The National Dairy FARM Program

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PROGRAM HISTORY

Initiated in 2009 by NATIONAL MILK PRODUCERS FEDERATION and DAIRY MANAGEMENT INC
PROGRAM GOAL
Assure **CONSUMERS & CUSTOMERS** that dairy farmers raise and care for their animals and land in a humane and ethical manner.
WHAT IS FARM ANIMAL CARE?

FARM Animal Care offers a CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT process to ensure a high level of on-farm animal care.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ANIMAL CARE STANDARDS</th>
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<tr>
<td>Updated Every 3 Years</td>
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<tr>
<td>Technical Writing Group: Farmers, Academics, Veterinarians, Coop/Processor Staff</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grounded in Science</td>
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<td>Outcomes Based: ‘cow-centric’</td>
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<td>Size and Facility-type Neutral</td>
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FARM ANIMAL CARE PROGRAM BY THE NUMBERS

• **115** Participating Co-ops and/or Proprietary Processors

• Covers **98%** of the domestic milk supply in **49** states

• More than **50,000** 2\textsuperscript{nd} party evaluations completed to date

• More than **370** trained FARM Evaluators
FARM ANIMAL CARE PROGRAM COMPONENTS

Best Management Practices

Second-Party Evaluations
- Pre-Interview
- Interview Questions
- Animal Observations
- Closing Interview
- Follow-up; Action Plans

Third-Party Verification

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PRIMARY AREAS OF EVALUATION

• Management SOPs and Records
• Newborn and Milk-Fed Calves
• Animal Nutrition
• Animal Health
• Environment and Facilities
• Handling, Movement and Transportation
DEMONSTRABLE CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

Version 1.0 (2009 – 2012)
- Voluntary Participation

Version 2.0 (2013 – 2016)
- Mandatory Participation
- Voluntary Action Plans
- Tail-Docking Phase-Out 2022

Version 3.0 (2017 – 2020)
- Greater accountability
- Training, VCPR, Cow Care Agreement
- Tail Docking Phase-Out 2017
- Probation/Suspension
- Critical Control Points
- Mandatory Corrective Action Plans
VERSION 3.0 PRIORITY 1 AREAS

Veterinary Client Patient Relationship
• Official form signed by Veterinarian of Record

Dairy Cattle Care Ethics & Training Form
• Signed by all employees with animal care responsibilities
• Signed annually
• Indicates:
  • Received training in stockmanship AND area of responsibility;
  • Will not abuse animals/Will report any mistreatment that occurs

No Tail Docking
VERSION 3.0 PRIORITY 2 AREAS

Herd Health Plan
- Protocols for newborn and milk-fed dairy calves.
- Protocols for pain management.
- Protocols and training for non-ambulatory animal management.
- Protocols for euthanasia.

Animal Observations
- Lameness
- Body Condition
- Hock/Knee
FARM 3.0 ACCOUNTABILITY MEASURES

- 14 Months -

FARM 2nd Party Evaluation

Mandatory Corrective Action Plan

Follow-up Evaluation to review MCAP

MCAP failure triggers 60 day Probation

Suspension from FARM Program

“No” answered to any Priority 2

“No” answered to any Priority 1

Continuous Improvement Plan

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VERSION 3.0 BY THE NUMBERS

Version 3.0 Evaluations: 7,152

Mandatory Corrective Action Plans

- Signed Annual VCPR: 1,414 (20%)
- Annual Employee Training: 763 (10%)
- Tail Docking: 69 (<.01%)

Average time to resolve Mandatory Corrective Action Plans
16.1 weeks
PRODUCER COMMUNICATION
PRODUCER RESOURCES
CUSTOMER SUPPORT
Thank You!