

NMPF STATEMENT ON OHIO DAIRY VIDEO – MAY 2010

“The dairy industry takes claims about animal mistreatment very seriously. Any evidence of animal abuse should be taken promptly to the appropriate state and local authorities whose job it is to investigate those claims, which has finally happened today with the situation in Ohio.

The video released on May 26 is deeply disturbing and depicts practices that are absolutely unacceptable. Ohio’s dairy farmers, and those across the rest of the country, do not countenance this type of treatment. In fact, Ohio’s animal cruelty laws prohibit acts of unnecessarily or cruelly beating domestic or livestock animals, and we support a further investigation into the situation on the farm.

On a national level, many farms are now beginning to adopt the [new National Dairy Farm program](#)’s care standards. Those standards disavow malicious striking or dragging of animals. Responsible animal stewardship is a good thing for people and cows, and [the FARM program](#), developed by NMPF, is designed to promote the best practices in animal care that consumers have come to expect from the dairy sector.”