



July 31, 2009

### In This Issue

[Senator Bond and Congressman Blunt to host Agriculture Forum on costs of proposed Cap and Trade legislation](#)

[Time to fire up for the Beef House!](#)

[Did you know?](#)

[Food Safety Bill fails in House](#)

[Tiger Ag Classic is approaching](#)

[Members to receive discount with Mellor Trailers](#)

[Article Headline](#)

[Regulatory Czar Pick dangerous for Ag](#)

[Dead Animal Disposal Issues](#)

[Clean Water Restoration Act threatens ranchers, small business owners](#)

[Article Headline](#)

[CattleFax General News](#)

[Exciting IRA opportunity](#)

## Senator Bond and Congressman Blunt to host Agriculture Forum on cost of proposed Cap and Trade Legislation

YOU'RE INVITED!

SPRINGFIELD, MO - On Saturday, August 1, 2009 at 3:30 PM, please join U.S. Senator Kit Bond, Congressman Roy Blunt and members of the Missouri agriculture community for a discussion on the costs of proposed cap and trade legislation on Missouri farmers and ranchers.

Cap and Trade legislation will affect every farmer, family, worker, and business. Higher energy prices from Cap and Trade legislation will hit particularly hard the agriculture community. Farmers and ranchers need diesel fuel to power their tractors and combines; natural gas to make fertilizer; and farm equipment uses energy for irrigation pumps and drying grain for storage.

Senator Bond and Congressman Blunt will discuss the costs of Cap and Trade legislation. Be sure to take this opportunity to have your voice heard.

WHAT: Forum on Costs of Cap & Trade legislation

WHO: You!  
Senator Bond, Congressman Blunt, Agriculture Community

WHEN: Saturday, August 1, 2009  
3:30 PM - 4:30 PM

WHERE: Springfield Livestock Marketing Center  
6821 W Independence Dr  
Springfield, MO 65802  
(417)869-9500

Contact Stacy Burks in Senator Bond's Springfield office at 417.864.8285 or Don Lucietta in Congressman Blunt's Joplin office at 417.234.4165.

## Upcoming Events & Meetings

### Moniteau County

August 1, 5 p.m.

Cattlemen's Steak Supper

Moniteau County Fair

### Macon County

August 3, 6:30 p.m.

Northern Star Restaurant

Macon, Mo.

### Bates County

August 4, 7 p.m.

MO-KAN Livestock Market

Passaic, Mo.

### Missouri State Fair: Missouri Beef House

August 13-23

Missouri Beef House

Sedalia, Mo.

### MCF Charity Weekend

Sept. 25-27

Golden Hills Trail Ride/Resort

Raymondville, Mo.

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

## Time to fire up for the Beef House!

The State Fair (August 13-23) will be here before we know it. MCA is contacting county leaders to schedule each county's work shifts during those 10 days. MCA can use as many volunteer as a county can offer, so **please contact your county leader to sign up for your county's shift at the Beef House.**

## Did you know?

**More than 97 percent of U.S. beef cattle farms and ranches are family farms:** *Released by MBIC 7/30/09*

United States beef cattle operations are smaller than you might think; according to USDA, the typical herd of beef cattle in the U.S. in only 50 animals. In Missouri, our average herd size is 39. In addition, 97% nationally are family farms- meaning they are a family owned and run business that has likely been passed down through the generations.

## Food Safety Bill fails in House

*Released by NAFB News Service 7/29/09*

Wednesday afternoon, H.R. 2479, the Food Safety Enhancement act of 2009, failed to win passage by the U.S. House of Representatives. The legislation would have increased funding and given more authority to the Food and Drug Administration to police food safety. The vote was 280 to 150. A two-thirds supermajority was necessary for passage.

Under the legislation, the FDA would be able to order food recalls. The bill would also require the agency to inspect food facilities more often and would give FDA authority to set production and record-keeping standards to prevent contamination and more easily trace outbreaks. Food facilities would be required to register and pay an annual 500 dollar fee.

Before the vote, Representative Frank Lucas of Oklahoma said the bill would - lead to huge regulatory burdens on our nation's farmers and ranchers and it would contribute little to the goal of safer food. The Senate is expected to wait until fall to consider similar legislation. That is when Representative Louise Slaughter will begin to push her antibiotics legislation in the house.

## Tiger Ag Classic is approaching

The MU Ag Alumni Association's 18th Annual Tiger Ag Classic Golf Tournament is set for Friday, Sept. 11, 2009 at L.A. Nickell Golf Course in Columbia. Registration will begin at 10:30 a.m., followed by lunch at 11 a.m. Tee time is set for 11:45 a.m.

The steak fry will follow the tournament at about 6 p.m. at Dexheimer

Pavilion, Cosmo Park, which is next to the golf course.



## Members to receive discount with Mellor Trailers

Mellor Trailers in Booneville, Mo. is offering a discount to all Missouri Cattlemen's Association members (with proof of membership). Membership forms are available at the time of sale.

### Discounts include:

**10% discount** off parts and accessories

**\$100.00 off** trailer purchases **upto \$5000.00**

**\$200.00 off** trailer purchases **from \$5000.00 to \$10,000.00**

**\$300.00 off** trailer purchases **from \$10,000.00 to \$15,000.00**

**\$400.00 off** trailer purchases **from \$15,000.00 to \$20,000.00**

**\$500.00 off** trailer purchases **from \$20,000.00 and up**

Discounts may not apply to certain items already discounted or on promotions. Please call for details.

**PLUS!** In conjunction with Elite Trailers and Mellor Trailers, MCA is rewarding one member with the free use of an Elite trailer (as shown above) for one year, which will be given at the Missouri Cattle Industry Convention and Trade show. To be eligible for this reward, an MCA member must pre-register for the MCA Convention and Trade Show. Furthermore, the member must be present at the convention awards banquet to win.

### Mellor Trailer Sales

1550 West Ashley Road  
Boonville, Missouri 65233  
877-882-8433

Open Monday -Saturday  
7:30 am - 5:30 pm

I-70 Exit #101 and  
1 mile north on Hwy 5

**For more information, contact MCA at (573)499-9162 or at [cattleinfo@mocattle.com](mailto:cattleinfo@mocattle.com).**



## Checking in on the Checkoff



*Thanks to the beef producers who volunteered their time to serve on the "Pasture to Plate" panel of experts for Missouri culinary educators.*

*The checkoff is working to build relationships between food professionals and cattlemen, in an effort to answer common consumer questions regarding beef production.*

Learn more at [www.mobeeff.org](http://www.mobeeff.org) or email [dawn@mobeeff.com](mailto:dawn@mobeeff.com)

## Regulatory Czar Pick dangerous for Ag

*Released by Southern Livestock 7/25/09*

President Obama's friend and nominee for "regulatory czar" is a "raving animal rights nut" who has a secret agenda, according to one consumer group.

David Martosko, director of the Center for Consumer Freedom, told Fox News' Glenn Beck that Cass Sunstein, the Harvard Law professor nominated by the president to become the administrator of the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, is a "raving animal rights nut" and devout disciple of Peter Singer.

Singer, a bioethics professor at Princeton University, is a leader in the animal rights movement. He has also argued that abortion should be permissible because unborn babies as old as 18 weeks cannot feel pain or satisfaction.

Singer once explained his belief that, "killing a newborn baby is never equivalent to killing a person, that is, a being who wants to go on living."

In 1993, Singer said infants lack "rationality, autonomy and self-consciousness."

"Infants lack these characteristics," he said. "Killing them, therefore, cannot be equated with killing normal human beings, or any other self-conscious beings."

Martosko told Beck, "When you embrace this whole utilitarian idea, guess what else comes in the back door? Some animals, according to Singer, are worth more than some humans. A smart border collie, he says, is worth more, inherently, than a retarded child. ... Cass Sunstein has embraced the whole enchilada. ... He believes that animals should have some of the same rights as humans, in fact, greater rights than some people - including the right to follow lawsuits."

Sunstein has also supported outlawing sport hunting, giving animals the legal right to file lawsuits and using government regulations to phase out meat consumption.

The center quotes Sunstein's 2007 speech at Harvard University, where he

argued in favor of "eliminating current practices such as ... meat eating" and proposed: "We ought to ban hunting, I suggest, if there isn't a purpose other than sport and fun. That should be against the law. It's time now."

He also said, "[Humans'] willingness to subject animals to unjustified suffering will be seen ... as a form of unconscionable barbarity... morally akin to slavery and the mass extermination of human beings."

According to the group, Sunstein was editor of the 2004 book "Animal Rights: Current Debates and New Directions" that said "animals should be permitted to bring suit, with human beings as their representatives ... Any animals that are entitled to bring suit would be represented by (human) counsel, who would owe guardian-like obligations and make decisions, subject to those obligations, on their clients' behalf."

Martosko believes if Sunstein becomes "regulatory czar," he could "spell the end of animal agriculture, retail sales of meat and dairy foods, hunting and fishing, biomedical research, pet ownership, zoos and aquariums, traveling circuses, and countless other things Americans take for granted."

"Cass Sunstein owes Americans an honest appraisal of his animal rights agenda as America's top regulator," Martosko said in a statement.

"Americans don't realize that the next four years could be full of bizarre initiatives plucked from the wildest dreams of the animal-rights fringe."

As WND reported, Sunstein has also been an outspoken proponent of tough restriction on gun sales and ownership and what has been characterized as a "Fairness Doctrine" for the Internet. Revelations about Cass Sunstein's views on the "Fairness Doctrine" come in a book by Brad O'Leary, "Shut Up, America! The End of Free Speech." Sunstein also has argued in his prolific literary works that the Internet is anti-democratic because of the way users can filter out information of their own choosing.

Several senators have expressed concern about Sunstein's stances, and two "holds" have been placed on his nomination.

Sen. Saxby Chambliss, R-Ga., blocked Sunstein's nomination last month.

"Chambliss worries that Sunstein's innovative legal views may someday lead to a farmer having to defend himself in court against a lawsuit filed on behalf of his chickens or pigs," The Hill reported.

Chambliss told The Hill that he blocked Sunstein's nomination because the law professor "has said that animals ought to have the right to sue folks."

However, Chambliss later removed his hold because he said Sunstein had assured him that he "would not take any steps to promote litigation on behalf of animals," and that he believes the "Second Amendment creates an individual right to possess guns for purposes of both hunting and self defense."

But Sunstein is now facing another hold on his Senate confirmation process.

According to Fox News, Sen. John Cornyn, R-Texas., believes Sunstein could use the position to push a radical animal rights agenda and impose restrictions on agriculture and hunting.

"Sen. Cornyn finds numerous aspects of Mr. Sunstein's record troubling, specifically the fact that he wants to establish legal 'rights' for livestock, wildlife and pets, which would enable animals to file lawsuits in American courts," Cornyn spokesman Kevin McLaughlin, told the news organization.

The American Conservative Union is offering an opportunity for Americans to sound off on Sunstein's agenda. The organization has created a website called Stop Sunstein through which readers can submit petition signatures to

members of the U.S. Senate. It also provides a 12-page list of Sunstein's most controversial quotes.

## Dead Animal Disposal Issues

Please contact your MCA staff with any dead animal disposal issues you may be having as a result of the FDA's Enhanced Feedband Rule. MCA will take your information and pass it on to NCBA.

Call at (573)499-9162

Or email at [cattleinfo@mocattle.com](mailto:cattleinfo@mocattle.com)

## Clean Water Restoration Act threatens ranchers, small businesses owners

*Released by NCBA 7/22/09*

WASHINGTON (July 22 2009) - Jim Chilton, a fifth generation rancher from southeast Ariz., testified today on behalf of National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA) and the Public Lands Council (PLC) during a House Committee on Small Business hearing on the Clean Water Restoration Act (CWRA). Chilton, whose family has been in the cattle business for over 120 years, explained how the CWRA would threaten farmers and ranchers, in addition to small businesses, small communities, forestry, mining, and manufacturing on private and federally-managed lands.

"This is essentially a limitless national land and water use control effort that will regulate every activity in a wet area in the nation," said Chilton.

"It's nothing more than a 'nice-sounding' name which masks an economically and culturally devastating power grab, flagrantly violating both the spirit and the words of the U.S. Constitution."

The proposed Act-which passed out of the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee last month-would drastically expand the Clean Water Act (CWA), giving the Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) control over all watersheds in the nation, and all "activities affecting these waters." Since all land in the nation is within a watershed, it means that the Corps and EPA would have land-use control over farmers' and ranchers' property and other

businesses not currently under the jurisdiction of the CWA. This new Federal jurisdiction would include hundreds of millions of isolated, intrastate pools, stock water ponds, springs, small lakes, depressions filled with water on an intermittent basis, drainage and irrigation ditches, irrigated areas that would otherwise be dry, sloughs, and damp places located on farms and ranches that have no nexus with any navigable waters.

Under the Act, family ranchers and farmers may be required to obtain permits from the EPA or Corps before conducting common, everyday operations, like watering their cattle or farming their land. The federal government is already struggling to handle a backlog of 15,000 to 20,000 existing section 404 permit requests. According to the U.S. Supreme Court, the average applicant for an individual Clean Water Act permit spends 788 days and \$271,596 in complying with the current process, and the average applicant for a nationwide permit currently spends 313 days and \$28,915 - not counting the substantial costs of mitigation or design changes (Rapanos, 447 U.S. at 719, plurality opinion). Considering U.S. farmers and ranchers own and manage approximately 666.4 million acres of the 1.938 billion acres of the contiguous U.S. land mass, the massive new permitting requirements under this Act would be an unmanageable burden for the government, and could literally bring farming operations to a standstill.

Chilton shared from personal experience about a time his family ranch had to apply for a 404 permit to construct a road across a dry wash on their private property. The regulatory approval process took over a year and cost his family nearly \$40,000.

"As a rancher, I wholeheartedly understand the critical importance of a clean water supply; it's necessary for the health of my animals and my land," said Chilton. "Federal agencies have ample authority under existing law to protect water quality, and it's essential that the partnership between the federal and state levels of government be maintained so states can continue to have the essential flexibility to do their own land and water use planning."

For more information, visit [Beef USA](#)

## CattleFax General News

Released by CattleFax 7/27/09

CattleFax -- The fed cattle market was primarily steady to \$1 lower this week, although some cattle in Nebraska sold late in the week for \$1 higher, basis the dressed market. In the South trade occurred at \$83 to \$84, with the bulk at \$83. In the North, cattle sold for \$83 to \$84 live and \$131 to \$133 dressed with the bulk at \$132. Trade volumes were light to moderate. Boxed beef prices were sharply higher on the week as light production spurred buyer interest. Feeder cattle prices were primarily steady to \$1 higher, while calves were steady. Slaughter cows were \$2 to \$3 lower. Corn continued its lower move this week. An On Feed Report was issued this afternoon by USDA. On Feed came in at 95%, trade expectations were 95.1%. Placements were 92%, pre-report guesses were at 93.5%. Marketing's were 101%, the trade was expecting 99.3%. We also had a midyear cattle inventory report. Total cattle inventory is down 1%.

## Time is running out!

Are you 70 1/2 or older? Do you know someone who is 70 1/2 or older? Do you or they own an IRA or other tax qualified asset? Time is running out!

You only have until December 31, 2009 to make the most tax efficient donation to the Missouri Cattlemen Foundation that the IRS has probably ever allowed.

You will probably never have this chance again to help to children of Missouri with the help of the IRS. Yes, the IRS will help you contribute to the foundation.

Call your tax preparer and call our partners at APEX Financial LLC to find out if you qualify for this exciting opportunity. Call 800-843-9429 or 573-876-6011 and tell them you want to talk about a Missouri Cattlemen Foundation Contribution.

Remember time is running out! You have until December 31 to take advantage of

this opportunity.

As always, MCA Membership is the key to the success of the organization. Without producers who back our association our voice is not as strong. Ask your friend, neighbor and fellow cattlemen to join the thousands of cattlemen in supporting the Missouri Cattlemen's Association.

**For more industry news visit:**

[Missouri Cattlemen's Association Website](#)

[Missouri's Cattlemen Foundation Website](#)

[Missouri Beef Industry Council Website](#)

[National Cattlemen's Beef Association Website](#)

[Missouri Department of Agriculture Website](#)

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Would you like to advertise in our newsletter?

If so, please contact Kaity Kerwin at (573) 499-9162 (Ext. 233) or [kaity@mocattle.com](mailto:kaity@mocattle.com).