

INDEPENDENT BEEF ASSOCIATION OF NORTH DAKOTA

Your state wide voice in the cattle industry!

PO Box 123

Menoken, ND 58558

www.i-band.org

2022-2

A message from our president

As I sit down to write this message, it is a couple days prior to a weather forecast which is to cover the state with 10-20 inches of snow along with strong winds which may cause blizzard conditions. I know this could be a start to relieving our drought conditions which many of us are still facing, however April showers are supposed to bring May flowers and a 2-3 day warm rain would be more favorable.

I-BAND continues promoting N.D. Beef into our school Lunch programs. As of now, we are seeing somewhere over 70+ schools that are sourcing local beef for their lunch programs. The excitement continues as more schools are asking how they can get involved for the coming year. As a member of I-BAND, and a producer, please have the conversation with your local school district to see if they have become involved and if they have any questions on how to get involved; have them call any one of our board members and we will gladly help them get started.

As we move forward with promoting our N.D. Beef, we see the opportunities are endless. We feel very confident in getting all the schools involved and making sure that the next generation of Beef eaters know what good Beef tastes like and understand where it comes from and that they will in time be supporting an industry that is right outside their door. This is a project that not only supports the schools but in turn help sustain the communities and producers alike. In time this project can expand to reach out to nursing homes, hospitals, restaurants, small town grocery stores and even our university systems. All supporting our born, raised and processed local Beef.

Another topic I-BAND is supporting is the American Beef Labeling Act. or many times called MCOOL. On the Senate side, the bill is S 2716 and most recently introduced on the House side HR7291. As of now, Senator Hoeven is the only Congressman that has signed on in support, Senator Cramer is refusing to support the bill.



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On the House side Rep. Armstrong needs to be called and encouraged to sign on in support, so please as members and producers call & express your concerns for support of the American Beef Labeling Act.

On the national level, another item of concern of I-BAND's is the compromised bill vs. the 50/14 bill. The 50/14 bill has been introduced in the senate by Senator Grassley, however, has hit a stalemate after Grassley signed on with Senator Deb Fischer to push the compromised bill. I-BAND feels that the compromised bill, or as it is now called, the Cattle Price Discovery & Transparency Act, has many loopholes and gives USDA more oversight. If USDA would enforce the laws on the books that we have, such as the Packers & Stockyards Act, for example, much of our market manipulation and unfairness would have been corrected.

I encourage each of you as members and producers to study these bills and give the directors of I-BAND your thoughts and feedback.

Another item I-BAND is much involved in is changing of the makeup of the ND Beef Commission Board. The interim legislative committee was instructed by the last legislative session to do a study of the makeup of the Beef Commission Board & its operations. As members of I-BAND, I strongly encourage you to make your thoughts & concerns known or at least have a discussion with any of the members of this legislative committee on how you feel your checkoff dollars are being spent.

The members that are on the committee can be found on the 67th legislative website under the agricultural committee & energy & natural resources. Please have a conversation with any or all of them as to how a more diverse board made up of members from all organizations representing livestock producers of our state would be more effective. I feel as of now that they are getting the message "why do we want to change something now that has been working good for so long". We know that our checkoff dollars could be utilized more effectively in our state.

In closing, I know some of you are done with calving & others just starting. I hope & pray that we don't get "an epic blizzard" & we do



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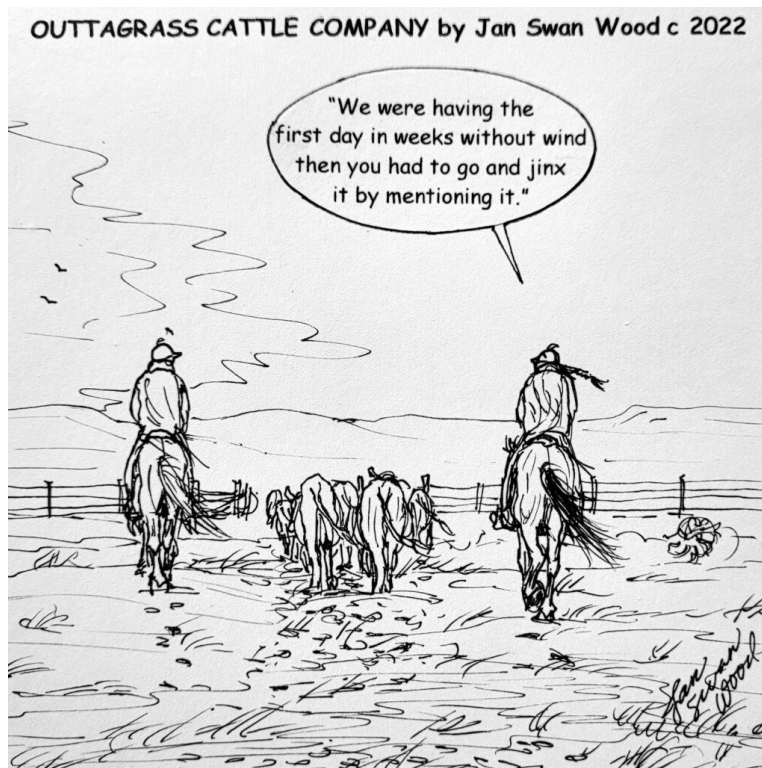
Presidents message cont.

get much needed moisture to get those pastures & hay land started, along with the ability to produce an abundant feed crop to replenish those resources that were so severely depleted this past year.

Please become involved with your organization!!

Your President ,

Kerry Dockter



Send us your photos!

We would love to include them in our newsletter and on our Facebook page.

Photos can be sent to Kari at independent.Beef.assoc.nd@gmail.com



MAY IS BEEF MONTH!

Get local ND Beef and enjoy fresher, better tasting & often higher nutritional quality meat in your school!



CONTACT I-BAND TODAY FOR MORE INFO!



Kari Goldade
Independent.beef.assoc.nd@gmail.com

- or -

Deb Egeland, NDDPI
degeland@nd.gov
Office: 701-328-3718 Cell: 701-391-2884



ND Farm to school Feedback

“Amazing! Our opinion is that the texture is better and so is the flavor. Our students have also made comments about the beef tasting better.”

"Excellent! Staff & Students noticed immediately"

“We are hoping to get more of our own school families who ranch involved. How great would it be to say we get our beef from one of our own.”

“It has been great! Thankful that we are able to support our local ND farmers!”

“thank you to IBAND for getting this going!”

"Very Pleased - Smell was so much better. We'd like to order more next year"

“We are hoping to continue with using ND beef here on out. Everyone loves the taste and quality of the meat we were able to purchase to finish out our school year.”

“Oh my! Better smell, better flavor, less waste and way better quality!!”

“I am so happy that I-Band is working with our schools ! The meat tastes so much better than the Commodity meat !”

"Loved it! We'd like to get more next year"

R-CALF USA, MO Rancher Launch “No Rancher Left Behind” Campaign

For Immediate Release: May 13, 2022

Contact: R-CALF USA CEO Bill Bullard

Phone: 406-252-2516; r-calfusa@r-calfusa.com

Billings, Mont.- R-CALF USA has announced the launch of “No Rancher Left Behind,” a rancher/farmer conversation and awareness campaign. The campaign is a collaboration between R-CALF USA and Coy Young, a Missouri cattle rancher who recently testified before Congress about the stresses he faces as a cow-calf producer during this time of chronically depressed cattle prices and high input costs.

“R-CALF USA stands firm in fighting for the independent U.S. cattle producer in all facets. So many of America’s farmers and ranchers are struggling, but it’s important for them to know they are not alone in this fight,” said Jaiden Moreland, R-CALF USA Marketing Coordinator.

“The chronically dysfunctional cattle market has rendered many independent cattle producers unprofitable for going on eight years. We’ve lost untold numbers of them even before their input costs began skyrocketing,” said Bill Bullard, R-CALF USA CEO.

“This broken market/high input cost combination will create a perfect financial storm for many more independent cattle producers, and we don’t want them isolated from fellow producers who have or who are experiencing similar challenges,” Bullard said.

“No Rancher Left Behind” is set to feature informational graphics on social media and a resource webpage with hotline numbers and links to other helpful information, but perhaps most notably, weekly support group style, virtual meetings for ranchers to gather and converse in a safe place.

Young came up with the idea for the campaign after struggling with his own market-related financial challenges and [recently shared his story with the New York Times](#).

“If we can help each other when we’re hurting and in need, that’s the greatest accomplishment that could ever come from this campaign and these meetings,” said Young. “I hope we come together to talk about the issues that farmers and ranchers are currently facing and can be there for one another because we are all going through the same types of things.”

According to a 2017 study by the University of Iowa, those involved in agriculture, had the highest suicide rate of all occupations from 1992 to 2010. More recently in 2020, the U.S. Center for Disease Control and Prevention noted that when compared to other occupations, farmers are among the most likely to die by suicide.

Young shared that the CDC also reports that suicide among workers ages 16 to 64 has increased 34% and farmer suicides are 1.5 times higher than the national average. He also learned these numbers could be higher as some farm suicides could be ruled farm-related accidents.

“With the majority of farmers and ranchers being male, there’s a lot of things that aren’t discussed. Men have their pride and when you’re on the verge of losing your family legacy that your father and grandfather had built for multiple generations before you, it’s detrimental and some see no other way out,” said Young.

Moreland said R-CALF USA encourages ranchers and farmers to participate in these meetings and hopes the meetings will provide a sense of community and provide a space to vent, talk and be surrounded by support from their peers.

“As an organization concerned for our industry’s future, we must do all we can to support our nation’s cattle farmers and ranchers during these challenging times,” said Bullard.

“I was once in a place where I didn’t think there was another way out. I was at my end, and to be able to be there and talk with others, that’s something,” said Young. “The power of conversation and empathy for one another is a great and powerful tool to help lift each other up in times of need.

“When you’re going through something as traumatic as having to sell all your cattle and start a different life when raising cattle is all you’ve done your entire life, it plain sucks and it’s hard,” said Young.

All ranchers and farmers are welcome to attend the virtual meetings, which will be led by Coy Young and held every Wednesday at 7 p.m. MDT on Zoom, beginning May 18. Contact NRLB@r-calfusa.com to get meeting details or learn more at www.r-calfusa.com. Struggling ranchers, farmers and their families and friends are encouraged to visit R-CALF USA’s [“No Rancher Left Behind” resource page](#) and R-CALF USA’s social media for more information on the meetings, various suicide hotline phone numbers and other areas for support.

Sources:

Jared, G. (2019, May 14). *CDC: ‘Farm stress,’ suicides a rising rural health concern*. www.talkbusiness.net. Retrieved May 13, 2022, from <https://talkbusiness.net/2019/05/cdc-farm-stress-suicides-a-rising-rural-health-concern/>

Snee, T. (2017, June 12). *Long after ’80s farm crisis, farm workers still take own lives at high rate*. <https://now.uiowa.edu>. Retrieved May 13, 2022, from <https://now.uiowa.edu/2017/06/long-after-80s-farm-crisis-farm-workers-still-take-own-lives-high-rate>

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R-CALF USA (Ranchers-Cattlemen Action Legal Fund, United Stockgrowers of America) is the largest producer-only cattle trade association in the United States. It is a national, non-profit organization dedicated to ensuring the continued profitability and viability of the U.S. cattle industry. For more information, visit www.r-calfusa.com or call 406-252-2516.

Cattle groups request update to LIP program

By Carrie Stadheim, Editor with Tri-State Livestock News

The Independent Beef Association of North Dakota and the North Dakota Stockmen's Association say USDA's LIP program was better in 2019. The program was changed in 2020, and the groups say this change is hurting North Dakota producers.

I-BAND doesn't believe the potential compensation ranchers could get through USDA's Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) is enough to make up for the losses ranchers endured in two back-to-back April blizzards, especially in the face of low cattle markets, severe drought, extremely high hay prices and more challenges.

IBAND Director JW Froelich of Selfridge, North Dakota, said the current rate of \$175.27 for a calf weighing under 250 pounds will not come close to making up for the expense a rancher has into the cow at calving time. Nor will it compensate for what that calf would have been worth on sale day. Through 2019, all calves under 400 pounds were valued the same. In 2020, USDA updated the program to add a category for calves 250 pounds and less, with a significantly smaller value being placed on them. The \$175.27 is supposed to represent 75 percent of the value of a calf weighing 250 pounds or less.

Froelich said IBAND has talked to both North Dakota Senators and they also sent a letter to the state Farm Service Agency office asking for support to update the LIP program to more accurately reflect the value of a calf. Froelich said the state FSA office supported I-BAND's requests and has contacted USDA asking for changes to be made.

Froelich also pointed out that calves that die from pneumonia, scours or enterotoxemia/overeating as a result of the storm are not covered by the LIP program either.

"Our I-BAND Board sent a letter to the state office, and the state office has supported it, asking for calves that die of those illnesses to be covered," he said.

Froelich said his death loss on his ranch wasn't as high, percentage-wise as some others. He's concerned about ranchers he's heard of who may have lost up to 1/3 of their calves. In one instance, he believes a calf shelter was drifted under, causing calves to suffocate. All of these situations are highly unusual in mid to late April.

The North Dakota Stockmen's Association also asked for updates to the LIP program. "As producers have analyzed the program payment rates, they have been disappointed to learn especially about the value allotted for calves under 250 pounds," said their president Jeff Schafer in a letter to the state FSA office.

NDSA said their research showed that bottle calves for sale at that very time were worth significantly more than the \$175.27 available through LIP. "Prices (on 'Bottle calves of North Dakota') range from \$250 to \$500, with an average of \$392.86," he said, adding that the market value of that calf on sale day will be significantly higher yet.

Death from weather-related illnesses that occur after the fact should also be covered, said Schafer in his letter.

Wanda Braton, the Conservation Livestock Program Director for the North Dakota Farm Service Agency said the North Dakota FSA state executive director sent a letter on behalf of the acting state FSA Committee, asking for these same updates to be made.

"We asked them to consider the removal of the new category for payment rates. Basically we asked that the non adult beef, less than 250 pounds category be removed, and that all non-adult beef (calves) less than 400 pounds be considered in a payment category. Currently that payment rate is set at \$474.38.

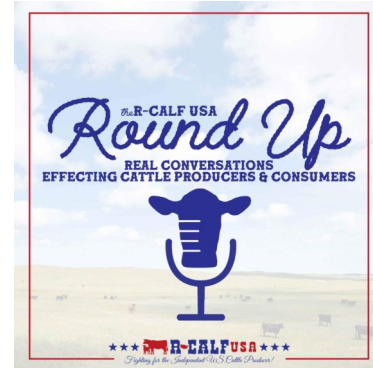
Braton said the state FSA believes this change needs to happen in order to align the compensation rates with fair market value.

“We understand we have a lot of producers in North Dakota that have had catastrophic losses. That’s one of the reasons we’re making these proposals,” she said.

Braton also said that the state FSA also asked for the LIP program to cover death due to certain diseases such as pneumonia which has been prevalent after the two recent April blizzards.

As of now, the requested changes to the LIP program have not been made, said Braton.

Our Affiliates



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Horn Wrap Call

Each month, hear from your Washington, DC staff or featured guest speakers on issues affecting your bottom line. We consider the monthly Horn Wrap call to be your direct connection to Capitol Hill, and welcome the opportunity to address your questions, comments, and concerns. You can listen in on mute, or join in on the conversation.

SECOND TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH AT 7:00 AM MOUNTAIN TIME
DIAL: (866) 254-5984; NO PASSCODE NEEDED.



Your Bucks Better Spent

If you want to see your state checkoff dollar go to work for you, consider requesting your refund and donating it back to I-BAND. Log onto www.i-band.org for an electronic donation or send your donation to:

I-BAND PO Box 123, Menoken, ND 58558.

--- Here's how to get your refund back

<https://www.ndbeef.org/cattlemens-corner/checkoff>

A producer may request a refund application *within 60 days after the date of the sale of cattle* upon which the ND state beef checkoff was collected.

This request may be made:

1. Orally, including a phone request or personal office visit (701) 328-5120
2. In writing and mailed 4023 STATE STREET, BISMARCK, ND 58503
3. Electronically via email ndbeef@ndbeef.org

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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 17 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 _____

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Phone _____

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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



Independent Beef Association of
North Dakota

PO Box 123

Menoken, ND 58558

I-BAND.org

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Courage is being scared to death
but saddling up anyway.

..John Wayne & I-BAND

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