



POLICY UPDATE

August 21, 2020

Cattle Market Working Group: SDFB President Scott VanderWal is chairing a working group with AFBF examining cattle markets and policy proposals related to cattle markets. This working group, made up of eight state presidents and staff, have received reports from experts in all aspects of cattle markets, reviewed USDA's report on the topic and is examining policy proposals to address perceived issues in cattle markets. The working group will release a report on their findings as well as policy suggestions for members this fall in order to inform policy development.

Prevent Plant Harvest Date Change: SDFB worked with South Dakota's congressional delegation to encourage USDA to allow early use of feedstuffs on prevent plant acres this year. USDA announced on August 17th that they would allow grazing, haying or chopping activities to occur beginning September 1st rather than November 1st in select counties in South Dakota. Qualifying South Dakota counties are: Beadle, Brown, Brule, Campbell, Clark, Codington, Day, Edmunds, Faulk, Hand, Hanson, Hyde, McPherson, Marshall, Potter, Roberts, Sanborn, Spink, and Walworth.

CFAP Deadline Extended, Additional Commodities Covered: The Coronavirus Food Assistance Program (CFAP) deadline was extended by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) until September 11, 2020. Additionally, USDA has added to the list of covered commodities. Most notably for South Dakota producers, all sheep and lambs are now eligible for payments under CFAP, as are liquid and frozen eggs. Previously only lambs under two years old were eligible. USDA also formally announced that all approved CFAP applications will receive 100% of the CFAP payment. Initial payments were pro-rated to ensure all applicants received at least a partial payment.

Interested producers should visit farmers.gov to learn more about CFAP and eligibility requirements. According to the American Farm Bureau Federation, almost \$350 million in CFAP payments have been made to South Dakota producers as of August 10th.

South Dakota Hemp Plan Submitted: The South Dakota Department of Agriculture has submitted their hemp regulatory plan to the USDA. Under the provisions of the 2018 Farm Bill, USDA has 60 days to review the plan, and either approve it or deny it with suggested changes. In addition to USDA approval, several state agencies are required by state law to promulgate administrative rules prior to establishment of a hemp regulatory program. Rules have yet to be promulgated.