



July 2018

milking TIMES

Published monthly for dairy farmers in Alberta and our industry partners

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Chairman's Message

Source: Tom Kootstra, Chairman

In the dairy sector, we all know and appreciate the government's support we get for our supply management system. It is essential as we work to ensure that we have the ability to produce milk to meet the Canadian consumer's demand for milk and milk products. But government support for the dairy industry goes beyond serving as the building blocks of supply management. Our federal and provincial governments also have a long history of commitment to serving the broad agriculture sector through what is now known as the five-year Canadian Agriculture Partnership (CAP) that replaces Growing Forward 2 (GF2).

GF2 offered support to various dairy projects in Alberta over the past five years.

In Alberta, CAP will deliver programs under five themes: (1) Environmental Sustainability and Climate Change; (2) Products, Market Growth and Diversification; (3) Science and Research; (4) Risk Management; and (5) Public Trust. Full details of programs under these themes will soon be available at cap.alberta.ca or by calling 310-FARM.

For the dairy industry, it seems that a couple of the CAP themes are especially applicable to us. For example, the first theme is Environmental Stewardship and Climate Change. The purpose of this program is to support producers in reducing negative impacts on the environment while enhancing sustainable production, managing climate

change and increasing profitability in the agriculture sector. This would include manure management and water quality issues.

Another theme is Public Trust and a new commitment on the part of the government to help industry address the broader challenges of ensuring and maintaining the trust of our consumers.

- a. One of the programs will support initiatives that build industry communication capacity to increase public and consumers' awareness and understanding of agriculture.
- b. Another program will support the development and delivery of effective agriculture education programs that are science-based, linked to curriculum and help students to engage in meaningful and informed conversations about issues that affect public trust in agriculture.
- c. And finally, there is an assurance program to provide a venue to showcase to the public industry practices and standards which demonstrate the quality, safety and sustainability of products produced by farmers and food companies. This program will directly complement the dairy industry's proAction® efforts across Canada.

On behalf of our farmer members across Alberta, I am grateful for that support and offer this public note of appreciation to both the provincial and federal levels of government.

our mission

Alberta Milk partners with industry stakeholders to support an effective supply management system in a growing, sustainable and market-focused industry.

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Edmonton, AB T6X 1H1
1-877-361-1231





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Alberta Dairy Farmers Stand Up Against President Trump

Source: Karlee Conway, Communications Specialist

Alberta family dairy farms are recently getting caught in the crossfire regarding the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) and tariffs. The American dairy industry wants access to Canada to try to solve their serious over production concerns.

“Trump is picking on family farms like mine because the USA just has too much milk,” says Albert Kamps, vice chairman of Alberta Milk and dairy farmer near Lacombe. “They are over producing and want to dump their oversupply in Canada but we’re full.” Tariffs are a way our farmers are protected against the heavily subsidized dairy coming into Canada. For example, American dairy farmers cheque’s are subsidized 73 per cent (or \$2.2 billion) from the government (Grey, Clark, Shih and Associates, 2017).

“What the American administration also doesn’t tell you is that no tariffs are paid on the first 10 per cent of products. The USA only allows three per cent tariff free, but we’re labeled as the bad guys.” Kamps continues.

Lets stick to the facts

- Canada has a five-to-one trade imbalance with the U.S. on dairy, meaning we import about five times more dairy than they do.
- The Canadian market is too small to make a dent in US overproduction.
- The state of Wisconsin produces more milk than all of Canada.
- American dairy farmers are subsidized \$22.2 billion (or 73% of their income)

- Let’s not forget that Americans use tariffs as well (Tobacco: 350%, shelled peanuts: 160%)
- Deregulation will NOT lead to lower prices. EX. The price of milk in Canada is less than the USA (\$1.51/L to \$1.63/L). We’ve seen it time and time again, specifically in NZ and Australia.

Alberta Milk has fielded over 30 media calls with a reach of about five million Albertans. We also met with Minister Biliou, Minister of Economic Development and Trade and had the support of Minister Carlier speaking out and defending supply management.

DFC met with Prime Minister Trudeau in mid-June to discuss the dairy industry in relation to NAFTA. He continued to state his support for our dairy farmers and understands our deep concerns on this issue.



If you receive any media calls on this topic, please contact Karlee Conway at 780-577-3305 or kconway@albertamilk.com.

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Breakfast, Anyone?

Source: Karlee Conway, Communications Specialist

Our first Breakfast on the Dairy Farm event was on June 23. It was an outstanding success. There was great turnout from the central Alberta community. We would like to extend a huge thank you to the van der Gun Dairy, the Southern Alberta Holstein Club, the East of Olds Dairy Farmer Group, and the countless volunteers that made the event such a success. This was an outcome of hours of hard work from so many.

Upcoming Breakfasts

Save the date! If you're in southern or northern Alberta, we'd love your support in helping promote our important events. Both events will offer a free hot breakfast and fun activities for attendees to enjoy. This is a great event to bring the whole family to.

- August 11 – Fort MacLeod
- August 25 – Leduc

For directions and more details about each event, please go to albertamilk.com.

Pol Butte Dairy

COMPLETE HERD DISPERSAL

August 15, 2018 @ 10:30AM
Coaldale, AB - AT THE FARM

160+ Head
Baby calves - Milkers
Current Rolling Herd Avg: 13 388kg milk
3.7 496 Fat 3.1 419 Protein
BCA's: 301-301-296

Sale Managers:

Andrew Wildeboer: 403-348-9358
Harry Makkinga: 403-783-1274

For Further Sale Info :

Don Wright: 403-556-0842
Lee Simanton: 403-704-6692
Dale Bienert: 780-940-6792
John Muller: 403-394-8530

Guys' contact info:

403-315-4536
email: gysvandenpol@gmail.com

Organic Entrants Assistance Program

Source: Karlee Conway, Communications Specialist

Alberta Milk has introduced a new program to alleviate some of the startup costs associated with starting an organic dairy farm. Similar to the New Entrants Assistance Program, the Organic Entrants Assistance Program (OEAP) works by offering a quota loan at no cost to the successful applicants.

The program is open to any current non-licensed dairy farm in Alberta and applications will be assessed on a first come, first served basis. You do not need to join this program to become an organic dairy farmer in Alberta. Similar to the NEAP, the process to qualify for the program consists of submitting a two-year financial business plan, a 10-year implementation plan, a risk mitigation plan, and a signed conditional approval letter from the applicant's financial institution agreeing to finance their operation. The location of the farm will also be part of the selection criteria with the goal to minimize transportation costs.

Technical Elements of the Program

- As organic producers have increased costs, participants in the OEAP will receive a transition premium of \$0.10 per litre of their milk for up to three years.
- They will receive three kilograms of loaned quota for every one kilogram purchased through the Quota Exchange, up to a maximum of 25 kilograms of loaned quota.
- The quota loan gradually expires beginning in the 11th year at a rate of 10 per cent per year and is reduced to zero at the end of year 19.
- While using the program, new entrants can expand up to 100 kg/day of total quota holdings, or about 71-100 cows (previously maximum 70 kg/day).

For more information, go to albertamilk.com.



deadlines

quota transfers
June 15, at 4:30 p.m.

credit transfers
June 22, at 4:30 p.m.

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New Antibiotic Test: Pirlimycin (Pirsue®)

Source: Kelly Mauthe, Member Services Specialist

Alberta Milk staff have received questions from producers about using pirlimycin (trade name Pirsue® - Zoetis) for mastitis treatments. Pirsue is approved for use in lactating dairy cattle in Canada and is indicated for the treatment of clinical and subclinical mastitis in lactating dairy cattle caused by *Staphylococcus aureus* and the treatment of subclinical mastitis in lactating dairy cattle caused by *Streptococcus dysgalactiae* and *Streptococcus uberis* (1). Milk taken from animals during treatment and within 48 hours after the latest treatment with this drug must not be used for food. Treated animals must not be slaughtered for use in food for at least 21 days after the latest treatment with this drug.

Alberta Milk and processors in Alberta routinely test for several different families of antibiotics as required by regulations. This testing happens for all truck loads at the processing plants and for the individual producer level at the Central Milk Testing (CMT) lab randomly either monthly or quarterly. The current testing of all milk samples detects for the beta-lactam family of drugs, the sulfa family and the tetracycline family.

Pirlimycin belongs to class of drugs called lincosamides which is closely linked to a larger class of drugs called macrolides. These families of drugs are not currently included in our routine testing. Therefore, the Board recently approved the purchase of test kits for the routine screening of pirlimycin at the CMT lab. The Charm pirlimycin test is very similar to the other current Charm quick test methods. Testing will start this summer.

Producers are encouraged to review their drug treatment protocols with their herd veterinarians to ensure that all treatments and drug withdrawal times are being met.

If you have any questions about antibiotic testing of raw milk, please feel free to contact Kelly Mauthe at Alberta Milk.

Join us at the Calgary Stampede!

Source: Kelsie Gilks, School and Agriculture Program Coordinator

Alberta Milk will be at the Calgary Stampede again this year. Every year we set up both our Journey of Milk booth and the Milk and Cookie Shack. The Journey of Milk booth is a fun and interactive display to share positive industry information. The Milk and Cookie Shack is an initiative Alberta Milk has been a part of for many years, where we partner with Dare foods to sell a carton of milk and cookie for \$2 with the proceeds being donated to the Calgary Interfaith Food Bank. Since 2004 we've donated over \$140,000 thanks to this initiative.

If you're down in Calgary during the Stampede make sure you stop by and say hi!


We are also always looking for new producers to volunteer in the booth to share their knowledge of the industry. If you're interested in volunteering for 2019, please contact Kelsie at kgilks@albertamilk.com or 780.577.3327.

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proAction®: New Self-Declaration Coming

Source: Morgan Hobin, proAction® Coordinator

The proAction® self-declaration (“self-dec”) is a checklist that you as producers complete every other year, alternating with your full on-farm validation. The “self-dec” includes your review of:

- all Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), Corrective Action Plans (CARs), Records and Log requirements being achieved on farm.
- progress with any outstanding CARs from a previous validation.

At the beginning of each calendar year, five percent of Alberta producers who are scheduled for a “self-dec” are randomly selected to complete an additional on-farm validation. The objective of this task is to maintain national standards, consistency and rigour in the proAction program.

What is NEAS?

All of your individual producer proAction activities are recorded in the National Electronic Administrative System (NEAS). If you have a NEAS account, you can:

- submit your self-declaration on-line
- access proAction resources
- use the SOP wizard to develop SOPs.

If you would like help to set up a NEAS account, please should contact Morgan Hobin at mhobin@albertamilk.com or 780-577-3318.

Producers will then be issued a user ID, temporary password and link to the website dairyproaction.ca.

Does the new “self-dec” just cover Food Safety/CQM?

The self-declaration on Food Safety (CQM) will be expanded to include the new Animal Care and Traceability modules, effective September 1, 2018. The new version of the “self-dec” should be available for distribution effective July 1, 2018.

The Animal Care “self-dec” questions will cover such requirements as:

- Full tails on cattle and tail docking log and;
- Cattle assessment peer report with subsequent corrective action plan, if needed.

The Traceability “self-dec” questions will cover such requirements as:

- Premise ID;
- Use of approved dairy tags, double-tagging animals;
- Recording of births, move-ins, on-farm disposal, tag retirement, animal import/export, tag replacement/lost and cross reference log and;
- Reporting of births, move-ins, on-farm disposal, tag retirement, animal import/export, tag replacement/lost and cross reference log to the national traceability database.



for sale cont'd

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services

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Dairy Production Statistics

Producer Pool Additions/Deductions May 2018		
	Additions (\$)	Deductions (\$)
Audit Adjustment	0.00	0.00
Bulk Tank Callibration	0.00	2,955.00
Discarded	0.00	27,259.93
PLR	147,392.37	161,004.73
Interest	20,661.80	234.42
Metering	62,603.28	0.00
Organic	29,370.41	0.00
Trucking	0.00	1,150.00
Violations	78,968.15	0.00
Average Deductions per Kg Total Solids		(\$0.0157)

Average Milk Prices	
Month	TPQ \$/hL
May 2018	76.58
April	77.54
Mar	77.05
Feb	75.03
Jan	77.29
Dec	77.08
Nov	79.91
Oct	79.26
Sep	77.11
Aug	75.05
July	76.36
June	78.49

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

Class 5 Prices (\$/kg) July 2018			
Milk Class	Butterfat	Protein	Other Solids
Class 5a	7.4466	4.9907	0.2173
Class 5b	7.4466	1.7584	1.7584
Class 5c	7.9201	1.4957	1.3244
Class 5d	contract by contract price		
Class 4m	contract by contract price		

2017-18 Quota Exchange and Credit Deadlines		
Quota Transfer Deadline Date	Credit Transfer Deadline Date	Effective Date
June 15, 2018	June 22, 2018	July 1, 2018
July 17, 2018	July 24, 2018	Aug. 1, 2018
Aug. 17, 2018	Aug. 24, 2018	Sep. 1, 2018
Sep. 17, 2018	Sep 24, 2018	Oct. 1, 2018
Oct. 17, 2018	Oct. 24, 2018	Nov. 1, 2018
Nov. 16, 2018	Nov. 23, 2018	Dec. 1, 2018

Provincial Average Components April 2018	
Butterfat	4.1390 kg/hl
Protein	3.3366 kg/hl
Other Solids	5.7449 kg/hl

Provincial Milk Quality Averages		
Month	Bacteria Average (IBC)	Somatic Cell Count (SCC)
May 2018	23,834	195,412

Dairy Production Statistics



Quota Exchange Daily Production Quota		
	Total Transferred	Clearing Price/kg
July 2018	77.50	\$41,020
June	60.64	\$41,000
May	88.63	\$40,375
Apr	193.08	\$39,675
Mar	51.09	\$38,130
Feb	119.02	\$36,500
Jan	127.80	\$35,900
Dec	132.20	\$35,925
Nov	104.50	\$36,990
Oct	105.91	\$38,000
Sep	166.98	\$38,625
Aug	103.67	\$38,005

Underproduction Credit Transfers		
Month	Kg	Price\$/eligible kg
June 2018	80,013.40	\$9.39
May	101,045.67	10.26
April	85,421.27	\$9.45
Mar	102,184.00	\$6.90
Feb	99,197.91	\$4.82
Jan	106,192.39	\$3.96
Dec	115,276.91	\$2.36
Nov	92,875.08	\$2.14
Oct	83,041.16	\$2.91
Sep	97,060.07	\$5.05
Aug	77,280.96	\$5.12
July	83,903.70	\$5.17

Quota and Milk Production Summary (BF kg)					
Month	April	May	June	July	August
Status	Official	Pre-Pooling	Projected	Projected	Projected
Alberta					
Butterfat Production (kg/day)	92,733	91,918	92,149	91,044	90,992
Provincial Quota (kg/day)	91,090	89,059	89,572	88,965	89,731
Producer Quota (kg/day)	90,141	89,467	89,467	89,467	89,467
Producer Quota + Incentive Credits (kg/day)	90,141	89,467	89,467	89,467	92,354
Cumulative Position (%)	-4.75%	-4.47%	-1.15%	-0.95%	-0.83%
Producer Position (Days)	-4.95	-4.20	-3.37	-2.90	-2.92
Provincial Position (Days)	-17.11	-16.50	-4.22	-3.52	-3.06
Penalty (kg)	0	0	-3,066,139	0	0
Western Milk Pool					
Butterfat Production (kg/day)	264,559	259,922	260,411	257,140	256,308
Pool Quota (kg/day)	258,817	253,045	254,503	252,779	254,955
Cumulative Position (%)*	-4.58%	-4.35%	-1.07%	-0.92%	-0.88%
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

Countryside Dairy Sales Dairy cattle & quota sales. Bred & springing heifers available. **Andrew 403-348-9358 or Harry 403-783-1274.**

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Alberta Holstein Association www.albertaholstein.ca for industry news, upcoming events, movies, show results and more!

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Western Canadian Classic -Team Alberta. This youth show rotates amongst the 4 western provinces.
Phone Lexi Wright at 403-862-5600 or Sue Crest at 780-675-4643.

Business, Succession, New Entrant Assitance Plans. Refinancing proposals and lender negotiations. Art Lange PAg CAFA, 14 years experience, art@ajlconsulting.ca
Phone 780-467-6040.



Alberta Production and Quota Update

Source: Jonathan Ntoni, Policy Analyst

Production

Production remains very strong across the Western Milk Pool (WMP) and Canada. In Alberta, there has been a +9.7 per cent growth year-over-year in butterfat (BF) production for the 12-month period ending April 2018 (WMP = +10.7 per cent). May 2018's average production was 2.27 million litres per day at BF density of 4.04 kg/hl, representing an increase of almost 34,000 litres per day over April (i.e., +1.5 per cent). Daily average production is expected to rise further to a peak of 2.3 million litres in June and then steadily decline to about 2.21 million litres in October before it starts to rise again to about 2.38 million litres by June 2019.

Daily Total Production Quota

Daily Total Production Quota (DTPQ) in the Western Milk Pool (WMP) increased by +0.11 per cent using data based on the 12-months period ending April 2018. Daily quota issuance at the producer level decreased to 98.67 per cent in April 2018, relative to 99.08 per cent in March 2018. There was no incentive-day in place for April 2018 and a one per cent quota cut was implemented on May 1, 2018.

Alberta Provincial Quota Utilization

At the end of April 2018, Alberta's cumulative quota position (CQP) was at -4.75 per cent, which is the second highest of all the Western Milk Pool (WMP) provinces. British Columbia had the highest CQP of -0.04 per cent in the WMP. All WMP provinces over-produced their monthly quota allotment for April 2018.

Western Milk Pool & P5 Pool

At the end of April 2018, the WMP was in a cumulative quota position (CQP) of -4.58 per cent compared to +5.96 per cent in the P5. The nation's CQP was thus at +3.00 per cent.

Interested in Travelling Abroad?

Source: Canadian Host Family Association

Going overseas is a great way to improve your skills, learn a different way of doing things, and experience other cultures and languages.

International Paid Agricultural Exchange Program

- Trainee must be 18-30 year of age in order to come on this program.
- Trainees are responsible for the cost of their airfare from Canada to the country of choice.
- Trainees are responsible for the cost of sufficient medical insurance for the length of their stay out of Canada.
- Trainees must have a valid driver's license as well as an International Driver's License. We also recommend that you bring a driver's abstract from your home country.
- You will receive an allowance in the country of choice.

Placement Opportunities

- Australia
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- Switzerland – German required
- United States

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