Program History

The dairy industry, through National Milk Producers Federation with support from Dairy Management, Inc. initiated a voluntary program named FARM: Farmers Assuring Responsible Management in 2009. Through the Innovation Center, the dairy community has aligned behind FARM as the industry-wide social responsibility program.
FARM
Environmental Stewardship
FARM Workforce Development
FARM
Animal Care
FARM Animal Care Background

• FARM offers a continuous improvement process to ensure a high level of on-farm animal care.

• FARM sets the highest standards that encourages dairy farmers to continually improve.
International Standards Organization

• FARM Animal Care is world’s first animal welfare program to be ISO certified
• Certification = FARM Program meets international standards for animal care
  • OIE Standards on Animal Welfare & Dairy Cattle Welfare
• Increases trust from dairy customers (here and abroad) about program
• Helps facilitate international trade negotiations
FARM Animal Care by the Numbers

30 Participating Co-ops and Proprietary Processors

Covers 98% of the United States domestic milk supply in 49 states

Over 50,000 2nd party evaluations completed to date

Over 50 trained FARM Animal Care Evaluators
Program components

Best Management Practices

Second-Party Evaluations

Third-Party Verification

- Pre-Interview
- Interview Questions
- Animal Observations
- Closing Interview
- Follow-up; Action Plans
Resources To Meet Requirements

• Animal Care Reference Manual
• FARM Self Assessment Tool
• Sample VCPR
• Sample Dairy Cattle Care Ethics Agreement
• Training Log
• Emergency Contacts Poster

• Culling Poster
• Fillable Herd Health Plan Protocols
• Example Herd Health Plan
• Training Resources
• Dairy Stockmanship Video

http://www.nationaldairyfarm.com/resource-
Animal Care Continuous Improvement

Version 1.0
(2009 - 2012)
Voluntary Participation

Version 2.0
(2013 - 2016)
Mandatory Participation
Voluntary Action Plans
Tail-Docking Phase-Out 2022

Version 3.0
(2017 - 2020)
Greater accountability
Mandatory Corrective Action Plans
Critical Control Points
Training, VCPR, Cow Care Agreement
Tail Docking Phase-Out 2017
Probation/Suspension

Tail Docking Phase-Out 2022
Voluntary Action Plans
Mandatory Participation
Version 4.0

Timeline

June 2018 | Revision of Animal Care Manual Begins
November 2018 | IC Animal Care Committee Mtg
January 2019 | Animal Health and Well Being Committee Mtg
February 15 – March 30 | Public Comment Period
May 2019 | NMPF Board Webinar
June 2019 | NMPF Board Approval
July 2019 | Version 4.0 Outreach and Trainings
January 2020 | Evaluations on Version 4.0 Begin

Focus Areas

• VCPR
• Training
• Non Ambulatory Animals
• Euthanasia
• Tail Docking
• Feed
• Water
• Pain Management for Disbudding
• Freedom of Movement
THANK YOU!

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