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Animal Health

U.S. Dairy Industry Leads on Antibiotic Stewardship

To demonstrate the U.S. dairy industry's leadership on judicious and responsible use of antibiotics, NMPF participated in June at the [White House Forum on Antibiotic Stewardship](#). For more than 20 years, the dairy industry has focused educational efforts on the prudent use of antimicrobial drugs through the annual publication of a Best Practices Manual. The 2015 edition of the National Dairy

FARM Program: Farmers Assuring Responsible Management™ [Milk and Dairy Beef Drug Residue Prevention Manual](#) developed by NMPF is the primary educational tool for dairy farm managers throughout the country on the judicious and responsible use of antibiotics including avoidance of drug residues in milk and meat. Additionally, the 2015 edition of the [Residue Prevention Manual](#)

provides direction to dairy farm managers about the implementation of the Food and Drug Administration Guidances for Industry [#209](#) and [#213](#) and the revised [Veterinary Feed Directive](#). Updated annually, the 2016 edition of the [Residue Prevention Manual](#) will extend the U.S. dairy industry commitment to the antibiotic stewardship.

Contact: [Jamie Jonker](#)



Animal Health

APHIS Allows Fresh Meat Imports from Certain Regions of Brazil and Argentina

The USDA published Final Rules on July 2nd to allow the importation of fresh beef from certain areas in [Argentina](#) and [Brazil](#) – a development of concern to the U.S. livestock sector because of its potential to spread Food and Mouth Disease (FMD). NMPF previously submitted comments on importation of fresh beef from [both regions](#), expressing concerns with the risk assessments performed and

requesting additional analysis prior to finalization. NMPF believes this action by USDA further demonstrates the need to enhance U.S. FMD preparedness, including modernization of the North American FMD vaccine bank with appropriate types and quantities available for use in an FMD outbreak. The rules will become effective on September 1, 2015.

Contact: [Jamie Jonker](#)



[Animal Health](#)

Veterinary Feed Directive (VFD) Summary



On June 3, 2015, FDA published the Final Rule for the [Veterinary Feed Directive](#) (VFD). The Final Rule outlines the process for authorizing use of VFD drugs (animal drugs intended for use in or on animal feed that require the supervision of a licensed veterinarian) and provides veterinarians in all states with a framework for authorizing the use of medically important antimicrobials in feed

when needed for specific animal health purposes. The Final Rule continues to require veterinarians to issue all VFDs within the context of a [veterinarian-client-patient relationship](#) (VCPR) and specifies the key elements that define a VCPR. The VFD will require veterinarians to follow state-defined VCPR requirements; in states where the FDA determines that no

applicable or appropriate state VCPR requirements exist, veterinarians will need to issue VFDs in compliance with federally-defined VCPR requirements.

Neomycin and other drugs are sometimes used in medicated milk replacers for treatment or prevention purposes and will be subject to the VFD.

Contact: [Jamie Jonker](#)

[Animal Health](#)

OIE 83rd General Session Review

The 83rd General Session of the [World Organization for Animal Health](#) (OIE), held in Paris during May included several actions of note for the U.S. dairy industry.

A new chapter in the [Terrestrial Health Code](#) on the welfare of dairy cattle was adopted. NMPF previously submitted four rounds of [comments](#) that were that were included in comments by the U.S. delegation to OIE.

The FMD chapter was updated for clarity, and the OIE may develop a chapter specific to FMD vaccination to address emergency use in an outbreak, including a vaccinate-to-live policy in order to regain FMD-free status in three months. The OIE delegates approved updates to the chapters for *Harmonization of National Antimicrobial Resistance Surveillance and Monitoring Programs* and *Risk Analysis for Antimicrobial Resistance Arising*

from the Use of Antimicrobial Agents in Animals.

The full [meeting report](#) includes more detail on these and other actions.

This activity is supported by the U.S. Dairy Export Council and Dairy Management Inc.

Contact: [Emily Meredith](#) and [Jamie Jonker](#)

[Food Safety](#)

Farm Foundation Antimicrobial Stewardship Forums

The [Farm Foundation](#) is hosting a series of Forums across the U.S. to examine antimicrobial stewardship. These [12 regional Forums](#) will provide an opportunity for livestock producers, feed suppliers, veterinarians, state/federal regulators and others to gain a comprehensive understanding of the Food and Drug Administration's Guidances for Industry (GFI) [#209](#) and [#213](#)

regarding the use of medically-important antimicrobial drugs in food-producing animals. The Forums will also examine the challenges for implementing the FDA's revised [Veterinary Feed Directive](#) (VFD) rule. Comments gathered at the 12 workshops will be compiled in a report assessing the economic and physical challenges facing producers as they implement the GFIs and revised VFD.

Informational and educational needs will also be evaluated, as well as the role of veterinarians in monitoring and managing antimicrobial drug use. Farm Foundation will convene a national summit in late fall 2015 to address the issues identified in the regional workshops.

Contact: [Jamie Jonker](#)



Animal Health

FARM Program Technical Writing Group Begins Work

The National Dairy FARM ([Farmers Assuring Responsible Management](#)) Animal Care Program Technical Writing Group, comprised of veterinarians, academics, animal scientists, co-op staff and dairy producers, began meeting in June to review the program's [Animal Care Manual](#), FARM Evaluation checklist, and [accompanying resources](#) to determine if updates are necessary.

The FARM Program guidelines are updated every three years,

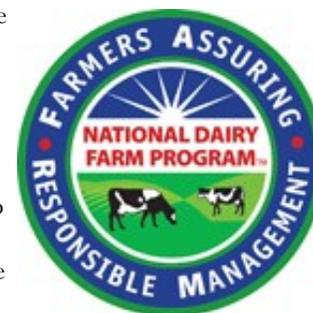
with the last comprehensive update taking place in 2012-2013. Once the Technical Writing Group concludes its work later this year, a new draft of the FARM Program guidelines will be presented to the NMPF Animal Health and Wellbeing Committee for review and comment. After receiving feedback from the committee, comments will be sought from all FARM Program co-op and processor participants, and other outside experts.

All of these comments will be

synthesized and a final draft of the FARM Program version 3.0 guidelines will be made available in January 2016. Consistent with the last revision of the program, evaluations on the new guidelines will not begin until January 2017, allowing time for FARM Program staff to help educate all program participants on the key guideline changes.

This activity is supported by Dairy Management Inc.

Contact: [Emily Meredith](#)



Animal Health

ISO Continues Work on Technical Specification

The [International Standards Organization's TC34](#) (Technical Committee on Food Products) Working Group on Animal Welfare met in Paris in May to discuss the first draft of the Technical Specification (TS) document.

ISO & World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) established a Memorandum of Understanding in 2011 to strengthen cooperation in all

fields of mutual interest, including animal welfare. The TS will, in part, be utilized to help farmers perform a "gap analysis" to determine if their on-farm practices are consistent with international animal welfare standards as contained in the OIE chapters.

Currently, NMPF is working through the U.S. Technical Advisory Group (US-TAG) to review the most recent TS draft

and provide comments. Of primary concern to NMPF is the TS' inclusion of credible, science-based animal care resources and its emphasis on outcomes-based welfare measurements.

This activity is supported by U.S. Dairy Export Council and Dairy Management Inc.

Contact: [Emily Meredith](#) and [Jamie Jonker](#)



Animal Health

Hours of Service Exemption for Livestock Haulers

The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration on June 12th renewed an exemption from the [30-minute rest break provision](#) of the Agency's hours-of-service (HOS) regulations for commercial motor vehicle drivers transporting livestock.

In 2013, [NMPF and 12 other organizations](#) requested the exemption, citing animal health and welfare concerns. The exemption was renewed through June 12, 2017.

Contact: [Jamie Jonker](#)



Food Safety Codex Alimentarius Commission Meeting Recap

The [Codex Alimentarius Commission](#) met in Geneva, Switzerland in July for its 38th Session to discuss the work of its various committees and to adopt food safety and quality standards (and related texts) on a variety of food products. A [full meeting report](#) from available from Codex.

The Delegation of New Zealand introduced the work on the proposed draft General Standard for Processed Cheese and recommended adoption at Step 5. Those against adoption at Step 5, including the U.S. delegation, acknowledged the

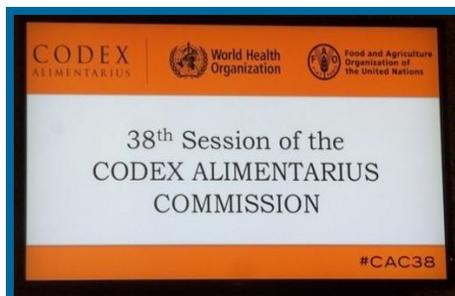
progress made but said that it was premature to adopt the standard without agreeing on fundamental issues, such as the scope and minimum cheese content. Ultimately, the standard was adopted at Step 5 but the work must be concluded by the 39th CAC, or the standard will be discontinued.

There were also divergent views on whether to adopt the draft standard for rbST at Step 8. Those in favor of the adoption, including the U.S. delegation, noted that the standard had been held at Step 8 since 1995 and emphasized a need to adhere to

the scientific recommendations put forth by the expert group, which evaluated rbST three times (1993, 1999, 2013) and found no health concerns. Nevertheless, the Commission determined that consensus had not been reached and agreed to hold the draft standard for rbST at Step 8 to provide further time to facilitate a possible consensus. The draft standard will continue to be on the agenda of the CAC and open to discussion.

This activity is supported by Dairy Management Inc.

Contact: [Emily Meredith](#)



Food Safety NMPF Comments on FDA's Risk-Ranking Model

NMPF submitted [comments](#) on FDA's "Multicriteria-based Ranking Model for Risk Management of Animal Drug Residues in Milk and Milk Products" on July 29, 2015.

The [risk-ranking model](#) was developed by FDA in response to a 2008 request from the National Conference on Interstate Milk Shipments (NCIMS) to conduct a risk analysis of drug residues in the milk supply, and represents a science-based analytical approach to collate and incorporate relevant data and

information to assist with evaluating milk residue testing programs.

NMPF provided feedback to FDA on the model's design, assumptions and data used, the clarity and transparency of the model, as well as its potential implications related to residue testing requirements of the *Pasteurized Milk Ordinance* (PMO).

The model is one of the many tools that the NCIMS Appendix N Committee will be using to develop a pilot program to

expand testing for non-beta-lactam drugs through the PMO. A proposal directing the Appendix N Committee to develop the pilot program was passed at the [2015 NCIMS](#) in April.

FDA recently [extended the comment period](#) on the risk-ranking model to October 27th.

Contact: [Beth Briczinski](#)



Environment**Waters of the United States—Final Rule Published**

The Final Rule of the controversial Waters of the United States (WOTUS) was published on June 29, 2014. The WOTUS Final Rule becomes effective on August 28, 2015 (60 days after publication in the *Federal Register*). NMPF does not believe the final rule has sufficiently addressed the specific concerns raised in our previous comments on the proposed rule. The WOTUS final rule includes changes to Definitions of Tributaries, Adjacent Wetlands/Waters, Isolated Waters, and Exclusions.

In some cases it offered additional certainty about what is and is not regulated. However, there are still many case-by-case determinations, and lingering complexity around the handling of agricultural ditches. Lawsuits challenging the rule have begun, with numerous lawsuits filed by states and by affected industry stakeholder groups. It is likely these lawsuits will take months or years to resolve.

Contact: Jamie Jonker or Ryan Bennett

**Environment****Particulate Matter 2.5 (PM 2.5) Comments Submitted**

NMPF, as part of a coalition, submitted comments May 29th on the EPA Proposed Fine Particulate Matter NAAQS State Implementation Requirements. EPA had proposed that ammonia emissions must be regulated as a precursor pollutant to PM2.5, unless a state can demonstrate through an EPA-approved technical analysis that the

precursor emissions do not significantly contribute to nonattainment of the PM2.5 NAAQS requirement under Section 189(e) of the Clean Air Act. Ammonia is one gas measured as part of the National Air Emissions Monitoring Study, conducted as part of the Air Consent Agreement. Until EPA establishes a methodology for

estimating ammonia emissions from livestock operations, EPA is prohibited by the Air Consent Agreements signed with livestock and poultry farmers from establishing new regulatory requirements that could impact the livestock farmers.

Contact: Jamie Jonker

Environment**Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasures (SPCC) Update**

On June 30th, EPA released its "Oil Storage on U.S. Farms: Risks and Opportunities for Protecting Surface Waters" report in response to a provision included in the Water Resources Reform and Development Act (WRRDA) of 2014. The law required EPA (in consultation with USDA) to conduct a study to determine the amount of

storage that is appropriate for an SPCC rule exemption, based on whether there is significant risk of an oil discharge to water. Within 18 months of completing this study, the EPA may adjust the SPCC exemption level to not more than 6,000 gallons, and not less than 2,500 gallons. Based on the study, NMPF expects EPA to issue a

Proposed Rule via the *Federal Register* setting the SPCC exemption level at 2,500 gallons aggregate aboveground oil storage capacity for farms. The exemption for bulk milk storage will be maintained.

Contact: Jamie Jonker

Food Labelling

FDA Publishes Final *Trans* Fat Rule

The FDA published the “[Final Determination Regarding Partially Hydrogenated Oils](#)” on June 16, and in that regulation, the FDA concluded that partially hydrogenated oils (PHOs) are no longer generally recognized as safe (GRAS) for any use in human food at any level.

The decision was based on current scientific evidence and expert scientific panel findings linking consumption of *trans* fat to increased risk of coronary heart disease. PHOs are the primary dietary source of industrially-produced *trans* fatty

acids. This decision does not apply to naturally-occurring *trans* fats, such as those present in meat and dairy products from ruminant animals.

FDA established a three-year compliance date for industry (June 18, 2018), allowing time for food manufacturers to reformulate their products.

Alternatively, manufacturers may petition the FDA to permit specific uses of PHOs as food additives.

Contact: [Beth Briczinski](#)

Nutrition Facts	
Serving Size 1 Tbsp (14g)	
Servings Per Container about 32	
Amount Per Serving	
Calories 100	Calories from Fat 100
% Daily Value*	
Total Fat 11g	17%
Saturated Fat 2.5g	12%
Trans Fat 2.5g	
Cholesterol 0mg	0%
Sodium 105mg	4%
Total Carbohydrate 0g	0%
Dietary Fiber 0g	0%
Sugars 0g	

Food Labelling

FDA Proposes “Added Sugars” to Nutrition Facts Panel

On July 27, 2015, FDA published in the *Federal Register* a proposed rule “[Food Labeling: Revision of the Nutrition and Supplement Facts Labels](#).” In addition to the [March 3, 2014 proposal](#) on changes to the Nutrition Facts Panel (NFP), the supplemental rule would require the NFP for packaged foods to include the percent daily value (%DV) for added sugars to be declared.

The %DV would be based on the recommendation of 10% of total calories from added sugars, or 50 grams for children four years of age and older and adults, and of 25 g for children one through three years of age. The proposal also includes changes to the current NFP footnote, to help consumers understand the Daily Value concept.

NMPF submitted comments on

the original rule ([available here](#)), including a number of concerns related to FDA’s proposed definition of “added sugars,” which would appear to count the lactose in many concentrated and dried dairy ingredients as an “added sugar.”

NMPF will be preparing comments to submit on the supplemental rule, which are due October 13, 2015.

Contact: [Beth Briczinski](#)



Nutrition**Child Nutrition Reauthorization Act**

With the expiration of Child Nutrition Programs, including those in schools, set to occur in September, NMPF developed legislation to reaffirm milk's unique role in children's diets and in school meal programs. Embodied in [H. R. 2407 the School Milk Nutrition Act](#), NMPF's priorities for re-authorization have received strong bipartisan support including from senior members of the House Education and Workforce Committee.

In recent weeks the provision

for the return of 1% flavored milk as an option for schools has received positive reviews from [USDA Secretary Tom Vilsack](#) during his testimony before the House Education and Workforce Committee. Margo Wootan, [Center for Science in the Public Interest](#) director of nutrition policy, also supported the concept saying in *Politico*, "I think that having flavored milk in schools is fine. It's better to have kids drinking fat-free chocolate milk than soda. And one percent milk with a calorie cap is also acceptable to us."

When Congress returns in September to debate the reauthorization of the programs, reestablishing the importance of dairy products will be a key focus for members in both chambers. Given the bipartisan support NMPF's proposal has already received, we are confident that reauthorization of this legislation will result in important changes for our industry.

Contact: [John Holloy](#)

**NMPF News****2015 Scholarship Winners Announced**

At their June meeting, the NMPF Scholarship Committee selected four graduate students to receive scholarships as part of the 2015 NMPF National Dairy Leadership Scholarship Program. These students are conducting research in areas that will benefit dairy cooperatives and producers.

Scholarships were awarded to:

- Karmella Dolecheck, a PhD candidate in Animal Science at the University of Kentucky studying increasing dairy profitability through the application of a whole farm stochastic

simulation model.

- Paul LaPierre, a MS candidate in Animal Science at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, with his research "Effects of Hydroxy vs. Sulfate Forms of Trace Minerals in Milk Replacer or Starter on Dairy Calves through Weaning."
- Jon Pretz, a PhD candidate in Dairy Science from South Dakota State University, for his research evaluating yeast products and antioxidants alone or in combination on ruminal

volatile fatty acid absorption when fed to mid-lactation high producing dairy cows.

- Barbara Wadsworth, a PhD candidate in Animal Science from the University of Kentucky, for her use of precision dairy farming technologies to detect lameness in dairy cattle.

Congratulations to all!

Contact: [Beth Briczinski](#)

NMPF News John Newton Joins NMPF Staff

Agricultural economist Dr. John Newton joined the staff of the National Milk Producers Federation on July 1st as Senior Director of Economic Research, enhancing the research and analytical capabilities of the organization. Newton previously served as a Clinical Assistant Professor in Agricultural Commodity

Markets, Department of Agricultural and Consumer Economics, at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

From 2004 to 2014, Newton worked for the USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service on issues relating to risk management and federal farm income support programs.

While serving in this role, Newton had the prestigious opportunity to serve both as a 2013 fellow on the United States Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry and as a researcher for the USDA Office of the Chief Economist, providing policy insight for the Agricultural Act of 2014



NMPF News Upcoming Events

- 48th American Association of Bovine Practitioners Annual Meeting
Sept. 17-19, 2015 New Orleans, LA.
- World Dairy Expo "Dairy in our DNA"
Sept 29-Oct. 3, 2015 Madison, WI.
- 119th U.S. Animal Health Association Annual Meeting
Oct. 22-28, 2015 Providence, RI.
- NMPF-UDIA-NDB Joint Annual Meeting "A Legacy of Leadership"
Oct. 26-28, 2015 Orlando, FL.
- 30th ADSA Discover Conference "Creating an Enduring US Dairy Production Sector"
November 2-5, 2015 Itasca, IL.



About NMPF

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 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.

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