livestock operation cannot attain economic success without a substantial land base for growing feed grains; and

WHEREAS, amendments to the federal estate tax laws have not kept pace with inflation.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Iowa Cattlemen's Association favor the repeal of the federal estate tax as currently written to include a higher exemption level of \$15 million per family tied to inflation and maintaining the stepped-up basis.

Cattle Production

CP-CHWB-11 **Humane Animal Practices**
2007

BE IT RESOLVED the members of the Iowa Cattlemen's Association make the health and well-being of their livestock the number one priority.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Iowa Cattlemen's Association pursue every opportunity to educate the citizens of Iowa regarding the many humane practices which Iowa cattlemen use to insure the welfare, safety, and good health of their cattle.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, if, for any reason, an Iowa farmer finds he is unable to provide adequate care for his cattle, the Iowa Cattlemen's Association will assist in providing for the sale or harvest of said cattle.

CP-CHWB-25**BVD Eradication****2007**

WHEREAS, BVD is a prevalent and costly disease in the cattle industry; and

WHEREAS, new research has shown that a small percentage of cattle are persistently infected and that persistently infected cows pass the disease through their offspring; and

WHEREAS, there is a new and improved diagnostic test for these persistently infecteds.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Iowa Cattlemen's Association support efforts by Iowa State University and other institutions which would lead to the eradication of BVD.

CP-LCM-23**Concentration/Consolidation****2007**

WHEREAS, the National Cattlemen's Beef Association's Beef Industry Concentration Integration Task Force has thoroughly examined the economic forces at work in the beef and cattle industry; and

WHEREAS, the National Cattlemen's Beef Association's Beef Industry Concentration Integration Task Force has unanimously endorsed the belief that the nation and the beef industry are best served by the capitalistic, competitive free market system; and

WHEREAS, the Iowa cattlemen are very concerned about pending and future mergers, acquisitions and consolidation of agri-businesses, we encourage a close scrutinization of any merger.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Iowa Cattlemen's Association endorse the National Cattlemen's Beef Association's request that the Federal Government more closely monitor mergers and acquisitions in the packing, processing and retailing industries because of increased potential for anti-trust violations.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Packers & Stockyards Administration be requested to continue to closely monitor price movements and sector margins to assure that price changes are the result of market signals and not the exercise of market power. USDA and US Department of Justice assure that:

1. No merger be allowed that would decrease competition for cattle or other commodity or reduce access; and
2. Determination that the financial condition of the proposed merger be such that the new entity would be sound and reliable.

CP-LCM-24**Interstate Highway Weight Limits****2007**

WHEREAS, other states in the union allow interstate travel of triple and spread axle trucks with weight limits over 80,000 lbs.; and

WHEREAS, in Iowa it is legal to travel on state roads with triple and spread axle trucks over 80,000 lbs. gross; and

WHEREAS, any livestock trucks weighing over 80,000 lbs. have no feasible way to travel through Des Moines.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,, should the opportunity arise, that the Iowa Cattlemen's Association work towards instituting the travel of triple and spread axle trucks grossing over 80,000 lbs. on interstate highways.

CP-ST-5 Beef Education Programs

2007

WHEREAS, accurate information concerning beef production is important; and
WHEREAS, the Iowa Cattlemen's Association and the Iowa Beef Industry Council have this information available for all age groups; and
WHEREAS, it is important to disseminate this information to youth, as well as adult; and
WHEREAS, the Iowa Cattlemen's Foundation's mission is to provide educational opportunities for Iowans in the cattle business.
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Iowa Cattlemen's Association support the Iowa Beef Industry Council and the Iowa Cattlemen's Foundation and the Iowa Beef Center in their educational projects and programs as well as existing county volunteer efforts.

CP-ST-8 ISU Extension

2007

WHEREAS, agriculture is a high technology business and the largest industry in Iowa; and
WHEREAS, technology is constantly developing and changing; and
WHEREAS, Iowa State University Extension Service plays an important role in the adoption of developing technology from an unbiased position.
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Iowa Cattlemen's Association support the continuation of the Iowa State University Extension Specialists to disseminate the adopted technology on a timely basis.
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Iowa Cattlemen's Association urge that agriculture be given the highest priority possible in applied research and education efforts of Iowa State University.

CP-ST-12 Forage for Winter Livestock Systems

2007

WHEREAS, the Iowa Cattlemen's Association recognized the importance of year-round utilization of forage to the cattle industry.
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Iowa Cattlemen's Association request Iowa State University and other research institutions to place continued emphasis toward the breeding, development or introduction of forages that are acceptable for winter livestock systems.

CP-ST-19 Strategic Plan for College of Ag

2007

WHEREAS, the College of Agriculture at Iowa State University is of critical importance to advancing the profitability of Iowa cattle producers; and
WHEREAS, the Animal Science Department, as well as other Departments of the College of Agriculture, provide significant information either directly to cattle producers or indirectly to producers through the Agricultural Extension Service.
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Iowa Cattlemen's Association support the Iowa State University Strategic Plan, but also urge the retention of a balance of applied and basic science in disseminating information to the producers of Iowa.
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Iowa Cattlemen's Association will continue to support a version of this Strategic Plan that supports the interest of Iowa cattle producers.

**CP-ST-20 NADC & NVSL Facility Funding
2007**

WHEREAS, the National Animal Disease Center & National Veterinary Science Laboratory located in Ames, Iowa, have a worldwide reputation for animal disease research; and

WHEREAS, the current National Animal Disease Center & National Veterinary Science Laboratory facilities are aged to the point that future research possibilities and bio-security measures will be limited, which will inhibit the safety and competitive position of the US livestock industry; and

WHEREAS, the National Animal Disease Center & National Veterinary Science Laboratory are cooperatively developing a master plan utilizing joint facilities and departmental cooperation which will result in more efficient research at a reduced cost.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Iowa Cattlemen's Association support the funding requests for the construction, remodeling and equipment needed to implement this master plan for a facility to be located in Ames, Iowa.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Iowa Cattlemen's Association work with other livestock organizations and agriculture groups to urge Congress to accelerate the funding for the master plan.

**CP-ST-28 ISU Veterinary Diagnostic Lab Funding
2007**

WHEREAS, the Iowa State University College of Veterinary Medicine is one of the crucial links in evaluating and controlling livestock diseases in Iowa and education of food supply veterinarians; and

WHEREAS, the Iowa legislature appropriated \$1 million in recurring direct appropriation to the Iowa State University Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory (ISU VDL) in FY 2007 with intent language to increase this to \$2 million in FY 2008, \$3 million in FY 2009, and \$4 million in 2010 (House File 2540).

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Iowa Cattlemen's Association support implementation of the intent language as written and if possible moving toward full appropriation of the \$4 million in the current session.

Beef Product

**BP-GCM-5 EU Growth Promotant Ban
2007**

WHEREAS, the United States beef industry has for many years been effectively shut out of the European Union (EU) because of the ban on beef implanted with growth promotants; and

WHEREAS, the issue has been brought before the World Trade Organization (WTO) for a ruling based on science; and

WHEREAS, the US beef industry expects a favorable ruling on the issue.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, in the event the United States receives a favorable WTO ruling on this issue, and the EU still refuses to let our beef into the European market, that the Iowa Cattlemen's Association urge the Executive and Legislative Branches of our government to aggressively resolve the issue.

**BP-GCM-7 US Meat Export Federation
2007**

WHEREAS, the US Meat Export Federation program has been successful in increasing beef exports.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Iowa Cattlemen's Association and the Iowa Beef Industry Council continue to support the efforts of the US Meat Export Federation.

**BP-GCM-27 Export Assistance Funding
2007**

WHEREAS, the US Meat Export Federation (USMEF) has received \$10 to \$20 million per year in export assistance; and

WHEREAS, the Market Access Program and its predecessor programs dating back to 1987 have provided the US Meat Export Federation a source of additional funding to expand US beef exports to over 50 nations; and

WHEREAS, domestic consumption of US beef products has increased by nearly 10% since 1987 while the value of US beef exports has more than doubled since the first export promotion funds were received in 1987 to 3.8 billion in 2003; and

WHEREAS, a disproportionate share of efforts and publicity of the United States government has been placed on programs involved on exportation of raw or bulk agricultural products.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Iowa Cattlemen's Association support export assistance programs such as MAP and is in favor of making a high percentage of all export assistance funds available for the export of value-added products such as beef.

**BP-GCM-28 Maintaining Export Customer Confidence
2007**

WHEREAS, the US border has been closed to Canadian beef since a case of BSE was found in a Canadian cow on May 20, 2003; and

WHEREAS, Canadian boxed beef from cattle under 30 months of age is now being allowed into the US and is being segregated and withheld from our export markets; and

WHEREAS, the US government has proposed a rule to allow live cattle under 30 months of age into this country from Canada; and

WHEREAS, Japan, our largest export customer, has concerns about keeping Canadian beef segregated and out of the export market; and

WHEREAS, our export customers have called for the US beef industry to develop a traceback system to ensure trust in the minds of our export customers; and

WHEREAS, there are concerns about the effectiveness of the Canadian feed ban.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Iowa Cattlemen's Association oppose opening the border to cattle and beef products over 30 months of age.

**BP-GCM-29 Country of Origin Labeling
2007**

WHEREAS, federal legislation has been passed to implement a mandatory country of origin labeling program on many meat products sold at retail.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Iowa Cattlemen's Association support the implementation of the federal mandatory COOL and work toward the inclusion of all beef products.

BP-GCM-30

BSE Testing

2007

WHEREAS, some US packers seek to voluntarily test their beef for BSE.
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Iowa Cattlemen's Association support national legislation to allow voluntary BSE testing under USDA supervision.