

INDEPENDENT BEEF ASSOCIATION OF NORTH DAKOTA

Your state wide voice in the cattle industry!

PO Box 123

Menoken, ND 58558

www.i-band.org

2023-3

Presidents message



How about these cattle prices!!! It's hard not to get excited about them. But it's pretty disheartening to watch your future go down the road if you're in a drought area like northern North Dakota and are being forced to sell early. My heart goes out to you ranchers.

But don't get too complacent about prices, because just like in 2014-2015, we saw cattle prices at record prices and analysts telling us it'll last for 4+ years. Didn't happen. Or how about the prices in the fall of 2003, pretty good. Until the 'cow that stole Christmas' showed up and wrecked everything.

It'd be a good investment if you haven't bought any LRP (Livestock Risk Protection) insurance. In fact, it's a better policy now than it was a few weeks ago when I had my insurance agent write me up a couple of contracts. I have heard of instances where the producer's insurance

agent are not up to speed on LRP's, and wouldn't write a policy. If that's the case, switch agents. Your agents need to be up to date on livestock insurance.

A new type of insurance will be Weaned Calf Revenue Protection (WCRP); I realize I'm a little behind the 8-ball on this insurance, again the insurance agents need to be up to date on all these. This insurance would emulate crop revenue insurance but follow Pasture Rangeland Forage insurance, which means buying protection post-calving, but directly post-calving and prior to weaning.

I bring all this to your attention because that's where we're headed. Congress is enacting all these programs into the next farm bill, which by the way is due September 30th. Of course, this new farm bill will not be in place by the end of this fiscal year, and an extension will be in place as the last x? how many farm bills? These insurances along with Livestock Indemnity Program, Livestock Forage Disaster Program, and Emergency Livestock Assistant Program will all be a part of the new farm bill instead of waiting for a disaster declaration.

So instead of addressing the Dept of Justice and the US Dept of Agriculture and the lack of enforcement of the current laws in place, congress decides to put the burden back onto the producers to protect their ranches and small feedlots by forcing them to play the game of futures contracts. Which is

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what the insurances are basing the LRP's or WCRP's on. A personal opinion, I think the Chicago Mercantile Exchange Group should be eliminated. I mean really, what good do they do? It's a money game for players to make a lot of money (like Hillary) or lose a lot of money. It has nothing to do with supply/demand. It has nothing to do with owning the cattle while trading paper.

These programs and insurances are all good and fine, but it still doesn't address the real problems within the cattle industry. We still need Mandatory Country of Origin Labeling (MCOOL). We still need checkoff reform with the Opportunities for Fairness in Farming Act (OFF Act), which addresses ALL the checkoffs, not just the Beef Checkoff. Notice I said 'checkoff reform, I personally don't think we need to eliminate the checkoff, we just need to have better accountability for the tax we're assessed.

And we need to address the issue of and inform everyone of the difference between cattle and beef. The cattle pay for the checkoff, the beef reaps the rewards from that checkoff.

And finally; ads continue on radio ag programs every day, every program, promoting the beef checkoff and memberships to the NCBA. Our tax dollars create a bias through our radios. SMH.

Frank Tomac, President

4th of July Photos



2023 Annual Convention



Cowboy Jokes

- *What do you call a happy cowboy? A jolly rancher.
- *Why did everybody think the cowboy was so funny? Because he was always horsing around.
- *Why do cowboys always ride horses? Because they're too heavy to carry!
- *How did the cowboy save so much money? His horse gave him a couple of bucks every day.
- *What do you call someone who wears cowboy clothes? Ranch dressin'
- *If a cowboy rides into town on Friday and three days later, leaves on Friday, how does he do it? The horse's name is Friday!
- *Why can't the bankrupt cowboy complain? He has got no beef.
- *Three cowboys are riding in a truck, all dressed alike. Who is the smartest? The one in the middle because he doesn't have to drive or open the gate.
- *What is the first rule cowboys learn before filling up a canteen? To go upstream from the herd.
- *Why are so many cowboys also gamblers? Because they always like raising the steaks!
- *What do cowboys make when the sun comes up? Shadows.
- *Did you hear about the cowboy who died with his boots on? He didn't want to stub his toe when he kicked the bucket!



COOL introduced in the House

Congresswoman Harriet Hageman introduced the Country of Origin Labeling Enforcement Act of 2023 on July 28, 2023.

The bill, which is co-led by Representative Ro Khanna (D-CA), seeks to prohibit beef retailers from designating foreign beef as an American-made product by defining US-produced beef as coming from animals "exclusively born, raised, slaughtered, and packaged in the United States." Processors who do not comply with country of origin labeling requirements will be assessed a fine of \$5,000 per pound of beef illegally labeled as "made in the USA."

Discussing the bill, Congresswoman Hageman stated: "Beef is a key product of the American West, and enhanced country of origin labeling guidance is vital to protecting small-scale farmers and ranchers that must compete with mega meatpacking conglomerates. Clarifying what it means to be 'made in the USA' will give consumers greater confidence in what they feed their families, support local farmers and economies, and crack down on deceptive labeling practices by the big four meatpackers."

"We need to help American farmers who are competing with multi-national meat packing companies that are importing cattle and falsely labeling it as from the United States," said Rep. Khanna. "The Country of Origin Labeling Enforcement Act will level the playing field for our ranchers and I'm proud to lead this effort with Rep. Hageman."

In addition to bipartisan support in the House of Representatives, multiple stakeholder groups have applauded this bill, including R-CALF, US Cattlemen's Association, and Farm Action Fund. "Labels should clearly say where food comes from," said Joe Van Wye, Farm Action Fund's policy and outreach director. "We thank Representatives Hageman and Khanna for championing this legislation and we look forward to fighting for its inclusion in the farm bill."

The Country of Origin Labeling Enforcement Act is Congresswoman Hageman's twelfth bill introduced since joining Congress in January 2023.

COOL Cont.

Hageman's bill is a companion bill to the American Beef Labeling Act in the Senate, SB 52. "This bill contains penalties for non-compliance and it expressly states that the World Trade Organization cannot interfere with the operation of the MCOOL bill," said Bill Bullard, R-CALF CEO.

–Congresswoman Hageman

https://www.tsln.com/news/cool-introduced-in-the-house/?utm_source=second-street&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=mid-week-roundup

Beef to Schools and NDBC

By Ron Volk

During the winter of 2021, I-BAND came up with the concept of putting North Dakota beef in North Dakota schools. It started with I-BAND director Jeremy Maher, donating processed beef to the public school in McIntosh, SD, where his children attend. COVID had slowed the school's food supply and parents began to witness the subpar food being served to their children. From there, I-BAND launched North Dakota Beef to School. I-BAND teamed up with the North Dakota Department of Public Instruction (DPI) to connect ND schools with State or USDA-inspected processing plants to purchase beef (mostly hamburger).

I-BAND then decided to put on a class for school cooks to learn fast and easy recipes for preparing fresh or frozen beef in schools. In doing so, I-BAND requested checkoff money from the North Dakota Beef Commission (NDBC) to help pay for the costs of the class (as our checkoff money is to be used for promotion, education, and research). This was to keep our checkoff dollars in-state and used correctly. I-BAND received funds from the NDBC as well as the North Dakota Farmers Union and CHS. DPI was instrumental in getting us in contact with the school systems and helping with much more, and the North Dakota Department of Agriculture for their graphics. The program was a success.

I-BAND believes the beef checkoff needs transparency and accountability regarding where producers' money is utilized. I-BAND is looking for ways to promote our beef, in our state, with our money.

An industry that feeds
you is an industry
worth fighting for.



Options for wet hay

Hay that gets rained on while it's still in the windrow will lose nutritional value, but if it's put up too wet, has been sitting in water, or is otherwise saturated, it needs special consideration.

HAY COMBUSTION

Moisture can lead to combustion. Hay should be put up at 20 percent moisture or less. Above this, microbes begin to break down plant matter, and mold growth occurs. This breaking down of the hay produces heat and leads to the danger of combustion. If weather conditions don't allow the hay to dry and cure, baleage or other high-moisture baling techniques can be an option. These use a plastic wrap or tube to exclude oxygen and create an anaerobic fermentation environment that limits decomposition and heat production. If you end up with "hot" hay that's

too wet in the bale, store that away from other bales, and outside to limit the risk of a fire spreading. Some insurance policies have limits on how many bales they will cover per stack, so now is a good time to check into that.

Periodically check temperatures on these bales by using a long-stem compost thermometer or driving a metal pipe into the bale and lowering in a non-mercury thermometer. Any bales at 170°F or higher should be closely monitored. At this point, temperatures will most likely continue to rise. Bale combustion can begin at temperatures

as low as 190°F, especially in coarse hays like sorghum-sudan grass hybrids. Increased oxygen flow in these bales due to the coarse stems means higher risk. Moving hot bales can also open them up and increase oxygen flow, increasing the risk of combustion.

MOLDY HAY

Even if they don't catch fire, wet bales will continue to decrease in quality. Mold growth uses plant tissues as an energy and protein source, decreasing quality. Hot temperatures denature cell structures, which changes proteins and carbohydrates, making them less useful for the animal when digested. In some cases when we have anaerobic conditions and heat, hay may "caramelize," becoming golden-colored and sweet-smelling. While highly palatable, this heat-fermented hay is also lower in quality due to heat damage during the fermentation process. So, if you have wet hay showing one or more of these signs, what do you do?

MANAGING HAYMYCOTOXINS

Mold has the potential to produce mycotoxins which, in high enough levels, could be deadly to animals that ingest it in extreme circumstances. The moderate side effect is reduced intake, a decrease in ruminal function, and overall reduced performance of the animal, leading to economic losses.

While this may seem minor, the lowered feed values

of forages due to increased rain and extended winters amplify the potential for poor breed-up and decreased calf weights. The best way to use moldy hay is to spread out the bales and let the animals pick through, with a second

source of clean hay for them to select from as well. Mold often reduces palatability and animals will avoid specially bad chunks. Having clean hay available ensures animals aren't forced to eat anything they don't choose to. Pregnant animals are more sensitive to mycotoxin poisoning, which can lead to fetal termination, so consider limiting the amount of moldy hay these animals receive. Horses are highly sensitive to mold in hay, with danger of both respiratory and toxin issues. As such, it is best to keep moldy hay away from horses. Mold can also be a health risk to the producer. Frequently breathing in large amounts of dust and mold can cause respiratory issues such as farmer's lung. To protect against this, wear a dust mask when working with hay that may have high amounts of mold.

HAY TESTING

Hay testing is going to be critical this year. Determining actual, as-fed hay quality is important for meeting animal nutrition needs through the winter. If moldy hay is being ground for a diet, correctly diluting forages to ensure bad hay isn't being overfed is vital, since these animals don't have the option for refusal. Mold and mycotoxin tests can be a bit expensive and not all labs offer these tests. Your local Beef Extension Educator would be happy to help with finding a lab and determining a cost-effective sampling strategy. Until bales cool off and moisture content drops below 20%, the quality of hay will continue to drop through the year. To make sure we are getting an accurate as-

assessment of hay quality, sample by lot (hay harvested from the same field within a 48-hour period) a few weeks

before you plan to feed. Early samples can be taken to gauge quality for planning purposes, but since the degradation process in these bales is ongoing, a true reading won't be understood until right before feeding.

This should give an accurate idea of the forage quality while still giving the lab time to get results back to

you. Knowing the quality of hay allows for better decision making of how to use low quality forage and

prevent underfeeding of animals. Interviews with the authors of BeefWatch newsletter articles become available throughout the month of publication and are accessible at <https://go.unl.edu/podcast>.

You can subscribe to the BeefWatch newsletter here: http://go.unl.edu/beefwatch_subscribe

–UNL Beef

Taken from Tri State Livestock News

TOP 5 TAKEAWAYS

- * Wet bales are at risk for combustion; store appropriately and check temperatures. Anything above 170°F is high risk.
- * Mold may produce mycotoxins, so roll out and let animals select good portions of moldy bales. Make sure other clean feed is available.
- * Protect yourself from respiratory issues while working with moldy bales by using a dust mask.
- * Hay testing is especially important when hay quality and safety are concerns.
- * Wet bales continue to lose quality over the course of the year, so sample a few weeks before you plan to feed for accurate results. Cattle producers in some parts of the country had to adjust quickly from too dry to too wet this year.

Hoeven outlines Cattle Contract Program for North Dakota Ranchers

DICKINSON — Sen. John Hoeven visited Dickinson on Wednesday to introduce an innovative cattle contract library pilot program to southwest North Dakota livestock producers. The program, initiated under the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS), aims to bring greater transparency and improved price discovery to the cattle industry. In a gathering with local ranchers, Hoeven sought their feedback and emphasized the potential benefits of the program for producers.



Under the newly launched cattle contract library pilot program, packing companies that have handled at least 5 percent of the national total of fed cattle over the past 5 years are required to submit contract information. This data includes crucial details such as the number of actual and estimated cattle purchases, contract specifications, base price adjustments, premiums, discounts, and volume. The information will be aggregated on a national level by the USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) and presented on a comprehensive dashboard, which will be accessible to the public.

Hoeven highlighted that the library aims to provide valuable market insights and foster a better understanding of the demand and supply dynamics for cattle. Producers will be able to access this information to make more informed decisions, gaining a competitive edge in marketing their cattle. While the data will be made available to the public, confidentiality will be maintained by publishing contract clauses instead of entire contracts.

Addressing concerns raised by North Dakota ranchers about the need for more transparency, competition, and price discovery in cattle markets, Hoeven emphasized his dedication to improving the industry's conditions. The cattle contract library pilot program is being lauded as one of his brainchildren, and it has the potential to revolutionize the way livestock producers operate.

<https://www.thedickinsonpress.com/news/hoeven-outlines-cattle-contract-program-for-north-dakota-ranchers>

NOTE: Both Frank Tomac and Ron Volk attended this meeting

Week 1 Raffle Drawing



Week 2 Raffle Drawing



USCA ATTENDS WHITE HOUSE ROUNDTABLE ON COMPETITION

(JULY 14, 2023) –

On Thursday, the U.S. Cattlemen's Association (USCA) participated in [a meeting hosted by the White House and the United States Department of Agriculture \(USDA\)](#) to discuss legislative competition priorities.

USCA Executive Vice President Lia Biondo, who attended the convening, issued the following statement:

"Today's discussion marks continued progress on the [Biden-Harris Action Plan](#) for a fairer, more competitive producer marketplace. Since its release in 2022, the Action Plan has guided administrative and legislative action to build a more resilient meat and poultry supply chain.

"USCA is pleased with the Biden Administration's support of critical cattle market reform legislation, as outlined in the Action Plan. A study compiled by [Texas A&M's Agricultural and Food Policy Center](#) forecasted that without enactment of legislation like the [Cattle Price Discovery and Transparency Act](#), negotiated trade in Texas-Oklahoma-New Mexico is expected to fall to zero percent by 2026. Zero percent negotiated trade is a wholly, vertically consolidated industry.

"USCA looks forward to working with the Biden Administration and Congress to build a better business climate for independent producers, as outlined in the Action Plan and discussed at today's listening session."

Fix if Broke

Commentary by Bill Bullard, CEO, R-CALF USA

Congress is now working on the 2023 Farm Bill. Back two decades ago, during the drafting of the 2002 Farm Bill, we had two provisions in the Senate version of the Farm Bill that we had fought long and hard for – mandatory country of origin labeling or MCOOL and a ban on packer ownership of livestock.

These were our two triage solutions to a shrinking cattle industry – shrinking in terms of fewer and fewer cattle farmers and ranchers, fewer and fewer cattle, fewer and fewer independent feedlots, fewer and fewer local auction barns, and fewer and fewer beef packing plants.

The House version of the 2002 Farm Bill did not contain either MCOOL or the ban on packer ownership of livestock. And so, the House and Senate versions of the Farm Bill went to a conference committee.

The battle in the conference committee was intense and lasted way into the night and early morning. Late at night it seemed the House and Senate leaders had struck a bargain: The Senate could choose just one: either MCOOL or packer ban, and the one that wasn't chosen would be the subject of a study and then brought up again in the next Farm Bill.

It was about midnight, while sitting in the nation's Capital, when the staff of the Senate leadership came into the room and asked me which of the two reforms R-CALF USA would choose to be included in the 2002 Farm Bill.

I said the U.S. cattle industry needed both. And I told the staffer he should go back and tell his boss to fight harder because both provisions were needed to reverse the downward trajectory of the U.S. cattle industry.

The Senate staffer was angry with me and left the room.

Within the hour he returned and said the 2002 Farm Bill would include MCOOL, but the ban on packer ownership would be the subject of a multi-million-dollar study to see if it was needed and Congress could take it up during the next Farm Bill. Of course, subjecting the ban on packer ownership of livestock to a study effectively killed it and it never came up again.

I thanked the staffer for winning MCOOL.

So why did it come down to that – where Congress would only agree to one of the two measures needed to reverse the decline of the U.S. cattle industry?

The answer is because the powerful beef packing lobby persistently told Congress that nothing was wrong with the cattle industry – they said the markets were working just fine. The beef packing lobby told Congress not to put any restrictions on the way cattle producers marketed their cattle or the way packers purchased their cattle. In short, they said the beef industry did not want the government involved in their business.

So, the score was one-to-one. We won MCOOL and the beef packing lobby killed the packer ban.

Jump ahead to today. In the 2023 Farm Bill we're fighting to reinstate MCOOL for beef; to force packers to compete in the cash market, to reform the beef checkoff program (whose main contractors helped to repeal MCOOL for beef back in 2015); we're also fighting to end packer ownership of livestock and put an end to the unpriced formula contracts that packers use to control livestock. So in two decades, our triage list has grown.

But our adversaries, the powerful beef packing lobby, are hard at it telling Congress the same things they told them in 2002. They're again telling Congress that nothing is wrong with the cattle industry – that today's higher cattle prices, which are the direct result of a severe economic shock which was the drought that caused cattle supplies to shrink to historically low levels, proves the markets are working fine.

They're telling Congress not to put any restrictions on the way that cattle producers market their cattle or the way that packers purchase their cattle. In short, they say the beef industry did not want the government involved in their business, except of course when it comes to the beef checkoff program – they want to keep that massive subsidy, but who's paying attention to that contradiction anyhow?

So it comes down to this: The beef lobby says the market isn't broken, and if it isn't broke Congress should not try to fix it.

But we're saying the opposite, we're saying the market is completely broken, and if Congress doesn't act our U.S. cattle industry will continue to contract at an accelerated pace and will soon look more like the shrunken, corporate controlled poultry, hog, and sheep industries.

Affiliates



Social Media



All of our links in one place!

<https://linktr.ee/independentbeefnd>



So who's right? Well, compared to just two decades ago, we have tens of thousands fewer cattle farmers and ranchers, over a million fewer cows in our herd, tens of thousands fewer independent cattle feedlots, local auction barns are closing around the country, and just four big packers control 85% of our fed cattle market.

The facts show our cattle industry is broken. And we say fix it. What do you think? And what are you telling your members of Congress?

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R-CALF USA's weekly opinion/commentary educates and informs both consumers and producers about timely issues important to the U.S. cattle and sheep industries and rural America.

FDA Seeks Public Comment on Possible Framework for Collecting and Analyzing Data on Antimicrobial Use in Food-Producing Animals

August 2, 2023

Today, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration opened a docket to seek public comment on a report (chrome-extension://efaidnbmnnnibpcajpcglclefindmkaj/https://reaganudall.org/sites/default/files/2023-08/072823_Summary%20Report_Final.pdf) outlining a potential framework for establishing a public-private partnership (PPP) to collect and analyze antimicrobial use (AMU) data from food-producing animals. The report was prepared for the FDA by the Reagan-Udall Foundation (the Foundation) and summarizes the work completed over a multi-year cooperative agreement funded by the FDA. Under this agreement, the Foundation convened a working group to evaluate the feasibility of developing and maintaining a system to collect and report AMU data in the United States.

The report includes information about AMU standardization and protection of data confidentiality. It also summarizes stakeholder input and public comments about potential PPP objectives, membership, organizational structure, and financing. The report describes a potential PPP structure, supported in part by public and private resources, that includes a Data Repository Coordinator, External Data Partners, and a Steering Committee.

Antimicrobial use data can help foster antimicrobial stewardship and slow the development of antimicrobial resistance because it provides insight into what drugs are being used, how much of the drugs are being used, and how they're being used. The FDA does not currently have the authority to require end users to report AMU data. However, because these data would be vital in helping to guide stewardship efforts, the FDA has been exploring, with the Foundation's assistance, whether a PPP could balance the need for public health information with practical concerns of the veterinary professionals and producers who would voluntarily contribute to the data repository.

The FDA is accepting public comments on the latest report through October 31, 2023. Although the FDA is interested in receiving comment on all aspects of the report, the agency is requesting additional information on:

- Cost estimates for External Data Partners to develop and sustain the collection of AMU data in animals, recognizing diversity of data sources across animal sectors.
- Cost estimates for the setup and maintenance of the AMU data repository under the PPP framework that is described in the report.
- Descriptions or suggestions on the type of organizations most appropriate to coordinate a na-

CONT. FDA Seeks Public Comment on Possible Framework for Collecting and Analyzing Data on Antimicrobial Use in Food-Producing Animals

tional AMU data repository.

- Descriptions or suggestions on how the Steering Committee should be structured and membership roles and responsibilities long-term.

To electronically submit comments to the docket, visit www.regulations.gov and type FDA-2022-N-0824 in the search box. To submit comments to the docket by mail, use the following address. Please be sure to include docket number FDA-2022-N-0824 on each page of your written comments.

Dockets Management Staff
HFA-305
Food and Drug Administration
5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061
Rockville, MD 20852

The report is preliminary and intended to advance a public discussion about collecting and analyzing food animal AMU data. This comment period is an opportunity for the public and affected stakeholders to share their opinions on a potential framework and provide concrete information and suggestions for how to put the framework into practice. The FDA expects to make more future announcements on this framework's progress within the next calendar year and any future iterations of the framework will be shared for public comment before being finalized.

Some counties now eligible for emergency haying and grazing on CRP acres

Aug. 4, 2023
For immediate release

BISMARCK, N.D. – Some North Dakota counties are now eligible for emergency haying and grazing on Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) acres.

Eligible counties must have either been in a D2 drought for at least one week, but less than 8 consecutive weeks, or have been granted county committee or state committee approval.

The counties currently eligible are: Benson, Bottineau, Burke, Burleigh, Cavalier, Divide, Kidder, Logan, McHenry, McIntosh, McLean, Mountrail, Nelson, Pierce, Ramsey, Renville, Richland, Rolette, Sargent, Sheridan, Towner, Walsh, Ward, Wells and Williams.

“Unfortunately, certain areas of North Dakota have moved back into severe drought status or have lost significant forage production,” Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring said. “There is now another option available for our livestock producers who need more haying and grazing acres.”

Producers should check with their county Farm Service Agency (FSA) office to ensure their acres are eligible.

MEDIA: For more information, please contact Michelle Mielke at (701) 328-2233 or mmielke@nd.gov.

Recipes

John Wayne Casserole

Prep Time:

15 mins

Cook Time:

45 mins

Total Time:

1 hr

Ingredients

- 1 (16.3 ounce) can refrigerated biscuits
- 2 pounds ground beef
- 1 (1 ounce) package taco seasoning
- $\frac{3}{4}$ cup water
- 1 medium onion, halved and sliced
- 1 medium red bell pepper, halved and sliced (1 $\frac{1}{2}$ cups)
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup sour cream
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup mayonnaise
- 8 ounces shredded Cheddar cheese, divided
- 2 medium tomatoes, sliced
- 1 (4 ounce) jar sliced jalapeno peppers, drained (Optional)

Directions

1. Gather the ingredients. Preheat the oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C) and lightly grease a 9x13-inch baking pan.
2. Place and press biscuit dough into the bottom of the baking pan and halfway up the sides.
3. Bake in the preheated oven until lightly browned, 15 to 20 minutes. Leave the oven on.
4. Meanwhile, heat a nonstick skillet over medium-high heat and cook ground beef until browned and crumbly, about 5 minutes. Drain fat. Stir in taco seasoning and water. Bring to a boil, reduce heat, and simmer, stirring occasionally, for 5 minutes. Transfer cooked meat to a bowl and wipe out the skillet.
5. Add onion and bell peppers to the same skillet and cook over medium heat until slightly tender, about 5 minutes.
6. Combine sour cream, mayonnaise, $\frac{1}{2}$ of the Cheddar cheese, and $\frac{1}{2}$ of the onion-pepper mixture in a bowl.
7. Layer browned meat, tomatoes, onion-pepper mixture, jalapeño peppers, and sour cream mixture on top of prebaked biscuit dough. Sprinkle with remaining Cheddar cheese. Bake uncovered in the preheated oven until cheese is lightly browned and bubbly, 30 to 40 minutes.



Membership

The Independent Beef Association of North Dakota is North Dakota's statewide voice in the cattle industry for the cattle producer. Our membership is primarily made up of cow calf operations in North Dakota. We're a non-profit organization that works in conjunction with other organizations as your statewide and national voice in the cattle industry. We have represented our membership on issues including the Farm Bill, COOL, Waters of the US, HSUS bills, Horse Slaughter, the National Animal Identification System, EPA, Foot and Mouth disease in South America, and the Beef Checkoff. There are numerous issues of importance to cattle producers in the coming year. Strength comes in numbers and I-BAND needs a strong membership to carry out your voice within and outside of North Dakota. We're a grassroots cattle-men's organization, addressing the market interests of North Dakota cattle producers.

I-BAND has been going strong for 18 years now. If you are a new member, a past member or an existing member, we would like you to let us know what you like about this organization and the direction you would like to see this organization take in the future. We take pride in having a membership association where every member's voice is heard through a one member one vote policy. Without the backing of membership, I-BAND would not be in existence. We wish to thank each and every one of you for your support. Any comments can be directed to any I-BAND board member or drop us a line at: I-BAND, Box 123, Menoken, ND 58558.

Strength comes in numbers and I-BAND needs a strong membership to carry out your voice within and outside of North Dakota. Please feel free to pass this newsletter on to any friends, neighbors or businesses that may be interested. If anyone would like to schedule an informational meeting in their area please contact any I-BAND Director.



1 Year Voting \$50 1 Year Associate \$50
 2 Year Voting \$100 2 Year Associate \$100
 3 Year Voting \$125 3 Year Associate \$125

Do you own cattle? yes no

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

County _____

Phone _____

E-Mail _____

Signature _____

District One (1) will be west of the Missouri River from the South Dakota border north to Interstate 94 and west of US Hwy 83 from Interstate 94 north to the Canadian border. District Two (2) will be on the east side of said boundaries.

District Residing In:

District One _____ District Two _____

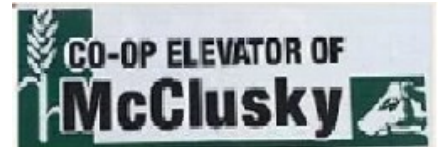
- Voting Members must own cattle. Annual dues are \$50.00 per year per member (one member/one vote).
- Associate Members do not own cattle and do not have voting rights. Annual dues \$50.00.

Please mail application and dues (cash, check or money order) to the address below. Contributions or gifts to I-BAND are not tax deductible as charitable contributions. However, they may be tax deductible as ordinary and necessary business expenses.

I-BAND, Box 123, Menoken, ND 58558

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