

Statement from Harris Ranch Regarding BSE and the Safety of Our Beef Supply
Tuesday, April 24, 2012

Today the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) announced the diagnosis of a single case of bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) in a dairy cow from central California. The animal was an adult dairy cow and did not enter the food supply as it died on the dairy and was sent to a rendering facility. There, as part of the USDA's surveillance program, the animal was tested for BSE and confirmed positive. This represents only the fourth case of BSE in the United States since 2003.

This incident indicates that the safeguards in place are working to protect the U.S. food supply. The cow was never presented for slaughter for human consumption so at no time presented a risk to our food supply or to human health.

As a functionally integrated company, Harris Ranch controls all aspects of beef production. At our feeding company we have never fed animal proteins to our cattle. At processing we strictly adhere to the removal of all SRMs during the harvest process, which is verified by the USDA and our Harris Ranch Quality Assurance Department. At Harris Ranch Beef Company, all animals are inspected by the USDA before processing.

Harris Ranch remains committed to producing a safe and wholesome product and follows all food safety intervention practices established by the FDA and USDA. We feel confident in our beef products and want our customers to believe in the safety of our brand.

For more detailed information, please see www.usda.gov/bse

Also, please read the California Beef Council's statement by [clicking here](#).