

Let's Talk About Supply Management

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It's tiring seeing the attacks on Supply Management in the media. It's infuriating that the attacks use incorrect information and, in some cases, outright lies. It's baffling trying to figure out just what these people have to gain from their attacks.

We are all experiencing this, and it's important to know that we are fighting back. What's becoming clear is that it is important to get out in front of the negativity and tell our story and the story of our system, and not just react when others criticize. We have a great system that works for Canadian farmers and consumers, as evidenced in news lately; the troubles that dairy farmers around the world are experiencing are sobering reminders that we must protect supply management, and a recently released non-commissioned study shows that Canadian consumers get good value buying dairy products (www.exportactionglobal.com/dairyreport/)

The DFC and provincial communications staff have been making more concerted efforts to provide accurate information and to spread the word about Canadian dairy and the supply management system. This work will continue to ramp up over the coming weeks, and many of you may be contacted directly to take specific actions – but here are some things you can do here, now, today to help spread the word:

1. Sign up for the Dairy Express + phone app and use the information on there to talk to friends, neighbours, politicians, and local organization whenever you get the chance;
2. Join the many dairy farmers on social media, especially Twitter, and build a network of non-farmers following you – even if you just re-tweet information from @SaskMilk or @dfc-plc to get it out there;
3. Write to your local media about what a great system we have and how it benefits your community – please contact me (Joy) at the SaskMilk office for ideas, facts, data, or examples you can use;
4. Sign up to attend the **'Speak Up!'** training session on June 25th in Saskatoon. This session is specifically for dairy farmers, booked by us, and planned to run from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. to work with dairy farmers' schedules. Learn how to be a better advocate for dairy in a small group of your peers! Register by emailing me at joy.smith@saskmilk.ca – it is free and lunch is provided!

proAction: Traceability Records

Effective Sept 1, 2017, the Traceability component will be included in your validation. You must be keeping the following records:

1. NLID tags/CCIA tags

- Animals born on your farm and destined for the dairy industry must be double identified with approved NLID tags.
- Animals born on your farm and destined for the beef industry can be identified with a single RFID ear tag (yellow button tag)
- **All calves must be tagged within 7 days of birth or before they leave the farm of origin, whichever occurs first.**

2. Animal Births

Animal births must be recorded within 7 days of birth or before the animal leaves the farm. Required information (page 8- Traceability Workbook- Birth Record):

- Animal's birth date
- Animal ID- 15 digit tag number
- Premise Identification number

Animal births must be reported* to the national traceability database within 45 days of birth or before the animal leaves the farm of origin.

3. Move Ins

- Animal move-ins must be recorded within 7 days of the animal's arrival on the farm or before it leaves the farm, whichever comes first.
- Required information (page 9- Traceability Workbook- Animal Move-In Record):
 - Animal ID- 15 digit tag number
 - Move-in date
 - Premise ID number of the farm of arrival (your farm)
 - Premise ID of the farm of departure
 - Vehicle license plate number – single unit license number or trailer license number
- Animal move-ins must be reported* to the national traceability database within 7 days of the animal's arrival on the farm or before it leaves the farm, whichever comes first.

4. Animal Deaths/Export (Tag Retirement)

- Animal deaths, where the animal is disposed of on farm, must be recorded within 7 days following the death of the animal.
- Required information: (page 10- Traceability Workbook- On-Farm Animal Disposal Record)
 - Date of death
 - Animal ID- 15 digit tag number
 - Premise ID of your farm.
- Animal deaths must be reported* to the national traceability database within 7 days following the death of the animal.
- Animals exported outside of the country- should be recorded and reported* within 7 days of export.

- Required information: (page 11- Traceability Workbook- Animal Export Record):
 - Date of export
 - Animal ID- 15 digit tag number
 - Premise ID of your farm
 - Location to which the animal was exported
 - Vehicle license plate number

5. Tag replacement/Tag lost

- When an animal loses one of its NLID tags – a replacement tag can be ordered from NLID with the original number.
- Animals born prior to Sept 1, 2017 and identified with herd management tags must be tagged with an official RFID tag (CCIA button tag) when they leave the farm.
- At all times the effort should be made to retain the animals’ original identity- if for example an animal is being shipped off farm but has lost its NLID button, a CCIA tag can be used but a record of the NLID tag number and the CCIA tag number should be cross referenced so that animal identity is not lost. This should be recorded and reported* within 7 days of retagging the animal or before its departure from the farm, whichever comes first.

Reporting* is done to the Canadian Livestock Tracking System (CLTS) www.clia.livestockid.ca At this time reporting is not a mandatory requirement of the Traceability program however you are strongly encouraged to set up your account and report.

Recording is the act of keeping records on farm. This is a mandatory requirement and these records must be available at the time of validation.

Research Summary

Effect of barley variety and harvest maturity on nutrient composition and fiber digestibility *Summary of the Dairy Info Day presentation by Jayakrishnan Nair*

A 2-year study (2014-2015) conducted at University of Saskatchewan showed that barley (cv. CDC Cowboy, CDC Copeland and Xena) cut as green feed varied in terms of nutrient composition and fiber (neutral detergent fiber; NDF) digestibility (NDFD) when harvested at varying stages (milk, early-, mid- and hard-dough) of maturity. The crude protein (CP) content averaged $10.2 \pm 1\%$ across all stages of maturity and varieties. CDC Cowboy when averaged across all stages of maturity had greater acid detergent fiber (ADF), NDF and lignin content while having lower energy (TDN) content. Starch content of CDC Cowboy was lower than that of Xena at all stages of maturity with CDC Copeland intermediate at early- and mid-dough stages. Averaged across varieties, the CP, ADF, NDF and lignin content decreased while TDN content increased with advancing maturity. CDC Cowboy had greater NDFD at early- and hard-dough stage relative to Xena and CDC Copeland, respectively. Varieties did not vary in terms of NDFD at milk and mid-dough stage. Results indicate that there is benefit in harvesting CDC Cowboy at early-dough stage for silage for dairy cattle while harvesting CDC Cowboy and Xena at the hard-dough stage would increase DM and energy yield, thus benefiting beef producers. Based on NDFD, the ideal harvest maturity for CDC Copeland is at the mid-dough stage. These results indicate that barley variety is an important factor to consider when determining the timing of harvest for optimizing NDFD.

See the Dairy Info Day section of the SaskMilk website for the full research article

2018 Spring Producer Meetings

NOTE: **Registration begins at 9:30 a.m.**
 Meetings begin at 10:00 a.m.

Dates and Locations:

April 25th – Fort Qu'Appelle
Royal Canadian Legion
197 Company Avenue
Fort Qu'Appelle, SK

April 26th – Warman
Legends Centre
701 Centennial Blvd. N.
Warman, SK

April 27th – Swift Current
F.O.E. Eagles
1910 S Service Rd W
Swift Current, SK

*Lock in your Alfalfa Hay Price
and supply for 2018!*

Alfalfa stands were seeded in 2017 at 12lbs. per acre.
Pioneer variety 55Q27.

Inquiries welcome 306-320-1041

TRACEABILITY - NLID TAGS

For farms that currently use herd management tags and want to switch over to using NLID tags here is some important information:

You can order tags by:

1. Online through your HAC [web account](#)
2. Calling NLID at 1-877-771-6543
3. Print and complete the [NLID Order form](#) and mail/fax back to:

NLID
Box 2065
Brantford, Ontario N3T 5W5
Fax: 519-756-3502

You do not need to be a Holstein Canada member in order to order tags but you will need to set up an account. There are a variety of tag options to choose from. Talk to the customer service representative to determine the tag that will best suit your farm.

Remember that effective Sept 2017 it will be a requirement that heifer calves are tagged using NLID tags.

If you have questions or require further information contact Deb Haupstein at:

deb.haupstein@saskmilk.ca 306-721-9486

ENVIRONMENTAL FARM PLANS (EFPs) UPCOMING WORKSHOPS

Up until now EFPs have been voluntary for farmers across the province and by completing an EFP, producers could access funding through the Ministry for executing environmental improvement projects.

Under the proAction program the Environmental component currently has only one requirement; that all dairy producers have a current EFP. This will make EFP's mandatory for all dairy producers in the province.

The goal is to have EFP's completed for all dairy producers in the province by Dec, 31, 2018.

There will be a series of training workshops offered to dairy producers across the province where each chapter of the EFP workbook will be reviewed using a mock-farm example. Follow up assistance will be available after the workshop via phone and if necessary some one-on-one assistance may be provided.

In advance of the workshops producers will be given instructions as to how to log in to the online site and complete the first section of general information. If possible producers will be encouraged to bring laptops to the workshop. The intent of the workshop is not to complete the EFP but to become familiar with using the online portal and the contents of the workbook.

You should have received email notification of dates and locations for upcoming workshops. There are some scheduled for the beginning of May with more to be scheduled later in the summer and fall. Please take the time to attend a workshop and complete an EFP for you farm.

If you have not received the notification for EFP workshops or have any questions regarding the proAction requirement for EFPs please contact:

Deb Haupstein deb.haupstein@saskmilk.ca 306-721-9486

Importing Cattle From the US: What You Need to Know

The federal government recently increased identification requirements for cattle being imported into Canada from the US. If you are bringing imported cattle to your farm, there are some important points pertaining to traceability and biosecurity that you should keep in mind.

Tagging and Identification

Since February 1st, dairy cattle entering Canada from the US **must** be identified with the US National Animal Identification System (NAIS) compliant radio frequency ear tag, which begins with the numbers 840 (USA country code). (Prior to February 1st, cattle have been allowed entry without this tag).

What if a cow is entering Canada and is identified with an “840” electronic ear tag?

- Her tag is equivalent to an official Canadian tag. Canadian ear tags **do not** need to be applied.
- **DO NOT** cut her ‘840’ tag. It is an approved tag.
- You may need to take action in order to meet your herdbook registration and proAction® requirements for double tagging. If the imported animal is only identified with the official US “840” electronic button tag instead of with a dual tag set, a new tag cannot be reprinted in Canada. You will then need to affix a blank tag* with same number written on it (e.g. by using a marker).

A full fact sheet on the Identification of cattle Imported from the US is available on the traceability resources section of the proAction website.

Recording and Reporting

Information about animals imported from out-of-country needs to be reported to the national database. This is required when they arrive onsite at their first point of entry in Canada, and at all points between there and the farm of destination. Notification of receiving an animal on-farm is a proAction requirement, and should be sent to CCIA (CLTS database) or ATQ (SimpliTrace database - in Quebec).

Regarding animals arriving on farm from within Canada, the following information must be recorded and reported:

- The animal’s identification number (15 digits found on RFID ear tag)
- The date of the animal’s arrival to your farm/site
- The premises ID number of the location the animal is arriving at (i.e. your farm)
- The location from which the animal departed (country, state, address, etc.)
- The license plate number of the vehicle (single unit) or the trailer (tandem unit)

As imported animals will not come from a property with a recognized premises ID, the address of the animal’s original departure has to be recorded and reported. This must be done within the first seven days of the animal’s arrival on your premises or before the animal leaves, whichever comes first.

** To obtain a blank tag, contact: (in Quebec) ATQ at 1-866-270-4319 or (in all other provinces) NLID at 1-877-771-6543.*

*SaskMilk Upcoming Promotional Events**

(*we are participating in or have sponsored)

April	Bethany Pioneer Village
April 11	Whitewood School Health Expo
April 11	Saskatchewan Polytechnic Prince Albert Campus - Wellness Wednesday
April 12	Brighter Futures for Children – Regina
April 13	Cabri Health Fair
April 14 – 15	QCVC Volleyball Tournament - Regina
April 19	Moose Jaw Regional Heritage Fair
April 19 – 20	Student Leadership Conference 2018 - Kindersley
April 19 – 21	Canadian Interscholastic Athletic Administrators' Assoc. - Regina
April 20 – 21	Saskatchewan Nurse Practitioner Conference - Saskatoon
April 21	U of R Swimming – Ryan Cochrane - Regina
April 21	Ag In The City, Lawson Heights Mall – Saskatoon
April 26	Swift Current Regional Heritage Fair
April 29	Regina Police Marathon
May	Regina Diving Club – 2018 Westerns & Novice Nationals Diving Championship
May 4	Regina Regional Heritage Fair
May 10 – 11	Saskatoon Regional Heritage Fair
May 12	Saskatchewan High School Badminton Championship – Weyburn
May 12	Royal Regina Road Race
May 15 – 17	Annual Indigenous Gathering - Saskatoon
May 19	Saskatchewan Physical Education Association – Regina
May 23 - 24	Provincial Regional Heritage Fair - Regina
May 27	Regina Catholic Schools Moving in Faith – Regina
May 27 – 30	Canadian Orthopedic Nurses Conference - Regina
June 1 - 2	Saskatchewan High School Provincial Track & Field – Prince Albert
June 7	Progress Club Golf Tournament - Regina
June 20 - 22	Farm Progress - Regina

SaskMilk in the Community...

The Brier contest winners from Weyburn curled against the Sara England rink (Sandra Schmirler's daughter!)



Who Should I call?

Who at the SaskMilk office should producers call? Here's a handy guide!

<i>For...</i>	<i>Call...</i>	<i>At...</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Sponsorship Requests ➤ Donation Requests ➤ Dairyanna's Costume and Events 	Anita Medl	306-721-9483
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ School Milk Program ➤ Nutrition Resource Ordering 	Bev Eckert	306-721-9490
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Quota Exchange and Private Quota Transfers ➤ Transfer Credits ➤ Security Applications ➤ Estimates for production ➤ Name Changes ➤ Designation of Signing Authority ➤ Monthly production numbers for producers ➤ Producer information for lending institutions ➤ Passwords for quota management sheet access 	Bev Solie	306-721-9488
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Dairy Conference 	Darlene Weighill	306-721-9491
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ On Farm- licensing, facilities, equipment, driveways, yards, animal care ➤ Lab testing results ➤ Bulk truck drivers- licensing, complaints/issues ➤ Bulk tank calibrations ➤ Pro Action- Food Safety (CQM), Animal Care, Traceability, Biosecurity, Environment 	Deb Haupstein	306-721-9486
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Producer statements ➤ Banking info for direct deposit of milk pay ➤ Milk pick-up issues –variances in volumes, planning to quit shipping, etc. 	Dianne Cardinal	306-721-9489
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Monthly milk prices paid to producers ➤ Provincial & National production updates 	Doug Miller	306-721-9485
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Adding, editing information on Producer Transfer Credit List ➤ Newsletter advertising ➤ Updating email/fax information for producer notices/send outs 	Jenn Buehler	306-721-9492
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Media or news stories <i>or</i> if you have been contacted by any media agency or reporter ➤ Social media enquiries (twitter etc.) ➤ Trade agreements, international trade updates ➤ DEAP policy/program enquiries ➤ Website enquiries ➤ Research enquiries or proposals 	Joy Smith	306-721-9482

QUOTA EXCHANGE

The market-clearing price established for the April 2018 Quota Exchange was **\$31,111.00**.

The next Quota Exchange will be held on **May 15, 2018**. All offers to sell and bids to purchase quota through the Quota Exchange must be received at the SaskMilk office by midnight, **May 6, 2018**. SaskMilk recommends that offers and bids be submitted well in advance of the deadline date to ensure adequate time for corrections, if necessary.

When making bids on the Quota Exchange, the price on offers to sell quota is the minimum price that the producer is prepared to accept for that quota. Only if the market-clearing price is equal to or greater than the producer's minimum price will that producer qualify for participation in the Exchange. Conversely, the price on offers to purchase quota is the maximum price that the producer is prepared to pay for that quota. Only if the market-clearing price is equal to or less than the producer's maximum price will that producer qualify for participation in the Exchange. The clearing price is set at the price where the smallest difference exists between the accumulated volume offered for sale and the accumulated volume bid to purchase. The results of the Quota Exchange are outlined in the following Table.

APRIL 2018 QUOTA EXCHANGE RESULTS SUMMARY

Market Clearing Price per kilogram of butterfat	\$ 31,111.00
Daily Kilograms offered to Purchase	90.00
Kilograms offered to Sell	27.91
Kilograms sold	24.73
Number of Producers	
- offered to purchase	2
- purchased quota	2
- offered to sell	10
- sold quota	9

APRIL 2018 QUOTA EXCHANGE CLEARING PRICE RESULTS

Price (\$/daily kg b.f.)	No. of Sellers	Cumulative Sellers	Daily Kgs b.f. offered for sale	Cumulative sales	Cumulative Sales less Cumulative purchases	Cumulative purchases	Daily Kgs b.f. offered to purchase	Cumulative bidders	No. of buyers
\$27,090.00	3	3	5.58	5.58	-84.42	90.00	0.00	2	0
\$28,000.00	1	4	2.29	7.87	-82.13	90.00	0.00	2	0
\$30,000.00	4	8	15.86	23.73	-66.27	90.00	0.00	2	0
\$31,000.00	1	9	1.00	24.73	-65.27	90.00	0.00	2	0
\$31,111.00	0	9	0.00	24.73	-65.27	90.00	90.00	2	2
\$38,000.00	1	10	3.18	27.91	27.91	0.00	0.00	0	0

* Please contact Bev Solie at 306-949-6999 for inquiries dealing with quota management sheets, the Quota Exchange, for transfer credits, or with any other quota transactions.

Reminder!

The deadline date for Quota Transfer, Quota Exchange, and 10% Transfer Limit Exemptions is the 6th of each month

Your Quota Transfer, and 10% Exemption Applications must be received on or before the 6th of the month in order to be effective the 1st of the following month

Quota Exchange forms must be received in the SaskMilk office on or before the 6th of the month for that month's Exchange

TRANSFER CREDIT SUMMARY REPORT

MONTH	# OF PRODUCERS TRANSFER IN	# OF PRODUCERS TRANSFER OUT	TOTAL KGS BUTTERFAT
March	18	16	15,492
April	18	20	14,786
May	17	13	11,238
June	10	12	8,301
July	12	13	9,427
August	20	17	16,209
September	16	21	17,869
October	20	24	25,836
November	20	22	21,772
December	19	22	23,850
January, 2018	17	21	16,567
February	21	24	19,828
March	21	18	16,406

PRIVATE TRANSFERS PROCESSED

MONTH	DAILY KILOGRAMS
Apr	36.00
May	21.50
Jun	39.59
Jul	60.00
Aug	195.18
Sept	118.00
Oct	30.20
Nov	102.82
Dec	255.22
Jan 2018	45.10
Feb	1011
Mar	282

OVER QUOTA (OVER 5 DAYS) REPORT BY MONTH

MONTH	# OF PRODUCERS	KGS BUTTERFAT
March	6	992
April	15	3,098
May	16	3,569
June	19	4,321
July	11	1,207
August	4	663
September	2	102
October	6	609
November	4	272
December	8	956
January 2018	11	2,146
February	16	3,396
March	15	5,054

SUMMARY REPORT OF CREDITS MARCH, 2018 – 166 PRODUCERS

DAYS	# OF PRODUCERS	POSITIVE CREDITS ACCUMULATED (KGS OF BUTTERFAT)
+ 5	15	10,506
0 to + 5	37	16,669
TOTAL	52	27,175
DAYS	# OF PRODUCERS	NEGATIVE CREDITS ACCUMULATED (KGS OF BUTTERFAT)
-15	6	-5,947
-10 to -15	21	-60,057
-5 to -10	42	-49,786
0 to -5	45	-28,025
TOTAL	114	-143,815

LOST OPPORTUNITY REPORT

MONTH	# OF PRODUCERS	LOST OPPORTUNITY (KGS OF BUTTERFAT)
March, 2018	6	1,226
February, 2018	5	887
January, 2018	4	802
December, 2017	3	1,237
November, 2017	6	2,750
October 2017	5	1,773
September, 2017	2	389
August, 2017	5	714
July, 2017	5	1,738
June, 2017	1	118
May, 2017	3	196
April, 2017	3	718
March 2017	1	250

WEIGHTED AVERAGE COMPONENT TESTS & PRICES MARCH, 2018

Components	Average Test	Price per kilogram Class 1 to 5
Butterfat	4.1003	15.768500
Protein	3.3854	2.246882
Other Solids	5.7411	0.662467

Based on the average component tests for the province, the average price received was **\$76.07** per hectolitre. **The average butterfat price received per kilogram was \$18.55**

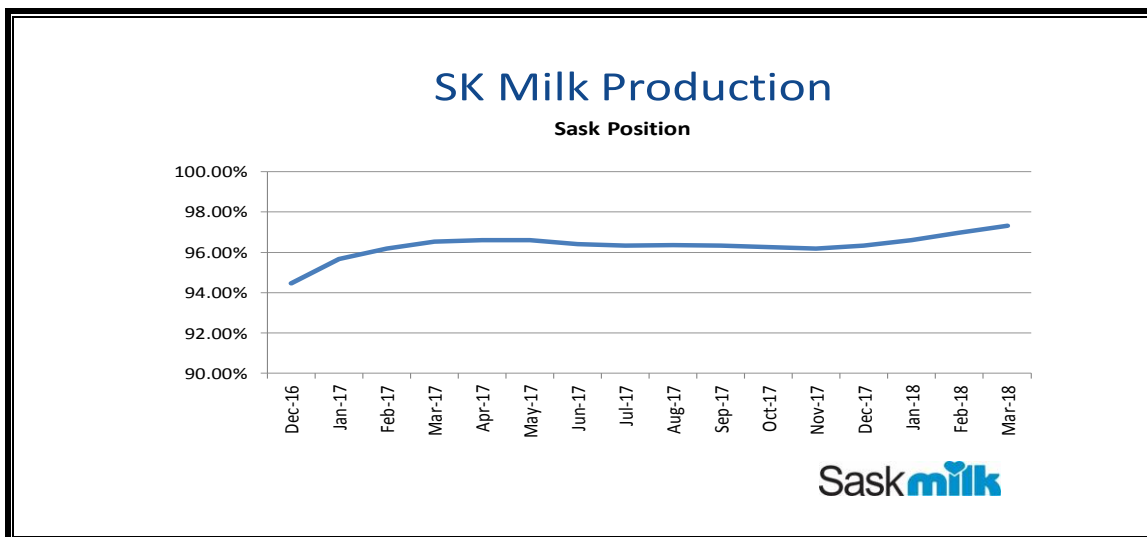
SASKATCHEWAN MILK POOL RESULTS MARCH 2018

Milk Sale Revenue	\$ 14,907,909.19
Western Milk Pool	\$ 2,132,772.03
Plant of Last Resort Service	\$ (56,704.79)
Total Pool Value	\$ 16,983,976.43

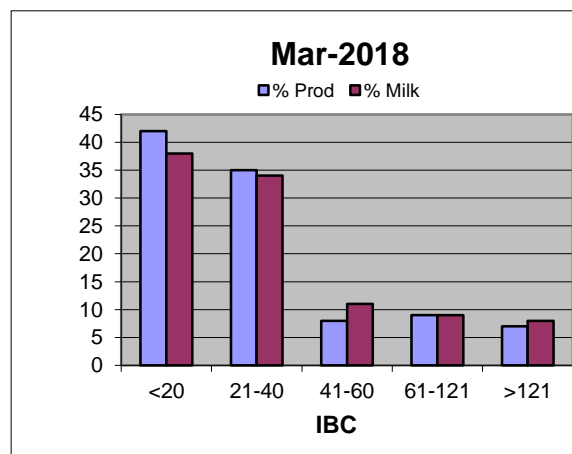
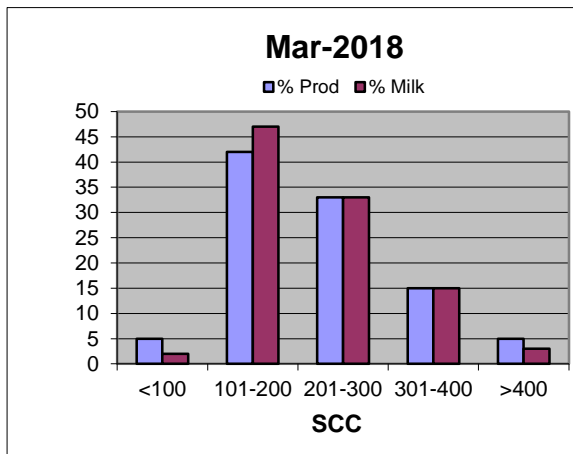
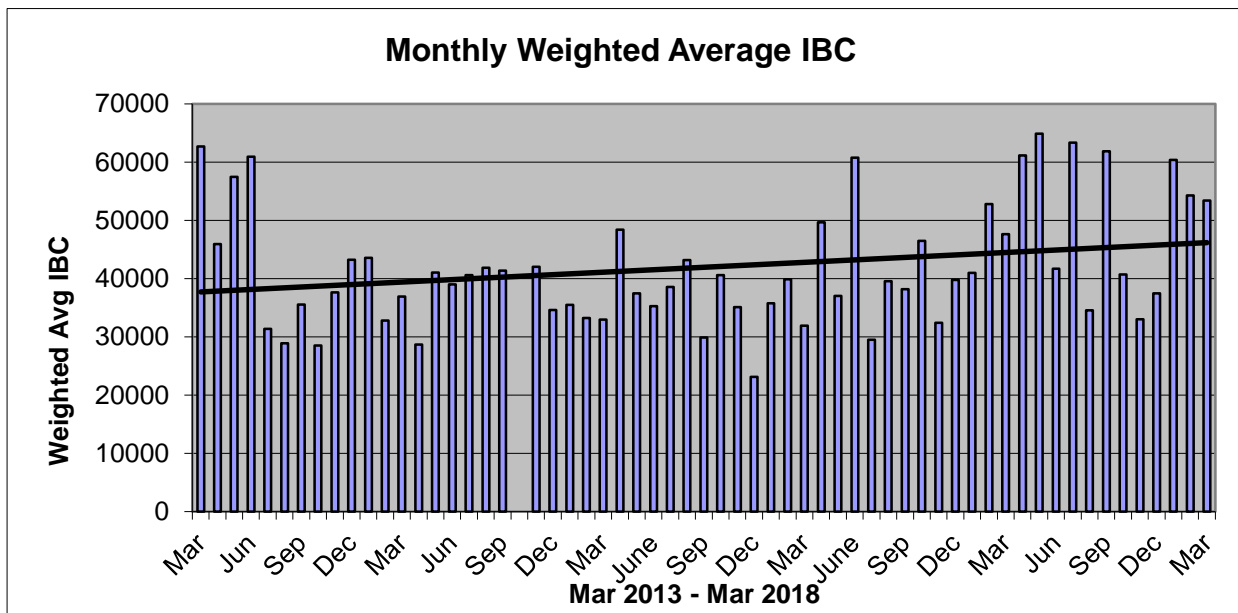
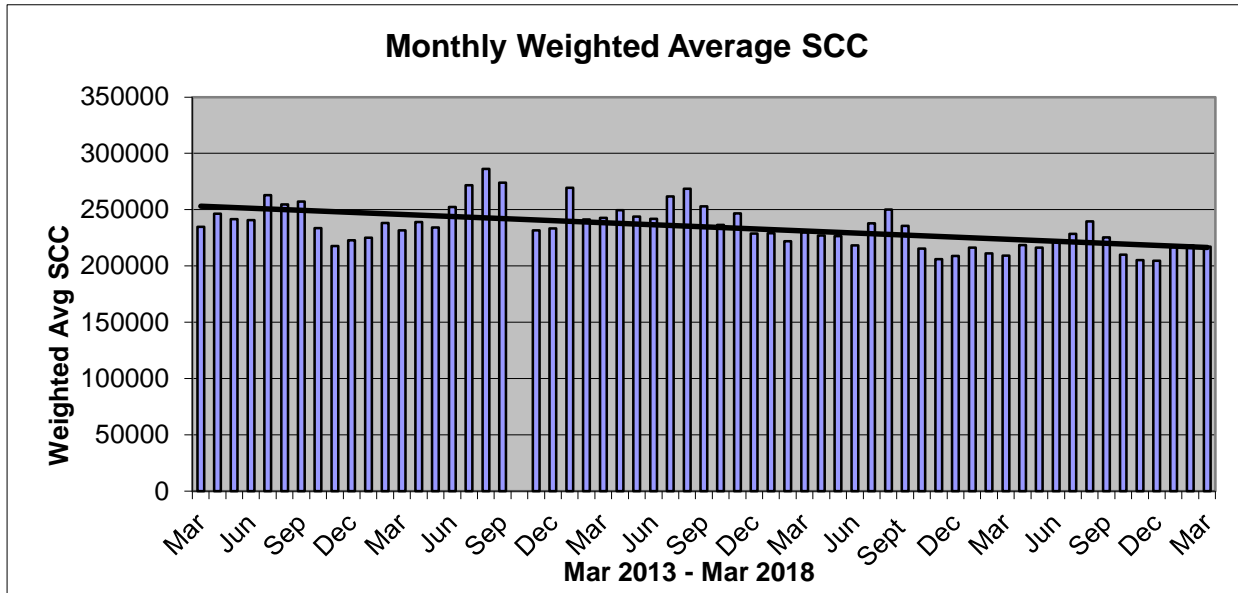
In March, Saskatchewan had an estimated monthly CDC allocation of **993,162 kilograms** of butterfat. In the month of March, Saskatchewan production was **27,012** of butterfat **over**. Saskatchewan has filled cumulatively **97.31%**.

	(1) Monthly Total Production	(2) Total Monthly CDC Quota Allocation (ESTIMATE)	(3) Monthly Over or (Under) Production	(4) Cumulative Quota Filled in - %	(5) Daily Kgs Shipped
	Kgs bf	Kgs bf	Kgs bf		Kgs bf
			col. 1 - 2 = 3		
Mar-17	908,424	917,973	(9,549)	96.53%	29,304
Apr-17	882,347	907,191	(24,844)	96.62%	29,412
May-17	907,310	941,000	(33,690)	96.60%	29,268
Jun-17	872,778	923,356	(50,578)	96.40%	29,093
Jul-17	896,607	937,580	(40,973)	96.34%	28,923
Aug-17	901,329	958,137	(56,808)	96.36%	29,075
Sept-17	883,930	934,554	(50,624)	96.33%	29,464
Oct-17	918,200	982,575	(64,375)	96.25%	29,619
Nov-17	909,519	953,131	(43,612)	96.18%	30,317
Dec-17	974,991	1,021,793	(46,802)	96.34%	31,451
Jan-18	998,147	955,201	42,946	96.60%	32,198
Feb-18	920,553	885,091	35,462	96.97%	32,877
Mar-18	1,020,174	993,162	27,012	97.31%	32,909

- (1) Monthly Production in Saskatchewan
- (2) Total Monthly Quota = Class 1 sales + Monthly MSQ + Carry Forward (ESTIMATE ONLY)
- (3) Difference between the monthly production (1) and the total monthly quota (2)
- (4) Cumulative position on a rolling 12 month period
- (5) Daily quota shipped



PROVINCIAL WEIGHTED AVERAGES



Code of Practice

1.5 Space Allowances

In loose housing systems such as free stall barns, increased cow density in the pen increases competition among cows for access to feed, water and stalls. Reduced space per cow at the feed bunk also increases competitive interactions among cows, reduces bunk attendance times and increases the time spent standing, waiting for access to feed. This might not cause problems for dominant cows but it does directly affect subordinate cows and heifers (12).

REQUIREMENTS

- *Stocking density must not exceed 1.2 cows per stall in a free stall system.*
- *Resting areas must provide 120ft² (11m²) per mature cow in bedded-pack pens.*
- *Provide adequate linear feed bunk space to meet the animals' nutritional needs.*

RECOMMENDED BEST PRACTICES

- a. provide one stall for each cow in each group (12)
- b. provide 120ft² (11m²) per cow of resting area in a bedded-pack barn or a composted-pack barn
- c. provide 160ft² (15m²) per cow of resting area in individual cow maternity pens
- d. build wide alleys at feed bunks to allow cows to pass freely while other cows eat (approximately 14ft, 4.3m)
- e. provide traction on concrete in alleyways (e.g., darby or broom finish, grooved)
- f. clean alleyways regularly
- g. provide adequate linear feed bunk space (e.g., 24in, 60cm, per cow).

1.6 Bedding Management

To ensure cows spend time lying in stalls, it is important that the stall surface be comfortable. There are many alternatives that can be used for bedding and each has its advantages and disadvantages. Some choices would be clean sand, straw of various kinds, kiln-dried shavings or sawdust. To reduce the amount (depth) of bedding, mattresses can be utilized. Sanitation and bedding is essential for the calving area (11).

REQUIREMENTS

- *Bare concrete platforms or hard rubber mats without bedding are unacceptable surfaces for the humane housing of cows.*
- *Daily removal of cow patties and use of generous amounts of bedding assures cleanliness of cows kept in bedded-pack pens.*

RECOMMENDED BEST PRACTICES

- a. ensure stalls are routinely bedded and raked out
- b. add and level new sand routinely to sand-bedded stalls
- c. ensure the cows are lying in the stalls (not in the alleyways or standing in the stalls)
- d. observe the legs of the cows over pressure points for signs of abrasions, swelling or sores
- e. use straw choppers to decrease the amount of straw required
- f. ensure calves and cattle have a dry area to lie down (i.e., if your knees get wet in 25 seconds of kneeling in the rest area, then it is too wet)
- g. for bedded-pack pens, add clean, dry bedding (e.g., straw, sawdust, shavings) daily
- h. for bedded-pack pens, remove cow patties a few times each day to assure cow cleanliness and to reduce the quantity of bedding needed
- i. for composted bedded-pack pens, bed as needed and till twice per day
- j. for composted bedded-pack barns, assure excellent ventilation to reduce humidity
- k. for bedded-pack or composted-pack barns, provide access to pasture or an exercise yard to decrease labor and bedding requirements.

INHIBITOR TEST STATIONS

SaskMilk has established a number of inhibitor test stations around the province. Producers needing to check their bulk tanks for inhibitors can take a sample to the test station closest to their location.

The test stations have the Charm Trio test strips available for testing. The Charm Trio test is the test that the plant uses. It tests for the following drugs:

Beta-lactam Drug	Detection Level [†] (ppb*)	US Safe Level or Tolerance / Canadian MRL (ppb*)	Sulfa Drug	Detection Level [†] (ppb*)	US Safe Level or Tolerance / Canadian MRL (ppb*)
Amoxicillin	3.1	10 / None	Sulfadimethoxine	4.7	10 / 10 [∞]
Ampicillin	7.7	10 / 10	Sulfamethazine	7.7	10 / 10 [∞]
Ceftiofur and Metabolites [^]	53	100 / 100	Tetracycline Drug	Detection Level[†] (ppb*)	US Safe Level/Tolerance / Canadian MRL (ppb*)
Cephapirin	14	20 / 20	Chlortetracycline	54	300 / 100
Cloxacillin	7.4	10 / None	Oxytetracycline	66	300 / 100
Penicillin G	2.2	5 / 6 ^{&}	Tetracycline	21	300 / 100

† Positive at least 90% of the time with 95% confidence.

* parts per billion or ng/mL

[^] Ceftiofur parent drug sensitivity is approximately 1/2 that reported in the table.

[&] Canadian MRL for penicillin G is 0.01 IU/ml, equivalent to 6 ppb.

[∞] Canadian MRL for sulfa drugs are singly or in combination with other MRL listed sulfonamides.

Test stations are located at the following locations:

1. Swift Current, SK - Agrifoods truck bay - 675 Cheadle Street West
Office 306-773-1097 or Rodger Ruf 306-741-3261
2. Harris, SK - Cairnside Farm – Wes Cairns 306-656-4807
3. Star City, SK - Star City Colony - Reuben Tschetter 306-921-9381
4. Grenfell, SK - Jim Ross 306-697-2232
5. Yorkton, SK - Ford Dairy Farms Inc. - Bud and Margaret Ford 306-782-7240
6. Saskatoon, SK – Agrifoods Truck Bay - east of the Saputo plant receiving bay
lead hand – Mike V. or Mike K. 306-664-0202 after hours: 306-668-8135

Charm tests strips and Charm testers are now available for purchase through SaskMilk. Agrifoods is now carrying SNAP test kits for tetracyclines as well as beta lactams.

For further information you can contact: Deb Haupstein 306-721-9486



If You Can't Ship It - Test It!

BSE surveillance is still important and every animal tested makes a difference.

Support your cattle industry by having your 4-D (dead, diseased, dying or downer) cattle tested for BSE.

For more information, call the Canadian Food Inspection Agency at 1-877-727-5273.

QUOTA LISTING or CLASSIFIED AD SERVICE

SaskMilk offers a free quota listing service as part of its Newsletter. Anyone wishing to sell or purchase quota and/or cows or miscellaneous dairy equipment is welcome to contact the SaskMilk office at (306) 949-6999. All prices and negotiations will be independent of SaskMilk. **Please note that ads will be posted in two issues and will then be removed unless SaskMilk is notified otherwise.**

Classifieds

For sale: Grade Holstein heifers. Sired by Rhein Shottle Lovegun. Short Bred. **Call Andy 306-382-6917 or 306-222-1337**

Robot ready cows for sale.
Bred heifers for sale.
Heifers are bred to sexed semen.
Contact Kevin at 306-349-9141

8 springing Holstein heifers for sale.
\$2500.00 each. Due soon. More to calf later. **Contact Darrel Lowenberger
Phone: 306-743-2810**

For Sale: BouMatic, Dari-kool cooling system; Decomatic 3 with pump. Asking \$350. Drinking Water bowls for summer, came out of dairy barn, good condition. \$10 each, still have 26 of them. **Call: 1-306-717-2504**

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