



The National Dairy FARM Program

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Program Goal

Assure consumers & customers that dairy farmers care for their animals, workforce and land in a humane and ethical manner.

Program Mission

To aid dairy farmers and cooperatives/processors in assuring consumers and customers that dairy farmers manage their animals, workforce and land in a responsible manner through science-driven methods and a commitment to continuous improvement.





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.







Program Structure



SCIENCE-BASED BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES



ON-FARM EVALUATION



3rd PARTY VERIFICATION





Animal Care By the Numbers

130

PARTICIPANTS

99%

OF THE UNITED STATES DOMESTIC
MILK SUPPLY IN 49 STATES



>60,000

2ND PARTY EVALUATIONS COMPLETED TO DATE

~200

CERTIFIED FARM ANIMAL CARE EVALUATORS





FARM Animal Care Version 4 Priorities

- No routine tail docking
- Veterinarian review
 - *VCPR*
 - *Herd health plan*
- Pre-weaned calf practices & protocol
 - *Disbudding prior to 8 weeks of age*
- Non-ambulatory practices & protocol
- Euthanasia practices & protocol
- Fitness of transport protocol
- Feed & water access
- Continuing education for family and non-family employees
- **Animal observations benchmark**
 - *Body condition score*
 - *Hock/Knee*
 - *Locomotion*
 - *Hygiene*
 - *Broken tails*
- Pain management for disbudding
- Written drug treatment records available for review by veterinarian of record





Animal Welfare Indicators & Technology

- Body Condition → Nutrition
- Hock & Knee Lesions → Resting area conditions
- Locomotion → Hoof and Leg Health
- Hygiene → Sanitation and Cleanliness
- Broken Tails → Stockmanship



Image Source: University of Kentucky





Thank You

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