



News Release

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

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Validus Selected as Verifier for National Dairy FARM Program™ Third-Party Verification to Begin this Summer

ARLINGTON, VA – The National Milk Producers Federation (NMPF) has selected Validus as the third-party verifier for the National Dairy FARM Animal Care program. Validus is an ISO 9001: 2008 certified auditing and verifying company, with over 10 years of experience verifying on-farm animal care.

Validus documents and verifies socially-responsible animal welfare, environmental, on-farm security, and worker care production practices through audits and assessments, environmental planning, and consulting services. All Validus staff and verifiers conducting third-party verification for the National Dairy FARM Program have an extensive background and experience in the dairy industry.

"After an exhaustive request for proposals and review process, NMPF selected Validus for their outstanding capabilities demonstrated through years of experience in completing on-farm verifications for animal care. Third-party verification demonstrates the integrity of our program, and provides assurances to our customers and consumers that dairy producers are committed to the well-being of their animals," said Jerry Kozak, President and CEO of NMPF.

Third-party verification of the FARM Animal Care Program is expected to begin this summer, and be completed by the end of the year.

The National Dairy FARM Program was created by NMPF to demonstrate and verify that U.S. milk producers are committed to providing the highest levels of quality assurance including animal care, residue prevention, and other on-farm practices.

For more information on the National Dairy FARM Program, contact Betsy Flores at (703) 243-6111 or visit www.nationaldairyfarm.com.

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 31 cooperatives produce the majority of the U.S. milk supply, making NMPF the voice of more than 40,000 dairy producers on Capitol Hill and with government agencies.