

Today is \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_. This is Ken Morgan's Northcoast Ag Report, our lead story is about \_\_\_\_\_ when we return

## **Assemblyman Cooper Introduces AB 243 to Support California Ranchers**

**At the request of CCA, Assemblyman Jim Cooper (D-Elk Grove) recently introduced AB 243, which will provide California ranchers the opportunity to create the California Beef Research, Promotion and Education Commission (Commission).**

**In December the CCA Board of Directors unanimously passed policy that directed staff to work with the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) to increase the Beef Checkoff by an additional one dollar under two conditions: (1) the additional dollar must be used exclusively to benefit California ranchers, and (2) the additional dollar be refundable. AB 243 will accomplish both objectives.**

It's important to note that **AB 243 will not increase the checkoff in California**. If signed by the Governor, AB 243 only provides ranchers the opportunity, through the referendum process, to vote on creating and funding the Commission. Every California rancher will ultimately have a vote on whether or not to create and fund the Commission.

**If the Commission is approved by ranchers through the referendum process, it will establish a "California only" checkoff program that is not only refundable but will be administered by California ranchers for the benefit of California ranchers and will not be subject to the approval of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) or the Cattlemen's Beef Board.**

"I see tremendous value in the current Beef Checkoff program and so do our members," said CCA President Dave Daley. "That success has generated a lot of interest and support for increasing the Beef Checkoff in California. But we are all aware that California faces unique challenges and we need to be able to address those challenges head-on without arbitrary interference from USDA. The Commission will provide ranchers increased freedom and flexibility to invest in research, promotion and education projects that directly benefit California beef producers."

- [A Second Bird Flu Incident in Tennessee Heightens Biosecurity Concerns](#)

Dr. Jack Shere, Deputy Administrator of USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, explaining where commercial poultry operators and backyard poultry operators can get important biosecurity information to protect their flocks.

### **Bear River Valley Beef Invites you to a 3-Day High Density Mob Grazing School in Humboldt County**

CCA members Hugo and Liz Klopper of Bear River Valley Beef are hosting a three day High Density Mob Grazing School in Eureka on May 16 - 18 and would like to invite fellow ranchers to attend.

The event will feature Ian Mitchell Innes, a South African holistic high density rancher and certified holistic educator. Also featured will be guest speaker Mark Bader of Free Choice Enterprises.

Specific topics to be covered will include:

- How to use mob grazing as a tool to improve the land.
- How to manage livestock and land for profitability.
- How to build soils using proper grazing methods.

and more.

For more information call 707-786-9460 or visit [www.BestGrassFedBeef.com](http://www.BestGrassFedBeef.com)  
[www.facebook.com/BearRiverValleyBeef/](https://www.facebook.com/BearRiverValleyBeef/) (see events page.)