

Charlotte County Fair Association, Inc.  
The Premiere Showcase of Charlotte County

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www.thecharlottecountyfair.com

**2012 FAIR**  
**FAIR DATES ARE FEBRUARY 3rd – 12<sup>TH</sup>, 2012**

Dear Exhibitor:

In 1997, the Food and Drug Administration adopted a regulation, 21 CFR 589.2000, prohibiting the feeding of any ruminant derived protein (meat & bone meal) to cattle and other ruminants. This regulation resulted from efforts to control any possible introduction to spread of Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE) or “Mad Cow Disease” into the domestic cattle head of the United States.

Because of recent worldwide media attention on the BSE issue and a desire to reassure consumers that all possible steps are being taken to continue to keep BSE out of the United States, a number of beef packers/processors and retail operations have established certification programs for their suppliers to insure that they are not receiving cattle that have been fed ruminant derived protein materials.

Participating packers in the certification program have made it clear that they will not purchase any cattle from producers who have not signed a certificate certifying that none of their cattle or other ruminant animals have been fed any feed containing protein derived from ruminant tissues and/or that none of the livestock being sold have illegal levels of drug residues. Thus, for some packers and buyers to purchase your cattle, we will need to have the enclosed certification signed and on file prior to or at the time you bring your cattle to the market for sale.

If you have any questions or concerns in this regard, please do not hesitate to call Tim Deah the C. C. Fair Ag Committee Chairman.

*Dated on July 15, 2011.*

