



For immediate release
October 2004

Funds for livestock welfare research

Calgary...The government of Alberta has again shown its support for the welfare of farm animals by providing \$300,000 over the next four years to the Alberta Farm Animal Care (AFAC) Association to support extension and farm animal research in Alberta.

“The vast majority of Alberta’s livestock producers take the well-being of their animals very seriously and understand that there is an economic benefit for them to do so,” said Morris Seiferling, Director Technical Services Agriculture, Food and Rural Development. “These funds will be used by AFAC to support programs and research to keep our industry at the forefront in this important area.”

“Our organization together with our member groups is constantly seeking ways to improve how livestock are handled, transported, housed and managed, as well as ensuring producers and the public are aware of and support these initiatives,” said Susan Church, AFAC Manager. “These funds will also help strengthen our partnerships with other institutions working with us in the area of livestock welfare.”

Priorities for the funds will be to support the science of farm animal welfare, to ensure livestock production practices are humane, and aid the adoption by industry of livestock welfare standards that will be acceptable to the marketplace, while maintaining or improving the economic competitiveness of our livestock industry.

AFAC is a not-for-profit association that represents Alberta’s livestock industry on issues related to livestock care and well-being.

- 30 -

For further information, contact:

Susan Church, Manager
Alberta Farm Animal Care Association (AFAC)
Phone: (403) 932-8050
Fax: (403) 932-8052