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Florida Department of State  
Division of Corporations  
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**FLORIDA PROFIT/NON PROFIT CORPORATION**

**HEARTLAND AGRICULTURAL COALITION, INC.**

Certificate of Status	0
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SECRETARY OF STATE  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

## Electronic Filing Menu

## Corporate Filing Menu

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SWAINE HARRIS SHEEHA

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PAGE 001/001 Florida Dept of State



May 3, 2007

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
Division of Corporations

SWAINE HARRIS & SHEEHAN PA

SUBJECT: HEARTLAND AGRICULTURAL COALITION, INC.  
REF: W07000021320

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*Second Fax - added city and state*

05/03/2007 12:57 8634656999  
Bert J. Harris, III  
Swaine, Harris & Sheehan, P.A.  
401 Dal Hall Boulevard  
Lake Placid, Florida 33852

SWAINE HARRIS SHEEHA

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**ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION  
OF  
HEARTLAND AGRICULTURAL COALITION, INC.**  
a Florida non-profit corporation

SECRETARY OF STATE  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

The undersigned incorporator to these Articles of Incorporation, a natural person competent to contract, hereby forms a non-profit corporation under the laws of the State of Florida.

**ARTICLE I. NAME**

The name of this corporation is: **HEARTLAND AGRICULTURAL COALITION, INC., a Florida non-profit corporation**

**ARTICLE II. PURPOSES AND POWERS**

The purposes and powers of the corporation are:

- (a) To foster a greater sense of cooperation between landowners and agricultural organizations through a coalition that proactively address's the needs of its members by protecting and promoting their common interests.
- (b) To influence local, state and federal decision makers in the public and private sectors on issues that the coalition membership has in common, and such other issues related to government regulation of land as determined by the Board of Directors.
- (c) To collect and disseminate information that may be useful to, or in the best business interest of its members.
- (d) To own, rent, lease, operate and maintain sufficient real and personal property to carry out the purposes hereinabove expressed.
- (e) To receive dues, donations, gifts, or bequests of money or other property; and to contract debts and borrow money as necessary for the operation of the corporation.
- (f) To do everything necessary, proper, advisable, or convenient for the accomplishment of the purposes or powers set forth in this article, and to do all other things incidental thereto or connected therewith, which are not forbidden by law or these articles of incorporation.
- (g) The purposes or powers set forth in this article are not in limitation of the general powers conferred by the non-profit corporation law of the State of Florida.

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### ARTICLE III. MEMBERS

Membership shall be open to all individuals, corporations, partnerships, joint ventures and agricultural organizations or associations who are interested in the work of the corporation; who meet the requirements of membership as determined by the corporation's by-laws; who have been approved by the Board of Directors; and who have paid the established dues.

### ARTICLE IV. TERM OF EXISTENCE

The corporation is to exist perpetually.

### ARTICLE V. ADDRESS

The street address of the principal office of the corporation in the State of Florida is: 6419 US Highway 27 South, Sebring, Fl. 33876. The mailing address of the corporation is 6419 US Highway 27 South, Sebring, Fl. 33876. The Board of Directors may from time to time move the principal office to any other address in Florida, and may establish branch offices in such other place or places as may be designated by the Board of Directors.

### ARTICLE VI. DIRECTORS

The corporation shall be managed by a Board of Directors. Membership of the Board of Directors shall be determined by the method stated in the bylaws of this corporation.

Directors who are to serve on the founding Board are:

<u>James Johnson</u>	Highlands County Cattlemen's Association
<u>Donna Howerton</u>	Highlands County Cattlemen's Association
<u>Robert H. Barben</u>	Highlands County Citrus Growers Association
<u>Mason Smoak</u>	Highlands County Citrus Growers Association
<u>Matt Elliott</u>	Highlands County Farm Bureau
<u>Marty Wohl</u>	Highlands County Farm Bureau
<u>Joe Collins</u>	Lykes Bros., Inc.

### ARTICLE VII. OFFICERS

The affairs of the corporation are to be managed by a Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary/Treasurer, Executive Director and such other officers as may be provided in the by-laws, who shall be elected at the annual meeting of the members to be held each year. Officers who are to serve until the next election of officers are:

NAME	OFFICE
Mason Smoak	Chairman
Joe Collins	Vice Chairman
Matt Elliott	Secretary/Treasurer
Raymond D. Royce	Executive Director

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### ARTICLE VIII. INCORPORATOR

The name and street address of the incorporator to these Articles of Incorporation is:

Bert J. Harris III  
401 Dal Hall Blvd.  
Lake Placid, Fl. 33852

### ARTICLE IX. AMENDMENT OF ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION AND BY-LAWS

The corporation reserves the right to amend, alter, change or appeal any provision contained in these articles of incorporation in the manner now or hereafter prescribed by law. Each amendment submitted to the Board of Directors for approval must be approved by at least a 2/3 majority of the members entitled to vote thereon.

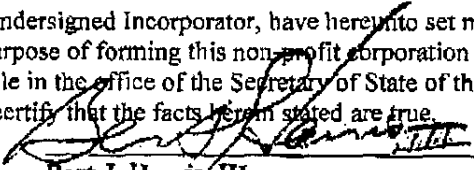
### ARTICLE X. NON-PROFIT CHARACTER

This corporation is one which does not contemplate pecuniary gain or profit to the members, directors or officers. Upon dissolution of the corporation all corporate assets remaining after payment of all liabilities shall be distributed to charitable, religious, scientific, literary or educational organizations.

### ARTICLE XI. REGISTERED OFFICE AND REGISTERED AGENT

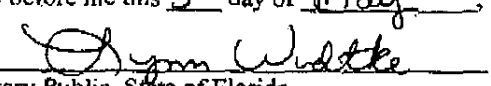
The corporation hereby designates as its registered office: Bert J. Harris III, Attorney at Law, 401 Dal Hall Blvd., Lake Placid, Fl. 33852, and its registered agent, Bert J. Harris III, who is located at 401 Dal Hall Blvd., Lake Placid, Fl. 33852 for service of process.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I, the undersigned Incorporator, have hereunto set my hand and seal this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of May, 2007, for the purpose of forming this non-profit corporation under the laws of the State of Florida, and I hereby make and file in the office of the Secretary of State of the State of Florida, these Articles of Incorporation, and certify that the facts herein stated are true.

  
Bert J. Harris, III  
Subscriber

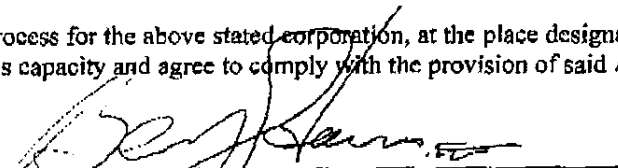
STATE OF FLORIDA  
COUNTY OF HIGHLANDS

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of May, 2007 by Bert J. Harris, III who is personally known to me

  
Notary Public, State of Florida  
Florida at Large  
My commission expires:

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Having been named to accept service of process for the above stated corporation, at the place designated in this certificate, I hereby accept to act in this capacity and agree to comply with the provision of said Act relative to keeping open said office.

  
Bert J. Harris III  
Registered Agent

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2007 MAY -3 PM 12:01  
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