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### **Programs for Dairy Producers**

My title is Livestock and Natural Resources and I try to offer articles in each of these program areas. However, if you feel I talk about beef cattle more than other species of livestock and not nearly enough about natural resources, I'd couldn't argue much. A couple of programs focused on our dairy producers have been rolled out recently, both nationally and locally as well. Please take advantage if these are of interest to you and drink real milk!

#### **Milk Loss Program**

The USDA has recently announced that assistance will be available to dairy operations that had to dump or remove milk without compensation from the commercial milk market due to qualifying weather events. The Milk Loss Program (MLP), administered by the Farm Service Agency (FSA), will provide service to dairy operations that faced these weather events during 2020, 2021 and 2022.

Eligible weather events covered under the program include: Droughts, Wildfires, Hurricanes, Floods, Derechos, Excessive heat, Winter storms, Freeze (including a polar vortex), and Smoke. Tornadoes will also be considered a qualifying disaster event, however, only during the year 2022. The milk loss claim period is each calendar month that milk was dumped or removed from the commercial market. Each MLP application covers the loss in a single calendar month. Milk loss that occurs in more than one calendar month due to the same qualifying weather event requires a separate application for each month.

Dairy farmers can sign up for MLP beginning Sept. 11 and running through Oct. 16, 2023. Affected producers are encouraged to sign up as soon as possible with your local FSA office. More information can be found at: <https://www.fsa.usda.gov/> search Milk Loss Program.

#### **Kansas Dairy Fall Seminars**

Kansas Dairy is offering a day of value-added education, in two locations across Kansas. September 19 in Wichita at American Ag Credit and September 26 in Seneca at the Nemaha County Community Building. The morning program will focus on the Dairy Business Innovation Alliance (DBIA) grant writing session education. A noon lunch will be provided by event sponsors and the afternoon program will have some rapid-fire presenters discussing topics from HR issues on the farm, farm transition, wellness in the community, to rebuilding plans for the K-State Dairy research and teaching center.

There is no cost to attend, but an RSVP for a meal count is requested to the Meadowlark Extension District at 785-336-2184 or [ahaverka@ksu.edu](mailto:ahaverka@ksu.edu). These field day seminars are brought to you by Kansas Dairy Commission, Kansas Dairy Association, AgriSure, Health Innovations Network of Kansas, K-State Research and Extension - Meadowlark District and other generous partners. Full details can be found on our District Events pages <https://www.meadowlark.k-state.edu/events/>