

ANIMAL HEALTH

1. BEEF QUALITY ASSURANCE PROGRAM ('98)

WHEREAS: Food safety is an important issue with the consumers of our product, and therefore it is important to us as an economic issue; and

WHEREAS: A Beef Quality Assurance program has been initiated in South Dakota.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: The South Dakota Stockgrowers Association does endorse Beef Quality Assurance and encourages its members and all beef producers to participate in the South Dakota Beef Quality Assurance Program.

2. BRUCELLOSIS (revised '08)

WHEREAS: The number of infected and quarantined cattle herds nationwide is at an all time low; and

WHEREAS: South Dakota has attained Class "A" status in Brucellosis eradication nationwide as a result of no known infected or quarantined cattle herds; and

WHEREAS: Cattle producers in this state are to be commended for their herd animal health programs to eradicate this disease.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: The South Dakota Stockgrowers Association adopt and support the following seven-point program:

1. The use of Strain RB 51 Brucella vaccine shall be used for the vaccination of bovine heifer calves between the age of four and twelve months retained for breeding purposes.
2. Officially vaccinated Bovine females shall be allowed to move intrastate on a single negative test for Brucellosis.
3. All Bovine females imported into South Dakota that are NOT officially calfhood vaccinated shall be spayed or "F" branded.
4. Allows for mandatory quarantine and retest of officially vaccinated sexually intact female bovines imported into South Dakota from Class "B" states.
5. Allow test-eligible cattle and buffalo to be imported for breeding purposes from Brucellosis free states or from certified Brucellosis free herds without testing for Brucellosis if the animals are permanently identified as an official calfhood vaccinate.
6. Support the Animal Industry Board's rules allowing importation of test eligible cattle and buffalo to a registered feedlot within South Dakota without a negative Brucellosis test if the animals are "S" branded and are sold for slaughter directly from the registered feedlot.
7. Oppose a federally mandated check-off program for the purpose of raising funds to support the federal Brucellosis Eradication program.

3. CALFHOOD VACCINATION

WHEREAS: The State of South Dakota has been classified as an “A” state under the Uniform Methods and Rules of the United States Department of Agriculture; and

WHEREAS: South Dakota is fast approaching the “Free” status from Brucellosis in its cattle herds; and

WHEREAS: The State of South Dakota’s calfhood vaccination law SDCL 40-7-20 has been an instrumental and effective tool in reaching this goal.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. The South Dakota Stockgrowers Association recommends and encourages the vaccination of bovine heifer calves between the age of four and twelve months which are retained for breeding purposes.
2. The South Dakota Stockgrowers Association define an official calfhood vaccinate as a bovine female that was inoculated subcutaneously with an approved Brucella vaccine between the age of four and twelve months by a State or Federal accredited veterinarian using the approved vaccination procedure. The animal must be properly identified as a vaccinate by an official eartag and vaccination tattoo and must be reported on an appropriate certificate to the Animal Industry Board, Pierre, South Dakota.
3. South Dakota Stockgrowers Association resists an attempt by anyone or the legislature to amend the calfhood vaccination and identification requirements as outlined in SDCL 40-7-20.

4. IMPORTING CALVES FROM INFECTED HERDS

WHEREAS: The threat of Brucellosis of calves of infected herds is high.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: The South Dakota Stockgrowers Association requests the Animal Industry Board does not accept calves from infected herds unless spayed or castrated.

5. SPAYING HEIFERS

WHEREAS: The spaying of heifers is beneficial to producers for economics, health, management and convenience reasons, and

WHEREAS: With the new techniques, spaying is a safe and simple procedure.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: The South Dakota Stockgrowers Association work with other producer groups and the South Dakota Veterinary Medical Exam Board to allow layman to work (or perform this service) under the South Dakota Veterinary Practice Act.

6. TUBERCULOSIS

WHEREAS: Tuberculosis (TB) appears to be an increasing threat to the United States cattle industry; and

WHEREAS: Cooperation from Mexican officials on the testing and identification of imported cattle from Mexico has been improved; and

WHEREAS: Tuberculosis can have an adverse impact on the South Dakota cattle industry as well as on a national scale.

(continued)

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. The South Dakota Stockgrowers Association request USDA APHIS to act immediately to insure all cattle imported from Mexico are identified with an official eartag with traceback capabilities, are “M” branded with a hot iron, and tested negative by competent personnel.
The South Dakota Stockgrowers Association urges and supports state and federal regulatory officials to monitor the importation of Mexican cattle into the USA and South Dakota and insure that all health regulations are followed.

**7. IMPORTS OF CATTLE, CATTLE PRODUCTS AND (‘01)
OTHER ANIMALS AND PRODUCTS**

BE IT RESOLVED: The South Dakota Stockgrowers Association strongly encourages the United States Department of Agriculture, in preparation for any risk assessment in response to a request to import animals or animal products to the U.S., to first notify cattle industry organizations and state animal health officials including but not limited to: the South Dakota Stockgrowers, R-Calf and the South Dakota state veterinarian.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: The South Dakota Stockgrowers Association strongly encourages the United States Department of Agriculture to request concerns regarding such risk assessment from the South Dakota Stockgrowers Association, R-Calf and state animal health officials.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: The South Dakota Stockgrowers Association strongly encourages the United States Department of Agriculture to include industry representation from the South Dakota Stockgrowers Association and R-Calf in the development of any such risk assessment decisions.

8. ANTIBIOTICS AND FEED ADDITIVES (‘01)

WHEREAS: Antibiotics and feed additives are necessary for efficient beef production; and

WHEREAS: Excessive regulation and increasingly lower tolerance levels threaten the loss of many of these drugs.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: The South Dakota Stockgrowers Association supports the ban on sub-therapeutic level feeding of antibiotics in feed for producing animals and promotes the prudent use of antibiotics by following label guidelines and adherence to proper dosages, including the administration and observation of withdrawal times.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: The South Dakota Stockgrowers Association supports reasonable tolerance levels and common sense regulations based on science that will accommodate the beef industry, as well as provide an affordable, safe, wholesome, high quality product for the consuming public.

9. BOVINE SPONGIFORM ENCEPHALOPATHY (BSE) (‘01)

BE IT RESOLVED: The South Dakota Stockgrowers Association supports a moratorium on all imports of live cattle, beef, pre-cooked beef and all beef products for a period of three (3) years or until importers can prove the cattle and/or beef are *Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy, (BSE)*, (also known as *Mad Cow Disease*) *FREE* for the protection of the American consumer.

10. FOOT & MOUTH DISEASE (FMD) ('01)

WHEREAS: Foot & Mouth Disease (FMD) is a highly contagious and economically devastating disease of cattle and swine. It also affects sheep, goats, deer and other cloven hoofed ruminant animals; and

WHEREAS: Foot & Mouth Disease causes severe losses in the production of meat and milk and spreads wildly and rapidly with grave economic as well as physical consequences; and

WHEREAS: If this disease were to reach North America, the economic effect to the livestock industry in South Dakota and the economy of the entire United States would be devastating.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: The South Dakota Stockgrowers Association supports a three (3) year moratorium on the importation of livestock and livestock by-products from foreign countries affected by Foot & Mouth Disease until such time as risk assessments within the United States Department of Agriculture on Foot & Mouth Disease can be reviewed and re-evaluated.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: If Foot & Mouth Disease does invade North America, the South Dakota Stockgrowers Association supports Governor William Janklow's Contingency Plan for South Dakota.

11. LIVESTOCK COMPENSATION ('15)

WHEREAS: Livestock producers of South Dakota realize the economic impact a disease such as Foot & Mouth or Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE – Mad Cow Disease) would have on the livelihood of our farms and ranches.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: The South Dakota Stockgrowers Association recommends that in the event of a disease outbreak, requiring the destruction of livestock in South Dakota, fair compensation for the affected livestock be paid. Fair compensation should be based on a recent representative sample of state, or if necessary, regional auction barn and other reported prices established prior to the disease outbreak in North America.

12. NON-DOMESTIC ANIMAL PERMITTING ('03)

BE IT RESOLVED: The South Dakota Stockgrowers Association Board of Directors supports the Animal Industry Board's authority over the permitting of non-domestic animals into and within South Dakota.

13. TRICHONOMIASIS ('05)

WHEREAS: "Trich free" shall be defined as no less than three official consecutive negative trich tests. Second, third and any following official trich tests shall be conducted at least seven days but not more than 21 days after any previous official trich test.

BE IT RESOLVED: The South Dakota Stockgrowers Association strongly supports a statewide rule requiring that all bulls of breeding age sold for breeding purposes and/or imported into South Dakota from outside the state borders shall be certified "trich free" no more than 30 days prior to sale or importation.

Exceptions to the rule are: **(continued)**

1. bulls guaranteed to be 16 months of age or younger and virgin, accompanied by a signed affidavit as verification,
2. transient rodeo or exhibition (show) bulls, which shall have no sexual contact with a female bovine and are held in a secure facility to prevent such contact (does not include pasture) while in South Dakota,
3. bulls consigned directly to slaughter,
4. bulls consigned to a feedlot for feeding purposes where they will be isolated from all females. Bulls moved from a feedlot must be certified trich free unless consigned directly to slaughter. Any positive trich bull quarantined in a feedlot shall go directly to slaughter from such feedlot.

14. FEED BAN ('06)

BE IT RESOLVED: The South Dakota Stockgrowers Association strongly supports a ban on the feeding of poultry litter to cattle to minimize the risk of the introduction or spread of disease in the U.S. cattle herd.

15. VOLUNTARY BSE TESTING ('06)

BE IT RESOLVED: The South Dakota Stockgrowers Association requests that USDA allow private entities to conduct voluntary testing for BSE.

16. BSE TESTING LEVEL ('06)

BE IT RESOLVED: the South Dakota Stockgrowers Association strongly urges USDA to return to the January 2006 BSE testing rate.

17. BIO-DEFENSE AGRO-DEFENSE FACILITY ('07)

WHEREAS: The Department of Homeland Security is receiving bids from states for a site for a proposed National Bio-Defense Agro-Defense Facility (BFAF) to replace the present Plum Island, NY site; and

WHEREAS: The United Kingdom recently experienced an outbreak of Hoof & Mouth Disease from a laboratory which was located in close proximity to farms and ranches; and

WHEREAS: The livestock population of the United States is susceptible to numerous foreign diseases, and an outbreak could have severe consequences for producers and consumers.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: The South Dakota Stockgrowers Association strongly promotes extensive biosecurity measures to prevent the release of animal disease agents to the environment.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: The South Dakota Stockgrowers Association strongly supports maintaining and implementing a workable emergency management plan.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: The South Dakota Stockgrowers Association supports a National Bio-Defense Agro-Defense Facility to remain on Plum Island or to be built in a similar secure area, taking advantage of natural barriers, out of proximity of farms and ranches.