

About the Project of the Farm-to-Consumer Foundation— Producing Fresh Milk

This project was initiated within the Education Committee of the FTCF. *The Raw Milk Production Handbook*, written by Tim Wightman has been available from the Farm-to- Consumer Foundation (FTCF) since April 2008. A sub-committee was formed and five additional subject-matter experts were invited to collaborate in preparing a comprehensive book, *Producing Fresh Milk*. All the contributors have knowledge, specialized training and/or relevant experience in the production of fresh milk, and all consume their milk fresh.

Lily Dougherty-Johnson was hired as Project Manager. All the contributors attended a face-to-face organizational meeting. This two-day meeting was held in Loveland, Colorado in October of 2013. The contributors discussed the purpose of the project, selection of topics to be included in the chapters and their sequence. Much of the effort was focused on items to be included in the topic chapters and a detailed outline was formed. It became apparent during the discussions that there would need to be two editions of the book to address cow *and* goat fresh milk production separately. Sharon Wilson will take the final cow book and make changes to create a parallel book specific to goat dairying.

For each topic a primary and a secondary contributor was assigned the drafting of material. The Review Committee reviewed the submitted material in detail to reach agreement on the material to be included in the book. All contributors had the opportunity to review the accumulated content at various stages in the process.

A professional editor was hired to polish the text. The Review Committee performed a final comprehensive review of the content and Peggy Beals was hired to prepare the final hard copy for publication. An electronic version is available.

It is our aim to provide readers with our collective thoughts on the various practices important to producing fresh milk. The body of the book is divided into topic-related chapters, each focused on one aspect of dairy management. There will be some overlap and redundancy, because the book is designed for the reader to learn from individual chapters that focus on a topic. See Chapter indicates other location of the same topic. Additional topic-relevant sources of material are noted in the text as—Further reading.



Photo of Loveland, Colorado Planning Meeting—October 2013 (Left to right)

Rebecca Brown Sharon Wilson Margaret Auld-Louie Lily Dougherty-Johnson Peggy Beals Ted Beals
Tim Wightman Arden Nelson Meg Cattell Gerald Snyder Ton Baars Joseph Heckman