



GCA COVID-19 ACTION

3/18/20

- GCA Postpones Annual Convention & Beef Expo
- GCA Advocates for Hours of Service waiver exemption for transportation of live cattle, boxed beef, and inputs
- GCA provides documentation to producers to continue working/travel as critical infrastructure if shelter order is put into place.

3/20/20

- GCA works with our legislators in DC to ensure that market inconsistencies are addressed, encouraging packers to remain open to provide beef to consumers while shifting their buying schedule to more on the cash basis, encouraging USDA to continue to have inspectors and graders in place at packing houses, finding alternative capital opportunities for producers, ensuring transportation regulation barriers are relaxed during the crisis.
- GCA advocates for expanded truck weights through COVID-19 pandemic to allow for relaxed shipping regulations to ensure that cattle/inputs are able to be delivered
- GCA has sent a letter to Georgia's congressional delegation, urging them to take action on behalf of our industry, focusing on: asking Secretary Perdue to ensure that the USDA monitor discrepancy in expected price discoveries; encouraging meat packers to purchase cattle in the cash market; requesting their support of the industry through disaster payments using market facilitation processes; using financial tools like low-interest and no-interest loans to help producers remain viable during the crisis.
- GCA initiated a weekly call with other GA agricultural organizations for information sharing and collaboration where possible

3/21/20

- GCA President Brent Galloway met with Secretary of Agriculture, Sonny Perdue to share our industry's concerns, advocate for equitable distribution of potential CARES Act payments.
- Galloway hand delivers letters of concern to Secretary Perdue

3/27/20

- Congress passes CARES Act and GCA further encourages USDA to provide equitable payments to producers within the cow-calf and stocker/backgrounder segments of our industry

[Kemp issues Shelter in place order]

- Payment Protection Program (PPP) is created and GCA works to ensure that cattle producers could be eligible for the payments as agriculture is not typically included in SBA programs



- GDA announces ACC for Beef Referendum is postponed until June
- GCA worked with GA Milk producers to address issues and challenges with milk processing facilities shutting down and milk dumping becoming prevalent
- GCA worked with other state associations and NCBA on determining the economic impact of COVID-19 on the cattle industry. A group of economists were engaged to advise on the impact to the industry

4/3/20

- GCA advocated for industry concerns and was selected as one of three ag groups to question Undersecretary Bill Northey on a call hosted by Senator Loeffler - GCA shared concerns on CARES Act direct payments to producers, market volatility and investigations within the market disparity. GCA also carried the concerns of the dairy industry in GA during this call.
- GCA shares that GDA extended Hurricane Michael Block Grant application process

4/4/20

- GCA announces livestock market closures due to COVID-19 after contacting several livestock markets and working with GDA to ensure the most up to date information

4/6/20

- GCA announces the expansion of the list of livestock market closures and encourages members to reach out to their livestock market to discuss what the value their cattle might bring.

4/10/20

- GCA worked to address the disparity in cattle producers are seeing in value of cattle. Discussing short-term and long-term fixes within the industry with GCA leadership, other state cattlemen's associations, and NCBA
- GCA sends letter to congressional delegation, along with other states in the southeast, to request a formal investigation of market conditions to USDA through the CFTC.
- GCA works with UGA to address Tifton HERD sale shifting to Tele-auction

[Kemp extends Shelter in place order]

- GCA shares that individual producers should contact their financial institution for PPP applications as they will be administering the program.
- GCA Leadership Team votes to encourage the Department of Justice engage in the investigation of cattle market price disparity

4/16/20

- GCA joins multi-state letter asking the Department of Justice to partner with the USDA on their investigation or to circumvent USDA and take over the investigation into the market disparity in the wake of the Kansas plant fire and COVID-19 impact.

[Economist group determines the economic impact of COVID-19 at \$13.5 Billion.]



4/20/20

- GCA advocates for CARES Act Payment concerns with Undersecretary Ibach through national conference call

4/21/20

- GCA Asks Georgia Senators to Address CARES Act Payment Cap Limits

Throughout COVID-19 Crisis

- Working with other ag industry partner organizations to find common concerns to improve market conditions and urge relaxing government regulations to ensure the pipeline.
- Engaging with all portions of our industry to determine weaknesses and develop long-term strategies to fix fundamental flaws.
- Engaged with Packing houses and livestock markets to determine the effects of the virus on their operations which would in turn impact individual producers
- GCA has been engaged in the process through hundreds of conference calls, direct calls, text messages, and emails.