



Canadian Cattlemen's Association

News Release

Canadian Cattlemen's Association Welcomes End of Comment Period, Awaits Results

April 7, 2004

The Canadian Cattlemen's Association (CCA) today stated the association is pleased to be moving a step closer to a possible resolution of the BSE crisis. The comment period on the proposed rule for importing live cattle and beef and beef products from cattle under and over 30 months into the U.S. from Canada and other regions at minimal risk for BSE ends at close of business day today. The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) must now assess the comments it has received and will then announce its decision regarding resumption of imports of live Canadian cattle under 30 months of age.

“Resumption of exports of boneless beef from cattle under 30 months to the U.S. and Mexico last fall helped stabilize the Canadian beef industry,” points out Stan Eby, CCA President. “However full recovery won't occur until we are also able to export live cattle. The CCA is looking forward to a swift decision from the USDA within the next few weeks so we may know where we stand.” The U.S. and Mexico are Canada's largest export markets for beef and live cattle.

The comments on the proposed rule submitted by CCA on behalf of Canadian beef cattle producers and affiliated organizations will be posted on the CCA website www.cattle.ca under BSE Updates at the end of the business day.

For further information:

Canadian Cattlemen's Association 403-275-8558

www.cattle.ca

CCA is the National Voice for the Beef Cattle Industry, representing over 90,000 Cattle Producers