



U.S. Cattlemen's Association Policy on Regionalized Beef Trade with Argentina:

January 2007

Whereas:

Foot and Mouth Disease is considered by the American Veterinary Medical Association to be the most economically devastating of all livestock disease.

Whereas: An outbreak of Foot and Mouth Disease in the United States could leave independent cattle producers in financial ruins as entire herds would need to be culled and international markets would be closed indefinitely.

Whereas:

APHIS/USDA has proposed to allow beef and cattle imports from regions of Argentina despite Argentina's documented Foot and Mouth Disease problems.

Whereas:

Argentina cannot be trusted to keep infected beef from entering the United States and has shown little concern for rural America by defaulting on loans made by U.S. companies and by opposing U.S. farmers in international trade cases.

Whereas:

The U.S. Cattlemen's Association passed a resolution in July opposing the APHIS/USDA plan because it is unworkable and could create gateways for diseased Brazilian and Argentine beef.

Whereas: APHIS/USDA has yet to rule out regionalized beef trade from Argentina despite an outcry of opposition from America's ranchers.

Now be it resolved:

The U.S. Cattlemen's Association calls on APHIS/USDA to immediately reject the pending regionalized beef trade plan and reaffirm its commitment to protect the domestic herd from Foot and Mouth Disease.

Now be it further resolved:

The U.S. Cattlemen's Association asks the United States Congress to take whatever steps necessary to block the proposed rule and to protect the domestic herd from Foot and Mouth Disease.

Established in March 2007, USCA is committed to assembling a team to concentrate efforts in Washington, DC to enhance and expand the cattle industry's voice on Capitol Hill. For more information visit www.uscattlemen.org