



October 31 Update

CDC Calls on California Dairy Producers to Speak Out in Support of Joining the Federal Order System - In a postcard sent to every dairy producer in the state this week, California Dairy Campaign (CDC) urged California dairy producers to call upon dairy cooperative leaders to move forward to introduce a federal order proposal for California. The postcard documented the economic losses that have resulted from the California state dairy pricing system that now total \$1045 per cow since January 2011. "Given the mounting losses, it is clear that dairy producers in our state can no longer afford to be paid the lowest prices in the nation," stated CDC President Joe Augusto. "It is critical that dairy producers speak out to cooperative leaders about the importance of joining the federal order to bring our prices in line with prices paid across the country," he stated. The three major cooperatives, California Dairies Inc., Dairy Farmers of America and Land O'Lakes have been working for many months to write a federal order proposal for California. In a letter sent to cooperative leaders in July, CDC President Joe Augusto praised them for their efforts, but urged that they move forward immediately to send the proposal to USDA so that the hearing process can begin. "We have the authority we need to continue our state quota program in the federal order, a critical step in the process towards joining the federal order," Augusto explained. "The time to act on a federal order proposal for California is now."

COOL Wins Fourth Victory in U.S. Courts, NFU to Multinational Meat Industry: Drop the Senseless Litigation - WASHINGTON (Oct. 31, 2014) - The following statement was issued by National Farmers Union President Roger Johnson in response to the denial by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit to the petition submitted by the multinational meat packers for a rehearing and supplemental relief on its challenge to enforcement of Country-of-Origin Labeling (COOL). "Yet again, the U.S. courts have sided with consumers, farmers and their allies and have upheld the enforcement of COOL. This is now the fourth time that COOL has won in court. "COOL became the law of the land because consumers want to know where their food comes from and ranchers and farmers are happy to provide that information. Congress understood this basic need and passed this common-sense law. We urge the multinational meat industry to drop the senseless litigation and allow the law to be enforced."

CDFA is developing a new Dairy Digester Research and Development Program. CDFA was appropriated \$12 million from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund to provide financial assistance for the installation of dairy digesters in California. An estimated \$11 million in competitive grant funding will be awarded for the implementation of dairy digesters on farms. Three public stakeholder meetings have been scheduled in November to explain the new program and to receive comments and suggestions. Dates and locations are:

- **Thursday, Nov. 6 – 2:30 p.m.–5:30 p.m.,** University of California Cooperative Extension Stanislaus County, 3800 Cornucopia Way, Room: HI, Modesto, CA 95358
- **Monday, Nov. 10 – 1 p.m.–4 p.m.,** University of California Cooperative Extension Tulare County 4437 S. Laspina Street (Across the street from World Ag Expo), Room: Tulare County Agricultural Building Auditorium, Tulare, CA 93274
- **Thursday, Nov. 13 – 1 p.m. – 4 p.m.,** California Department of Food and Agriculture 1220 N Street, Room: Auditorium, Sacramento, CA 95814.

The meeting on Nov. 13 will include a webinar to allow remote attendance. For more information visit: http://www.cdfa.ca.gov/EnvironmentalStewardship/Dairy_DigesterS.ht