



April 2017

milking TIMES

Published monthly for dairy farmers in Alberta and our industry partners

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Chairman's Message

Source: Tom Kootstra, Chairman

I would like to take few moments to talk about a couple of significant changes in the agriculture sector in Alberta and how we as Alberta Milk might respond to them.

We can all remember the introduction of Bill 6 and the strong, sometimes angry reaction from many in the farm community. I was one of them. Bill 6 was adopted as the *Enhanced Protection for Farm and Ranch Workers Act* (EPFRW Act). More recently, the provincial government announced the Climate Leadership Plan (CLP). Again, some Albertans like me were also taken aback by this plan; perhaps you were also.

We have all had time to think about these government decisions. We've had time to develop responses at a personal level, a farm family level, and at the farm organization level (Alberta Milk). Each of these is a legitimate expression in a democracy.

As chairman, I have found myself challenged by the response we ought to pursue as your farm organization. It certainly is easy enough to take a cynical approach to things we don't like or support. Is that a responsible approach? I suggest the broader question and a larger issue is one of deciding whether or not to be part of the solution going forward. How do we as your organization demonstrate the intent to move forward in the face of these changes? Alberta Milk is committed to being part of the solution going forward. This means we must

work hard to ensure the government understands our producer needs and interests. It's our responsibility and commitment to do so.

This is exactly what Alberta Milk has been doing. Since the creation of the AgCoalition we have been engaged at the board of director and staff level with other farm groups to represent the producer perspective in discussions about farm safety, WCB, OH&S codes and so on. As well, fellow Director Martin Van Diemen and I, along with more than two dozen farm group leaders participated in a government-hosted workshop on the impact of the Climate Leadership Plan on agriculture and we were able to highlight the many concerns, specifically on the costs and frustrations of the farm community regarding the new carbon levy.

While the government is committed to implementing these two pieces of legislation, it is now fully aware of the implications on the farm families and businesses through the collaborative input of many farm groups.

We in agriculture have certainly experienced a couple of significant changes over the past 18 months. Alberta Milk's commitment to you continues to be one of being part of the *solution* going forward by representing your best interests to the government at every opportunity.

our mission

"Alberta Milk leads Alberta's dairy industry. We support the effective operation and advocacy of the supply management system in a vibrant, sustainable and market-focused industry."

Alberta Milk
1303 - 91 St SW
Edmonton, AB T6X 1H1
1-877-361-1231



Alberta Milk Scholarship Recipients

Source: Daria Taylor, Corporate Operations Manager

board of directors

Tom Kootstra
Chairman
780-783-8789
North Region

Heini Hehli
Vice Chairman
403-704-5716
Central Region

Gezinus Martens
2nd Vice Chairman
780-985-2147
North Region

Jim Towle
403-227-5057
Central Region

Lorrie Jespersen
780-785-2121
Director at Large

Martin Van Diemen
403-738-4375
South Region

Conrad Van Hierden
403-553-2117
Director at Large

Klaas Vander Veen
403-732-4380
South Region

Pieter Ijff
403-227-4438
Director at Large

Gert Schrijver
403-742-1528
Director at Large

Stuart Boeve
403-223-4916
Director at Large

This year, Alberta Milk is pleased to be able to offer four \$1,000 Alberta Milk Scholarships. The Alberta Milk Scholarship was created to help sustain the dairy industry as it encourages students who study dairy or a related agriculture discipline that furthers the dairy industry. The recipients are Shelby Devet, Miriam ter Borgh, Jaime Hummel, and Michael Ijff.

Shelby Devet, K-Vet Holsteins Ltd, Ponoka

She is in her third year at the University of Saskatchewan working towards her Bachelor in Science in Agribusiness. Shelby is still active in 4-H and is a certified dairy technician through the Green Certificate Program. She is interested in the marketing and awareness of where our milk comes from and upon completion of her degree, feels that this is an area she'd like to pursue.



Miriam ter Borgh, Ter Borgh Dairy Ltd, Calmar

She is in her second year at the University of Saskatchewan studying agriculture and bioresources, majoring in animal science. Miriam was involved in 4-H for six years.



Her goal is to become a dairy nutritionist and help farmers continue to do what they love doing most: producing milk.

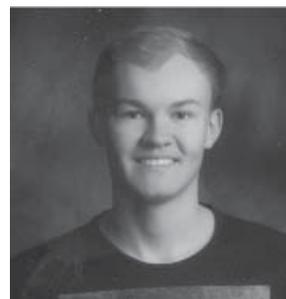
Jaime Hummel, Marylander Holsteins Inc, Picture Butte

Jaime is a 4th year student currently attending the University of Lethbridge working on her Bachelors of Arts/Education. As a teacher, Jaime plans on teaching children where their food comes from and the hard work that is put into every food product. Jaime was actively involved in 4-H before attending University.



Michael Ijff, Yff Dairy Ltd, Innisfail

Michael is in his first year of Animal Science Technology at Lakeland College. He intends to return to the dairy farm upon completion of his courses.



About the Scholarships

Alberta Milk offers at least one \$1,000 scholarships to a student in any year of study at an officially recognized post-secondary institution. The applicants are evaluated on an essay about how they plan to benefit the future of Alberta's dairy industry, as well as scholastic achievement, leadership skills, community involvement, 4-H, and work experience. Alberta Milk producer families are encouraged to consider supporting students who fit the criteria to apply for next year.

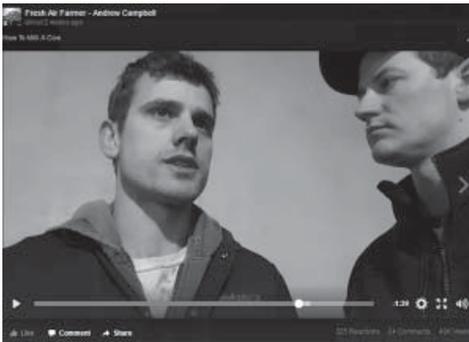
Local Farm Featured in National Video Series

Source: Karlee Conway, Corporate Communications Coordinator

Berend ter Borgh was featured in a national video series, Dinner Starts Here. Produced and hosted by Andrew Campbell (Fresh Air Media), the segment follows Berend around the farm as he milks his herd of about 275 near Calmar. He addresses antibiotics in milk, treatments of sick cows and the life of a dairy farmer.

To date, the video has over 40,000 views on YouTube.

We would like to extend our huge thank you to Berend and the ter Borgh family for showcasing their beautiful operation to Canada. You can watch the video at dinnerstartshere.ca.



We Kicked off Nutrition Month in 60,000 Ways

Source: Karlee Conway, Corporate Communications Coordinator

Dairy farmers put their money where their mouth is to help celebrate Nutrition Month (March). Alberta Milk donated \$60,000 between three organizations that feed youth that would have otherwise go hungry. Specifically, the funds will go towards the purchase of dairy products for students in these programs.

The three programs are located in Edmonton and Calgary:

- **Youth Empowerment Support Services (YESS)** YESS is relentlessly dedicated to empowering youth from difficult realities. An Edmonton based non-profit agency, were founded to fill the gap in government services for youth — a gap that still exists today.
- **Brown Bagging for Calgary's Kids (BB4CK)** BB4CK works in partnership with Calgary schools to make and deliver free healthy lunches for students that may go hungry.
- **Edmonton School Lunch Program (E4C)** E4C increases food security by providing essential support such as three meals a day in their emergency shelter, providing children with a nutritious lunch or snack at school, and building knowledge and skills around food access and nutrition.

“We are farmers, but we are families first. Most of us have children and know that if they get the proper nutrition they need, they have the best chance at learning” says Chairman Tom Kootstra

The benefits of when students eat a healthy diet are endless. Studies show that when children have the proper nutrition, their physical, mental and social well-being improves.



deadlines

quota transfers
Apr. 18, at 4:30 p.m.

credit transfers
Apr. 25 at 4:30 p.m.





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Used Surge Almo10 hp direct drive vacuum pump motor. **Phone John at 780-387-4604.**



Read, Pressure and Release, Release, Release

Source: Jodi Flaig, Industry Development Coordinator

What an amazing week! Nearly 100 people participated in the Cattle Handling Workshops held March 14th through 17th across the province. Curt Pate, Melodie Chan, and Bill Chesney not only shared their experiences and perspectives on stockmanship, but entertained the crowd with stories of yoga, crying, and grizzly bears!

To get the conversation started, stockmanship was compared to marriage. Just like husbands and wives, cows react differently from day-to-day, so as stockpeople we need to read our cows to figure out how to interact with them from day-to-day. By reading our cattle and better understanding their frame of mind at any given time (and our own), we are better able to interact with them, give them something to be interested in, and achieve our desired outcome. Curt suggested that when we are interacting with cattle, there are three types of pressure that we use:

1. **Driving pressure** is when we are pushing into a cow's space. Cows like to be driven properly and you can improve their health, mind and productivity by driving them in a positive way. Typically we tend to drive cattle from behind which aggravates them because we are always in their blind spot and does not offer any release. Curt gave the analogy of us in the Tim Horton's line up with someone always pushing into our space. He challenged all participants to move the driving pressure up from directly behind to the cow the side of the cow. Moving the pressure to the side of the cow allows them to keep us in their field of view, removing the worry of wondering where we are. Teaching animals to drive is important for safety whether it is driving off a protective mother cow or bull.

2. **Drawing pressure** is when we are pulling cows into our space by creating interest in what we are doing by either releasing the driving pressure or changing our position so that they are wanting to turn into us or are willing to go by us.

3. **Maintaining pressure** is the balance between either the driving or drawing pressure and release where the cow is still continuing in the movement that we requested. This movement could be holding where we asked them to stop their feet.

Regardless of which pressure we are using, we achieve our desired outcome and make it a positive experience by providing a release from pressure at the right time.

If you are interested in hosting a similar workshop in the future contact Jodi Flaig, Alberta Milk, jflaig@albertamilk.com or 780-577-3307.

Sample Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for Shipping Cattle and Corrective Action Plan for Downed Cattle have been included as inserts along with this issue for your reference in completing your individual farm specific versions for proAction®.

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We need your help!

Source: Alessa Kuczewski, PhD Candidate at the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine

Almost 90% of Alberta dairy herds are infected with Leukosis. Even though the infection is not obvious, infected animals produce less milk, get sick more often and live shorter. We want to limit the spread and impact of this infection and we need your help in developing a successful control program for bovine Leukosis.

We have organized discussion groups where we will debate different possible options for Leukosis control and establish their practicality on farm. Additionally, we will talk about how to increase motivation of producers to implement infection control strategies on their farm and identify barriers that keep producers from doing so.

We invite you to attend one of the following meetings:

Lethbridge: April 6, 2017; Quality Inn Hotel

Red Deer: April 17, 2017; ABC Country Restaurant

Leduc: April 25, 2017; Royal Canadian Legion (Branch 108)

The meetings will **start at 10 AM and last about 4-5 hours**. Lunch will be provided for all participants.

If you have any other questions, please contact: Alessa Kuczewski, PhD Candidate at the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, University of Calgary. Phone: (403) 918 – 5359
E-mail: alessa.kuczewski@ucalgary.ca

Please RSVP by email or phone call as soon as possible!

Political Climate

Source: Karlee Conway, Corporate Communications Coordinator

It is never quiet on the government relations front. Thus, it continues to be a priority for Alberta Milk on both a national and provincial level.

The recent changes south of the border in regards is a situation we are following very closely. Along with Dairy Farmers of Canada, we have collaborated on a strategy that will ensure that we have all scenarios covered if any changes impact the dairy industry as a result of the Trump administration. We have complete faith in our current government that they will continue to stand up for supply management. February, Lawrence MacCauley stated: “Mr. Speaker, our government fully supports our dairy farmers and our supply management system. It is our party that fought hard to implement supply management and I can assure the House that we will protect and defend it. Canada’s supply management system is a model for the world.”

Staying on a national level, the leadership campaign for the Progressive Conservative Party is also something all producers can participate in. Notably, Maxime Bernier is the only candidate that is campaigning on dismantling supply management. We encourage all producers to ensure their voice is being heard in this race to let him know the value of our system and he may not have all the facts about it... and of course we have over 500 dairy farmers that can let him know about the value of it.

On a provincial level, SM5 coordinated a meeting with the NDP rural caucus to ensure they were all aware and understood supply management. Erna Ference, chairman of Alberta Chicken Producers, also spoke at to the Standing Committee on Economics. She addressed the vital role supply management and farmers play. Additionally, we had two producers in southern Alberta attend a round table discussion on NAFTA hosted by MP Rachel Harder in Lethbridge. SM5 will be hosting a farm tour in late April to two farms for key decision makers in the Alberta government.



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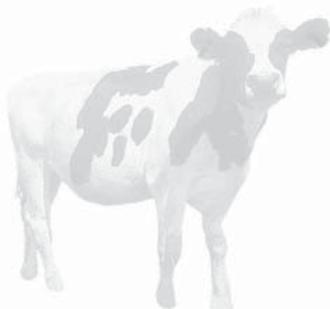
Milking heifers, springing heifers and milking cows.

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Used and new 300 Westfalia neck ID bands and transponder holders (green). **Phone Jacob at 403-641-2166 ext. 525**

70 registered holstein heifers to calve starting April 15 to September. **Phone 306-862-7140.**

Nine year old mobile home. 16' x 76'. Three bedrooms. Two bathrooms. Comes with large treated wood deck on the front and a small roofed porch on the back door. **For pricing phone 403-704-7952.**



The 2017 Western Canadian Dairy Seminar in Review

Source: Dr. Dave Christensen

The lead presentation was the “Canadian Dairy Industry, Past present and Future” by John Kennelly, Mike Southwood, and Bruce Beattie. The presentation recognized the roles of John Kennelly, Alberta Milk Producers Association and Alberta Agriculture in organizing the first WCDS held in Banff in 1983 with 77 paid attendees and a total of 95. Attendance at this world class dairy meeting in 2017 was 947 with strong support by sponsors and advertisers. There was something of interest for everyone associated with the dairy industry.

On Tuesday, March 7 there were dairy farm tours, a hoof trimming training session and a workshop for nutritionists. The seven sessions led off with industry challenges. Bruce Beattie noted the difficulty of predicting the future and the value of industry coordination at the national and provincial level. Margaret Smith described how genetics and plant breeding have changed the food supply.

The second session on Farm Management described dairy farm hazards that included biological, chemical, ergonomic physical and lifestyle decisions. The need for employee training and cow friendly protocols were described.

Session three on nutrition covered protein supplements, fatty acid digestibility, intestinal health and feed additives. Tim Mutsvangwa’s review of literature showed that canola meal can effectively replace soybean meal. Other speakers showed that fat sources can be beneficial but the diet ingredients and fat source must be considered, and that computer tools are available to estimate the economic benefit of feed additives.

Session four was a highlight with five graduate students presenting an overview of their research project in 10 minutes. In this competition Amanda Fisher, U of A, placed first with her research on colostrum feeding, with Meagan King, U of Guelph, placed second describing fresh cow illness detection and Tony Bruinje, U of A, third with research on milk progesterone profiles. The second part of this session was a producer panel on measures of success. The presentations lived up to the passion aspect of the theme of the program. JP Brouwer focused on the use of new technology and the management required in a family partnership. Daphne Holterman described how their dairy had expanded from 45 cows to 425 and their methods for great people, great cows and great returns. Milk per kg of feed is one of the key measures of their management success. Jake Vermeer, described successful intensive management ranging from use of embryo transfer, transition cow management, and innovative methods of forage production.



Session five on reproduction dealt mainly with ovarian function and estrus detection. Associated factors include nutritional and metabolic stress, inflammation and infection. Good transition cow management, nutrition and in some cases programmed hormonal breeding were described as important in improved fertility. Further research is required to identify genetic stress, disease and nutritional factors in embryo loss. It was also pointed out that research on automated methods of heat detection shows promise but methods must be cost effective.

Session six on cow management and welfare started with a presentation indicating that pain is a serious welfare issue and pain relieving medicine may be underused. There are many indicators of pain based on body position and facial expression. Two papers in this section dealt with estrus detection, the variability among farms and relation of intensity of estrus and fertility were described. Automated detection methods range from mounting activity, rumination, body temperature to milk progesterone (P4). Gordon Atkins provided an in depth review of the role of genetics, and foot conformation and methods of foot trimming in managing lameness. A second paper described the impact of lameness, which is approximately 25%, on herd performance and causing estimated a cost of \$528 per cow per year.

Session seven on Technology and Facilities dealt with precision management (PM) as well as feeding management and design of automated milking systems (AMS).

Jeffery Bewley led a workshop on Precision Management for nutritionists on Tuesday and in his Friday presentation described the wide range of electronic tools available. The basis of PM is comprehensive information on individual cows based on traditional herd monitoring as well as many new ways of collecting and interpreting data for economic benefit. Three papers reviewed the role of AMS. Most producers found the transition to AMS to be successful, but changes in housing may be required. The facilities must ensure cow comfort and lameness must be controlled and foot baths well managed. In the final paper, Greg Penner noted that low concentrate AMS feeding allows for more flexibility in concentrate formulation and overall feeding strategies.

During the week several speakers commented on the wide recognition of the high quality of this annual seminar. Such recognition is a tribute to the 17 individuals that act as the advisory committee. The 2018 WCDS will be held March 6 to 9, with information at wcds.ca and wcds@ualberta.ca.



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Help Me, Help You

Source: Karlee Conway, Corporate Communications Coordinator

I will be drawing for a free iPad in April and July. All you need to do is provide me with a little chunk of information about your farm in which I can then share to make sure that everyone has a positive and real understanding about dairy farmers in our province. It might take you 10 minutes and can leave a lasting impression on consumers across Alberta.

I'm looking for unique things you're doing in:

- Welfare/cow comfort
- Technology
- Herd health
- Environment
- Immigrating to Alberta
- Family stories or succession planning
- Events
- Anything interesting or unique that you are comfortable sharing

Contact Karlee Conway: 780-577-3305 or kconway@albertamilk.com.

Thank you to everyone that has already submitted excellent stories! Keep them coming!

Travelling Milk Bubble Wraps for the Season

Source: Charmaine Blatz, Sponsorships and Events Coordinator

Alberta Milk had a great winter promoting our Milk Bubble. The Milk Bubble is giant inflatable bubble where people can jump and play inside. In addition, we have staff serving free hot chocolate at our milk bar.

We attended nine events throughout the province from December to February from ski hills to festivals. Our team was able to interact with over 10,000 Albertans and provided over 8,400 samples of chocolate milk.

Comments from some of the events were from Alberta farmers stopping by to say they were happy that the team was at the event, to customers recognizing our display from previous events. On the cold weekends, all participants appreciated the warm chocolate milk and on the warmer days, we served fresh, cold milk.

We will continue to be out and about in Alberta this spring/summer with another campaign to get people talking and consuming dairy. Stay tuned!



Our Milk Bubble Activation at the Silver Skate Festival in Edmonton

Supply Management a “Model of Stability”

Source: Dairy Farmers of Canada

In 2016, Canadian milk production rose by nearly four percent and the Federal Government of Canada has taken note. The Honourable Lawrence MacAulay, Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food, reaffirmed his support for the supply management system, referring to it as a “model of stability”, during the Dairy Farmers of Canada’s (DFC) Annual Policy Conference (APC), February 8, 2017.

Minister MacAulay assured the APC delegates that the government remains firm in its commitment to support Canadian dairy and the supply management system. It’s also a message he has reiterated in Question Period throughout February.

During his keynote speech at the APC luncheon hosted at Ottawa’s Chateau Laurier, he lauded Canadian dairy as an industry filled with promise and potential that makes important contributions to Canada’s economy. The increased collaboration between farmers and processors is a testament to that, he noted.



Minister MacAulay and DFC President Wally Smith

Lobby Day a Success Despite Weather

Freezing rain did not prevent farmers and MPs alike from participating in DFC’s annual Lobby Day and Reception, February 7, 2017.

Farmers from across Canada participated in 140 meetings with over 160 MPs, Senators and staff to thank them for their ongoing support for

Canada’s dairy sector and the supply management system. The APC delegates further emphasised the importance of continued support through potential NAFTA renegotiations.

In addition, farmers addressed the issue of possible taxation on nutrient-rich beverages such as chocolate milk, kefir and drinkable yogurts—advocating these should be exempt from such a measure if the government were to adopt one.

Dairy Farmers of Canada President, Wally Smith, members of the DFC Board of Directors and representatives from Dairy Farmers of PEI, also met and discussed NAFTA with Minister MacAulay.

The day concluded with the DFC reception attended by 500 guests, including almost 100 MPs and Senators, and approximately 200 parliamentary staff. Guests nibbled on a wide array of Canadian cheeses while embarking on an interactive virtual reality tour of a dairy farm. DFC’s newly published book in celebration of 150 years of Canadian dairy, “Dairy Farmers: Deeply Rooted for a Strong Future” was on hand to showcase Canadian dairy families and the contributions made by the sector to the building of a nation. Additionally, guests had the opportunity to see DFC’s new Masterbrand and logo.

Fuelling Women Champions ambassador, and Olympic gold medal winner, Natalie Spooner posed for photos and autographs with guests, while Niibin, the official mascot of the 50th Canada Summer Games (in Winnipeg this summer), worked the room. Their presence at the reception reinforced DFC’s ongoing sponsorship of amateur sport and served as a reminder that Canadian milk matters.

A Friendly Reminder: Stay Informed with the Dairy Express!

You are a dairy farmer? Sign up now for the *Dairy Express*, the bi-monthly e-newsletter published by Dairy Farmers of Canada. To do so, simply send an email to emilie.tobin@dfc-plc.ca who will happily add your name to the mailing list.



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Dairy Production Statistics

Producer Pool Additions/Deductions February 2017		
	Additions (\$)	Deductions (\$)
Audit Adjustment	0.00	0.00
Bulk Tank Callibration	0.00	2,600.00
Discarded	0.00	84,061.88
PLR	0.00	168,050.39
Interest	13,691.80	248.20
Metering	59,196.29	0.00
Organic	58,591.42	4,100.00
Trucking	0.00	2,325.00
Violations	91,749.10	0.00
Average Deductions per Kg Total Solids		(\$0.0048)

Listed below are the Class 5 prices calculated by the Canadian Dairy Commission.

Class 5 Prices (\$/kg) April 2017			
Milk Class	Butterfat	Protein	Other Solids
Class 5a	7.0152	6.1034	0.8916
Class 5b	7.0152	2.3600	2.3600
Class 5c	6.5985	1.7565	1.7565
Class 5d	contract by contract price		
Class 4m	contract by contract price		

Provincial Average Components February 2017	
Butterfat	4.0570 kg/hl
Protein	3.3201 kg/hl
Other Solids	5.7444 kg/hl

Average Milk Prices	
Month	TPQ \$/hL
Feb 2017	81.28
Jan	80.31
Dec	79.75
Nov	79.46
Oct	79.58
Sep	79.26
Aug	78.56
July	78.96
June	79.09
May	79.22
Apr	79.35
Mar	79.71

2015-16 Quota Exchange and Credit Deadlines		
Quota Transfer Deadline Date	Credit Transfer Deadline Date	Effective Date
Apr. 18, 2017	Apr. 25, 2017	May 1, 2017
May 17, 2017	May 24, 2017	June 1, 2017
Jun. 16, 2017	Jun. 23, 2017	July 1, 2017
Jul. 17, 2017	Jul. 24, 2017	Aug. 1, 2017
Aug. 17, 2017	Aug. 24, 2017	Sep. 1, 2017
Sep. 18, 2017	Sep. 25, 2017	Oct. 1, 2017
Oct. 17, 2017	Oct. 24, 2017	Nov. 1, 2017
Nov. 16, 2017	Nov. 23, 2017	Dec. 1, 2017

Provincial Milk Quality Averages		
Month	Bacteria Average (IBC)	Somatic Cell Count (SCC)
Feb. 2017	20,226	190,143

Dairy Production Statistics



Quota Exchange Daily Production Quota		
	Total Transferred	Clearing Price/kg
Apr 2017	71.00	\$39,750
Mar	77.30	\$40,000
Feb	43.95	\$40,130
Jan	48.41	\$39,000
Dec	295.54	\$38,000
Nov	270.45	\$38,500
Oct	163.02	\$39,500
Sep	173.13	\$40,300
Aug	17.15	\$40,260
July	119.72	\$39,325
June	55.86	\$39,030
May	133.50	\$38,555
Apr	106.83	\$38,550

Underproduction Credit Transfers		
Month	Kg	Price\$/eligible kg
Mar 2017	54,202.40	\$7.13
Feb	85,534.99	\$7.93
Jan	90,187.89	\$8.00
Dec	81,412.53	\$7.21
Nov	78,045.37	\$7.61
Oct	60,409.23	\$8.80
Sept	63,291.48	\$10.08
Aug	59,481.67	\$9.94
Jul	63,446.02	\$9.80
Jun	59,825.00	\$9.94
May	77,106.50	\$9.49
Apr	70,836.79	\$9.22
Mar	91,601.49	\$10.43

Quota and Milk Production Summary (BF kg)

Month	January	February	March	April	May
Status	Official	Pre-Pooling	Projected	Projected	Projected
Alberta					
Butterfat Production (kg/day)	81,666	82,322	83,250	83,654	83,697
Producer Quota (kg/day)	81,680	84,195	85,879	85,879	85,879
Provincial Quota (kg/day)	81,729	87,339	86,394	87,122	86,265
Producer Position (Days)	-5.54	-6.07	-6.93	-7.73	-8.54
Provincial Position (Days)	-12.09	-12.92	-14.19	-15.27	-16.34
Cumulative Position (%)	-3.29%	-3.75%	-4.04%	-4.34%	-4.57%
Penalty (kg)	0	0	0	0	0
Western Milk Pool					
Butterfat Production (kg/day)	231,915	236,787	238,143	237,955	236,474
Pool Quota (kg/day)	253,095	248,160	245,474	247,541	245,107
Cumulative Position (%)*	-4.21%	-4.45%	-4.68%	-4.97%	-5.24%
Penalty (kg)	0	0	0	0	0

*The Western Milk Pool's (WMP's) limits on production are +0.50% and -1.50% of the WMP's rolling 12-month quota.





services cont'd

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Coming soon to your Inbox

Source: Karlee Conway, Corporate Communications
Coordinator

Alberta Milk is making a mooove. We will be launching our new email subscription list to complement some of our existing communications efforts. We are not phasing out or eliminating our printed materials.

- 1. What information are you going to send me?** The same information (and more) that you are currently receiving. You will have the opportunity select what topics you want to know more about and what topics you don't. Don't want to learn more about our workshops, but do want to about research? No problem. You can update your content preferences at any time.
- 2. What about MilkingTimes?** It will come to your inbox and you will receive a printed version.
- 3. What do I have to do?** Nothing. As long as your email is in our database, you are on our mailing list. You will receive an email in the next month with our first issue.
- 4. I'm not in your database, but want to receive the updates.** Watch our website. You will be able to sign up there.
- 5. I don't want to be on your email list.** No problem! You can unsubscribe at any time.

Production Update

Source: Jonathan Ntoni, Policy Analyst

Production in Alberta remains strong and continuous to grow. February's daily average production was 2.03 million litres, an increase of approximately 37,000 litres per day over January at a BF density of 4.0563 kg/hl.

Average incentive-days utilization for the 2016-17 dairy year so far is at about 46%. Overall, there has been a 3% average growth in daily BF production (versus a 2.2% growth in daily volumes) for 2016-17 when compared with same period last year. This faster growth in BF production relative to milk volumes has resulted in a 0.1% decrease in our SNF/BF ratio for the same period.

Despite the strong production, producers are currently at about six days behind in filling their quota and the province is further behind at -13 days due to the vast amount of underproduction credits available. Alberta's CQP was at -3.29% in January and is projected to drop further to -3.75% in February 2017.

As a reminder, there are three incentive days per month in place for April and May, and two incentive days for June through October. Producers are therefore encouraged to increase their production to enable Alberta fulfil its quota obligations.

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