



January 22, 2019



**Canadian Dairy Farmer to Speak About
Canadian Dairy Supply Management System
At California Dairy Campaign and California Farmers Union Joint
Annual Meeting on
January 23, 2019 in Hanford, CA**



Dairy Farmers of Canada Board Member David Janssens, a dairy farmer from British Columbia, will serve as keynote speaker during the upcoming California Dairy Campaign and California Farmers Union Joint Annual Meeting in Hanford set to take place on January 23, 2019. In addition to our annual meeting in Hanford on January 23rd, we are also holding a meeting with David Janssens and British Columbia Marketing Board Member and dairy farmer Cornelis Hertgers to discuss the Canadian dairy system on January 22nd at the Merced County Farm Bureau located at 646 CA-59 in Merced at 6:00 p.m.

Upcoming Meetings on Supply Management:

Tuesday, January 22, 2019 at the Merced County Farm Bureau office located at 646 CA-59 in Merced for Dinner and a Discussion at 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday, January 23, 2019 CDC/CFU Joint Annual Meeting at the Hanford Fraternal Hall located at 1015 N 10th Street in Hanford
CDC Annual Meeting at 3:00 p.m.
CFU Annual Meeting at 4:00 p.m.
Social Hour at 5:00 p.m.
Dinner at 6:00 p.m.

David Janssens plans to speak about how the Canadian dairy supply

management system ensures a stable and fair milk price to dairy farmers. Given that milk prices in Canada are nearly twice as high as California milk prices, California Dairy Campaign is encouraging dairy producers, dairy leaders and lawmakers to look to the Canadian system for solutions to the crisis US dairy producers face today. Already dairy farmers in Wisconsin and Michigan have held regional meetings with dairy farmers from Canada to provide details about the Canadian dairy inventory management program to serve as a model for policy changes to US dairy policy.

Milk prices paid to dairy producers have been well below production costs for more than four years, causing dairy producers to go out of business at an alarming rate. Over the last 10 years, more than 600 dairies have gone out of operation across California leaving less than 1300 in the state today. The 30 percent drop in the number of dairies in California is consistent with the decline in the number of dairy farms nationwide.

California Dairy Campaign and California Farmers Union are proposing the **Sustainable Milk Inventory System Act (SMISA)** a three-point plan to foster a strong and sustainable dairy system in the United States.

The three-point plan includes:

1. Inventory management
2. Fair milk prices paid to dairy farmers
3. Effective dairy trade policy

To address the nationwide dairy crisis, California Dairy Campaign and California Farmers Union leaders have been participating in a nationwide effort in support of inventory management along with dairy farmers from Wisconsin Farmers Union and many other states called **Dairy Together** to provide solutions to the dairy crisis caused by chronically low milk prices. The nationwide effort open to all dairy farmers began last spring to bring dairy producers from around the country together in support of dairy inventory management. Support for dairy inventory management is growing as more dairy farmers learn about how a farmer-led inventory management plan can better match milk production with market demand, improve milk prices paid to dairy producers and sustain dairies nationwide.

More information about the **Sustainable Milk Inventory System Act** can be found on the **California Dairy Campaign web site**.



**Join Us for Our Upcoming
Annual Membership Meeting
In Hanford, CA
on January 23, 2019**

Each year during our Annual Meeting we come together to look back on our work throughout the year and ahead to set our

policy priorities for the New Year.

We invite you to join us for our Annual Meeting on January 23 in Hanford, CA. Friends and family are more than welcome!



**California Dairy Campaign and
California Farmers Union
Joint Annual Meeting**

**Guest Speaker: Dairy Farmers of Canada Board Member
David Janssens will speak about how the Canadian Dairy
Inventory Management System Establishes a Fair Milk Price**

Date: Wednesday, January 23, 2019

**Time: California Dairy Campaign Annual Meeting 3:00 p.m.
California Farmers Union Annual Meeting 4:00 p.m.
Social Hour at 5:00 p.m.
Dinner at 6:00 p.m.**

**Location: Hanford Fraternal Hall
1015 N. 10th Street,
Hanford, CA**

Contact Bertha Medina at 209-632-0885 to RSVP.

**For More Information
Contact Executive Director
Lynne McBride**

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