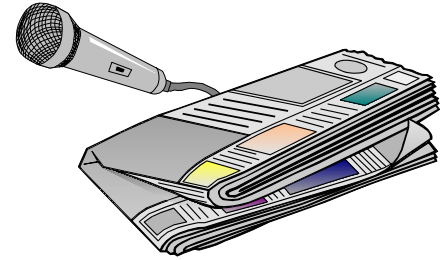




Agriculture Home Economics 4-H

GLENN COUNTY COOPERATIVE EXTENSION NEWS FLASH



January 12, 2004

Extension Notes by Barbara Reed, University of California Cooperative Extension, Dairy Advisor

Guidelines Available for On-Farm Euthanasia of Downer Cattle

On December 30th, 2003, Agriculture Secretary Ann M. Veneman announced additional safeguards for U.S. protection against Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy, or BSE, and to further protect public health. Among the safeguards is a new USDA rule that no downer cow will go to slaughter.

Because downer cows will not go through food processing plants, they will need to be humanely killed on the farm, unless they are able to receive treatment that will return them to a productive life. For cattle owners looking for additional information on humane euthanasia practices, there are two particularly good websites that you can view or download. The first is the American Association of Bovine Practitioners brochure located at: <http://www.aabp.org/euth.pdf> . The second is from the University of Florida and Dr. Jan Shearer (also available in Spanish): <http://www.vetmed.ufl.edu/lacs/HumaneEuthanasia/pref.htm> .

For those producers who do not have access to the internet, these brochures can be obtained from the Glenn County Cooperative Extension office free of charge. Call our office at 530-865-1107 for more information or visit us at 821 E. South St., Orland, between 8:00 and 11:30 a.m. or 1:30 to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.