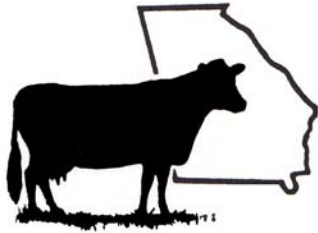


# GEORGIA MILK REVIEW

February 2009



## 2009 GEORGIA DAIRY CONFERENCE A SUCCESS

The 2009 Georgia Dairy Conference was a success in joining producers and industry officials from across the state and beyond to discuss pertinent issues affecting the Southeast dairy industry. The meeting was held February 2-3, 2009, at the King and Prince Beach Resort at St. Simons Island, Georgia.

Georgia Milk would like to take this opportunity to thank all producers, speakers and industry officials for attending the meeting. Also, this year's annual meeting would have not been such a success without the support of our exhibitors and sponsors. If you have any suggestions for next year's meeting, please call our office at 800-337-0555 or email [georgiamilkprod@bellsouth.net](mailto:georgiamilkprod@bellsouth.net).



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### *WILLIAMS ELECTED GEORGIA MILK PRESIDENT*

Everett Williams, dairy farmer from Madison, Ga., was elected President of Georgia Milk Producers Inc. during the 2009 Georgia Dairy Conference held February 2-3, 2009. Williams served as Georgia Milk's Vice President during 2008 and has served as a director since February 2005.

Other officers elected during the conference include Jeff Smith, Comer, Ga., as vice president, Earnest Turk, Eatonton, Ga., as secretary and Marvin Yoder, Montezuma, Ga., as treasurer.



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## GMP DIRECTORS ARE ASKING FOR YOUR INPUT -

The Georgia Milk Board of Directors will hold a Strategic Planning Meeting at 10 a.m. on March 6, 2009, at the GA Farm Bureau Building in Macon. The purpose of this meeting will be to review the mission of Georgia Milk and set the objectives and direction our organization will take in the future.

The mission of Georgia Milk Producers Inc. is to return Georgia dairy farming to profitability by educating dairy producers and officials on all issues affecting Georgia's dairy industry. For example, Georgia Milk:

- sponsors and organizes continuing education courses for producers needing to meet state environmental regulations.
- promotes Georgia dairy farmers at these events: Georgia National Fair, Putnam Dairy Festival, Governor's Ag Awareness Kick-off Celebration, and various agricultural fairs/shows across Georgia.
- serves on various industry committees such as the Georgia Johnes Working Group, Georgia Food Animal Coalition, University of Georgia's Agricultural Commodities Executive Group, and the Georgia Animal Health Committee on behalf of the Georgia dairy producer.
- testifies on the producers' behalf at environmental, Federal Order, and other governmental hearings.

These are just a few activities that Georgia Milk is involved with each year. If you have suggestions and/or an objective that you would like for our Board to focus on during this strategic planning meeting on March 6, please email your thoughts to our office at [georgiamilkprod@bellsouth.net](mailto:georgiamilkprod@bellsouth.net) or call 800-337-0555.

## CWT MEMBERS SUPPORT TWO-YEAR COMMITMENT

With production costs far exceeding the price dairy farmers are receiving for their milk, the members of Cooperatives Working Together (CWT) voted February 10th to fund the self-help program for two full years, from Jan. 2009 through Dec. 2010, to help bring the dairy supply into balance with shrinking demand.

"America's dairy farmers are looking to CWT to help them overcome the dire financial circumstances they are facing," said Jerry Kozak, President and CEO of NMPF, which manages CWT.

The decision to fund CWT for another two years is predicated on achieving the participation of a 67% supermajority of the nation's milk supply at the current 10 cent per hundredweight membership assessment, Kozak said.

CWT's members also approved two changes in program policy. First, all members whose bids are accepted in future herd retirement programs will agree and warrant to cease dairy production for one year. This warranty will apply to both the producer and his/her dairy facility. The second change is that farmers who were successful participants in past CWT herd retirement rounds will be permitted to bid in the next herd retirement round that CWT conducts. For more information, go to [www.cwt.coop](http://www.cwt.coop).



# CAFOs REQUIRED TO REPORT EMISSIONS UNDER EPCRA

The agricultural industry was surprised recently to find out the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is now requiring owners of concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFOs) to report animal waste emissions from their farm operations to state and local governments.



On December 18, 2008, EPA published their final rule changes for the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act of 1980 (CERCLA) and the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA). The agency exempted reporting for CAFOs in the CERCLA act, but requires CAFOs to report to local and state governments under the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA).

Farms with more than the following number of animals are considered CAFOs: 700 mature dairy cows; 1,000 veal calves; 1,000 beef cattle; 2,500 swine weighing 55 pounds or more; 10,000 swine weighing less than 55 pounds; 500 horses; 10,000 sheep/lambs; 55,000 turkeys; 30,000 laying hens or broilers or 82,000 laying hens if the farm uses a liquid manure handling system; or 125,000 chickens if a farm uses other than a liquid manure handling system.

The new EPA rule requires CAFOs to annually notify both their State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) and existing Local Emergency Planning Commission (LEPC) of pollutants from their farm operations. The Georgia SERC prefers that CAFO owners submit their EPCRA reportings via e-mail at [Reporting.SARA.Title.III@dnr.state.ga.us](mailto:Reporting.SARA.Title.III@dnr.state.ga.us).

The notification should include the name of the individual making the notification, the individual's contact information (address, phone number and e-mail), name of the farm reporting emission releases, physical address of farm, name of the authorized representative of farm, authorized farm representative's phone number, fax number and e-mail and a statement of annual notification of continuous release of emissions from animal waste.

EPCRA reports may also be made by phone at 1-800-241-4113 and should include the same information as requested via e-mail. If a phone notification is made, a written notification must also be sent to the Georgia SERC within 30 days. The address is Georgia State Emergency Response Commission, Georgia Environmental Protection Division Emergency Response Program, 7 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive, Room 643 Atlanta, Ga. 30334 Attn: CAFO Notification.

After the initial contact by phone or email, the rules require that those reporting must submit written notification within 30 days of the original notification. Please note: that if there is no LEPC (Local Emergency Planning Committee) covering your county, the report to the SERC (State Emergency Response Commission) will serve as the local report.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2009-2010

Everett Williams, Madison  
President  
706-342-3479

Jeff Smith, Comer  
Vice President  
706-783-5018

Earnest Turk, Eatonton  
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Pete Wright, Baxley  
912-367-6405

Franklin Wright,  
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706-276-3291

## WASTE SYSTEM OPERATOR TRAINING ON FEBRUARY 25 & 26



Georgia Milk Producers will sponsor the 2009 Certified Waste System Operator Training for any producers needing certification on February 25 and 26, 2009, at the Houston County Extension Office in Perry. Completion of this course and passing of the exam is required for at least one person on any farm in Georgia required to have a LAS or NPDES permit and NMP, except dry-litter poultry operations. This will be the only operator certification course of

2009. Producers already certified, but needing continuing education hours, are also welcome to attend the educational sessions.

The training will begin on Wednesday, February 25, at 10 a.m. and conclude at 6 p.m. On Thursday, instruction will begin at 8 a.m. and conclude at 3:30 p.m. Meals and refreshment breaks will be provided. Georgia Milk Producers will cover the registration fees for all dairy producers attending the training. Attendance for the training will be restricted to 30 producers, so please preregister for this training.

**PLEASE NOTE:** All 300 plus AU farms with liquid manure handling systems are required to have a certified operator in place and a CNMP submitted at this time. New and expanding farms must have a certified operator in place prior to operation or expansion. If you are out of compliance or would like to certify additional employees, this is the **only opportunity in 2009**. This course is open to producers of cattle, swine and poultry and custom applicators of animal waste.

Registration information can be found at: <http://www.agp2.org>, click on "Animal Waste", or by calling Carla Wood, UGA Conference Office at (706) 583-0347. The Houston Co. Extension Office is located at 801 Main Street in down town Perry. There are several options for lodging off of I-75.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**February 20-21**  
State 4-H and FFA  
Dairy Heifer Show  
Perry, GA

**February 25-26**  
Waste Operator  
Training  
Houston Co Ext.  
Office in Perry, GA

**March 10-11**  
SUDIA Annual Meeting  
Westin Atl. Airport  
Hotel in Atlanta, GA

**March 31- April 1**  
Nutrient Management  
Specialist Training  
Houston Co Ext.  
Office in Perry, GA

**April 9-11**  
UGA Spring Dairy  
Show and State 4-H  
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