



February

2009

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Calendar of Upcoming Events

3/2/2009 Sale Consignment deadline for MBPA Purebred Sale held at NELE in Windsor, ME
4/1/2009 Calves 4 Kids Applications Due
4/8/2009 Johne's Disease Informational Meeting, Governor's Restaurant, Waterville, ME 6:30 pm
4/ 24 & 25/2009 New England Galloway Group Youth Expo & Sale, Fryeburg Fairgrounds, Fryeburg, ME
4/30/2009 – 5/2/2009 Big East Youth Show, Big E, West Springfield, MA
5/2/2009 New England Hereford Association Spring Select Sale, 1:00 PM, Big E, West Springfield, MA
5/15-17/2009 Northeast Livestock Expo (NELE) Windsor Fairgrounds, Windsor ME

Monthly Newsletter

The MBPA Board of Directors has decided to publish monthly newsletters to update members on upcoming events, new member benefits and other important information. Members can list a 30 word **free classified ad** in the newsletter by sending it to Pamela Harnden at harnnp@exploremaine.com. Anyone wishing to do so may place a **business card sized ad in a monthly issue for \$35**. Deadline for ads will be the 5th of each month. E-mail to above address or mail to Pamela at P O Box 216, Dryden, ME 04225.

Membership Clarification

For those who have already paid their 2009 dues, **we are not asking you to pay again!** Because several benefits have been procured for MBPA members, a way to identify members is now a necessity. As a way to encourage others to join the Association, the Board suggested that another membership envelope be sent with that card. The enclosed note explained that the envelope was for you to share with a friend, neighbor or family member that could also benefit from joining the Association. We did not intend any confusion and are sorry for any misunderstanding that has occurred.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT - MBPA:

Our Mission: *MBPA is dedicated to building strong communication linkages, helping its members meet and master the challenges of change, and assisting cattle producers to anticipate, plan for, adjust to, and meet the changing demands of the market place.*

We have many challenges ahead of us in these economic times... our mission statement sums up what we have to do. How we do this is up to you.

So now more than ever, the Board of Directors needs the support and input from its members. Let's make the changing market place work for us instead of against us, for all aspects of agriculture.

Thank you and looking forward to serving you as president.

Pete Dusoe, 207-948-3233, pbdusoe@uninets.net

Maine Beef Producers Association 2009 Officers and Board of Directors

PRESIDENT – PETE DUSOE
1ST VP – JEFF RANDALL
2ND VP – GABE CLARK
TREASURER – SALLY CAVERLY
SECRETARY – DAVID ORDWAY
2010 – SCOT ADAMS

2010 – PAT BATES
2010 – TOM TRENHOLM
2011 – ED CARTER
2011 – RAY BUCK
2011 – KEVIN WOLTEMATH
2012 – DICK BROWN
2012 – TIM BARTLETT
2012 – BOB CAMPBELL

New Board Members Welcomed

MBPA is pleased to introduce new members to the Board of Directors. Tom Trenholm is a lawyer in Bangor who has a dairy and beef background. Ray Buck and his wife oversee on-farm embryo transfers on their Angus farm in Chesterville. Bob Campbell and his wife raise Herefords on their farm in Sidney.

MPBA Awards

Each year the Maine Beef Producers' Association presents awards to those individuals or farms that the Directors feel have had an impact on Maine's beef industry. This year's recipients are :

The **Seedstock Producer of the Year** was Marshall Bates, who is a lifetime member of the American Angus Association and the Maine Angus Association. For many years he has actively supported the MBPA feeder calf sales as well as the purebred sales. He has participated in the Angus Herd Improvement Records program since 1994 and Chaps/performance testing for the duration of that program. He has provided foundation stock for a number of registered Black Angus Herds.

The **Youth of the Year Award** went to Emily Bartlett, who has belonged to 4-H for ten years. She is a member of the Junior Red Angus Association and has started her own herd. Emily has volunteered in a variety of community service projects such as cow patty bingo and "the Principal kisses the cow". On the farm, she is responsible for cow checks during calving season and has assisted with many calving difficulties. Emily is BQA certified. She is attending the University of Maine at Presque Isle and plans to attend Vet school.

Ron Howard was the recipient of the **Service Award**. Ron is herd manager at Aldermere Farm. He is the past president of MBPA and has served on the Board for a number of years. He has devoted much time and assistance over the years for the Beef Expo and was involved in the development of the Northeast Livestock Expo. For several years Ron has hosted a two day Beef Seminar at Aldermere Farm. Ron has also served on a

number of other boards and supported all forms of agriculture in Maine.

Steve McGee was recognized as the **Beef Producer of the Year**. He raises Angus and Simmental cattle in addition to his commercial herds. This year, Steve hosted the New England Angus Sale and donated a calf for MBPA's Calves 4 Kids program. He assisted the New England Junior Angus Association's Club Calf Sale by providing calves, facilities and help preparing the calves for sale.

Merle and Loraine Prock of Prock Ridge Farm in Waldoboro received the **Hall of Fame Award**. The Prock's started raising and showing Belted Galloways in 1976 and have become known for producing well mannered, top quality purebred animals. Many of their animals have achieved the honor of being Gold or Silver Lifetime Achievement award winners. The Procks have also won awards for Sire, Dam, and Breeder of the Year. Last fall one of their bulls was Grand Champion of All Beef Breeds at Fryeburg and other Maine Fairs.



Archer Angus
Purebred Seedstock
www.ARCHERANGUS.com

Ray & Linda Buck
209 Archer Road, Chesterville, ME 04938
207-491-6354

New Member Benefits

The Maine Beef Producers' Association is pleased to announce that there are two new benefits for its members. R S Osgoods in East Dixfield has agreed to offer a 10% discount on any in-stock part or those that can be ordered with a regular stock order. You will need to present your membership card, which will be sent to you upon receipt of your dues, to verify that you are a current member of the Association.

Another benefit for members is being provided by Skowhegan Electric Motor Inc., which is co-owned by Scot Adams, who is a member of MBPA. Members will receive 10% off the purchase of any new electric motor and will also receive a 10% discount on repairs.

New BQA Resource Available

An informational brochure entitled "Stock Trailer Transportation of Cattle" has been printed and is available to producers. Hauling cattle is an integral part of many cattle operations. Beef Quality Assurance programs require that animals be handled in a manner that will result in a high quality product for consumers.

The information provided in the brochure includes a review of trailer maintenance, tips on loading and unloading cattle. In addition, driving and weather considerations are addressed. Charts are provided on the maximum number of head per length of trailer based on the weight of the animals and whether the cattle are polled or horned.

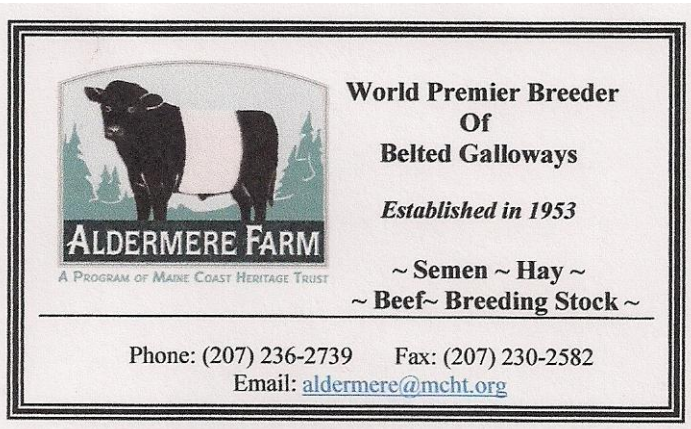
There is an economic incentive to proper transportation of animals. Cattle that are injured in transit have lower market value. Animals suffering from weather related stress will be more susceptible to disease. For your free copy of the "Stock Trailer Transportation of Cattle" brochure and an accompanying bumper sticker please contact: Dee Potter at 1-800-287-1421 or email dpotter@umext.maine.edu

Calves 4 Kids Applications Available

The applications for youth interested in applying for this year's Calves 4 Kids Program are now available. Deadline for returning the completed application is April 1, 2009. For more information about the program or to request an application, contact Pamela Harnden, Executive Director, MBPA. Pam may be reached at 207-645-2568 or harnnp@exploremaine.com. Her mailing address is P O Box 216 Dryden, ME 04225.

National Belted Galloway Sale

Fryeburg Fairgrounds will once again be the site for the 2009 National Belted Galloway Sale and Youth Expo, which will be held April 24th & 25th, 2009. For further information, contact Brud McCabe, 802-748-5107.



NELE 2009

Windsor Fairgrounds will again host the Expo May 15, 16 and 17. Kim Mackay is chair of the Planning Committee and can be contacted by phone at 207-453-7890 or by e-mail: cnkangus@roadrunner.com. Peter Dusoe is head of the Feeder Calf Sale and can be reached at 207-948-3233 or Pbdusoe@uninets.net. Ed Carter is in charge of the Purebred Sale (see below for more information on the sales).

Feeder Calf Sale

MBPA will once again hold a Feeder Calf Sale at NELE on Saturday, May 16th. Calves entered in this sale will need to meet certain protocol requirements. Please refer to the information sheet that is included later in this newsletter. For more information, contact Peter Dusoe or the Executive Director, Pamela Harnden. The Fall Feeder Calf Sale is set for October 31st.

19th MBPA Purebred Sale

The Maine Beef Producers' Association is pleased to be offering their **19th annual purebred sale** in conjunction with the Northeast Livestock Expo (NELE) as an opportunity for some of the Northeast's finest breeders to consign and buy cattle. With nearly 3000 Sale Catalogs to be distributed and advertising through many regional and national publications, this should be a terrific opportunity for consignors to market their cattle. Nominations are also being accepted for a few commercial cow/calf pairs or heifers ready to breed.

NELE is being held May 15, 16, & 17th at the Windsor Fairgrounds, in Windsor, Maine with the Purebred sale being held on Saturday the 16th.

It is a great opportunity to purchase your next herd bull, a cow/calf pair or a 4-H show calf.

For more information on consigning cattle, please contact Ed Carter – Sale Manager at 207-737-2872 or Miniacres1@myfairpoint.net.



BQA Training at NELE

There will be a Beef Quality Assurance training session during NELE. This day long workshop is scheduled for May 17th. A combination of lectures and hands-on experience will help beef producers learn techniques that will ensure that their cattle face as little stress as possible, thus returning more on investment.

MeCHAP 3rd Quarter Report

July-August-September 2008 The Steering committee met several times this quarter.

Johne's outreach and education was conducted at the state agricultural fairs on a case-by-case basis, with state vets having conversations with individual exhibitors at these events. These contacts were quite productive and generated verbal commitments by several beef producers to do Johne's testing in the fall. State veterinarians also were present at the Northeast Livestock Expo and the Maine State Holstein Show.

During this quarter, the DJC State Veterinarian visited 22 farms (18 dairy, 3 beef and one caprine) and with the assistance of private veterinarians obtained 1090 blood samples for Johne's testing. Overall, only 1.5% of the samples were positive on IDEXX ELISA testing. However, within-herd positive ELISA rates ranged from 2.6% to 4.5% on the 6 farms (27% of all farms visited) that had positive animals.

MeCHAP 4th Quarter Report

October-November-December 2008

The MeCHAP Fall Continuing Education seminar was November 6. This meeting provided the opportunity for the state veterinarians to review individual herd plans with herd vets. The assistant state vet/Johne's coordinator attended the Maine Beef Conference Dec. 6 and talked with several beef producers. Contacts with producers were also made during the AgriMark milk cooperative annual meeting Dec 16, to which we were invited.

We learned in December that our proposal to the Walker Foundation was viewed favorably, and we were awarded \$17,000 to fund bulk tank Johne's PCR testing on 70% of Maine's dairy herds, as well as initial studies on milk sock filter cultures as a herd mastitis screening technique. Planning was started for the Spring Large Animal Continuing Ed meeting to be April 8, 2009, with suggestions to contact Dr. Mike Collins to be the major presenter.


Because beef animals were gathering in from pastures in this quarter, the number of beef herds tested doubled. On six beef operations we tested 378 animals. Johne's infection was detected by ELISA on half of the farms, with a total of 7 positive animals, overall positive being 1.85%. Within-herd infection rates varied from 1% to 3.7%

Dairy testing increased in this quarter also, with 15 dairy herds visited and 1153 ELISA tests run in our State-Federal lab. Total dairy animal tests positive were 34, an overall 2.9% positive. However, test-positive animals were found on 7 out of the 15 herds. One dairy sheep farm tested 25 animals that were all test negative.

For Sale: Reg. Polled Hereford and Angus X yrlg. heifers and young cows for sale. Ruth Payne 207-625-4063

Johne's Meeting

There will be an important meeting for anyone interested in learning more about Johne's disease on Wednesday, April 8, held in the Capital Room at Governor's Restaurant in Waterville, probably from 6:30 to 8:30 pm. Dr. Michael Collins, a Fulbright Scholar from Wisconsin, will be the guest speaker. Johne's Disease has been the focus of Dr. Collins' research for almost 30 years. He has served as President of the International Association for Paratuberculosis and is the principal author of Johne's information center website, <http://johnes.org>. Anyone wishing to attend this meeting should reserve a spot by e-mailing Dr. Elizabeth McElvoy at Elizabeth.o.mcevoy@maine.gov.

GREENBOUNTY FARM	
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Phone: (207) 948-3233 Email: pbdusoe@uninets.net	

Bulls Wanted

The Aroostook Beef Producers are looking for several bulls for the spring 2009 breeding season. They should be Angus or Angus cross, weigh at least 1,000 lbs. and be of sound breeding. EPD's would be helpful. All proposals should be in writing. Please include a description of the animals and price should include on farm pick-up or delivery to our Hodgdon loadout facility sometime in mid-May. Photos welcome. For more information, contact Gary Belyea, 207-425-2493, or Tim O'Donnell who can be reached during the day at 207-532-6070 or 207-532-6650 in the evening.

Dick Brown Sales & Service	
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Dick Brown, Auctioneer	

MAINE BEEF PRODUCERS' ASSOCIATION FEEDER CATTLE SALE – 2009 PRECONDITIONING PROTOCOL

Protocol detail

- Weaning to sale date must be a minimum of 45 days. **May 16th sale, wean by April 1st; October 31st sale, wean by September 17th.**
- A series of **two modified live (MLV)** respiratory complex (4-way consisting of IBR, PI₃, BVD I & II, BRSV) vaccinations, in 21-28 days but no later than **May 2nd for Spring Sale and October 17th for Fall Sale** (14 days prior to sale).
- One Pasteurella vaccine.
- Treatment of internal and external parasites.
- Dehorning and castration must be healed.
- **Spring:** One clostridial (7-way) plus pinkeye vaccine.
- **Fall:** One clostridial (7-way) vaccine.

PRODUCT OPTIONS

	PFIZER	INTERVET	FORT DODGE
Modified Live (MLV) 4-way (IBR, PI ₃ , BVD I & II, BRSV)	Bovishield Gold 5	Vista 5 SQ	Pyramid 5
Pasteurella	One Shot	Once SQ PHM	Presponse HM
Combined vaccines (vary by Manufacturer)	One Shot Ultra 7 Combines 7-way Plus Pasteurella	Vista Once SQ Combines 4-way Plus Pasteurella	Pyramid 5 + Presponse SQ Combines 4-way Plus Pasteurella
7-way clostridial (Cl. Chauyoei, Septicum, novyi, sordellii, Perfringens type C & D) plus Pinkeye	**Pfizer does not make a 7-way + Pinkeye vaccine – See below	20/20 Vision 7	**Fort Dodge doesn't make a 7-way + Pinkeye vaccine – See below

****Pfizer and Fort Dodge do not offer a 7-way combined with pinkeye vaccine. Other options are a product by Boehringer-Ingelheim called Alpha-7/MB-1 or one by Schering-Plough known as Piliguard Pinkeye + 7.**

Yearlings that received protocol as calves need boosters. Yearlings not receiving protocol as calves need to follow the time schedule and receive initial and booster.

Cattle not meeting preconditioning protocol will be separated and sold as nonconforming cattle.

Beef Quality Assurance (BQA) recommends using subcutaneous (SC) products when possible, 16 – 18 gauge needles, ½ - ¾ inch for SQ, 1 – 1 ½ inch for IM.

Vaccines work best with reduced stress including weaning, nutrition and handling.

MBPA FEEDER CATTLE SALE CHECK IN FORM

Farm _____
 Owner _____
 Address _____
 Phone _____

	Maine		Sale	U.S.D.A. Grade	Natural Certified Affidavit	Date of Birth	Pen #	Comments
	Farm Tag	State I.D. Tag #						
1								
2								
3								
4								
5								
6								
7								
8								
9								
10								
11								
12								
13								
14								
15								
16								
17								
18								
19								
20								

Maine Beef Producers Association
Naturally Raised and Grass Fed Affidavit

Animal Identification Affidavit

The undersigned producer hereby attests that the following listed cattle sold to or marketed:

Initial for Natural _____ Meet the MBPA Natural Meats program protocols of never having received hormones, antibiotics, or feeds or feed supplements containing animal by-products.

Initial for Grass Fed _____ Are 100% grass (forage) fed, no grains, grain by-products, grain crops, grain crop silages, or other prohibited feeds under the USDA grass fed guidelines have been fed.

Producer: Name _____

Address _____

Phone # _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Cattle Identification Numbers Sold

_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

Date of first birth (mm/dd/yy) _____

Your Thoughts Needed!

In the last few months, MBPA has been successful in creating new benefits for members of the Association. Bulk or cooperative buying is another service to members that has been talked about and looked into. Some effort was put into the possibility of purchasing baler wrap in March. It was thought that members wishing to participate would be able to lock in a lower price per bale if it was bought then. Timing was too tight to make this work for this spring, but perhaps it could work in the future. Your input on what products you could or would be willing to purchase and when you could purchase them would be extremely helpful as we continue to look into ways to cut production expenses for our members. While it is sometimes difficult to make definite decisions without concrete information, it would be good to know what types of things people are interested in. If you see any of the Directors, please talk with them about possible items to buy in bulk lots. You may also contact Pamela Harnden, by e-mail at harnnp@exploremaine.com or phone at 207-645-2568, with your ideas. By working together individuals as well as the Association can profit.