

Michigan Commission of Agriculture Meeting Minutes

August 2000

Michigan Department of Agriculture
Commission of Agriculture
Day's Inn, 2603 North Lincoln Road
Escanaba, Michigan
(held in conjunction with the Upper Peninsula State Fair)

August 17-18, 2000

PRESENT:

James Maitland, Chair, Commission of Agriculture
Jordan Tatter, Vice-Chair, Commission of Agriculture
Shirley Skogman, Secretary, Commission of Agriculture
Douglas Darling, Commission of Agriculture
Dan Wyant, Director, Michigan Department of Agriculture

ABSENT:

Deanna Stamp, Commission of Agriculture

OTHERS PRESENT *(All or part of the meeting):*

Michigan Department of Agriculture Staff
Jason Church, USDA Rural Development
Peter Grieves, Michigan Association of Timbermen
Ann Jousma-Miller, Senator Don Koivisto's Office
Ron Nelson, Michigan Farm Bureau
Paul Rabiteau, Daily Press, Escanaba, Michigan
Steve Zimmerman, Farm Credit Services, Escanaba, Michigan

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Chair James Maitland called the meeting of the Commission of Agriculture to order at 10:00 a.m., on Thursday, August 17, 2000. Commissioner Skogman called the roll with Director Wyant and all Commissioners present, except for Commissioner Deanna Stamp.

APPROVAL OF AUGUST 17-18, 2000, MEETING AGENDA

MOTION: COMMISSIONER TATTER MOVED TO APPROVE THE AUGUST 17-18, 2000, COMMISSION OF AGRICULTURE MEETING AGENDA AS PRESENTED. SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

APPROVAL OF JULY 10-11, 2000, MEETING MINUTES

MOTION: COMMISSIONER TATTER MOVED TO APPROVE THE JULY 10-11, 2000, MEETING MINUTES WITH THE FOLLOWING CHANGES: PAGE 3, PARAGRAPH 5, LINE 4, TO READ "NUMBER OF PART-TIME PRODUCERS, ESPECIALLY IN METROPOLITAN AREAS WHO DID NOT SIGN UP IN THE FEDERAL FARM PROGRAM," AND PAGE 10, PARAGRAPH 6, LINE 1, TO READ "RICHARD HARLOW OF THE MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES." SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting of the Commission of Agriculture will be held on Wednesday, September 13, 2000, in the Michigan Department of Agriculture, 4th Floor, Pidgeon Conference Room, State Ottawa

Office Building, 611 West Ottawa Street, Lansing, Michigan.

APPROVAL OF COMMISSIONERS' PER DIEM AND/OR TRAVEL

MOTION: COMMISSIONER TATTER MOVED TO APPROVE COMMISSIONER DARLING'S TRAVEL ON JULY 25-26, 2000, TO ATTEND THE MSU INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT/ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY MEETING HELD IN EAST LANSING, MICHIGAN, AND AUGUST 10, 2000, TO ATTEND A MEETING WITH USDA IN WASHINGTON, D.C. TO DISCUSS BOVINE TUBERCULOSIS. SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

APPROVAL OF DIRECTOR'S OUT-OF-STATE TRAVEL

MOTION: COMMISSIONER DARLING MOVED TO APPROVE DIRECTOR WYANT'S OUT-OF-STATE TRAVEL ON JULY 13, 2000, TO ATTEND AN INDIANA BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING HELD IN INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA, AND A TENTATIVE TRADE TRIP TO MEXICO ON AUGUST 22-24, 2000. SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS:

Commissioner Shirley Skogman welcomed the Commission to the Upper Peninsula. She noted that the people of the U.P. appreciate the Commission holding its meeting in Escanaba. She noted that everyone is very proud of the Upper Peninsula State Fair and she looks forward to the Commission being able to attend.

Commissioner Skogman reported that it has been a cool and wet summer in her area of the U.P. Crops are growing well, although the prices are very poor. Potato harvesting will begin in approximately three weeks, with every indication that it will be a good crop. The bovine tuberculosis situation continues to be a major concern to U.P. producers. She is looking forward to the afternoon tour where the Commission will have the opportunity to hear from area farmers. The deer are beginning their usual destructive work in the fields. She is very concerned about the increase of block permits from \$3.00 to \$6.00. She believes that this price increase is very unfair to farmers.

Commissioner Jordan Tatter reported that Southwest Michigan rains came with a vengeance, causing problems in quality for the harvest of Red Haven peaches. However, the wheat was cut and the corn and beans welcomed the moisture. The tart cherry harvest was above forecast, which will cause serious problems for the federal market order, both this year and next year, even if it is just a "good crop" in 2001. The blueberry harvest is tapering off from a crop slightly less than last year's big crop and is of excellent quality. The return of warm temperatures helped vegetable plant growth and ripening.

Following last month's Commission meeting, Commissioner Tatter attended the Ag Expo VIP Breakfast, the MDA-sponsored Drainage and Land Use Tour, and MDA's annual picnic. He also met with Gale Arent, MSU Extension Assistant Vice-Provost, and MSU consultant Dr. John Hanieski, regarding MSU's continuing value-added food processing retention and expansion efforts. Commissioner Tatter noted that it is important that MDA coordinate its efforts with MSU to avoid duplication of efforts.

Commissioner Tatter and Alton Wendzel, president of Coloma Frozen Foods, met with Representative Charlie LaSata to brief him on local and state issues impacting the food processing industry. Representative LaSata has an excellent feel and concern for agriculture and food processing in Michigan.

Along with MDA staff, Commissioner Tatter attended the 11th Annual Viticulture Field Day and Cookout held at the Southwest Michigan Research and Extension Center. The event is sponsored by the Center, MSU Extension, the Michigan Grape Society, and the Michigan Grape and Wine Industry Council. Over 200 viticulturists and enologists from other states attended, making this a national event.

Commissioner Tatter distributed copies of Representative Fred Upton's August 10 announcement that Secretary of Agriculture Glickman made the requested disaster designation for fireblight in Southwest Michigan.

He also congratulated Director Wyant, Dr. Mike Chaddock, and MDA staff for their successful efforts in changing the very restrictive TB quarantine rules initially put forth by the Indiana Board of Health.

Commissioner Tatter expressed concern about the mint producers' referendum vote. Out of 11 votes, three were spoiled, resulting in a tie vote and therefore a defeat of the proposal. He again raised the question about whether the voting process is clear and understandable to producers.

Commissioner Tatter traveled to Washington, D.C. for three days of committee meetings of the International Association of Refrigerated Warehouses, and The World Food Logistics Organization. This is an annual event, and he serves on four of the standing committees. While in Washington, Commissioner Tatter met with a USDA Foreign Agriculture Service official to discuss concerns about the blueberry maggot and plum pox embargoes by Canada. USDA will contact MDA's Ken Rauscher for further discussion on the fair treatment concern for Michigan producers.

As part of a MSU/United States Agency for International Development team, Commissioner Tatter traveled to Kenya. The purpose of the trip was to study Kenya's fruit and vegetable systems, and how standards and regulations encourage or constrain that nation's ability to export fresh produce. Commissioner Tatter noted that the eastern African experience was a personal eye-opener. It made Michigan's agricultural concerns pale in light of the multiplicity of horticultural crop production, transportation, and marketing calamities that affect the individuals he was both privileged to meet and dismayed to observe. It was truly a life experience. The Upper Peninsula looks even better than usual, and this is a great state and nation. Commissioner Tatter said that we are truly blessed.

Chair Maitland suggested that Commissioner Tatter present his Kenya slides at a future Commission meeting.

Commissioner Douglas Darling reported that it has been a wet and cool year in Southeast Michigan. USDA recently reported that there would be 10.4 billion bushels of corn, the largest crop ever, and 2.99 billion bushels of soybeans, the largest crop ever. Although this is good news for the consumer, this has had a devastating effect on the farmer because of low prices. There is a very depressed attitude in the farm community, especially when they see the rest of the economy roaring along. There does not seem to be an answer on how to improve the crop/price situation.

Commissioner Darling attended the MSU Integrated Pest Management Tour that hosted several Environmental Protection Agency officials from Washington, D.C. and Chicago. He has been involved with the Food Quality Protection Act legislation since its implementation and its impact on Michigan and U.S. agriculture. Commissioner Darling noted that this tour was one of the most important events he has ever been involved in because of the opportunity to accompany chemists and talk one-on-one. In some cases, the chemists had never seen some of the crops in the field or the equipment used. The tour showcased many crops and presented reasons why farmers need tools to fight disease and insects in crop protection. As part of the tour, the group visited the Gerber plant. Commissioner Darling said that the processed beef for baby food is imported from New Zealand because it is pasture-fed. He added that there is plenty of pasture-fed livestock here in Michigan, and the state should be proposing to Gerber that it could use Michigan livestock for its baby food.

Commissioner Darling traveled to Washington, D.C., along with Deputy Director Keith Creagh, Dr. Mike Chaddock, and Dr. Lonnie King of MSU, Sarah Black of the Michigan Farm Bureau and Bryan Roosa of the Governor's Washington Office. A meeting was held with USDA to discuss the economic impact of bovine tuberculosis on our state. By the end of 2001, \$83 million will have been spent on this disease, and the battle is still ahead. The situation also has severely impacted Michigan's captive cervidae industry. Michigan's captive cervid industry sells between \$4-7 million of deer per year. Unfortunately, other states are not buying from Michigan because of the bovine tuberculosis situation. It has been suggested that Michigan should increase the penalty for feeding and baiting violations, making the penalties the same as in the poaching regulations.

Chair James Maitland reported that cherry production in Northern Michigan was higher than estimated. He noted that there was a carryover from last year, and with the good production this year, it would carry over to next year. The weather in Northern Michigan has been fairly good with sufficient rainfall. The apple harvest will begin soon, and will most likely be a small crop. Chair Maitland and Director Wyant participated in the Michigan

FFA Foundation Golf Outing. He said the event provided a great opportunity to meet with FFA members.

WELCOMING REMARKS: Grant Larsen, Manager of the Upper Peninsula State Fair, and Barbara Hensinger, director of the Fairs, Exhibitions and Racing Division

Barbara Hensinger, director of the Fairs, Exhibitions and Racing Division, welcomed the Commission to the Upper Peninsula State Fair. Many improvements have been made on the fairgrounds, and the feedback received from fairgoers has been very positive. She reported that attendance records look good so far.

Grant Larsen, manager of the Upper Peninsula State Fair, also welcomed the Commission to the fair. He said that some of the safety issues addressed and implemented include the vehicle traffic and parking congestion related to the campgrounds, the problem with cable and water lines crossing the midway blacktop, and aesthetic improvements to the lawn area in front of the grandstand.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Dan Wyant

Update on Bovine Tuberculosis: Dr. Mike Chaddock distributed updated maps and information about Michigan's bovine tuberculosis situation. Also distributed were copies of the new brochures recently made available to the public about bovine tuberculosis.

Dr. Chaddock said that as we continue to pursue the goal of eliminating bovine tuberculosis in Michigan, the goal is also to move ahead and look at split state status. The tools are there, and USDA also has the tools it needs to allow for a zoned status. The most logical place for a separate zone is the Upper Peninsula. There are three things that must be accomplished to show USDA, other states, and our trading partners that Michigan is free of bovine tuberculosis in that area. First, continue the testing of cattle, goats, and bison in the U.P. There are resources available. Second, changes in Michigan's Animal Industry Act that, hopefully, will occur this fall. The changes would require testing of animals to move from one location to another within Michigan. This will show that there are no animals from untested or unknown farms moving into the U.P. And, third, the DNR has a plan for this fall to continue surveillance of wildlife, specifically the white-tailed deer, and to increase their surveillance numbers to provide statistically valid sampling in the U.P. When that occurs this fall, and when all of the testing is completed, Michigan will be in a situation to move forward with the request for split state status.

MDA has not found any confirmed bovine tuberculosis in any livestock herds anywhere in Michigan outside of the quarantined area in Northeast Michigan. However, as statewide testing is done, suspect and reactor animals are found. This is expected, and when a reactor is found in a herd, that herd must be retested 60 days later.

A total of 4,620 cattle herds have been tested. The total number of livestock tests done to date is approximately 120,000. The number of actual confirmed domestic livestock animals through July 31, 2000, is 19, all from Northeast Michigan. Additional staff continues to be hired.

Northeast Michigan dairy herds must be tested by October 22, 2000. There are about 120 dairy herds in the quarantine area, with 69 completed, eight others in the process of being completed, and the remaining herds have a scheduled herd test between now and October 22. This is a cooperative effort by the Animal Industry Division, Food and Dairy Division, Michigan Farm Bureau, cooperatives, and MSU Extension. The next important date is June of 2001 when the rest of the herds statewide have to be tested.

Dr. Tina Burke of the Animal Industry Division has visited every custom slaughter plant in Michigan that she is aware of, except for two located in the Upper Peninsula. Many of these facilities have been found by word of mouth.

Since July 6, 1995, through August 15, 2000, the number of animals examined at the MSU diagnostic laboratory is 1,441.

The State of Wisconsin is requiring a post-entry test and is not allowing commingling of Michigan cattle. This has resulted in a number of sale yards, cooperatives, and concentration points in Wisconsin making the business decision that they will not accept Michigan cattle. Director Wyant continues to be in communication with Wisconsin officials. Dr. Chaddock said that it is important decisions are made based on science, not on

fear.

The meeting with USDA on August 10, 2000, was very productive. The USDA package hopefully will include funds and resources for Michigan and Texas. Texas is the other state with bovine tuberculosis that is confined to the El Paso Milkshed. In Texas, USDA has agreed to buy out producers in the El Paso Milkshed and not allow them to go back into business in that area.

Commissioner Tatter asked what would need to be done to get the U.P. testing completed.

Dr. Chaddock replied that MDA is working with the Michigan Cattlemen's Association, the Michigan Farm Bureau, and MSU Extension.

Legislative Report: Brad Deacon said that because the Legislature has not been in session since June there is no written legislative report. The Legislature will be returning in September, the House will meet for two weeks, the Senate for three weeks, and each with an additional week of committee hearings before the session. This provides a narrow window in terms of getting the Animal Industry Act changes introduced and through both legislative houses. He said that the organics legislation passed the Senate and it is anticipated to receive a hearing in the House committee. The drain code has passed the House and is on the Senate floor. There also will be a bill introduced by the Michigan Bean Commission to make changes to its Act.

APPROVAL TO INITIATE THE REVIEW PROCESS FOR THE GENERALLY ACCEPTED AGRICULTURAL MANAGEMENT PRACTICES (GAAMP) FOR MANURE MANAGEMENT UTILIZATION, AND FOR THE GENERALLY ACCEPTED AGRICULTURAL MANAGEMENT PRACTICES (GAAMP) FOR NUTRIENT UTILIZATION: Deputy Director Keith Creagh

Deputy Director Keith Creagh presented the Generally Accepted Agricultural Management Practices for Manure Management Utilization, and the Generally Accepted Agricultural Management Practices for Nutrient Utilization for Commission approval to initiate the review process. Letters to the task force chairs were presented to Chair Maitland for signature requesting some additional clarification so farmers will understand which components or standards must be followed in order to be in conformance with the GAAMPs.

MOTION: COMMISSIONER SKOGMAN MOVED TO INITIATE THE ANNUAL REVIEW OF THE GENERALLY ACCEPTED AGRICULTURAL MANAGEMENT PRACTICES FOR MANURE MANAGEMENT UTILIZATION, AND FOR THE GENERALLY ACCEPTED AGRICULTURAL MANAGEMENT PRACTICES FOR NUTRIENT UTILIZATION. SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

APPROVAL OF REVISIONS TO THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION ACT NORMAL AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES: Deputy Director Keith Creagh

Deputy Director Keith Creagh presented the Wildlife Conservation Act Normal Agricultural Practices for Commission approval of the revisions. He explained that there are no changes to the practices themselves, solely a clarification to the map found on page 3 and page 4 that shows the counties where there is a prohibition for feeding and baiting. Today's Commission action would be consistent to the action taken by the Natural Resources Commission.

MOTION: COMMISSIONER TATTER MOVED TO APPROVE THE REVISIONS TO THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION ACT NORMAL AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES AS PRESENTED. SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

APPROVAL TO REFER RIGHT TO FARM COMPLAINT TO THE MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY: Deputy Director Keith Creagh

Deputy Director Keith Creagh reviewed a complaint regarding the Dale Irish Swine Farm. He explained that the Commission had reviewed this complaint at its July meeting, and a letter from Chair Maitland was sent to Mr. Irish on July 17, 2000. Since MDA has not received a response from Mr. Irish regarding the recommended improvements to resolve an environmental complaint concerning the manure storage facility, Mr. Creagh

recommended that the issue be referred to the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality. MDEQ has been on the site and has ordered that Mr. Irish take immediate steps. However, at this point in time that has not occurred.

MOTION: COMMISSIONER DARLING MOVED TO APPROVE THE REFERRAL OF THE DALE IRSH SWINE FARM OPERATION COMPLAINT TO THE MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY. SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

UPDATE ON FORESTRY ACTIVITIES: Peter Grieves, Executive Director, Michigan Association of Timbermen

Peter Grieves, Executive Director of the Michigan Association of Timbermen distributed information about Michigan's forests. He explained that the Michigan Association of Timbermen is a trade association that provides representation and services to business people in Michigan's forest industry.

Forestry is the number-one business in the Upper Peninsula, with one billion dollars of forest economy out of \$11 billion statewide. Michigan's timber product economy supports approximately 150,000 jobs and \$9 billion of value-added. This includes employment and value-added associated with the service and support sectors for the forest products industry. Most of the primary forestry products are made in the Upper Peninsula and are shipped downstate for value-added activity with delivery to the consumer. Michigan has the number-one standing forestry surplus in the nation. Mr. Grieves noted that they are always trying to improve their status and situation in Michigan. Forestry is an integral part of the agricultural community, and it has been able to piggyback on many of the precedents established for farmers.

Mr. Grieves said that the Association has developed a good partnership with the Upper Peninsula State Fair. This year the "Friend of Timbermen" award was given to Grant Larsen and the Upper Peninsula State Fair Board. They have been very helpful in letting the timbermen display a log truck safety exhibit on the fairgrounds.

Mr. Grieves also explained that the Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) was developed as a good way to gain public confidence as they do their work in producing wood products. SFI should be considered as one of the best ways to work toward improving stewardship standards in the forests.

Director Wyant thanked Mr. Grieves for providing the Commission with an update on Michigan's forestry industry. He noted that the forestry industry and agriculture have many of the same synergies and programs. There are many common relationships and MDA certainly would like to strengthen those relationships. He added that programmatically there is more that could be done at the state level and MDA is looking forward to working with the forestry industry.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Steve Zimmerman of Farm Credit Services explained that he is a farm tax and business consultant in the Upper Peninsula. He said that one of his clients, a dairy farmer in Delta County, had seven cows that tested suspect and one reactor for bovine tuberculosis. The farmer was asked to accept the state's indemnification, or to provide information that could grant a higher value. The farmer asked Mr. Zimmerman to value the cows based on income and farm production, which is a farm financial standard measurement. The information was presented to MDA and it granted the indemnification based on lost revenue by the cows not being in the herd.

Mr. Zimmerman said that he was asked by another client to use the same formula for valuing his cows, based on lost revenue and production. The information was presented to MDA, but rejected because it was not a valid form of valuation for indemnification. Mr. Zimmerman believes that a precedent has already been set. He questions why the same method does not apply across the board. He also believes that the Animal Industry Act should be modified to reflect that indemnification could be paid in different ways, rather than just the replacement value.

Mr. Wyant replied that MDA is directed by the state statute. The statute states that the state has the ability to pay the replacement value up to a certain amount, dependent on appraisals conducted by the MDA. Director

Wyant said that although he is unfamiliar with these specific cases, MDA has tried to be flexible by working with the producer, allowing them to present their case for what cattle are worth. However, MDA is required to follow the law and pay based on the value of the cow, not the productive value over the life of the animal. He noted that this has been an ongoing debate from Northeast Michigan producers who also have gone through the process. Director Wyant said that MDA is asking that the cap be increased so it can have the ability to pay the true replacement value of that cow.

Mr. Zimmerman asked if it is possible to get the statute changed quickly.

Director Wyant replied that MDA is working to get the statute changed in quick order and is also requesting to have the ability to go back retroactively on the indemnification that has already been done. He noted that the real issue is, however, whether the Legislature will support the change, and so far it has not. He added that Michigan does have one of the most liberal indemnification programs in the country.

Mr. Zimmerman asked how MDA would handle the one precedent that has already been set.

Director Wyant responded said that he is not familiar with this specific case; however, he will explore the issue and contact Mr. Zimmerman. He said that he does assume, however, that whatever was paid to Mr. Zimmerman's first client was within the \$3,000 cap.

Mr. Zimmerman replied that it was under \$3,000, 90 percent of the value that he calculated based on lost production.

Director Wyant asked, if in the second case Mr. Zimmerman presented, the amount requested was over the \$3,000 cap.

Mr. Zimmerman said it was, but believes that \$3,000 isn't the issue, it is the replacement cost and the precedent that has been set.

Director Wyant agreed that consistency and uniformity is very important. He will check into the issue and contact Mr. Zimmerman.

Ron Nelson of the Michigan Farm Bureau said that following the last Commission meeting he had the opportunity to observe state veterinarians testing cattle. The state provided portable gates and chutes, it was a fairly warm day, and there were approximately 200 animals. Mr. Nelson was amazed at how much work is involved in the testing, and how efficiently the state veterinarians performed the testing.

Mr. Nelson said that since Wisconsin has issued its emergency order, it has basically closed the door to Michigan cattle. This is a significant problem for Michigan, particularly the Upper Peninsula. He noted that this is not unlike the Indiana situation, where the cattle had to be retested in the state. It is his interpretation that it is basically the same as a quarantine. Director Wyant led a team to Indiana and was successful in having Indiana revise its regulation to a much more tolerable level.

Mr. Nelson added that complicating the Wisconsin issue is that now is the time for feeder calf sales. Those feeder calves need a home and economically they do not have a home at this time. In the proposed amendments to the Animal Industry Act, there should be some provisions for a terminal operation. It is important we move quickly on this issue. He said that anything the department or Commission could do would be appreciated.

Director Wyant presented the following draft resolution to the Commission regarding terminal feedlots:

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) changed Michigan's bovine tuberculosis status to non-modified accredited;

WHEREAS, surrounding states have implemented additional importation requirements on Michigan livestock;

WHEREAS, Michigan producers are at a competitive disadvantage because of these stringent

requirements;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Michigan Commission of Agriculture is committed to supporting the passage of amendments to the Animal Industry Act (P.A. 466);

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that the Commission of Agriculture is supportive of efforts and urges immediate action that will establish terminal feedlots within this state to provide market opportunities for Michigan producers.

MOTION: COMMISSIONER TATTER MOVED TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION ON TERMINAL FEEDLOTS AS PRESENTED. SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

RECESS

The meeting recessed at 11:45 a.m. The Commission attended a luncheon hosted by the Region I and Region II Soil Conservation Districts in Escanaba.

The Commission also participated in a tour and informal gathering of area farmers to discuss the bovine tuberculosis situation in Michigan. The tours and meetings were held at the Herioux farm located in Bark River, Michigan, and at the Viau farm located in Escanaba.

On Friday, August 18, 2000, the Commission participated in various Upper Peninsula State Fair activities.

RECONVENE

The meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m., Friday, August 18, 2000.

ATTACHMENTS

The following documents are on file in the Commission of Agriculture office and are available upon request.

- Attachment A Commission of Agriculture July 10-11, 2000 Meeting Minutes
- Attachment B August 10, 2000 Media Advisory Issued by Representative Fred Upton Regarding "*USDA Disaster Designation for Local Apple Growers Devastated by Fireblight*"
- Attachment C Director's Report – August 2000
- Attachment D Maps and Information Regarding Bovine Tuberculosis in Michigan
- Attachment E Letter dated August 18, 2000 to Dr. Maynard Hogberg, Chairman of the Animal Science Department, Michigan State University
- Attachment F Letter dated August 18, 2000 to Dr. Lee Jacobs, Crop and Soil Science Department, Michigan State University
- Attachment G Wildlife Conservation Act Normal Agricultural Practices dated August 2000
- Attachment H Letter dated August 18, 2000 to Russell Harding, Director of the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality
- Attachment I Letter dated August 18, 2000 to Dale Irish, Burt, Michigan
- Attachment J Information and Brochures Regarding Michigan's Forestry Industry