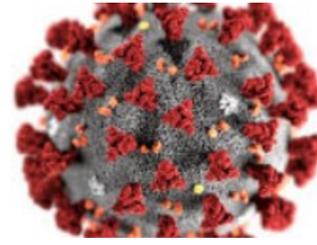


# COVID-19 Updates



There is a great deal of uncertainty about the ongoing impact of COVID-19 on the beef industry and our members. NC will provide updates on this page as more information becomes available. NC leadership and staff understands the anxiety and uncertainty that has resulted from the spread of this virus and are committed to doing our part to alleviate those concerns.

[Visit our Website](#)

## April 17, 2020

We have been receiving many calls regarding NC actions and membership. All calls are greatly appreciated and we look forward to hearing from more of you as we work through the current situation. Please continue following us on Social Media as well as checking our [website](#) for updates.

We kindly ask that you consider helping us spread the word of ongoing actions and updated information by sharing NC content on your social media.

NC staff hosted an Ag Leaders call with other commodity groups in the state to discuss COVID-19's impact on state revenue, particularly as it relates to property tax relief. Appropriations Chair John Stinner has cautioned the state to expect a 10% reduction in anticipated revenue; however, the full impact of the pandemic won't be realized until after the state's income tax filing deadline of July 15. Please [call your state senator](#) and explain how the pandemic and recent market issues have affected your bottom line, and let him/her know that Nebraska's property tax relief for agriculture is more important now than ever.

NC staff has had multiple conversations with our federal delegation this week, particularly considering legislative options to increase negotiated cash trade to at least 50%.

On March 26th, FMCSA released a [second FAQ document](#) to provide guidance on its emergency declaration that provides hours-of-service relief to truck drivers assisting the pandemic.

### OSU/NCBA COVID-19 Economic Impact Study:

A study released on April 14<sup>th</sup> showed the estimated cattle industry losses as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic will reach \$13.6 billion. The study, commissioned by NCBA, was conducted by a team of industry-leading agricultural economists - led by Derrell Peel at Oklahoma State University.

The study shows cow-calf producers will see the largest impact, with COVID-19-related losses. NC understands and appreciates that cattle producers have always maintained their independence from government programs, and most operate today without the safety nets utilized by other commodities, but we also understand that these are unprecedented times. We remain laser focused on long term efforts to address the market concerns of our members.

Read the [Summary](#) or [Full Study](#).

### NC in the Media:

Rural Radio Network Interview: [Pete McClymont as he talks on the effects of COVID-19 on the cattle industry.](#)

[NC President Ken Herz RFD-TV interview aired Live on Wednesday at 11:00am \(DOJ Investigation\).](#)

Channel 8 News Interview: [Nebraska cattlemen face hard times during COVID-19 pandemic](#)

### Other Updates:

Nebraska Beef Ambassadors May is Beef Month Youth Promotion project. With kids being out of school and May being Beef Month the NCW Consumer Education and Promotion Committee and the Nebraska Beef Ambassadors are looking for volunteers to create a short video that will be shared on Facebook during May. A few ideas for the videos: Farm tour, Cooking a recipe, Reading a book about cattle or Create a workout that is Farm or ranch based. If you have any questions or would like to sign up, you can contact Jennifer Sedlacek at [2021jsedlacek@gmail.com](mailto:2021jsedlacek@gmail.com)

[DHS and USDA Move to Protect American Farmers and Ensure Continued Flow of America's Food Supply](#)



### Black Swan Events

Each Thursday through May 7  
7:00 PM, CDT

Nebraska Cattlemen is hosting a four part webinar series to take an inside look into markets, the packing industry and how retailers leverage impacts the cattle market.

**April 16**—Cattle Industry Cyclical and Infrastructure Overview  
**April 23**—Direct Conversations with the Packing Industry  
**April 30**—Packer Consolidation - are they breaking the law?  
**May 7**—Meat Industry Merchandizers - what leverage do they have?

The webinars are for Nebraska Cattlemen members and guests that are interested in learning more about Nebraska Cattlemen.

[Click below for more information & to register!](#)

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April 16 [Cattle Industry Cyclical and Infrastructure Overview](#) -> Watch it [here](#).

April 23 [Direct Conversations with the Packing Industry](#)

April 30 [Packer Consolidation - are they breaking the law?](#)

May 7 [Meat Industry Merchandizers - what leverage do they have?](#)

Do you have questions for the speaker? Please email those to: [info@necattlemen.org](mailto:info@necattlemen.org)

The webinars are for Nebraska Cattlemen members and guests that are interested in learning more about Nebraska Cattlemen. Webinars will be recorded and available on the NC website. For more information about this webinar contact [Bonita](tel:402-450-0223) 402-450-0223 voice/text

[Get registered here](#)

\*\* After you register an email confirmation will be sent to you. You only need to register once for all 4 webinars.

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## April 10, 2020

Nebraska Cattlemen leadership and staff continue work diligently to make a difference for members during the COVID-19 disaster. NC is working at any and all levels with the highest-ranking members of the federal, state and local governments.

The morning of Good Friday, April 10, NCBA organized - with state affiliates including with Nebraska Cattlemen - a meeting via conference call with USDA Secretary Sonny Perdue and Under Secretary Greg Ibach. The meeting was exclusively focused on two items: current and ongoing market-related challenges (especially the packing sector) and relief efforts via the CARE Act.

Secretary Perdue said he hopes next week to have more formalization of financial relief to cattle producers. To be clear, the Commodity Credit Corporation does not have a 'cattle title' like crops, dairy and pork. USDA received the authority from the CARES Act of an additional \$9.5 billion for specialty crops, farm-to-market programs and livestock. USDA is working with all groups including NCBA to create a system to award cattle producers harmed due to COVID-19.

Sec. Perdue also emphasized he has ongoing, pointed conversations with the packing sector pushing them on what producers are facing. The Secretary noted that USDA found their investigative abilities under the Packers and Stockyards Act to be insufficient to gain certain needed information to conclude their investigation into the Holcomb, Kansas plant fire and therefore, the investigation has now become a multi-agency effort.

This week, we got notification that the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) has extended its Emergency Declaration through May 15<sup>th</sup>. The extension of the Emergency Declaration will continue the emergency relief from Parts 390 through 399 of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations, such as hours-of-service rules, for motor carriers and drivers providing direct assistance in support of relief efforts related to the COVID-19 outbreaks. The declaration can be found here: <https://www.fmcsa.dot.gov/emergency/expanded-emergency-declaration-under-49-cfr-ss-39023-no-2020-002-relating-covid-19>

States are continuing to issue their own emergency declarations that are providing hours-of-service relief as well as relief from truck weight limits. It is recommended to check with your state associations and state departments of transportation for more information on the state-level application of the emergency declarations on trucking rules.

On Wednesday of this week Nebraska Cattlemen sent a letter to the Department of Justice requesting an investigation. [Read the letter here.](#)

**PRESS RELEASE:** [Nebraska Cattlemen Board Address Black Swan Market Responses](#)

**Rural Radio Network Interview:** [Nebraska Cattlemen President Ken Herz talks about actions NC has taken since a Board of Directors meeting that was held on Tuesday & the upcoming webinars.](#)

### Other Updates:

[Livestock Temporary Increase Guidance](#)

[President Donald J. Trump Approves Nebraska Disaster Declaration](#)

Please follow us here:



**TWITTER:** For market updates and tweets please consider following NC team member Jeff Stolle [@JeffStolle](https://twitter.com/JeffStolle)