



Canadian Cattlemen's Association

News Release

Canadian Cattlemen's Association Statement on Possible New Case of BSE

(December 30, 2004) Another case of BSE in Canada would not be unexpected. Risk assessments have stated additional cases may be found in Canada or the U.S. Final test results on the suspected case of BSE in Canada are expected in 3 to 5 days.

Yesterday's announcement by the United States Department of Agriculture of the intention to re-open the U.S. border to feeder and slaughter cattle under 30 months and an expanded list of beef products is based on Canada being a minimal risk country for BSE. Another case of BSE in Canada will not change Canada's minimal risk status. According to international animal health guidelines, a country can have up to 2 cases of BSE per million head of cattle in a 12 month period and retain its minimal risk status.

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency is reporting that no part of the suspect animal entered the human food or animal feed systems. Canadians are reminded that Canada's food safety system protects the safety of Canadian beef. All parts of an animal that can carry infectivity are removed from all cattle at slaughter as a precautionary measure.

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