Statement



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"Connecting Cows, Cooperatives, Capitol Hill, and Consumers"

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Thursday, May 9, 2013 Contact: Christopher Galen (703) 243-6111 ext. 356 Email: <u>CGalen@nmpf.org</u>

NMPF Welcomes Senate Agriculture Committee Farm Bill Draft

From Jerry Kozak, President and CEO, NMPF:



"We are pleased that the <u>dairy title of the Farm Bill</u> released today by the Senate Agriculture Committee contains the <u>Dairy Security Act</u> (DSA), just as it was included in last year's Senate Farm Bill. The DSA is the best approach for providing a cost-effective safety net for dairy farmers, and we commend Chairwoman Debbie Stabenow (D-MI) and Ranking Member Thad Cochran (R-MS) for their efforts to pass the DSA into law. The DSA provides the right

combination of effective risk management for dairy farmers while minimizing program costs to the taxpayer.

"NMPF is part of a coalition of <u>more than 50 state and national farm groups</u> that have been working since 2009 on replacing outdated dairy programs that don't work, with a new safety net that reflects that realities of dairy farming in the 21st century. Dairy farmers throughout the U.S. support the proposal that the Agriculture Committee will be reviewing next week, and urge members of the committee – and their counterparts in the House Agriculture Committee, which will also review the DSA next week – to pass this critical legislation."

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The National Milk Producers Federation, based in Arlington, VA, develops and carries out policies that advance the well-being of dairy producers and the cooperatives they own. The members of NMPF's 30 cooperatives produce the majority of the U.S. milk supply, making NMPF the voice of more than 32,000 dairy producers on Capitol Hill and with government agencies. Visit <u>www.nmpf.org</u> for more information.