



NEWS RELEASE

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NMA SUPPORTS RATIONAL APPROACH TO CLONING

OAKLAND, CA – National Meat Association supports the rational, measured approach that the government has taken in investigating the safety of cloning technology. After literally years of detailed study and analysis, the Food and Drug Administration has concluded that meat and milk from clones of cattle, swine, and goats are safe to eat, as is the meat and milk from the offspring.

This agency determination concludes one of the most extensive food safety reviews in FDA’s history. It complements equally important international assessments that reached the same conclusion, and USDA has announced it will join with technology providers, producers, processors, retailers and domestic and international customers to facilitate the marketing of meat and milk from clones.

However, the number of cloned animals in the U.S. is miniscule compared to the size of the total livestock population. Clones are to be used as breeding animals to maximize genetic potential, not for consumption. Consumers are unlikely to encounter meat from cloned animals in the grocery store or elsewhere.

“National Meat Association recognizes that there is consumer concern surrounding the issue of cloning and has supported an effort to produce a supply chain management system that allows tracking of cloned livestock,” said Barry Carpenter, NMA CEO & executive director. “We continue to work with our members, international trading partners, technology companies and the media to assure the circulation of accurate information on this advancing technology.”

National Meat Association is a non-profit trade association. Since 1946, NMA has represented meat packers and processors, equipment manufacturers and food suppliers who provide services to the meat industry. The association has members throughout the United States, as well as in Canada, Australia and Mexico.