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Voluntary Public

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The Cow Lift - U.S. Live Cattle Shipments to Ecuador Resume

Report Categories:

Agriculture in the News

Export Accomplishments - Market Access

Livestock and Products

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Report Highlights:

On May 20, Acting Minister of Agriculture Luis K. Valverde, accompanied by U.S. Ambassador Namm, FAS Attaché Beillard and APHIS Attaché Ball, received a chartered flight transporting 156 U.S. bulls and heifers at Latacunga airport valued at almost \$700,000. This remarkable sale marks one of the first major exports of U.S. live cattle to South America since the 2003 occurrence of *bovine spongiform encephalopathy* (BSE) in the United States. FAS and APHIS Quito supported the Ecuador Government's purchase, including negotiations on the export protocol and FAS Quito staff traveling with two cattle buying missions. This sale far exceeded the earlier purchase estimate of \$250,000 (50 animals).

General Information:

On May 20, Acting Minister of Agriculture Luis K. Valverde, accompanied by U.S. Ambassador Namm, FAS Attaché Beillard and APHIS Attaché Ball, received a chartered flight transporting 156 U.S. bulls and heifers at Latacunga airport valued at almost \$700,000. FAS and APHIS Quito supported the Ecuador Government’s purchase, including negotiations on the export protocol and FAS Quito staff traveling with two cattle buying missions.



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FAS Attaché Mariano J. Beillard, Acting Vice Minister of Agriculture Margoth Hernandez, Acting Minister of Agriculture Luis Valverde, Renee Strickland, Ambassador Adam Namm, and Cotopaxi Governor Fernando Suarez.







This sale far exceeded the earlier purchase estimate of \$250,000 (50 animals). Four additional bulls in this shipment were donated by U.S. ranchers. Thanks to the assistance and joint coordination of several USDA activities with the American Brahman Breeders Association (ABBA), this remarkable sale marks one of the first major exports of U.S. live cattle to South America since the 2003 occurrence of *bovine spongiform encephalopathy* (BSE) in the United States.



Ecuador aims to purchase 20,000 to 30,000 head of cattle over the next three years. The United States and Paraguay are the only countries with export protocols in place at this time. FAS Quito, in close coordination with APHIS Quito, assisted the Ministry work through import permitting, export certificates, and accompanying the animals to the quarantine site in Bucay. Local press and a U.S. camera crew from the National Cattlemen's Beef Association covered the cattle's arrival. Renee Strickland, President of the Livestock Exporters Association of the United States, accompanied this U.S. live cattle shipment to Ecuador.

