



MCA Update to Sale Organizers Regarding Governor Parson's Executive Order

Livestock Sale Organizers:

By now, you are most likely aware of Governor Mike Parson's order restricting social gatherings announced over the weekend. MCA staff have worked closely with the Governor's office and the Missouri Department of Agriculture to ensure sales continue. The order only applies to social gatherings and is not intended to disrupt agriculture or business in this state. You can continue to have sales, but it would be a wise decision to take precautions at your respective markets or production sales.

We would also suggest communicating to your customers advising them to adhere to CDC guidelines and informing them of alternative options available at your sale such as online and phone bidding. If you are hosting a customer appreciation gathering the evening before your production sale or subsequent to the sale, please reconsider as the order does prohibit social gatherings.

Please be aware County Health Departments are the enforcement arm of this order. We do fear the potential for the Governor's intentions to be misinterpreted. We have not heard of this happening yet but this is still new and very fluid. If you become aware of county officials trying to close sales, please contact me at 573-499-9162 immediately. If you cannot reach me, please contact Director of the Missouri Department of Agriculture Chris Chinn at 573-522-1533.

Thank you for all you do. We will continue to work with government leaders and industry partners to ensure you can continue to operate. We will keep you updated if more information becomes available.

Sincerely,

Mike Deering

Executive Vice President