



**Canadian Cattlemen's Association**

## **News Release**

October 31, 2003

### **Canadian Cattlemen's Association Reacts to USDA Proposed Rule Regarding Future Live Cattle Exports to the U.S.**

The Canadian Cattlemen's Association (CCA) today reacted very favourably to the proposed rule for re-establishing exports of live cattle under 30 months, bone-in beef and other products to the United States. An outline of the proposed rule was released today by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). The proposed rule will be published in the U.S. Federal Register early next week for a 60-day comment period. Once the comment period ends comments received will be assessed and the date when live cattle will again be eligible for export will be determined.

"We're getting closer to that light at the end of the tunnel," says CCA President Neil Jahnke. "The USDA acknowledged today that shutting off exports from a country such as Canada that has taken all the proper precautions to prevent the spread of BSE is a global over-reaction. We need rational science-based responses. Today's announcement is a step in the right direction, and we trust that our global trading partners around the world are taking note."

"Reinstating exports of live cattle will go a long way toward helping our industry recover from this difficult situation," adds Dennis Laycraft, Executive Vice President of the CCA. "We hope that will happen as soon as possible after the comment period ends in early January. There will remain many other issues to work through, but today's announcement is very good news."

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