

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**EQUITY BONDUEL & STRATFORD MARKETS
RECEIVE ORGANIC CERTIFICATION**

BARABOO, WI – Equity Cooperative Livestock Sales Association is pleased to announce that it's Bonduel and Stratford markets are certified organic! The cooperative's Sparta market has been certified and marketing cattle as organic since last fall. Approval was granted by Nature's International Certification Services (NICS), USDA's National Organic Program (NOP). In an effort to provide producers with an alternative livestock marketing option, Equity sought for organic certification for these two markets.

“The organic certification is another step we've taken toward meeting our producer's livestock marketing needs,” says Curt Larson, President and CEO. “Stratford and Bonduel will join Sparta in marketing organic livestock at the same commission as conventional livestock. Equity is not charging extra for this premium service.”

Bonduel will sell organic cattle every Monday afternoon, starting August 3. Cattle need to be in by 2 p.m. Stratford will sell organic at 11 a.m. every Tuesday, starting August 4. Stratford will also sell organic hay every Tuesday at 10 a.m. Organic producers are asked to please call Bonduel at (715) 758-2125 or Stratford at (715) 687-4101 for additional information.

Producers are reminded to bring in your certificate with your first load and have cattle ear tagged.

Equity Cooperative Livestock Sales Association is a federated cooperative headquartered in Baraboo. Equity operates 12 auction markets, and services producers in Illinois, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, South Dakota and Wisconsin. Equity assists producers with the marketing, managing and financing of their agricultural businesses.

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“on the farm ~ in the market ~ working together”