



## March 27 Update

**26 Dairies Exited in California in 2014:** Despite a year of record high dairy prices, 26 dairies closed their doors in California in 2014 according to recent CDFA data. According to the latest CDFA cost of production estimates, the average cost of production in California now exceeds \$20 per hundredweight totaling \$20.09 per cwt. Prices paid to dairy producers in California are the lowest out of all 23 major milk producing states. The latest USDA data shows that the price per cwt for milk sold in California was \$15.81 per cwt in January by far the lowest of all 23 states included in the report. Joining the federal order will bring dairy producer prices in line with prices paid in the federal order.

**USDA Dates for Informational Meetings on California federal milk marketing order proposal:** To participate, dairy producers should register at the USDA web site online at <http://www.ams.usda.gov/AMSv1.o/CAOutreach>. The dates of the meetings:

**Tuesday, May 5, 2015**

**California State University, Chico  
Bell Memorial Student Union, Room 203  
Corner of West 2nd and Chestnut Streets, Chico, CA 95927**

**Wednesday, May 6, 2015**

**Piccadilly Inn Airport  
5115 E. McKinley Avenue, Fresno, CA 93727**

**Thursday, May 7, 2015**

**Los Angeles County Farm Bureau, 41228 12th Street West, Palmdale, CA 93551**

**NFU only organization to testify in support of mandatory country-of-origin labeling (COOL) before House Agriculture Subcommittee:** NFU President Roger Johnson testified this week in front of the U.S. House Livestock and Foreign Agriculture Subcommittee on the implications of potential retaliatory measures taken against the United States in response to meat labeling requirements. **Johnson, the lone witness in favor of COOL at the hearing, asked Congress to stand strong on COOL, urging members of the subcommittee to review the recent Dr. Robert Taylor study done on COOL and to ignore the overblown rhetoric and retaliatory threats made by foreign government officials and the meatpackers.** Johnson also pointed out the tremendous consumer and producer support for COOL. "U.S. producers support COOL. They are proud of what they produce. Consumers demand more and more information about the food they purchase and over ten years of polling makes that clear."

**CDQAP offers Environmental Stewardship classes in April** at the Stanislaus County Agricultural Center, Stanislaus Building, "HI" Room, 3800 Cornucopia Way, Modesto. The State Water Resources Control Board offers a 50 percent reduction on annual water quality permit fees to Environmentally Certified dairies. Producers with questions can call CDQAP at (530) 574-0524.  
**Water Quality Classes - Wednesday, April 1 Class 1: 9 a.m. to 12 noon Class 2: 1 to 4 pm - Air Quality Class - Thursday, April 2 10 a.m. to Noon**

**The State Water Resources Control Board will be holding public stakeholder meetings to discuss the fees for the Confined Animal Facility Operations (CAFO) program.\***  
**Merced County Wednesday, April 1, 2015, 10:00 am – 12:30 pm, UC Cooperative Extension Merced, 2145 Wardrobe Avenue, Merced, CA**

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