



News Release

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



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National Dairy FARM Program Opens Registration for 2017 Evaluator Conference

ARLINGTON, VA – The second annual National Dairy FARM Program Evaluator Conference will be held in Indianapolis, Ind., from July 18-19, with an optional farm trip to Fair Oaks Farm on July 20. More than 400 certified FARM Program evaluators will have the chance to network and discuss relevant topics in animal care, environmental stewardship and antibiotic stewardship.

Starting on Tuesday, July 18, FARM evaluators will spend a day with key Elanco staff, focusing on professional development and learning more about Elanco's global business of feeding a growing population. Wednesday, July 19, features a full day of programming, including presentations on "The Economics of Animal Well-Being," as well as insight from a panel of farmers and veterinarians on the importance of protocol development and employee training.

"We are excited to host a dedicated group of FARM evaluators for what will be three full days of enlightening conversation and learning," said Emily Meredith, chief of staff for the National Milk Producers Federation. "Nurturing strong relationships among members of the animal care community will only enhance our ability to share the industry's great story of top-notch animal care."

Elanco is also a sponsor for this year's event, in addition to Zoetis and Merck Animal Health.

Thursday's optional trip to Fair Oaks Farms includes a tour of the dairy's facilities and a discussion with co-founder Mike McCloskey, farm veterinarians and management staff about how Fair Oaks implements training and protocols for the high-level care of their animals and land. Located in Fair Oaks, Ind., the agritourism operation offers educational opportunities about dairy, hog and crop farming.

Registration is \$199, with the optional Fair Oaks tour costing an additional \$50. For more information and to register for the conference, please visit the [conference website](#).

This is the second Evaluator Conference hosted by the National Dairy Farmers Assuring Responsible Management (FARM) Program. The first was held last fall in Nashville, Tenn., after the NMPF Joint Annual Meeting. Created in 2009 by the National Milk Producers Federation (NMPF), the FARM Program raises the bar for the entire dairy industry – creating a culture of continuous improvement.

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The National Milk Producers Federation (NMPF), 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 dairy producers on Capitol Hill and with government agencies. For more on NMPF's activities, visit our website at www.nmpf.org.