



## NMPF Testifies at Modernizing Standards of Identity Meeting

NMPF regulatory expert and staff counsel Clay Detlefsen spoke about the importance of maintaining the integrity of the standards of identity and the unintended consequences of horizontal standards at a meeting hosted September 27 by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) seeking input on creating horizontal standards across all categories of standards of identity.

So-called “horizontal” standards would allow the FDA to make sweeping changes to food standards of identity across categories. Proponents argue such standards would allow manufacturers to innovate and produce more nutritious versions of standardized foods. Detlefsen urged caution, noting the unintended consequences of across-the-board changes.

Of more than 280 standards of identity, 95 are for dairy products, Detlefsen said. If a change to one is a change to all, unforeseen results could be seen in any number of the other 280 foods, he said. For example: FDA has proposed allowing vegetable oils to be used where animal fats are currently used because of their so-called “healthier” nature, opening the door, for example, to olive oil substituted for animal fat – with an end result being inferior-quality ice cream that has no cream in it.

“When dealing with 280 very different standards, and the intention is to improve one, such changes may not be transparent when applied to different foods, and stakeholders could be deprived of a proper opportunity to weigh in,” Detlefsen said. “Further, in many cases the real motivation for change could be to make the product cheaper.”

NMPF suggested that changes possibly could be limited to foods that are similar, such as grouping all dairy together or making changes for all cheeses.

The meeting was held as part of the agency’s comprehensive, multi-year nutrition innovation strategy. FDA wants to modernize the standards of identity to:

- 1) protect consumers against economic adulteration;
- 2) maintain the basic nature, essential characteristics and nutritional integrity of food;
- 3) promote industry innovation and provide flexibility to encourage manufacturers to produce healthier foods.

The meeting included a history of the standards of identity, and three breakout sessions on innovation, nutrition, and consumer expectations where participants were free to share their opinions on the topics.

Contact: [Clay Detlefsen](#)



# REGULATORY REGISTER

Volume 21, Issue 3  
**FALL 2019**

## *Inside this issue*



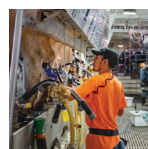
**Page 2**

Maine Heads Off PFAS Attack; Dairy Farms in Crossfire



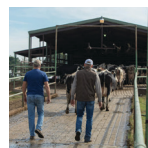
**Page 3**

U.S. District Court Finds 2015 WOTUS Unlawful and EPA Repeals It



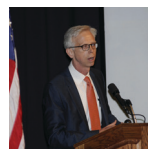
**Page 5**

NMPF Requests Farmer Input on Zero-Day Withdrawal Period Antibiotics



**Page 6**

U.S. Dairy Industry Reports Progress on Efforts to Reduce Antimicrobial Resistance



**Page 8**

NMPF Spotlights FARM Program at Meeting of the Global Agenda for Sustainable Livestock



**Page 9**

U.S. Dairy Industry, NMPF Staff Highlighted at World Dairy Summit in Turkey



## Maine Heads Off PFAS Attack; Dairy Farms in Crossfire

Per Governor Janet Mills' Executive Order, Maine has developed a taskforce to identify the extent of Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) exposure in the environment, examine the risks of PFAS to Maine residents and the environment and provide recommendations to the state on how to effectively address the risks involved.

As part of the taskforce's activities, the state tested 167 different sites, including the Department of Defense locations, public drinking water sites, landfills, sludge spreading sites, Superfund sites and Brownfields. Several samples including water, soil, fish, manure, sawdust, and building materials came back higher than the acceptable limit. To ensure transparency to residents, Maine's Department of Environmental Protection has created a PFAS dashboard to be used by anyone interested in knowing PFAS levels at testing sites.

Maine also tested several milk samples and biosolids that were being spread on dairy farms. All samples of milk and biosolids came back below the detection limit of 50 ng/L.

To minimize any further PFAS exposure, Maine has required that all biosolids be tested before spreading on land and plans to continue sampling around unlined landfills. Next steps include gathering additional field data, including a potential study on corn uptake of PFAS, and finalizing soil calculations to better understand soil-to-plant-to-cow exposures.

Maine is a perfect example of how PFAS, at root a drinking water issue, can become a problem for agriculture.

Several other states have moved forward with their own PFAS task forces, testing local drinking water and water sources and proposing drinking-water limits. The U.S. Department of Agriculture is going to begin testing beef samples for PFAS, including beef from cull cows on dairy farms. NMPF continues to closely monitor the situation.

Contact: [Clay Detlefsen](#)

## IPCC Releases Report on Climate Change and Land

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) released a special report on Climate Change and Land on August 7, addressing several agriculture-related topics, offering NMPF opportunities to advance dairy farmer interests on several fronts. The IPCC report, closely watched by governments formulating climate policies, addressed greenhouse gas fluxes in land-based ecosystems, land use and sustainable land management in relation to climate change adaptation and mitigation, desertification, land degradation; and food security.

The report touted that diversified food systems can help reduce risks from climate change. Such a system would encourage "balanced diets, featuring plant-based foods, such as those based on coarse grains, legumes, fruits and vegetables, nuts and seeds, and animal-sourced food produced in resilient, sustainable and low-GHG emission systems." The report's language may help the dairy community highlight that North America's dairy sector -- which, according to a UN report FAO was the only region to reduce total GHG emissions -- is essential to fight climate change.

The [summary for policymakers](#) touches on people, the land and climate, adaption and mitigation response options, enabling response options, and actions in the near-term. It provides an updated assessment of the current knowledge on climate change and land use and details how land management can play a role in tackling climate change.

Contact: [Clay Detlefsen](#)



## EPA Pushes Back on California's Prop 65 Ruling

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has issued a letter demanding that any pesticide product containing glyphosate with Proposition 65 warning language, remove such warning language, a decision supported by NMPF.

Glyphosate was initially added to California's Proposition 65 list in July 2017 based on the International Agency for Research on Cancer's classification that glyphosate was "probably carcinogenic to humans." EPA asserts that after reviewing its own research, which involved a larger data set, glyphosate is "not likely to be carcinogenic to humans."

Last year, an injunction issued by the United States District Court for the Eastern District of California prevented the state from enforcing its warning requirements due to the labeling being "false and misleading." According to the EPA, Proposition 65 warning labels for glyphosate-containing pesticides are false and misleading under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA). Therefore, EPA will no longer approve labeling for pesticides that includes the Proposition 65 warning because of glyphosate. Sam Delson, spokesman for California's Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) said the agency strongly disagrees with the EPA.

The safety of glyphosate, which is the active ingredient in Round-Up, has been in the spotlight in recent years after residues were found at high levels in Cheerios. NMPF applauds the EPA for defending science and taking action against misleading Proposition 65 labeling.

Contact: [Clay Detlefsen](#)



## U.S. District Court Finds 2015 WOTUS Unlawful and EPA Repeals It

Consistent with the views and statements in the numerous comments NMPF has filed with the EPA, on August 22, the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Georgia found that the promulgation of the 2015 Waters of the United States (WOTUS) rule was procedurally and substantively unlawful.

Procedurally, the court found the rule violated the Administrative Procedures Act for exceeding the parameters of the proposed rule. Substantively, the 2015 rule resulted in an "impermissible, significant intrusion on traditional state authority" because of its vast expansion of jurisdiction over what would otherwise be within a state's jurisdiction. Further, the court held that certain provisions were "arbitrary and capricious."

The court chose to remand the rule to the EPA for further proceedings, and the EPA officially repealed the 2015 WOTUS regulation September 12, paving the way for that agency and the Army Corps of Engineers to finalize a new rule later this year or early next year. Having filed several comments regarding the need to repeal the 2015 WOTUS rule, [NMPF agrees](#) with this long-anticipated development, which will reduce confusion and uncertainty over the Clean Water Act that has lingered for more than four years.

The WOTUS regulation that took effect in 2015 was deeply unpopular among farm groups. Citing the many ambiguities and uncertainties of the then-proposed rule, NMPF urged the EPA to rethink it in 2014, before it was adopted. An NMPF analysis at the time found that the Obama Administration proposal did not meet the requirements of various Supreme Court rulings that were the catalyst for the 2015 regulation. Repealing the 2015 rule now makes the 1986 WOTUS rule effective for the entire United States.

NMPF has filed several comments to the repeal and the replace rule. Those comments can be found [here](#) and [here](#).

Contact: [Clay Detlefsen](#)



## NMPF Asks EPA to Reassess Washington State Nitrate Study

In a letter to Administrator Andrew Wheeler, NMPF asked the EPA to reassess a 2012 study examining the sources of nitrates in Washington's Yakima Valley. This report unfairly accuses local dairy farmers of contributing most of the nitrates in lower Yakima Valley groundwater. Questions and concerns raised by some of the top scientists and agronomists in the country when this study was published were ignored by Region 10 EPA staff. Despite this, the EPA has used this flawed study as the basis for regulatory decisions.

The study had several flaws, including: inadequate data to support the conclusions that were being made; limited site information; data used that only pertained to Yakima Valley soils; errors in estimating seepage rates from manure lagoons; and not accounting for all sources of nitrates. Other groups have written letters, as has Rep. Dan Newhouse (R-WA), supporting a new review of the study. NMPF urges the agency to conduct a more thorough review of the science.

Contact: [Miquela Hanselman](#)

## FDA Releases v 2.0 of its Food Defense Plan Builder

NMPF staff and members have collaborated with Food and Drug Administration (FDA) staff on food defense for more than a decade. NMPF conducted numerous vulnerability assessments on dairy and other food products, helped develop mitigation strategies and participated in intelligence briefings and threat assessments. A great deal of the fruits of that work was used in the creation FDA's software tool. About six years ago, NMPF staff facilitated a focus group at FDA's request to explore the first version of their Food Defense Planner Builder, which was well-received and identified as a valuable tool that can be used to create a food defense plan. In April, NMPF hosted two usability sessions in which dairy and food industry professionals reviewed a new version of the tool. The software tool was again well-received by the industry, and the FDA was given suggestions on how to further improve it. FDA took note of those suggestions and incorporated many of them into this version.



The Food Defense Plan Builder Version 2.0 is a user-friendly tool designed to help owners and operators of food facilities develop food defense plans specific to their facilities and assist them with meeting the requirements of the [Mitigation Strategies to Prevent Food Against Intentional Adulteration](#) regulation ([21 CFR Part 121](#)), also known as the IA rule.

This tool harnesses existing FDA food-defense tools, [guidance](#), and resources into one single application. Use of this tool is not required by law or required to comply with the IA rule. FDA expects this tool to supplement and not replace other education, training, and experience needed to understand and implement the requirements of the IA rule.

The Food Defense Plan Builder guides the user through the following sections:

- Facility Information
- Product/Process Descriptions
- Vulnerability Assessments
- Mitigation Strategies
- Food Defense Monitoring Procedures
- Food Defense Corrective Actions Procedures
- Food Defense Verification Procedures
- Supporting Documents
- Food Defense Plan Signatures

NMPF highly recommends using the software tool to create and maintain food defense plans. It can be found and downloaded [here](#).

Contact: [Clay Detlefsen](#)



# USDA Releases New Guidance and a Disclosure Determination Tool for Bioengineered Food Disclosures Required by 2022

USDA has updated information regarding the National Bioengineered Food Disclosure Standard available on its [website](#). One update is particularly important for dairy processors.

**The following question and response has been added to the Frequently Asked Questions:**

*“Is documentation required to verify the BE status of enzymes, yeasts, and other micro-organisms, when I do not have definitive knowledge that these ingredients are bioengineered?”*

*As required by 7 CFR 66.109, if a regulated entity has actual knowledge that a food is a bioengineered food or contains a bioengineered food ingredient, it must make an appropriate disclosure.*

*For foods not on the AMS List of Bioengineered Foods, like enzymes, yeasts, and other micro-organisms, if a regulated entity’s records demonstrate they have actual knowledge that they are using a bioengineered version of these foods, then they must make a disclosure.”*

Many enzymes are created with bioengineering, and the rule does not have a de minimis level that negates a need for disclosure – however, the rule only requires disclosure when there is bioengineered substance in an ingredient used in a food. If there isn’t bioengineered material in the bioengineered ingredient, disclosure is not required. NMPF staff have been told that most enzymes used in dairy processing are purified and contain no bioengineered material, so disclosure should not be necessary. Given the litigious nature of today’s environment, dairy processors should consult with their suppliers regarding ingredients that are made with bioengineering to understand whether they contain any bioengineered material that would trigger disclosure.

A [Disclosure Determination Tool](#) is also available on the BE Disclosure webpage. The tool is designed to help regulated entities determine whether they are subject to, and must comply with, the National Bioengineered Food Disclosure Standard. This tool also provides an overview of the major requirements for determining what foods must be disclosed as bioengineered foods. NMPF cautions users that the tool oversimplifies the rule and could lead to erroneous determinations.

The mandatory compliance date is January 1, 2022. Foods entering commerce after this date must comply with the rule.

Contact: [Clay Detlefsen](#)

## NMPF Requests Farmer Input on Zero-Day Withdrawal Period Antibiotics

The FDA on August 9 [requested information](#) regarding transit times to slaughter, milking frequency, and how end users interpret zero-day withdrawal period or zero-day milk discard time statements found on new animal drug labeling. This request is driven by the recognition that the animal agriculture industry has drastically changed since original assumptions were determined in 1980, and the FDA is requesting information to ensure their regulations are in line with what is practiced today.

While the FDA gave a 60-day comment period, [NMPF requested](#) and received a [90-day extension](#). NMPF requested the extension

because a “significant amount of information and data will need to be collected, including data about specific on-farm practices, which requires surveying our membership.”

To assist with our comments, NMPF is requesting dairy farmers respond to [this survey](#) to better understand how dairy farmers interpret an antibiotic with a zero-day withdrawal period of zero-day milk discard time. Survey responses are anonymous and cannot be tracked to the respondent. No personally identifiable information is captured, and individual responses will be combined and summarized.

Contact: [Jamie Jonker](#)



## NMPF Submits Comments to National Salt and Sugar Reduction Initiative

NMPF submitted comments to the revised voluntary sugar reduction targets from the National Salt and Sugar Reduction Initiative, emphasizing that while the revised sugar targets were more suitable for flavored milk and yogurt, dairy products still should not be lumped in with the other sugary products included.

The [National Salt and Sugar Initiative](#) is a partnership between local, state, and national health organizations convened by the NYC Health Department. Following the same format as earlier goals for sodium reduction, the sugar initiative will set targets and monitor sugar levels in packaged foods and beverages, which contribute the most added sugars to human diets. In the first set of comments submitted in response to the initial draft, NMPF pointed out that it was necessary to account for lactose, the natural-occurring sugar in milk. In a positive

outcome for dairy, the natural-occurring sugars were accounted for by creating an allowance that raised the target levels in this draft of sugar targets so the targets are more focused on added sugars.

Other key points in NMPF's comments included:

- Products falsely labeled as plant-based yogurt shouldn't be included in the yogurt category, nor should they be given a natural sugar allowance.
- Plant-based beverages shouldn't be given a natural sugar allowance.
- The varying range of added sugar found in yogurt and that the target set isn't representative of the marketplace.

Contact: [Miquela Hanselman](#)



## NMPF Signs on to Joint Comments Submitted to Potassium Chloride Docket, Joining with Allies

NMPF joined seven other organizations, including the International Dairy Foods Association, the Food Marketing Institute and the American Bakers Association, in comments supporting draft guidance allowing manufacturers to call potassium chloride just "potassium salt." The draft guidance, which the FDA posted May 20, if finalized, would "explain to food manufacturers the intent to exercise enforcement discretion for the declaration of the name potassium chloride salt in the ingredient statement on food labels as an alternative to the common or usual name potassium chloride."

In the comments, the organizations argue that using potassium salt instead of the suggested "potassium chloride salt" by FDA still meets FDA's requirements for the common or usual name as described in 21CFR § 102.5. A consumer study done by the International Food Information Council found that consumers are slightly more likely to purchase a product labeled with potassium salt instead of potassium chloride or potassium chloride salt.

NMPF supports the FDA allowing companies to use an alternate name to potassium chloride as it will further enable companies to reduce the amount of sodium in their products.

Contact: [Miquela Hanselman](#)

## Dairy Industry Reports Progress on Reducing Antimicrobial Resistance

On September 23, NMPF joined more than 100 organizations, the U.S Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to report on progress made for the year-long [Antimicrobial Resistance \(AMR\) Challenge](#), a yearlong effort to accelerate the fight against antimicrobial resistance across the globe. The Challenge was launched by the CDC at the United Nations General Assembly in 2018 to "accelerate the fight against antimicrobial resistance across the globe." By participating, governments, non-governmental organizations and private companies committed to preventing the spread of antimicrobial resistance and slowing the development of new resistance.

Last year, NMPF took up the challenge through encouraging increased veterinary oversight of antibiotic use via the National Dairy FARM Program's [Veterinarian-Client-Patient-Relationship \(VCPR\)](#) standard. Under VCPR, a dairy farmer consults with a veterinarian on development of treatment and recordkeeping protocols that address the proper use of antibiotics. Dairy farms then are evaluated on conformance to the standards by a certified independent expert.

NMPF was pleased to report progress through implementation of the [FARM Animal Care Program](#). Since 2017, 27,650 dairy farms have been evaluated by the FARM Animal Care Program. Seventy-eight percent of evaluated farms had a valid VCPR, and the remaining 22 percent obtained a valid VCPR with the next 5.5 months. This high-level of commitment to veterinary oversight demonstrates the U.S. dairy industry's commitment to reducing the risk of AMR.

Contact: [Jamie Jonker](#)



## FARM Hosts Stakeholder Forum, Offers Webinar Series

The first FARM Stakeholder Forum held September 4-5 in Minneapolis provided updates for all four FARM program areas and invited industry stakeholders to join the conversation on the FARM Program. FARM team representatives from pharmaceutical, nutrition, technology, extension and other support companies discussed opportunities for future partnership and collaboration with FARM to advance the goal of continuous improvement within the dairy industry.

This month, the Innovation Center for U.S. Dairy and the FARM Program are holding a customer webinar series targeted toward food-service and retail customers.

Each session will focus on pressing topics and priorities in the dairy industry important to businesses. The webinars in the three-part series will be led by the FARM team and other industry experts who will provide the latest information and address questions about the future of animal care, how worker experiences can be enhanced on the farm, and how the U.S. dairy industry works from the farm to the retail shelf.

For more information or to learn how to register to attend these webinars, email [dairyfarm@nmpf.org](mailto:dairyfarm@nmpf.org).



## FARM Animal Care Program Announces Version 4.0 Changes for 2020

NMPF, with support from Dairy Management Inc., announced September 26 [updates](#) to animal care standards under the National Dairy FARM Animal Care Program after a rigorous 16-month stakeholder review.

The fourth iteration of the FARM Animal Care Program's standards supports closer farmer-veterinarian relationships, requires continuing education for all employees and adds a new standard for pain management when disbudding animals. As with previous versions of FARM Animal Care, a robust suite of materials that include templates, frequently asked questions, continuing education videos and other resource tools will be made available to help producers meet the outlined standards. These resources are available to producers through their cooperative or processor and can be found on the FARM Resources web page. Hard copy resources are also available upon request.

"FARM's Animal Care Program 4.0 underscores the dairy community's commitment to continually improving animal care and incorporating the latest animal-welfare research, demonstrating to consumers that dairy is a leader in the humane and ethical care of our animals," said Jim Mulhern, president and CEO of NMPF. "We are committed to ensuring that farms are prepared to meet the updated standards and

that the supply chain – from farm to fork -- has full transparency as well as high- quality dairy products."

FARM Animal Care is updated once every three years to ensure relevance to current industry best management practices and scientific research related to on-farm animal care. Farmers nationwide, dairy veterinarians and animal-welfare experts and dairy industry leaders are all represented in drafting and approving new standards. The FARM Program received 370 submissions that guided final decisions made on Version 4.0.

Significant changes going into effect beginning January 1 include:

- If tail docking is found to have continued to occur, immediate action must be taken to cease the practice.
- Standards that generate a Mandatory Corrective Action Plan-- ranging from veterinarian engagement (Veterinarian-Client-Patient-Relationship and herd health plan review), calf care, non-ambulatory, euthanasia and fitness to transport management practices, and disbudding prior to 8 weeks of age -- will need to be addressed within nine months of the evaluation.

For additional specifics around the standards updates, visit [this site](#).

Contact: [Jamie Jonker](#)

## FDA Releases Draft Guidance on Changing OTC Antimicrobial Status

In September, the FDA released draft Guidance for Industry #263 ([GFI #263](#)) *“Recommendations for Sponsors of Medically Important Antimicrobial Drugs Approved for Use in Animals to Voluntarily Bring Under Veterinary Oversight All Products That Continue to be Available Over-the-Counter.”* FDA’s intent with GFI #263 is for animal drug pharmaceutical manufacturers to voluntarily change the marketing status of the remaining approved animal drugs containing antimicrobials of human medical importance from over-the-counter (OTC) to prescription (Rx) under the oversight of licensed veterinarians.

This draft guidance comes as part of the FDA’s [five-year plan](#) for supporting antimicrobial stewardship in veterinary settings as part of a strategy to address antimicrobial resistance associated with the use of antimicrobial drugs in animal agriculture. [GFI #213](#) was the FDA’s first step to increase oversight of antimicrobial use through voluntary industry action to change marketing status of medically important antimicrobials used in feed or drinking water for food-producing

animals from OTC to VFD/Rx. This also resulted in the elimination of the use of these antimicrobials for production practices.

While GFI #263 will be voluntary, NMPF anticipates that pharmaceutical manufacturers will change the marketing status of the limited number of dosage forms of medically important antimicrobials that are still available from OTC to Rx for both food-producing and companion animals. NMPF has recognized that OTC availability of antimicrobials was going away and has made the Veterinarian Client Patient Relationship, a cornerstone of the National Dairy FARM Animal Care Program.

NMPF supports the prudent and responsible use of antibiotics and will be examining the potential impact on small or geographically isolated dairy farmers who may have a lack of large animal veterinary services where they are located. NMPF will submit comments to the [docket](#).

Contact: [Jamie Jonker](#)



## NMPF Spotlights FARM Program in Kansas at Multi-Stakeholder Partnership Meeting of the Global Agenda for Sustainable Livestock

NMPF President and CEO Jim Mulhern spoke at the 9th Multi-Stakeholder Partnership (MSP) [Meeting of the Global Agenda for Sustainable Livestock](#) (GASL) in Manhattan, KS on September 9 about the National Dairy FARM Animal Care Program.

Mulhern highlighted the accomplishments of the FARM Animal Care during the “Innovation in Action” session for Animal Health and Welfare as the first independent animal care program to be accredited to the International Standards Organization animal welfare technical specification. [GASL](#) is a partnership of livestock sector stakeholders committed to the sustainable development to simultaneously address key environmental, social, and economic challenges: growing natural resources scarcity, climate change, widespread poverty, food insecurity and global threats to animal and human health.

NMPF also spotlighted U.S. dairy industry successes through the National Dairy FARM Program and emergency preparedness through

seven poster presentations. Those posters included:

- Tracking On-Farm Greenhouse Gas Emissions in the United States
- The Secure Milk Supply Plan for Continuity of Business in the event of an FMD Outbreak in the United States
- The United States National Dairy FARM (Farmers Assuring Responsible Management) Animal Care Program
- The impact of tie stall facilities on dairy cattle welfare and the broader United States dairy industry
- National Dairy FARM Program Accredited to International Standards Organization Animal Welfare Technical Standard
- Antibiotic Stewardship in the United States Dairy Industry
- Development of educational materials to advance human resources and safety outcomes on U.S. dairy farms.

Contact: [Jamie Jonker](#)





## U.S. Dairy Industry, NMPF Staff Highlighted at World Dairy Summit

NMPF played a leading role in September at the 2019 International Dairy Federation (IDF) [World Dairy Summit](#) in Istanbul, Turkey.

Pre-summit, NMPF staff represented the interests of U.S. dairy farmers and cooperatives in business meetings to discuss important topics like international trade, standards, farm management issues, antimicrobial stewardship, animal health, environment and sustainability, food safety and animal care.

NMPF's Dr. Jamie Jonker was re-elected as the Animal Health expert to the IDF Science and Program Coordinating Committee which ensures the coordination and supervision of the scientific, technical and policy considerations of dairy issues. Dr. Ying Wang from the Innovation Center for U.S. Dairy and Dr. Andy Novakovic from Cornell University were also re-elected as the Environment and Academic experts respectively.

Land O'Lakes dairy farmer and Dairy Management Inc. Chair Marilyn Hershey represented the U.S. dairy industry alongside dairy farmer leaders from 15 other countries at the IDF Dairy Farmer Roundtable. Marilyn provided U.S. dairy farmer perspectives on topics ranging from animal rights activism and plant-based beverages to climate change and labor challenges. Later, she moderated the conference plenary session on "Sustainability and Climate Change: What are the challenges and opportunities?"

Joe McMahon from the Innovation Center for U.S. dairy participated in a Roundtable on National Sustainability Programs discussing the "[U.S. Dairy Stewardship Commitment](#)", the U.S. dairy industry's social responsibility pledge to consumers, customers and other stakeholders. Dr. Ying Wang served as moderator for the session as well. This work was made possible through support of Dairy Management Inc. and the U.S. Dairy Export Council.

Contact: [Jamie Jonker](#)

# APHIS Announces Plan to Use Farm Bill Funding to Support Animal Disease Prevention and Management

USDA-APHIS announced in August its initial plans to carry out [new animal health activities](#) using resources provided by the 2018 Farm Bill.

Section 12101 of the 2018 Farm Bill established a three-part program to comprehensively support animal disease prevention and management. The bill included funding to create two new programs: the National Animal Vaccine and Veterinary Countermeasures Bank (vaccine bank) and the National Animal Disease Preparedness and Response Program (NADPRP). It also expanded funding opportunities for the existing National Animal Health Laboratory Network (NAHLN).

These 2018 FARM Bill programs were initially identified in 2014 as priorities for Food and Mouth Disease (FMD) preparedness by the NMPF Animal Health and Wellbeing Committee. NMPF worked with a coalition of other stakeholders to obtain new funding in the 2018 FARM Bill for FMD preparedness.

On October 1, NMPF participated in a [joint press conference](#) with the National Pork Producers Council, the National Corn Growers Association and Iowa State University to urge expedient use of the mandatory funding included in the 2018 Farm Bill to purchase the volume of vaccines required to effectively contain and eradicate an FMD outbreak.

“The time to build a best-in-class FMD Vaccine Bank is now,” said Jamie Jonker, Ph.D., vice president for Sustainability & Scientific Affairs at the National Milk Producers Federation. “NMPF has been active in informing our members and the dairy community of the importance of preparation, and a vaccine bank is a crucial element of protection for the entire livestock industry.”

Contact: [Jamie Jonker](#)

## NMPF Regulatory Staff



**Clay Detlefsen, Esq.**

**Senior Vice President, Regulatory & Environmental Affairs**

[cdetlefsen@nmpf.org](mailto:cdetlefsen@nmpf.org)

Clay deals with initiatives related to food safety and defense, product labeling, and environmental issues.



**Jamie Jonker, Ph.D.**

**Vice President, Sustainability & Scientific Affairs**

[jjonker@nmpf.org](mailto:jjonker@nmpf.org)

Jamie's work in sustainability and scientific affairs includes animal health, biotechnology, biosecurity, air and water quality issues, sustainability, and technical service issues.



**Miquela Hanselman**

**Manager, Regulatory Affairs**

[mhanselman@nmpf.org](mailto:mhanselman@nmpf.org)

Miquela works on NMPF's regulatory efforts, focusing on issues related to interstate shipments of milk, food safety, labeling, nutrition, and the environment.

### National Milk Producers Federation

2107 Wilson Blvd., Suite 600

Arlington, VA 22201

(703) 243-6111

[www.nmpf.org](http://www.nmpf.org)

The National Milk Producers Federation (NMPF), based in Arlington, VA, develops and carries out policies that advance dairy producers and the cooperatives they own. NMPF's member cooperatives produce more than two-thirds of all U.S. milk, making NMPF the voice of dairy producers in Washington. For more, visit [www.nmpf.org](http://www.nmpf.org).