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Beef Hearings Slated For September and October

Des Moines, Iowa, will be one of the sites for a public hearing that the U-S Department of Agriculture will hold during September and October to consider the need for a new national program for beef.

U-S-D-A will compile evidence from testimony given by cattlemen, meat packers, consumer representatives and others on whether there should be a national beef research and information order.

Such a program was authorized by Congress and signed into law by President Ford last May 28th.

The proposal calls for a nationally coordinated research and information program to be financed by assessments from beef producers. Producers could ask for refunds if they didn't wish to take part in the effort.

The Des Moines hearing will be held October 12th, beginning at 9:30 AM in the Federal Building. Other sessions will be held in Dallas, Pittsburgh, Atlanta, Denver, and San Francisco.

After the hearings, U-S-D-A's Agricultural Marketing Service will issue a recommended decision. This will be followed by time for the public to send written comments to U-S-D-A. The next step would be registration and voting by producers in a nationwide referendum.

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consumer radio briefs