

12/28/2003 Entry: "USDA Confirmed Origin of BSE Infected Cow"

USDA confirmed origin of BSE infected cow:

This was information received Saturday December 27, 2003 assuring USA producers that the origin of the cow with BSE did come from Canada.

Mike Schultz, Executive Director
Kansas Cattlemen's Association
402 Kansas Ave.
P.O.Box 251
Brewster, Kansas 67732
Phone: 877-694-2906
Web: www.kansascattlemen.com
Email: cowsrus@st-tel.net

USDA Chief Veterinarian, Dr. Ron DeHaven, said at 11:00 a.m. Eastern Time today, December 27, 2003, said information received at Midnight last night reveals that the BSE infected Cow was among 74 dairy cattle imported from Canada in 2001. The cow entered at East Port, Idaho and originated from a herd in Alberta, Canada.

Dr. DeHaven said there is a discrepancy between U.S. records and the Canadian records. The U.S. records show the animal is 4 to 4 ½ years old but the Canadian records show the cow was born in April of 1997, making her 6 to 6 ½ years old. USDA will conduct DNA tests to determine that the cow is the same cow.

Dr. DeHaven said the records kept on the load of 74 cows was "very good" and USDA is confident it can identify the remaining 73 head of cattle.

Bill Bullard

R-CALF USA

406-252-2516