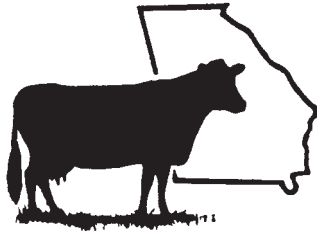


GEORGIA MILK REVIEW

January 2010



ACCM REFERENDUM CURRENTLY UNDERWAY: KEEP PROMOTION FUNDS IN GEORGIA!

Every three years, the Georgia Agricultural Commodity Commission for Milk (ACCM) must hold a producer referendum as required by the Commodities Promotion Act. In order for ACCM to continue as an organization, at least two-thirds majority (67%) of the Georgia dairy producers voting must vote in favor for the continuation of ACCM. Recently, the Georgia Department of Agriculture sent out ballots to reaffirm the 15 – cent check-off for another three years.



ACCM engages in numerous projects promoting milk and educating the consumer on the importance and nutritional value of dairy products in their diet. ACCM allots 85 percent of their assessment dollars to SUDIA for dairy product promotion. In addition, ACCM funds the Mobile Dairy Classroom, Georgia Farm Bureau Monitor, Georgia National Fair Dairy Exhibit and product promotion (milk) during key state events.

By having ACCM, Georgia dairy producers are able to keep 10 cents of the 15-cent check-off at the state level. The remainder is sent to the national check-off. The ACCM Board, which consists of five Georgia dairy producers, then maintains control of our state dairy promotional program.

Please vote yes to keep the GA ACCM for another three years and return your ballot as soon as possible. If you are an eligible producer, but did not receive a ballot, or if you simply have questions, call the GA Department of Agriculture's Marketing Division at 404-656-3678.

Again, please remember, if the ACCM Referendum DOES NOT pass:

- **The 15 cents/cwt. will still be collected and sent to the national check-off**
- All money collected will go to the National Program (currently 10 cents stays at the state level and 5 cents goes to the national level).
- There will be no state control of a dairy promotion program.
- Funding for ACCM projects, **including the Mobile Dairy Classroom**, will be eliminated.

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2010 Georgia Dairy Conference

Monday, February 1, 2010

10 a.m. GA Milk Board of Directors Meeting in Oglethorpe A & B

1 p.m. Registration & Exhibitor Visitation

2:00 Georgia Dairy Industry Update

Welcome
Everett Williams, President

Georgia Milk Producers Report
Farah Newberry, Executive Director

Mobile Dairy Classroom Update
Nicole Karstedt, Instructor

Building Dairy's Future Together
Cheryl Hayn, General Manager, SUDIA

3:00 Dairy F.A.R.M. Program
Chuck Cruickshank, Dairy Management Inc.

3:30 Exhibit Break & Door Prize Drawing

4:00 Federal Order 7 Milk Market Report
Sue Mosley, FMMA, USDA

4:20 Dairy Price Stabilization Plan: Update on Progress of Supply Management Legislation
Bill Rowell, Dairy Farmers Working Together and Doug Maddox, California Dairymen, and past president of Holstein USA

4:45 Speaker Q & A Session

5:00 Exhibitor Break

6:30 Evening Banquet
Cream of the Crop Awards
Todd Huston, Banquet Speaker

Tuesday, February 2, 2010

6:30 a.m. ADA of GA Breakfast Board Meeting in Oglethorpe A & B

8:30 a.m. Animal Waste Management Compliance and Variable Rate Irrigation Workshop

Introduction/Purpose of SEP Workshop
Del Bottcher, Soil and Water Engineering Technology (SWET)

Case Study of Barrington Dairies
Ron St. John, Georgia and Florida Dairy Producer

Federal and State Rules and Regulations
Del Bottcher and Stephanie Cahill, GA-EPD

Nutrient Management Plan Requirements
Del Bottcher, SWET and Pete Gelber, Barrington Dairies

Record Keeping and Reporting Requirements
Pete Gelber, Barrington Dairies

Supplemental Materials (SEP CD)
Del Bottcher, SWET

Questions and Answers for Speakers

Variable Rate Irrigation Program and Cost-Share Program
Calvin Perry & Andrea Milton, UGA

Questions and Answers / Discussion

10:45 Exhibit Break & Door Prize Drawing

11:15 Conventional vs. Grazing Dairies: Both Successful in the SE
Ron St. John, Alliance Dairy

11:45 How We Transitioned from a Purebred to a Crossbred Dairy Operation
Everett Williams, Georgia Milk Producers

12:15 Luncheon and Adjourn

Dairy producers who completed the Certified Waste Operator training are required to have four hours of continuing education credits every two years. This program will count for two hours of continuing education credits.

For Hotel Reservations call 912-233-7722 or 800-285-0398 and mention you are with the GA Milk Producers.

Many Thanks to Our Sponsors:

Ag Georgia Farm Credit
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Elanco Animal Health
Georgia Twine
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Reid Bros. Irrigation and Equipment
Southeast Milk Inc.
Shamrock Animal Services
Signal Point Systems
Southeast Milk Inc.
Southeast Select Sires
Southern Silage Supply
SUDIA
West Central / Soy Plus

USDA NAMES GEORGIAN TO DAIRY COMMITTEE

Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack today announced January 6th the appointment of 17 members to a federal Dairy Industry Advisory Committee. Over the next two years, the committee will review the issues of farm milk price volatility, dairy farmer profitability and consolidation, and offer suggestions on ways USDA can best address the needs of a struggling dairy industry. Representatives will include: producers and producer organizations, processors and processor organizations, handlers, consumers, academia, retailers, and state agencies involved in organic and non-organic dairy at the local, regional, national, and international levels.

“USDA has worked tirelessly to assist dairy farmers during these tough times,” said Vilsack. “We’ve increased support prices under the Dairy Product Price Support Program, reactivated the Dairy Export Incentive Program, and bought 200 million pounds of nonfat dry milk for federal feeding programs. This committee, whose members come from all aspects of the dairy industry, will work to find long term solutions to assist this struggling industry.”

Producer members appointed to the committee are: Erick Coolidge (Pa.), Timothy den Dulk (Mich.), Debora Erb (N.H.), James Goodman (Wis.), James Krahn, (Ore.), Edward Maltby (Mass.), Manuel Souza (Calif.), Ed Welch (Minn.), and James Williams (Ga.).

Representatives from the processing industry include: Jay Bryant (Va.), Patricia Stroup (Calif.), Sue Taylor (Colo.), and Robert Wills. (Wis.).

Members representing state government, retail, academia, and consumers are: Rodney Nilsestuen (Wis.), Robert Schupper (Pa.), Andrew Novakovic (N.Y.), and Paul Bourbeau (Vt.).

All members will serve two-year terms, beginning in January 2010, and expiring Jan. 1, 2012. The committee was expanded this year from 15 members to 17 and will hold its first meeting in early 2010. The meeting will be open to the public and USDA encourages public participation.

UPCOMING EVENTS

February 4, 2010
Morgan County 4-H and FFA Dairy Show
Morgan Ag Center

February 6, 2010
UGA Commercial Dairy Show
UGA Arena, Athens

February 17-21, 2010
GA Junior National Livestock Shows
GNF, Perry

March 10-11, 2010
SUDIA Annual Meeting
at Renaissance
Concourse Hotel
Atlanta Airport
Atlanta, GA
404-209-9999

March 16, 2010
Ag Day at the Capital
Atlanta

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