

**For Immediate Release:**

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**Missouri Cattlemen's Association sets new Policies for 2009**

New policies were adopted for the Missouri Cattlemen's Association last week during the 41<sup>st</sup> Annual Missouri Cattle Industry Convention in Springfield, Missouri. The policies of the association will drive the political agenda for the next year. New policies regarding the eradication of Feral Hogs, Adverse Possession, Bovine Virus Diarrhea-Persistent Infection (BVD-PI), Missouri Department of Agriculture Funding and Deer Hunting Permitting were adopted to the association's policy book.

Steve Willard, newly elected MCA President says, "The policies of the association are at the heart of what the association stands for. MCA is a grassroots organization that forms policy from the input of our membership and it will drive the association for the future. MCA represents the most progressive cattlemen across the state."

Some of the new policies passed at this year's annual meeting were; Feral Hogs are recognized as a growing threat to the profitability of beef producers in Missouri. Each year Feral Hogs cause millions of dollars of destruction to pastures and crops in the state. MCA endorsed the MO Dept. of Conservation's efforts to eradicate the pests. MCA opposed adverse possession. MCA endorsed the Missouri Department of Agriculture's effort to control BVD-PI. Breeders would voluntarily test herds yearly to certify as a clean herd to control the disease. Also, MCA wants to see the MO Dept. of Ag. receive full state funding, especially in the Animal Health Division.

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The Missouri Cattlemen's Association was initiated in 1911 and is dedicated to improving profitability of Missouri's cattle industry. MCA will work tirelessly to promote, preserve and protect the future of our great cattle industry and the people who depend on us. To join, contact MCA at 573-499-9162 or at [www.mocattle.com](http://www.mocattle.com).