

IDAHO DAIRYMEN'S ASSOCIATION

IDAHO DAIRY FOCUS

2023

Q4

IDAHO DAIRYMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Protecting Idaho's dairy industry
through environmental, legal,
and legislative efforts since 1924.



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Q4 2023

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Idaho Dairymen's Association



Idaho's Great Cow Migration

IDAHO DAIRY INDUSTRY PAC

**Bob Naerebout &
David Claiborne**

It is no secret that Idaho is a fast-growing state. Idaho in fact is the fastest growing state in the Nation, is experiencing the highest GDP growth of any state in the Nation, and has the highest rate of Net Migration in to the state than any other state in the Nation. Most of this growth is due to COWs—and by COWs, we don't speak of our friendly milk-producing cattle, but rather of Californians, Oregonians and Washingtonians—who as a group reflect well over half of Idaho's newcomers. So, are these COWs changing Idaho's political culture. The data suggests they are not, but rather they reflect the political beliefs of a majority of Idahoans.

Looking at Idaho's Current Political Makeup

Idaho is a solid red (or Republican) state, a trend reflected across the landscape. Idaho has 994,548 registered voters, of whom 58% are registered Republicans, 28% are unaffiliated, and 13% are registered Democrats. Over half of registered voters are women (at 51%), and 39% are over age 60. Every county in Idaho has more Republican voters than it does Democrat or unaffiliated voters, except Blaine County, where more voters are unaffiliated (41%). When you look at registered voters by legislative district, every legislative district in Idaho leans Republican. The Moscow area, Magic Valley, and Treasure Valley are the areas where the Republican advantage is the slimmest. Looking at the city level, there are only 3 cities where Republicans do not have the advantage—Moscow, Hailey and Ketchum—where more voters identify as unaffiliated. Declared Democrats hold no advantage in any Idaho county, legislative district or city. If you look at a city like Boise, however, where 41% of voters are Republican, the class of unaffiliated voters (at 35% in Boise) when combined with Democrats (at 23% in Boise) can sometimes tilt the scales in favor of Democrats in local and legislative district elections.

Migration to Idaho Is Not Altering the Political Makeup

Migration data shows the Treasure Valley is growing faster than average state growth, due to migration in to Idaho and internal movement/births. Data from 2014 to 2022 shows that over that time period, growth in registered Democrat voters has remained relatively stagnant, while the number of registered Republicans has been growing. Looking at new voters to the state of Idaho, we see that they come from all other 49 states, and overall 65% have registered as Republicans. With a state average of 58% Republicans, this means migration to Idaho is driving up the number of registered Republicans. In other words, migration to Idaho is making Idaho redder and redder. Most of the migration happens to be COWs (that is Californians, Oregonians and Washingtonians). 58% of new voters are coming to Idaho from California, Oregon and Washington. And of these almost 69,000 new voters, almost 70% of them identify as Republicans. Of note, of these new voters, about two-thirds of them are over the age of 50. So, in totality, the data shows that a majority of newcomers to Idaho are Republican COWs over the age of 50. National data informs us that older voters are much more likely to vote than younger voters (about 71% of voters over age 60 turnout to vote, while only about 43% of voters under age 29 turnout to vote).

Idaho Elections Are Determined at the Primary

So what does all this data tell us? That the primary elections are where Idaho elects its leaders. Yet primary elections tend to have very low voter turnout. Voter turnout for primaries vacillates between the upper teens to mid-twentieth percentiles. While general election voter turnout is usually in the upper fiftieth to lower sixtieth percentiles. In other words, half as many people vote in the primary as in the general election. Yet, in Idaho, given our political makeup, the primary election is where the result matters because in most instances the Republican candidate will prevail. The population growth trends reveal this will be even more the case as our state grows and becomes even more Republican than it is today or was yesterday. Idaho's 2024 primary election will be held on May 21, 2024. Please vote in the primary. Encourage your friends and neighbors to do the same. That is where your vote matters most.



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Does the Idaho Freedom Foundation Support Idaho Agriculture?

We have recently examined whether the Idaho Freedom Foundation aligns with the positions of Idaho agriculture. For those that may not be aware, the Idaho Freedom Foundation ("IFF") is a public-policy think tank that examines, provides analysis of, and scores Idaho legislation. It does so from a perspective of low taxes, capitalist-market focus, and conservative libertarian principles. IFF scores legislation using its "index", which legislators can look to for guidance on whether they should support or oppose legislation. Similarly, Idaho agriculture, through an organization known as Food Producers of Idaho, also scores legislation as "for" or "against" based on analysis of how the legislation may effect agricultural productivity and markets in Idaho. Food Producers is composed of representatives of nearly every commodity in the state. We recently examined the legislative positions of each over a 3-year period.



IDAHO FREEDOM FOUNDATION OPPOSES AG 83% OF THE TIME

The data reveals that in 83% of the circumstances where both Food Producers and IFF take a position on legislation, the two groups have opposing positions. Thus, the conclusion seems clear that Idaho Freedom Foundation is not generally supportive of Idaho agriculture.



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The background of the top section is a photograph of the Idaho State Capitol building in Boise, Idaho, covered in snow under a grey, overcast sky. The building's central dome is prominent, and the architecture is classical with many windows and columns.

Federal Dairy Issues Update

IDAHO DAIRYMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Charlie Garrison

Congress Scrambles To Finish Its Work for 2023

It has been a tumultuous time for the U.S. Congress in Washington, D.C. this fall with House members removing the Speaker without a viable plan for selecting a replacement, the expiration of a five-year Farm Bill and the start of the new Fiscal Year on October 1st without any of the bills to fund the federal agencies completed.

As the holidays approach along with the adjournment of the First Session of the 118th Congress, there is a new Speaker but the appropriations bills have been extended at last year's levels for some agencies into January and others into early February. The Farm Bill that expired on September 30th was extended for a year. Congress now faces the even more daunting task of trying to negotiate and pass a new Farm Bill during the 2024 Presidential election campaign.

The new Speaker of the House is Congressman Mike Johnson, a Republican from northwest Louisiana. He is serving in his fourth term, having first won his House seat in 2016. After election as Speaker, he gave up seats on the Judiciary and Armed Services Committees and on the Select Committee on the Weaponization of the Federal Government. Shortly after taking the top job in the House, he was able to successfully negotiate an agreement with the Senate and the Biden White House on a "continuing resolution" that extended funding for some federal agencies until January 19th and the rest until February 2nd. This avoided a government shutdown that would have happened in mid-November and removes the likelihood that Congress would be scrambling to craft an end-of-session spending bill that required lawmakers to stay in town for the holidays.

While the appropriations bills were successfully extended, Congress is being asked to pass what is called a supplemental spending bill to provide funds for the war in Ukraine and the conflict between Israel and Hamas in Gaza. The White House

has requested Congress approve a total of \$106 billion in a supplemental bill before the end of the year. Republicans on Capitol Hill are demanding that enhanced security along the southern U.S. border, including tougher restrictions on people making asylum claims, be attached to additional funds for the war in Ukraine.

Agriculture is potentially affected by these negotiations because the default position for many Republicans is the inclusion of a bill known as “H.R. 2” in the supplemental funding legislation. That bill includes a provision requiring all employers to use the E-Verify system to confirm the work eligibility of all new hires. H.R. 2 passed earlier this year with only Republican votes. While it seems highly unlikely that mandatory E-Verify could make it into a supplemental funding bill like this one, the stakes could hardly be higher and IDA has, once again, let the state’s congressional delegation know the detrimental effects it would have on Idaho dairy.

Another Year of the Farm Bill

IDA priorities for 2024 and the next Farm Bill revolve mainly around Conservation Title programs. Cost-share in the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) could provide a big boost to dairy conservation and sustainability efforts. But the requirement to have a Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP) along with the \$450,000 per individual limit on cost-share assistance are major barriers to participation in EQIP for Idaho’s dairy families. IDA is working with the congressional delegation members and with other like-minded dairy and agriculture groups to find workable alternatives to those barriers. That work has become even more important as USDA is making several billion dollars from the “Inflation Reduction Act” available for EQIP projects that are related to reducing greenhouse gas emissions or sequestering carbon from the atmosphere.

International Trade

A trade dispute resolution panel ruled that Canada has complied with its dairy market obligations under the U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA). The U.S. Trade Representative’s Office had filed a second complaint after determining that Canada’s moves to comply after that country lost the first challenge the U.S. had filed. The U.S. still believes that Canada’s move to provide

processors there with the tariff rate quota allotments rather than retailers means the access agreed to in the Canadian market will never be realized.

Both U.S. Representatives Mike Simpson and Russ Fulcher have signed onto a House letter asking the USTR what its next steps will be to try to help gain the market access Canada agreed to in the USMCA. It is critical to establish the precedent with negotiating partners that the U.S. intends to enforce obligations in future trade agreements. IDA thanks Mike Simpson and Russ Fulcher for their support on this important trade issue.

The Whole Milk for Healthy Kids Act

In an attempt to help school milk policy catch up with current science on the health benefits of the consumption of milkfat, the U.S. House of Representatives has passed its bill to return all varieties of fluid milk to school lunch and breakfast meals that qualify for federal reimbursement. Both Congressmen Simpson and Fulcher are cosponsors of the House bill and voted for it on the floor.

The bill has been introduced in the U.S. Senate with the support of both Idaho Senators Mike Crapo and James Risch. IDA will work with other dairy groups around the country to try to get the Senate bill through the Agriculture Committee and passed on the floor so kids can get the milk they want to drink with their school meals.

Ag Labor

The availability of labor remains a key issue for the Idaho dairy industry. And yet it is hard to name an issue on which progress has eluded good work by so many for so long. The divided Congress and public concerns about the number of people crossing the southern border are major contributors to the stalemate in Congress on a potential legislative fix on this issue. Idaho dairy producers still need for current workers and their immediate family to be able to adjust their status along with access to a visa program for new workers to fill nonseasonal jobs in the future. IDA will continue to work with the members of the state’s congressional delegation in Washington, D.C. who have shown a willingness to lead on this very difficult political issue.



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Dairy Digester Permitting & Compliance Guidelines

**Idaho Department of
Environmental Quality**

Relevant Regulations

DEQ Rules for the Control of Air Pollution in Idaho, IDAPA 58.01.01.201, Permit to Construct Required, states in part: *"No owner or operator may commence construction or modification of any stationary source, facility, major facility, or major modification without first obtaining a permit to construct from DEQ, unless the source is exempted."*

As such, this rule requires an evaluation of air permitting or exemption requirements prior to the commencement of construction of air quality emissions units. In the context of dairy digesters, those units include, but are not limited to, digesters, flares, thermal oxidizers, boilers, and biogas-powered internal combustion engines designed to produce electricity. If an owner/operator constructs or modifies air quality emissions units prior to obtaining a permit or exemption they may be subject to formal enforcement.

Furthermore, IDAPA 58.01.01.006.08, General Definitions, Commence Construction or Modification, states:

"In general, this means initiation of physical on-site construction activities on an emissions unit which are of a permanent nature. Such activities include, but are not limited to, installation of building supports and foundations, laying of underground pipework, and construction of permanent storage structures. With respect to a change in method of operation, this term refers to those on-site activities, other than preparatory activities, which mark the initiation of the change."

Note, the act of purchasing and otherwise acquiring stationary source equipment that is of a "permanent nature" (e.g., a boiler or an IC engine) prior to obtaining a permit or exemption is strongly discouraged. Similarly, acquisition of rented, leased, and/or otherwise repurposed equipment prior to obtaining a permit or exemption is also strongly discouraged.

Lastly, certain activities such as installation of an aerated process lagoon, which could conceivably be converted to a digester at a later time, may be permissible given the original intent of the feature is not related to an emissions unit. Conversely, if the original intent of the equipment or feature is related to an air emissions unit, preconstruction restrictions are applicable. Thus, for instance, installation of a concrete digester pit, even if the pit is not initially covered and charged, is not permissible since the feature is part of a dedicated emissions unit.

Project Construction Dos and Don'ts

In general, activities related to site preparation outside of work specifically pertinent to air emissions units is allowed. Air emissions units related to dairy biogas digester projects include digesters, flares, thermal oxidizers, boilers, and biogas-powered internal combustion engines designed to produce electricity.

The following activities are allowable prior to the issuance of an air quality permit.

- Site preparation including leveling, grading, excavation, blasting, and trenching
- Roadway and parking area development
- Placement of temporary construction equipment

The following activities are not allowed until a final air quality permit or exemption has been issued.

- Pouring of permanent foundations for air emissions units
- Construction of buildings that will house or are related to air emission units and processes
- Development of any existing processes into emission units
- Operation of air emissions units for actual production



Permit to Construct Timelines and Fees

1. Air permitting is an extensive process that may involve a public comment period
2. A pre-application meeting with DEQ is highly recommended prior to submitting the application (see <https://www.deq.idaho.gov/permits/air-quality-permitting/> for more info)
3. Upon receipt of a complete permit application, allow a minimum of 100 days for DEQ to review and issue a permit
4. The permitting period increases to 150 days if a public comment period is requested
5. The application fee is \$1,000 (see IDAPA 58.01.01.224, Permit to Construct Application Fee)
6. A separate processing fee ranging from \$1,000 to \$10,000 also applies. The applicable processing fee category is determined by summing the amount of increases of regulated pollutant emissions, then subtracting any respective decreases as identified in the permit to construct (see IDAPA 58.01.01.225, Permit to Construct Processing Fee).

DEQ/ISDA Dairy Ammonia Program Summary

In addition to the general air quality permitting requirements described above, DEQ and the Idaho State Department of Agriculture (ISDA) jointly administer the Dairy Ammonia Program. As such, DEQ administers the air quality regulatory aspect, and ISDA administers

inspections that verify ongoing compliance with those regulations. The relevant regulations are expressed in IDAPA 58.01.01.760-764.

IDAPA 58.01.01.761 identifies a threshold quantity representing the number of animal units (AUs) or mature cows at which a dairy is believed to emit 100 tons of ammonia per year. The threshold quantity differs based on unit of measurement (AUs vs. mature cows), facility lot type (Drylot, Free Stall Scrape, and Free Stall Flush), as well as whether, and how, liquid manure is applied at ground level. If the dairy exceeds the threshold quantity, the facility must obtain a Dairy Ammonia Permit by Rule from DEQ. ISDA assists facilities in making the determination of whether the facility qualifies for the Dairy Ammonia Program.

Furthermore, IDAPA 58.01.01.764 identifies a list of acceptable Best Management Practices (BMPs) for reducing ammonia emissions. BMPs are assigned a point value depending on method effectiveness and lot type. A Dairy Ammonia Program-qualified dairy must achieve at least 27 points to maintain compliance.

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New OSHA Local Emphasis Program in Idaho

IDA CONSULTING SERVICES

Ellissa Clark

The Idaho Dairymen’s Association recently learned that OSHA has a current Local Emphasis Program (LEP) in Federal Region 10—which includes Idaho. This LEP was issued on December 31, 2021 and is set to expire on December 31, 2026 (renewal is possible). The LEP provides policies and procedures for the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) to follow when scheduling and conducting programmed inspections of selected agricultural and general industry operations where powered industrial trucks (PITs) are used. Dairy and milk production has been identified as one of twenty-six industries in which programmed inspections may occur.

In general, powered industrial trucks include “...fork trucks, tractors, platform lift trucks used for lifting and hauling and powered by electric motors or internal combustion engines.”¹ At the time of this article, two inspections have taken place on Idaho dairies. One manager on an inspected facility shared that the focus of that dairy’s inspection was forklifts and loaders. OSHA inspectors, also referred to as compliance officers, want to see that employees operating this type of equipment have been trained and utilize safety best practices.

The OSHA document that explains the LEP is called a directive. In the appendix of the directive there is a Non-Mandatory PIT Checklist. If you would like to see a list of items an OSHA compliance officer may look at, this is a good place to start.

Please reach out to Ellissa Clark with any questions or concerns about this LEP.

¹ https://www.osha.gov/sites/default/files/enforcement_directives/21-09_CPL_04.pdf.



OSHA Inspection Process

Any dairy that has had 10 or more employees (excluding immediate family) in the previous 12 months is subject to being randomly selected for an unannounced inspection. If a compliance officer were to show up on your dairy, you can expect the following inspection format:

Presentation of Credentials

Compliance officer arrives & presents credentials.

Opening Conference

Compliance officer explains why the site was selected and describes the scope of the inspection. The dairy selects a representative to accompany the inspector during the inspection.

Walkaround

Compliance officer and dairy representative walk through the portions of the workplace covered by the inspection. Compliance officer may also review the dairy's **injury and illness records** and check for the posting of the **official OSHA poster**. Employee training records related to PIT operation may be requested.

Closing Conference

Compliance officer holds meeting with the dairy owner to discuss the findings. If there are any items to be corrected, the discussion will include possible courses of action.



Ellissa Clark

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A person is walking across a field, carrying a large white milk can on their head. The scene is captured at sunset, with the sun low on the horizon, creating a warm, golden glow. The person is silhouetted against the bright sky. The field is dark and appears to be a grassy or agricultural area.

Be Smart with Your Water & Get Cool with Your Milk

IDAHO ENERGY INNOVATIONS

Deslyn O'Dell

Have you noticed or heard that water levels in Idaho are in decline? State officials and industry experts recognize that Idaho's water supply is limited and there's not one area in the state that is immune. This situation affects your farm business, especially if your dairy uses well water as part of your cooling system.

Using Water—Cooling Milk

As you know, every Idaho dairy uses refrigeration to cool the 100-degree milk from cows to Grade A temperatures of 40 degrees. Typically cooling milk occurs in a two-stage system, using well water for both stages. This relies on well pumps that use energy and require maintenance. During the first stage or pre-cooling, the milk runs through the heat exchanger using the 70-degree well water to drop the temperature into the 80s. The milk is cooled in the second stage with mechanical refrigeration where well water is used in the cooling process by the chillers. As the 80-degree milk passes through this stage, the mechanical refrigeration or chillers complete the cooling to the all-important Grade A temperature, ready to be picked up for processing.

Dairy owners who want to upgrade their cooling systems will often consider converting their second-stage mechanical refrigeration from water-cooled chillers to air-cooled chillers. Although water is no longer being pumped out of the ground to cool the second-stage chillers, well water is still used for the pre-cooling stage. Air-cooled systems are not as resilient to heat as the water-cooled system that was replaced. You can only reduce the temperature so much with fans when it's 100 degrees outside in the middle of summer. You'll need fans that take up a lot of space and even then, they're not as efficient because air is never going to dissipate heat as well as a liquid will.

What if There Was a Better, More Cost-Effective Way?

So, if upgrading to air-cooled chillers isn't the best solution, what is? Smarter, better cooling technology. It increases efficiency, lowers operating costs and eliminates reliance on well water for cooling. Here are the top five benefits.



Deslyn O'Dell

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1. Hybrid approach—best of both air cooling and water cooling to maintain efficient cooling temperatures year-round without depending on well water or any polluting chemical agents.
2. System that reliably and efficiently controls both the pre-cooling stage and second-stage mechanical refrigeration without requiring major changes to the existing chiller.
3. Maximize energy savings and increase profitability with smarter ways to manage energy consumption in your dairy operation by reducing the number of hours you need to run your equipment.
4. Reduce maintenance costs and extend the life of your refrigeration equipment and well pumps with more efficient cooling technology to consistently lower the milk temperature.
5. Help prevent the depletion of your well and the cost of digging deeper or a new well—less impact to the water supply with better stewardship & conservation to safeguard Idaho's water resources.

Act Now

The more efficient your refrigeration system is, the more profitable your dairy farm will be. By choosing new, smarter technology, you'll be able to reduce your costs for energy, repairs, and maintenance, and circumvent the issue of declining water tables.

If you want to know how you could use these technologies to improve your profitability and remove the need for well water to cool your milk, we can evaluate your systems and recommend the best options to upgrade your equipment with no upfront cost to you. Contact us to schedule a free consultation!



IDAHO
ENERGY INNOVATIONS



FinCEN Reporting for Farmers, Ranchers, & Dairymen

SAWTOOTH LAW OFFICES, PLLC

Brian A. Faria

Starting January 1, 2024, certain businesses, referred to as “Reporting Companies,” will be required to report to the U.S. Government who owns or controls the business. The U.S. Government’s purpose in creating this requirement is to combat the financing of terrorism and to detect financial crime activity, primarily money laundering.

This requirement came about through a law known as the Corporate Transparency Act (“CTA”), which was passed on January 21, 2021, as part of the broader Anti-Money Laundering Act of 2020 (“AMLA”). Historically, the U.S. government relied on monitoring financial activity through financial institutions such as banks or credit unions. However, terrorists, drug traffickers, white collar criminals and other sophisticated criminals have had success in masking money laundering activity through various legal entities and complex corporate structures. The goal of the AMLA and CTA is to make it more difficult for bad actors to hide or benefit from their ill-gotten gains through shell companies or overly complicated and layered ownership structures. By requiring businesses to report their beneficial owners to a non-public database, the CTA aims to increase the transparency and accountability in corporate ownership and prevent the misuse of anonymous entities for illegal purposes.

The Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (“FinCEN”), a bureau of the Department of Treasury, is tasked with implementing and enforcing the CTA and AMLA. Since the passing of AMLA and CTA in 2021, FinCEN accepted feedback on how to implement the regulatory regime. On September 30, 2022, FinCEN issued a final reporting rule, which finally set the stage for the implementation of the CTA. Although this rule was subsequently amended on November 8, 2023, and November 29, 2023, those amendments did not postpone when the rule would come into effect.

How Does This Apply to Farms, Ranches, and Dairies?

Under the rule issued by FinCEN, all Reporting Companies are required to file an initial report. A Reporting Company is categorized as either a “Domestic Reporting Company” or a “Foreign Reporting Company.” Most dairies, farms and ranches will likely fall under the scope of “Domestic Reporting Company,” which is defined as any entity that is (i) a corporation, (ii) a limited liability company, or (iii) any entity created by the filing of a document with the secretary of state or any similar office under the law of the State or Indian Tribe. Therefore, entities such as limited partnerships, which are created by filing a certificate with the Secretary of State, will fall into the category of a Domestic Reporting Company. There is a list of 23 exceptions to the definition of Reporting Company, including (i) tax exempt entities (non-profits), (ii) Large Operating Companies (defined as an entity having at least 20 full time employees, has an operating presence in the United States and tax returns showing more than \$5 million in gross receipts or sales), and (iii) inactive entities.

If your business qualifies as a Reporting Company, you are required to report the company’s “beneficial owners,” which are defined as the individuals who own at least twenty-five percent (25%) of the entity, or the individuals who exercise “substantial control” over the entity. The definition of ownership and “substantial control” is defined broadly and considers a variety of arrangements and ownership interests.

The report will be made on a form prescribed by FinCEN and will be kept confidential (although, it may be disclosed under certain limited circumstances). Reporting Companies are initially obligated

to provide an initial report. A Reporting Company is only required to file an additional report if there is any change with respect to the information that was provided in the initial report or an amendment is required to correct inaccuracies. All additional reports must be made within 30 days of the change in ownership or the discovery of an inaccuracy.

Reporting Companies can begin to file their reports starting January 1, 2024. Any Reporting Company that existed before January 1, 2024 will have until January 1, 2025 to file its report. Any Reporting Company that is created during the year of 2024 will have 90 days to file its report. Commencing on January 1, 2025, any Reporting Company that is created thereafter will have only 30 days to file its report.

It is critical that every Reporting Company file its report. There are severe consequences for failure to do so. Civil penalties are assessed at \$500 per day, up to a total of \$10,000, for as long as the violation continues. Criminal penalties can also be imposed and result in up to two years of prison time. Unauthorized disclosure or use of beneficial ownership information carries penalties of \$500 per day, up to a maximum of \$250,000, and imprisonment for up to five years for individuals knowingly disclosing or using this information without proper authorization.

Preparing the reports for some businesses may be straight forward. However, many of the definitions within FinCEN’s rules are broadly stated and every business’s ownership structure and management is different. In more complex cases, professional assistance may be necessary. Regardless, farms, ranches, and dairies in Idaho should be aware of the new U.S. government regulations and plan accordingly.



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CAFO Improvement 2023 Funding Cycle

IDA CONSULTING SERVICES

Tanya Hibler &
Megan Satterwhite

The 2023 funding cycle for the CAFO Improvement Fund is officially complete. The CAFO Improvement Fund Committee met, ranked applications, and awarded projects in October. Of the 33 applications, 14 were funded. Many applications were similar in scope to the previous cycle. A list of funded projects can be found below.

In total, \$24 million was proposed for CAFO projects in this funding cycle: \$11.8 million in grant requests, and \$12.1 million in matching funds. The committee ultimately funded \$4,997,291 in grant requests and producers provided \$4,795,808 in matching funds. Overall, we are impressed to see continual participation and producers' willingness to make on-farm improvements at this scale. As a committee, we hope to continue funding projects that will positively impact natural resources and assist producers with their farms' goals.

Unfortunately, there were many excellent applications that the committee could not fund. The fund has been competitive every year, making awardee selection difficult. Successful applicants were able to clearly explain and articulate the benefits of the proposed project to their operations. Applicants were also ranked by the project's estimated impact and improvement to water, soil, and air quality. If you applied and have specific questions about your project, please reach out.

IDA is actively engaged in conversations encouraging an appropriation to the fund for 2024. Please look for additional updates in the future.

Funded Projects

- Water purification and recycling system
- Screw press
- Centrifuge
- Weepy wall concrete separators
- DariTech DT 360 and DTX presses
- Separation building and infrastructure
- Plumbing infrastructure for additional lagoon water application acres
- Roller compacted concrete lots

A note to 2022 awardees: You must demonstrate project progress by the end of 2023. If this is not possible, please reach out to Mary Anne, mary.anne.nelson@deq.idaho.gov, to make changes to your grant contract.



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A landscape photograph at sunset or sunrise. The sky is a gradient of orange, yellow, and blue. In the foreground, there are dark silhouettes of power lines and a silo. The ground is dark and appears to have some snow or frost.

New Mexico Is Losing. Can Idaho Profit?

EVER. AG

Colin Kadis

Recently our team looked at how 2023 has or hasn't held to the long-term trends. Some trends remained strong: high dairy prices still inevitably lead to low prices the following year, for instance.

Not everything continued to follow historical trends in 2023, however. In particular, we're suddenly dealing with a lack of milk supply in the Southwest region of the United States, an area that, not so long ago, was well known for having way more milk than it could handle. In 2023 things changed completely – anecdotal reports suggest that milk flowed all the way from our very own state of Idaho to supplement plants in Kansas, Texas, and New Mexico.

So, what's happening, and how long until the Southwest can once again fill the numerous (and growing number of) dairy plants in the region? Is this a 2023-only anomaly that will see future years of abundant milk in the Southwest? Or has there been a structural change, the beginning of a new period of a persistent lack of milk in the Southwest?

Historical data comparing 2023 to 2022 indicates that tough economics are having a big impact on Southwest milk production. While Idaho produced 1.5% more milk in the first ten months of 2023 than it did in the first ten months of 2022, growth was limited or negative in the major Southwestern states, including Texas (+0.5%) and New Mexico (-6.4%).

Part of the story is pay prices. USDA reported the October All Milk Price for New Mexico at \$20.30 per hundredweight, which is running nearly two dollars behind Idaho at \$22.40. A year ago, New Mexico was under \$24 while Idaho was at \$26.70. This pattern has been consistent over time, so we know that there's just less revenue to work with to make ends meet.

The decline also makes some wonder how much water availability is playing a factor. A long-standing hypothesis by many is that the naturally finite water resources of the Southwest will eventually exhaust themselves, forcing dairies and cows to find new homes. Anecdotal reports suggest this is starting to happen, at least at the margins of the aquifer in New Mexico.

Whatever the cause, New Mexico's decline is real—in year-to-date through October, New Mexico produced 360 million less

pounds of milk than it did through the same time period in 2022. Big numbers can seem abstract, so let's try to bring them closer to home. The first 10 months of the year have 305 days. If we divide 360 million by 305 days, we get just a little more than 1.1 million pounds a day—assuming a herd of 70-pound per day, we're talking about 17,000 less cows.

Now add to the mix new plant processing capacity in the Southwest. Recently, Cacique opened a cheese plant in Amarillo. But the needle mover has been the new Panhandle Cheese facility. Contacts indicate that milk intake is expected to run well more than five million pounds per day. And while Panhandle is a vertically integrated operation supplied with milk from its own farms, the startup reportedly (and logically) involved redirecting some of that milk back away from other neighboring plants, leaving holes to fill. The bottom line: The Southwest is struggling to find enough milk.

While cows are leaving New Mexico and it's possible that milk will be less plentiful in the region in the future, the Southwest still boasts extensive dairy processing capacity. And more is coming: Leprino Foods in Lubbock, TX. Hilmar in Dodge City, KS. HEB in San Antonio, TX. H.P. Hood in Greenville, TX. If plants are going to run at the capacity operators desire, this summer's trend of hunting down milk from neighboring regions may well continue and even expand.

This is where things get interesting for Idaho. Keeping milk buyers happy in the Southwest is likely to be an ongoing challenge. If the Southwest continues to pull milk from other regions of the country, at what price will it do so? Will plants need raw milk, various forms of condensed milks or even dry milk powders? Idaho can position itself as a key supplier of ingredients and reserve milk supplies while delivering positive returns to our producers if we set our sights on the opportunity.

As milk begins to move in unprecedented ways and dairy economics become ever more complex, consider reaching out to a financial services company like Ever.ag for clarity on the risks of our modern milk market and what you can do proactively to protect your operation.



Colin Kadis
clk@ever.ag





CHEESE FOR CHRISTMAS?

The State of the U.S. Cheese Market

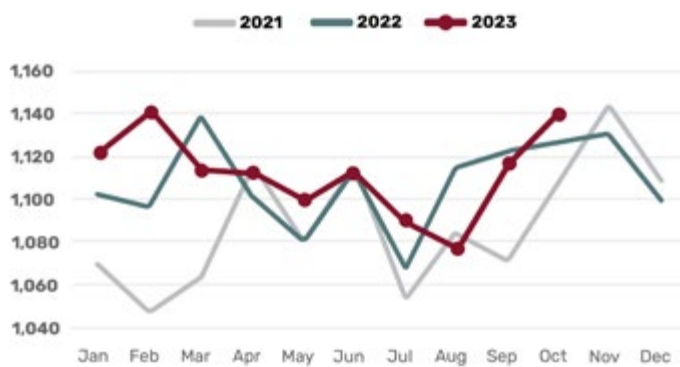
STONEX

Dustin Winston

The cheese market is the main driver of the success of dairy farmers in Idaho as it represents the destination for more than half of the milk produced within the state. According to the USDA's data, in 2022 Idaho's milk equivalent volume of cheese production was 9,302 million pounds of milk (9.4 lbs of milk per pound of cheese). Meaning just over half of Idaho's 16,628 million pounds of milk produced in 2022 was destined to become cheese. With such a large factor driving the success of the industry it is important to understand where that market stands.

US Cheese Domestic Disappearance

(30 Day Months, Mil. Lbs.)



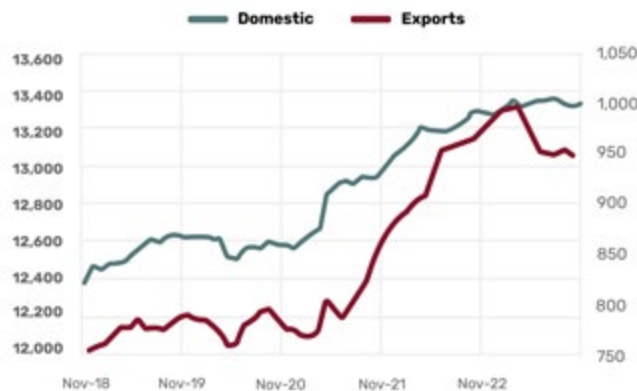
Source: USDA, GTT, StoneX Calculations and Estimates

Cheese consumption in the U.S. has been a foundational piece of the U.S. dairy market. Domestic consumption of cheese was up over 2022 levels in the first two quarters of the year. In fact, only two months of 2023 through October were expected to have a greater than 0.5% decline in cheese consumption from last year's levels according to our estimates. We expect a third consecutive increase in the yearly domestic cheese consumption in the U.S. to be represented in 2023 as we should surpass 13,560 million pounds of cheese consumed for the first time ever.

So, this means the cheese market is seeing great prices, right? Well, the short answer is not entirely. After reading this far you may be asking why not? There are a couple of reasons, chief among them—exports. International demand aside from Mexico, has been fairly weak (-5% YTD). According to GTT, Mexico demand accounts for roughly a third of international sales, which still leaves a fair amount of impact from the interest of other countries. One of these countries is South Korea, which is the

US Cheese Domestic Sales and Exports

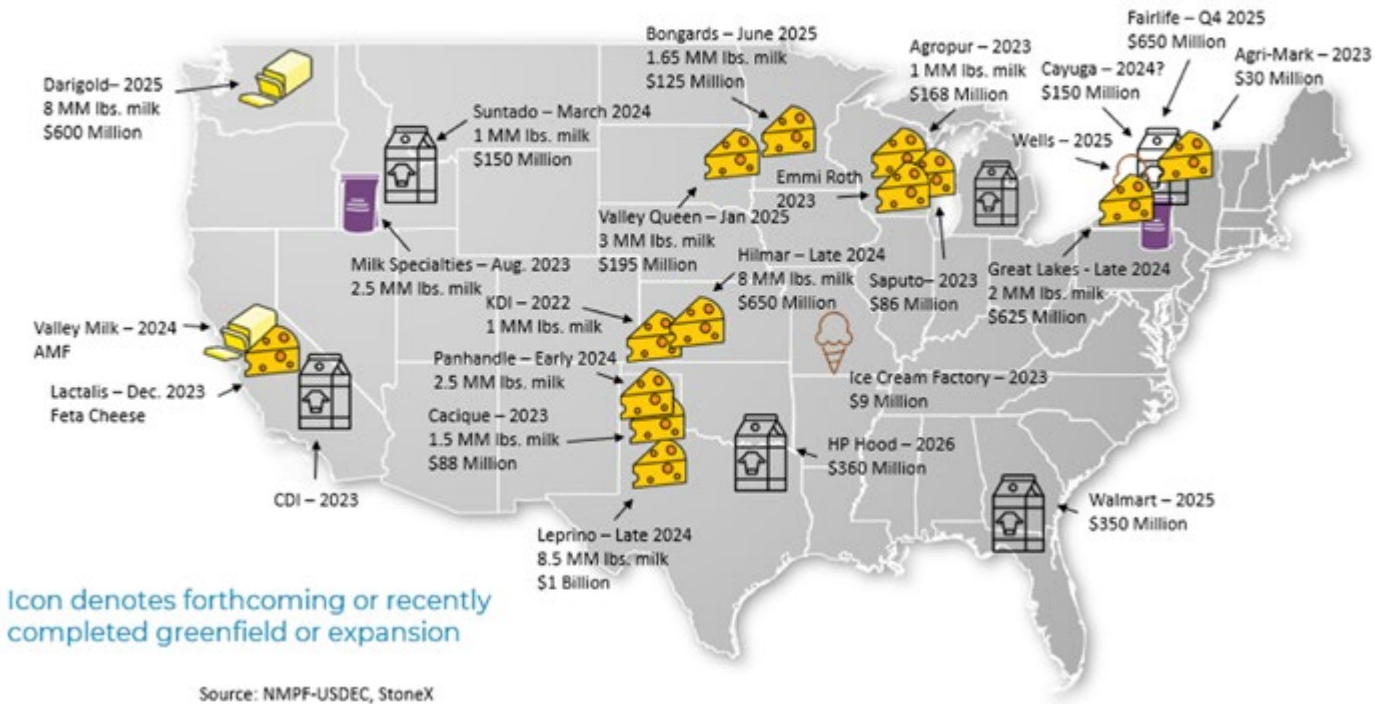
(12 Month Rolling Total, Mil. Lbs.)



Source: USDA, GTT, StoneX Calculations and Estimates

second largest destination for U.S. cheese. South Korean cheese purchases from the U.S. has fallen a whopping 43% from last year's levels through October. Japan, the third largest destination for U.S. cheese has also seen a 14% decline in purchases from the states year-to-date. Long-term exports should return to the trend of increasing volume as we have seen in past years. Right now the driving factor is economic conditions impacting sales opportunities not a change in consumer behavior.

U.S. Dairy is Investing in the Future



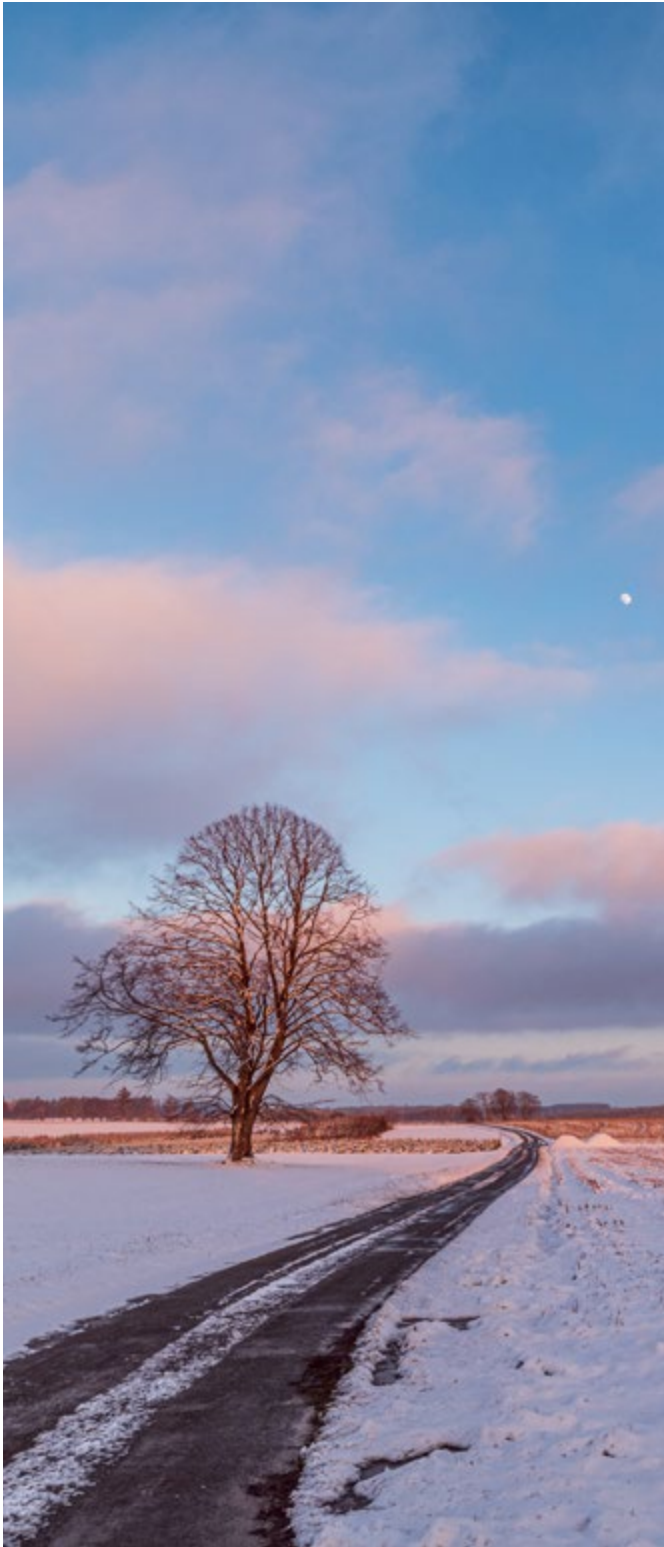
Aside from exports we also have a lot of new cheese capacity being built across the U.S.. Granted, some of this capacity will replace less efficient production volume, but there is still considerable additional capacity coming on board. This extra capacity could have a variety of impacts short-term. This should support the expected increase in international interest of U.S. cheese long-term. Short-term I can see two possible outcomes, a flood of cheese in the market, or a shortage of milk available for production as herd growth is slower than expected to fill the necessary milk volume. I lean toward believing the latter will occur, given the dairy herd numbers from the USDA.

Taking this all into account the futures curve is pricing in a carry in the market, and we expect that carry should hold. So, long-story short; export demand should improve and the U.S. may be a bit short on milk in 2024, early 2025 for these plant expansions which should lead to an improvement in cheese prices assuming domestic demand continues to hold steady.

It is important that we frequently take a look at factors like these, impacting prices and see what the future may hold. If you want a greater idea for what the future holds we have a great event coming up in March in the wonderful city of Nashville where we will be discussing many details impacting the dairy industry. We would love to see you there!



<https://stonex.cventevents.com/event/cb99701c-c2e9-4871-b7d0-2ff9e54f6b67/summary>



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University of Idaho Dairy Specialist Seeks Farmer Input for Industry Research

UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO

**John O'Connell &
Izabelle Teixeira**

A University of Idaho Extension dairy specialist is seeking to visit with as many Idaho dairy farmers as possible to broaden her knowledge about issues facing the industry and guide her research priorities.

Izabelle Teixeira, based at U of I's Twin Falls Research and Extension Center, considered circulating a survey but opted for a more personal and informal approach toward information gathering after several dairymen told her they'd rather chat than fill out more paperwork.

Teixeira, who specializes in animal nutrition and sustainable dairy practices, joined the university in April 2022. Dairymen who are willing to share their thoughts on the industry's needs may contact her at 208-736-3604 or izabelle@uidaho.edu.

"I want to know what their challenges are," Teixeira said. "I don't think I'm going to do the best if I come up with an idea that I think is important but it's not important to an Idaho dairy."

In her early discussions with dairy farmers, she's been asked questions about the availability of resources related to mental health, estate planning and many other topics outside of her own areas of expertise. Even if she can't help directly, Teixeira welcomes the opportunity to link dairy farmers with other U of I resources and experts who may be better equipped to address such challenges.

In the area of nutrition, Teixeira believes her own recent work could help dairy farmers save money. She recently conducted an exploratory study concluding modern Idaho dairy cow diets include significantly less phosphorus than 20 years ago, though the state's dairymen still have room to cut back on feeding the nutrient without affecting herd health and productivity.

Teixeira compared rations currently fed at Idaho dairies with records of rations from 2002. During that two-decade period, she found dairymen slightly decreased phosphorus in their rations for lactating cows. Dry cows—those that aren't currently lactating—are receiving rations with 22% less phosphorus.

By better tailoring rations with the actual needs of dairy cows, the state's dairymen can minimize the environmental impacts of their operations while also reducing feed costs.

"The nutritionists are doing a great job, so the level of phosphorus in the diet has decreased," Teixeira said. "What I discovered is they are

using less alfalfa and alfalfa haylage compared with 20 years ago. They are increasing corn silage compared with the early 2000s, and they are using more triticale."

In addition to tweaking ration composition, dairies have also stopped feeding their cows phosphorus supplements, having realized dairy cows are already getting more than enough phosphorus in their diets.

She plans to use findings of the phosphorus exploratory study to guide topics of future research.

Based on a review of dairy cow literature about milk urea nitrogen—a constituent in milk, which is a product of protein breakdown—Teixeira has concluded there's also room for the typical Idaho dairy to scale back on protein in feed. Nitrogen is the key component of amino acids, which are the building blocks of protein. Sampling milk for milk urea nitrogen provides dairymen insight into the percentage of nitrogen in their rations that's being excreted rather than getting utilized by a dairy cow.

Teixeira is pursuing grant funding to collect milk samples and evaluate how ration composition affects milk urea nitrogen on actual Idaho commercial dairies. She'll focus her research on understanding protein requirements of different dairy cow breeds, as well as how weather, local conditions, traits of individual cows and other factors affect nitrogen use efficiency.

"There is a tool we're going to develop that is for the nutritionists and dairymen to use on the farm so they can monitor the diets of lactating cows considering the site-specific characteristics," Teixeira said. "It does not need to be used to compare one dairy to another but rather for one dairyman to use as a benchmark."

Teixeira believes dairymen can better hit the mark in meeting the nitrogen needs of their cows by evaluating specific amino acids in their rations rather than assessing protein as a broad category. She plans to research how to develop rations based on amino acid profile in future research.

"I see great opportunities for improvement," Teixeira said. "The dairymen want to have their operations as sustainable as possible. If we aim to improve efficiency, it's necessary to approach cows as individuals, taking into account the individual variability."



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Keeping Small Town America Alive

AGPROFESSIONALS

Karen Gerfen Glueck

We believe it is critical to keep small towns in rural America alive. Small towns are the foundation and backbone of America. They embody the values that this country was built on. Traditionally, agriculture has been a significant source of revenue for small towns. It provides jobs on farms and related industries such as food processing, transportation, services, and retail. The income generated by these jobs circulates in the local economy.

Unfortunately, small towns across America are facing a problem with limited job opportunities and increased poverty. According to a USDA report titled Rural Employment and Unemployment, from 2007 to 2010, small towns lost over 1.4 million jobs, with the 2009 recession being a significant contributing factor. From 2010 to 2019, employment slowly grew but never fully recovered to the employment rates in 2007. Factors for unemployment can vary; however, there is often not enough work in small towns, even if a person is consistently looking and applying for positions.

Off-Farm Income and the Importance of Diversity of Business Opportunities

A March 2020 article by the USDA reported, “Among family farms, 45 percent of principal operators and spouses have a job off the farm. Most of these jobs were in construction, production, transportation, professional, sales, and administrative occupations.” Further, in a September 2021 article, the USDA stated, “Off-farm income, such as pensions, investment income or wages and salary from an off-farm job is an important source of total income for U.S. farm households. In 2019, 96 percent of farm households derived some income from off-farm sources.”

In addition to off-farm income, supplemental income from renewable energy has been essential for many producers. For some of our clients, diversity in opportunities has made the difference between continuing to operate or shut down. Farms and agriculture-related businesses often support and rely on local suppliers, further boosting the local economy. For example, farmers purchase equipment, seeds, and fertilizers from local stores, while agricultural cooperatives and processing facilities create markets for local products.

Diversity of Jobs Needed in Small Towns

A shift is happening in rural communities. Currently, the largest sector of the small-town workforce is moving to the service industry, according to the American Progress article ‘The Path to Rural Resilience in America.’ This starkly contrasts the workforces that created small towns and rural communities in the past: agriculture, manufacturing, and mining.

A US Census report titled ‘Rural Industry Workers in America’ puts numbers behind these statements. In 2016, 10.9% of rural Americans were employed in the retail trade, and 7.3% were employed in the arts, entertainment, recreation, accommodation, and food services trades, according to the report. These jobs all typically fall under the ‘service industry’ umbrella. The number totals 18.2%, making up almost one fifth of the workforce. In addition to the previously mentioned jobs within the service industry, the U.S. Census data also reports educational services, health care, and social assistance as making up 22.3% of employment in rural America in 2016; nearly 40% between the two categories.

The diversity of jobs, like those offered by renewable energy, oil and gas, and other non-service-related industries, provides additional opportunities for members of small communities to make a good living, further contributing to the local economy.

A Future in Agriculture

As agriculture is becoming more efficient, it is taking advantage of new technologies. This means agriculture is also benefiting from the diversity of jobs and in some cases, more high paying jobs. According to an article by Agricultural Recruitment Specialists, “Whether you choose to work in a lab developing new technologies alongside scientists or you prefer to work in a field with green energy solutions for farms, agriculture technology is diversifying at a rapid rate. This means there is more demand than ever for skilled individuals and there’s so much more opportunity ...” The new opportunities agricultural technology offers are exciting, such as in robotics, automation, and professions in engineering, environmental science, surveying, remote sensing, and precision agriculture, but agriculture needs to be kept going in order for those types of jobs to be available.

New Jobs in Rural Communities Have an Impact

Small communities often face the challenge of losing residents to larger cities for employment; therefore, creating just a few jobs in a small town can have an immense impact. New employment options in small towns strengthen the local workforce and contribute to a sense of community and pride. The availability of new jobs can help retain existing residents, as they are more likely to stay when suitable employment options are available, contributing to community stability.

In addition to new jobs supporting families, an article by the Better Business Bureau states that local workers shop and dine locally, keeping funds within communities. Even a small number of new jobs can inject fresh income into the community as employees spend their wages locally. Increased spending can stimulate economic growth by supporting local businesses and attracting new ones.

Opportunity Is the Key to Preserving Small Towns

A report by the Environmental Protection Agency’s Office of Sustainable Communities found that, “Even if the community has lost its original or main economic driver, it has other assets that it can use to spur the local economy... many successful small towns and cities complement recruitment by emphasizing their existing assets and distinctive resources.”

Over the years, it has become increasingly difficult for the backbone of rural communities, small family farms, to make a reasonable profit year after year on only commodity agriculture production. When farms and ranches are forced to discontinue operations, everyone from the family going out of business to the local community suffers.

Helping small towns across the country create an economic environment by preserving existing jobs and creating new employment opportunities where community members can thrive is the key to keeping them alive.



Karen Gerfen Glueck
kareng@agpros.com







FARM Program Announces 2023 Excellence Award Winners

NATIONAL MILK PRODUCERS FEDERATION

Rachel Ravencraft

The National Dairy Farmers Assuring Responsible Management (FARM) Program announced the winners of the third annual FARM Excellence Awards at the 2023 Joint Annual Meeting of the National Dairy Promotion and Research Board (NDB), National Milk Producers Federation (NMPF) and United Dairy Industry Association (UDIA) November 14 in Orlando, Florida. Through these awards, the FARM Program recognized three farms and one evaluator who go above and beyond industry standards through their commitment to innovation and continuous improvement. The 2023 FARM Excellence Award recipients are

Animal Care & Antibiotic Stewardship

Ingleside Dairy Farm, Inc. (Dairy Farmers of America)

Ingleside Dairy Farm, Inc. is in Lexington, Virginia and is a member of Dairy Farmers of America. Ingleside Dairy Farm was awarded the 2023 FARM Excellence Award in Animal Care & Antibiotic Stewardship for their constant efforts to create the ideal environment for their cows, and their forward-thinking mindset that has served as an example for farms across the Southeast.

Workforce Development

Newmont Farm LLC (Agri-Mark, Inc.)

Newmont Farm LLC is in Fairlee, Vermont, and is a member of Agri-Mark, Inc. Newmont Farm was awarded the 2023 FARM Excellence Award in Workforce Development for their dedication to employee safety and implementing practices to communicate safety measures to their employees, customers, and community.

Evaluator of the Year

Jim Kauffman (Associated Milk Producers Inc.)

Jim Kauffman, field representative and FARM Animal Care Evaluator for Associated Milk Producers Inc., was awarded the 2023 FARM Evaluator Excellence Award for his unparalleled commitment to the farms he represents and the work he does to create program awareness through conversations with milk haulers, equipment dealers, veterinarians, and others who work directly with supporting dairy farmers.

The 2023 FARM Excellence Award for Environmental Stewardship was awarded to a Dairy Farmers of America farm that wished to remain unnamed.

“The FARM Program would not be able to demonstrate the high quality of U.S. dairy without the dedication of our producers and evaluators,” Executive Director of the FARM Program Emily Yeiser Stepp said. “The 2023 FARM Excellence Award winners embody the FARM Program principles and they inspire others to do the same.”

Visit the **FARM website** for more information about the FARM Excellence Awards and the 2023 award winners.



Rachel Ravencraft
rravencraft@nmpf.org





Celebrating Families & the Industry's Future

MARSH MCLENNAN AGENCY

Daniel Golightly

Dairy West's annual meeting in November each year is a two-day celebration of the Idaho and Utah dairy industries. This year I had the pleasure of attending in Boise and am grateful for the opportunity to connect with old friends, meet new ones and celebrate the positive outlook for American dairy farms. If you did not have the opportunity to attend, I highly recommend that it be on your calendar for next year.

Here Are a Few Takeaways from the 2023 Gathering

Dairy West Is the Family Reunion for Dairy Farmers

Each year the nonprofit brings together farm families, welcoming all generations, like the Webb family (pictured) of the Webb Basin Dairy in American Falls, and honoring those who are pioneers in the industry.

It was a pleasure to join attendees in honoring Dan Gilbert as the 2023 Idaho Hall of Fame Awardee. Dan's passion for dairy farming began when he purchased his own heifer as a 4-Her. Now, he shares his love for farming with his family from his children to his grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

"It's been a good life," Dan said when reflecting on his years of farming. While things didn't always go according to plan, he mentioned that those moments turned out to be life lessons to learn and grow from. He said, "Other opportunities that come have gone better because of the ones that didn't work out."

We Are Inspired through Storytelling

Dairy West's initiative to highlight the stories of those in the industry is inspiring all of us. We had the pleasure of celebrating Oralie Smith, Dairy West's 2023 Telling Your Story Award recipient. Oralie married into dairy farming and has fully embraced the lifestyle and the opportunity to be an advocate for the industry.

Oralie is passionate about educating young people about where their food comes from. She and her family give tours to students to introduce them to dairy farming and provide the amazing opportunity to be up close with calves and cows. Recently, she participated in the adopt-a-calf program. Oralie corresponds with classrooms to send regular updates about their adopted calves. Oralie said, "I get letters in the mail from kids who said, 'I have never seen a calf!'"

The Industry Outlook Is Strong

Participants shared positive news about the future of the industry, including Darigold's announcement that it will soon be opening a new office in the Boise area. The farmer-owned co-op will use its new location to put key parts of its business closer to its network of farms and processing facilities. The company will continue to maintain a presence in Seattle.

Dairy West represents dairy farm families in Idaho and Utah with the purpose of promoting the dairy industry. Marsh McLennan Agency was proud to be a platinum sponsor of the Dairy West annual meeting. We are grateful for the opportunity to continue building long-term relationships with the farm families who are feeding our country and provide them solutions as they face modern-day agriculture challenges.

Daniel Golightly of Marsh McLennan Agency works with dairy farmers across the Northwest to optimize risk management strategies for their unique challenges. To connect with Daniel, please email Daniel.Golightly@MarshMMA.com or call 208-424-2910.



Daniel Golightly
Daniel.Golightly@MarshMMA.com





RECRUITING FOR 2024!

The Feed in Focus program is recruiting Idaho dairy farmers for its 2024 cohort. Learn how you can implement best management practices, while receiving technical and financial support. **Spots are limited!**

Photo provided by Idaho Dairymen's Association

FEED IN FOCUS

What is Feed in Focus?

The Feed in Focus program aims to pilot, replicate, and scale the adoption of best management practices (BMPs) in feed/forage production and feed efficiency to drive environmental and economic benefits for dairy farms of all sizes.

The program is designed to advance the Net Zero Initiative, a dairy industry-wide effort to make sustainable practices and technologies more accessible and affordable to all U.S. dairy farms.

Highlights of the Feed in Focus program include:

- Focus on **farm-grown feed** and **nutrition**
- **Tailored technical** guidance
- Choose from **over 10 BMPs**
- Incentives and cost share **benefits**
- Pathway to **industry sustainability goals**
- **Open to all** Idaho dairy farmers in Nestlé's supply chain

Payments To Share Data

\$2500
for baseline assessment

+

\$500
for subsequent annual data sharing

Incentive Payments

| | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Management Plans | Reimbursement for Grazing Management Plans, Nutrient Management Plans (if not already required by law), Feed Management Plans, & Irrigation Water Management |
| Infrastructure | Reimbursement for enabling infrastructure to support best management practice implementation (up to \$5000) |
| Practice Implementation | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Per-Acre Payments for in-field and edge-of-field sustainability practices ▪ Per-Cow/Day Payments for innovative feed management practices |

Feed in Focus program partners include:





Idaho dairy farmers have an opportunity to enroll in the Feed in Focus program. Photo provided by Idaho Dairymen's Association

Incentives to Implement BMPs

Together, we can reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve soil health and water quality by implementing field and nutrition-focused BMPs. The Feed in Focus program is concentrated on the following BMPs: cover crops, reduced/no till, crop rotation, nutrient stewardship, grazing and feed management, and edge of field practices.

Once enrolled in Feed in Focus, farmers work with program partners to decide which BMPs are best for their farm. Farmers are supported through practice implementation and data collection to quantify impacts. For most practices, we would like to see farmers keep BMPs in place for at least 3 years.

Participants receive incentive payments for implementation of new BMP/acres/cows.

| | |
|--|--|
| <p>Cover Crops \$40/acre</p> <p>Reduced/No Till \$20/acre</p> <p>Diversified Rotation \$10/acre</p> | <p>Feed FMP + \$.07 per cow/per day for new feed additives</p> <p>Nutrient CNMP + \$15-\$35/acre improved nutrient stewardship</p> |
| <p>Edge of Field \$250-400/acre</p> <p>Grazing GMP + \$25/acre prescribed grazing</p> | |

If you've ever considered implementing one of these practices on your farm, now is the time to try it!



To learn more, contact:

Megan Satterwhite
megan@idahodairymens.org
(208) 420-6795

Tanya Hibler
tanya@idahodairymens.org
(435) 660-9501

DISTRICT MEETINGS

5:30 p.m.

Social hour

** *Preston meeting will begin at 11:30 a.m.*

6:30 p.m.

Discuss current and upcoming business

7:00 p.m.

Dinner

IDA will be hosting dinner meetings in each of the districts. Similar to our meetings last year, please join us for an evening meeting with a steak supper. As staff, we plan to give you an update on the latest topics and join you in conversation to help answer policy questions.

The meetings will start at 5:30pm with drinks and appetizers. While dinner is being served an industry update will be given. Conversation with staff will continue over dinner. We hope you leave with your bellies full, thoughts shared, and questions answered.

Our meeting in the Preston area will be held at lunchtime to minimize interference with farm schedules. The meeting will follow the same flow as the others so please save room for food. Be sure to note the time difference in your calendars. Here are a list of dates and meeting places.

Please RSVP

RSVP Megan Satterwhite at least one week prior to the meeting you plan to attend.

megan@idahodairymens.org

208-420-6795

09
JAN

Treasure Valley
Indian Creek Steakhouse
711 Main St.
Caldwell, ID 83605

30
JAN

Magic Valley
Stone House and Co.
330 4th Ave. S.
Twin Falls, ID 83301

01
FEB

Magic Valley
Wick's Steakhouse
18 E. Main St.
Declo, ID 83323 ;

27
FEB

Eastern Idaho
Sandpiper
750 Lindsay Blvd
Idaho Falls, ID 83402

28
FEB

Eastern Idaho
Robinson Building
186 West 2nd North
Preston, ID 83263

IDAHO IDA

dairymen's association

195 River Vista Place
Suite #308
Twin Falls, Idaho 83301

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Upcoming Events

January 8

68th Idaho Legislature Convenes

January 10

Ag All Star Banquet (Boise, ID)

February 19-20

Legislative Strolling Dinner & Ag Summit
(Boise, ID)

March 13-14

IDA/Dairy West Board Meeting & Legislative
Banquet (Boise, ID)

District Meetings

January 9

IDA District Meeting (Caldwell, ID)

January 30

IDA District Meeting (Twin Falls, ID)

February 1

IDA District Meeting (Declo, ID)

February 27

IDA District Meeting (Idaho Falls, ID)

February 28

IDA District Meeting (Preston, ID)