

### In this Issue:

Spring Producer Meeting Dates .....	2
From DFC.....	3
Who Should I Call?....	7
Did You Know?.....	8
Quota Exchange.....	9
Production.....	12
SCC/IBC.....	14
Salmonella dublin .....	15
Classifieds.....	17
Directors .....	17

## *SaskMilk Ambassador Program*

The SaskMilk Ambassador Program has been developed to allow selected Saskatchewan dairy producers the opportunity to further their involvement in the dairy industry in Saskatchewan and Canada. As an ambassador, you will receive information and briefings surrounding the dairy industry from SaskMilk staff and training to promote this information on social media or through interviews, as well as to be an advocate of the dairy industry. You may be called upon for radio and TV interviews.

To begin the process, you will participate in media training (a one day session on June 18) that will gear you with the necessary skills to participate in conversations surrounding the industry. Training provides you with experience in navigating difficult questions posed by the media. You will receive information on a regular basis from SaskMilk surrounding current topics in the industry and it will be your responsibility to keep yourself informed and up to date on current issues.

Meetings for the ambassadors will be held a couple of times per year to allow direct communication between the ambassadors and staff. As a spokesperson, you will be asked to participate in media interviews to share the authentic perspective of a Canadian dairy farmer.

You will benefit from learning more about the current issues and discussions surrounding the dairy industry which will deepen your understanding of the industry as a whole. Receiving first-hand information regarding government relations, trade, etc. will allow you to understand and discuss these issues with your peers and with the media. The Ambassador Program is an excellent opportunity for individuals who want to be more involved with their industry. The dairy industry is in need of interested and willing farmers to get involved in these conversations and share their experiences with the world. As the gap between consumers and producers grows wider, it is important to share the realities of farming with consumers.

If you are interested in being a SaskMilk Ambassador, **please fill out the Ambassador Application Form located on page 18 of the newsletter.** If you have any questions, please email Joy at [joy.smith@saskmilk.ca](mailto:joy.smith@saskmilk.ca) or call the office at (306) 949-6999

## 2019 Spring Producer Meetings

**NOTE:**

**Registration begins at 9:30 a.m.**

**Meetings begin at 10:00 a.m.**

April 10<sup>th</sup> – Swift Current  
F.O.E. Eagles  
1910 S Service Rd W  
Swift Current, SK

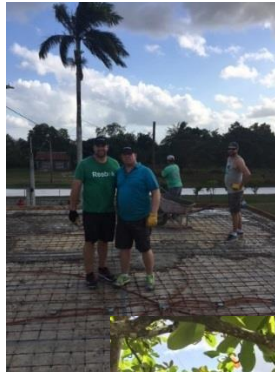
April 11<sup>th</sup> – Warman  
Legends Centre  
701 Centennial Blvd. N.  
Warman, SK

April 12<sup>th</sup> – Fort Qu'Appelle  
Royal Canadian Legion  
197 Company Avenue  
Fort Qu'Appelle, SK

## SaskMilk in the Community



Dairyanna with Riley the Raider at the Prince Albert Raider's hockey game



Left & Below:  
SaskMilk hats  
made it to Belize  
thanks to these  
dairy farmers!



## SaskMilk Upcoming Promotional Events\*

(\*we are participating in or have sponsored)

March 21 – 24	Saskatchewan High School Basketball Championship, Hoopla
March 23	Saskatchewan Science Centre Fantasy Food – Regina
March 28 – April 14	World Cup - World Class Players Cup Women's Team Canada
April	La Ronge Dental Month Contest – La Ronge
April 5	Regina Public Schools Culinary Arts Competition
April 6	Lakeland Early Learning – Ladies Night Out – Prince Albert
April 7	Queen City Gymnastics Men's Annual Invitational – Regina
April 10 – 11	Prince Albert Ag Ed – Prince Albert
April 11	Brighter Futures for Children – Regina
April 11 – 12	Sun West Student Leadership Conference – Biggar
April 12	Happy Hour for Diabetes – Regina
April 13	Ag In The City, Lawson Heights Mall – Saskatoon
April 14 – 15	QCVC Volleyball Tournament

# *Code of Practice*

## **3.2 Stockmanship Skills Related to Animal Health and Welfare**

Management practices used on dairy farms are known to have a significant impact upon animal health, animal welfare, and milk quality. It is understood that certain best management practices (e.g., teat dipping to reduce somatic cell counts) are important for maintaining animal health. However, how well those best management practices are implemented is of equal importance.

Attributes identified that contribute to the effective implementation of best management practice include:

- positive attitude of producers and farm employees toward milking and the animals
- detail oriented (e.g., good record keeping, knowledge of individual animals) (42).

Human-animal interactions affect the productivity and welfare of dairy cattle (45). Not only is the technical competence of animal handlers important but also the way in which they interact with cattle. A negative belief about cows increases the likelihood of aversive handling, which results in a fearful animal. Fear leads to stress, reduced welfare, and reduced productivity. Differences between the level of productivity and welfare of dairy cattle on farms may partially be explained by differences in how animals are handled:

- cattle with insufficient human contact will exhibit fear of humans
- gentle handling of young animals will habituate them to humans and reduce fearfulness in adulthood
- hitting, shouting, tail twisting, electric prods and kicking are aversive to cattle (58).

Aversive procedures may at times be necessary (e.g., injections). Animal handlers can avoid this leading to a learned fear of humans by ensuring that a sound foundation of positive contacts has been established (60). Identifying what cattle perceive as positive interactions is more challenging. Brushing, patting, and speaking in a gentle voice may not be rewarding to cows unless these actions are associated with something cattle find inherently rewarding (e.g., food, head scratching) (59). Fear of humans is an important factor affecting milk yield in cows (45). Making handlers aware of the negative effects of poor handling, along with providing them with the information and tools they need to do a good job, can increase job satisfaction and performance (61). People that effectively use low-stress cattle-handling techniques will reduce the detrimental effects of handling stress on animal performance and health, due to fear (44).

### ***RECOMMENDED BEST PRACTICES***

- a. have best management practices in place
- b. ensure farm staff are trained in, and apply, best management practices
- c. ensure cow health is monitored regularly
- d. ensure that the interactions that calves and younger cattle have with people are rewarding rather than aversive
- e. avoid behaviors that cattle find aversive (e.g., hitting, shouting, aggressive tail twisting, electric prods and kicking)
- f. ensure animal handlers understand the behavioral principles of animal handling and understand how their attitudes and behavior impact dairy cattle welfare and productivity
- g. ensure equipment, holding, and handling facilities are in place and in good working order
- h. train animal handlers in low-stress cattle handling techniques.

## *From DFC...*

### **Canadian milk is greener**

Climate change has many people claiming livestock farming is unsustainable, but a new study of the environmental impact of Canada's milk production shows it has about a third of the widely quoted global average carbon footprint. The carbon footprint of a jug of milk has dropped over the last 5 years and it's expected to drop further. Land and water footprints have also dropped.

Those are the main conclusions of a recently released study of the environmental impact of milk production. Produced by Groupe AGECO for Dairy Farmers of Canada, it compares 2016 figures with an earlier assessment using figures for 2011. Canadian dairy farmers have cut their greenhouse gas emissions from 1.03 down to 0.94 kg of CO<sub>2</sub> eq per litre of milk – 7%.

Dairy cows, like all ruminants, can digest and use plants and parts of plants that humans can't use – grass, whole corn or barley plants for example. They digest these materials with the help of microbes in the rumen, or paunch and cud-chewing, but this process generates methane, which makes up much of the carbon footprint of milk.

Canada's dairy farmers use a total of 2.9% of the country's farmland and 0.02% of our freshwater supplies. The land needed for each litre of milk fell by 11%, and water use dropped 6%. Water is mostly used to irrigation of crops for feed.

Groupe AGECO calculated life-cycle footprints that include every part of producing milk from all the materials used to build barns and equipment, fuel and electricity to run the operation and transport milk to the processing plant. Not only growing feed and meeting all the cows' needs, but also those of replacements, calves, are included.

### **More milk, less impact**

Dairy farmers have reduced their environmental impact because milk production per cow has increased.

On average, each cow in Canada in 2016 produced 9,582 kg of milk a year, almost 13% more than the 8,492 kg each produced in 2011. A cow needs a certain amount of feed to maintain her body and produce milk as well. Producing more milk takes a relatively small increase in feed – and manure, so the environmental footprint of each litre of milk is smaller.

The improvement in milk production per cow from 2011 to 2016 is mainly to improved cow genetics, especially using the new technology of genomics, which has doubled the annual gain in dairy cow productivity. Scientifically balanced nutrition and comfortable housing help high performing cows healthy and milking well.

The importance of productivity to the environmental impact of farming is in line with estimates from around the world. Livestock operations with high quality feeds and high productivity have the smallest carbon footprints, despite their use of fossil fuels and fertilizers. Producing more units of milk or meat from the same or slightly more resources, reduces the impact of each meal.

### **More efficient crop production**

Shrinking environmental impacts are not entirely due to more productive cows. As liquid manure ages in storage it's affected by microbes and emit greenhouse gases. Farmers are emptying their

manure storages more often to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. This and manure incorporation soon after application adds more nutrients in soil.

Growing crops has become more efficient, with less tillage and crop rotations with different crops improving soil. It's more mellow, with more organic matter, so moisture infiltration and retention improve boosting crop yields.

Precision farming technologies, especially autosteer, which positions any implement so it's exactly beside the last pass, have been adopted very rapidly. Every part of the field receives the exact amount of seed, fertilizer or herbicide needed for the best yields. With no double-spraying at the edges of the implement, there's no wasted resources. Adding maps of growing conditions and electronic metering of fertilizer allows farmers to change the amounts of fertilizer or herbicide on different parts of the field and increase the yields from the whole field.

## *Dairy Info Day*

### **Cow comfort: stall design and management**

If a facility prevents cows from optimizing their time, they may be at an increased risk of developing herd health issues including leg injuries and lameness. As a result, cows may not be achieving optimal milk production. Dairy Info Day guest speaker, Trevor DeVries, covered this topic during his first presentation, "Considerations in barn design to optimize cow behaviour and comfort."

As discussed in the presentation, stall design plays a key role in cow comfort as cows spend most of their time resting (12-14 hours). To achieve optimal resting time, the facility should accommodate all cows, giving them the opportunity to rest when they want to. Cows should be able to fit comfortably in their stalls with an appropriate amount of lunge space. Cows that don't fit in their stalls, or have obstructed stalls, may spend less time lying down, increasing the risk of lameness. While stall design is important, how they are managed also contributes to improving cow comfort.

Though sand has become the "gold standard" for comfortable bedding, there's a growing body of research that suggests increasing the amount of other bedding types (i.e. wood shavings or straw) on top of a mattress increases lying time. While mattresses provide protection from coarse flooring, they can become abrasive and harden over time. Adding deep bedding provides extra cushioning and creates an appealing surface for cows to rest on. However, deeply bedded stalls require increased labor as they must be maintained. When cows lie in the bedding, the material will move and become compressed. To maintain improved comfort, bedding must be leveled, and new bedding must be added to compensate for any losses. Farmers also need to make sure bedding remains clean and dry. If not properly sustained, deep bedding will not be as effective in increasing lying time.

Encouraging cows to increase lying time by ensuring stalls are accessible and comfortable gives the cows an opportunity to better optimize how they budget their time.

For more information you can find the Dairy Info Day presentations at: <http://www.saskmilk.ca/publications/dairy-info-day/>

# New Surge HG alfalfa variety boosts milk production

Improved forage quality has the potential to increase milk production by 2.5 pounds per cow per day.

A new alfalfa variety from BrettYoung Seeds is pumping up milk production. Surge HG alfalfa was developed with the goal of improving forage quality while maintaining strong agronomic traits and yield. Using conventional breeding techniques that are non-transgenic, breeders were able to develop a lower fibre and high protein alfalfa suited for Western Canadian dairy producers.

“For dairy producers, improving alfalfa quality means producing more from the same land base. Surge HG has improved Relative Forage Quality that results in more milk per cow,” says Erik Dyck, Forage and Turf Product Manager with BrettYoung Seeds at Winnipeg, Manitoba.

Improvements in forage quality and milk production come from focusing on several key forage traits. Breeders focused on improving fibre digestibility and an increased rate of and extent of fibre digestion when developing Surge HG.

The breeding process also selected for plants with finer stems and a leafy, dense canopy with a high concentration of leaves in the lower plant canopy. These plant traits also help improve fibre digestibility and crude protein content\*.



Competitor

Surge HG  
*Fine stems and leafy*

“With improved fibre digestibility and three to five per cent higher crude protein, that results in 12 to 20 pounds more protein per tonne of alfalfa,” says Dyck. “That translates into the potential for 2.5 or more pounds of milk per cow per day – a significant improvement in feed efficiency and milk production for dairy producers.”

“That translates into a potential for 2.5 or more pounds of milk per cow per day.”

Of course, yield is also a key component of forage production. In head-to-head trials against commercial check varieties in Wisconsin, Iowa, and Minnesota, Surge HG had the highest yields.

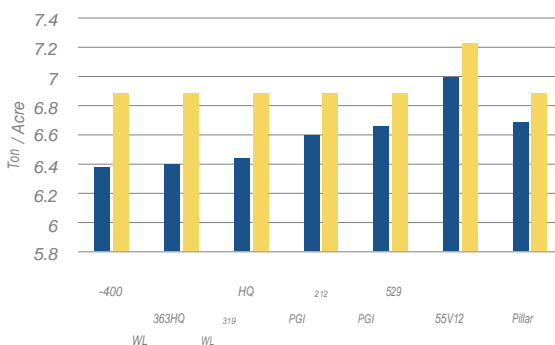
“Yield is definitely part of the equation. Dairy producers aren’t giving up any yield in exchange for improved forage quality. Surge HG has both,” says Rene Mabon, BrettYoung’s Agronomic and Regulatory Services Manager.



## HEAD TO HEAD DRY MATTER YIELD

■ Competitor ■ Surge HG

West Salem, WI, Decorah, IA, Medford, MN, Madison, WI



HybriForce

Research also supports Surge HG’s improved forage quality. In replicated trials, Surge HG was compared to three commercial check varieties at West Salem, Wisconsin in 2016. Forage quality was reported as a percentage of the mean of the commercial check varieties. Surge HG scored higher in crude protein, relative forage quality and milk production per acre. Surge HG also had a lower percentage of undigested neutral detergent fibre after 240 hours (UNDF240) – indicating improved fibre digestibility.

“The newer forage tests that measure undigested neutral detergent fibre after 240 hours and relative forage quality reflect fibre digestibility better than some of the older tests like relative feed value (RFV), neutral detergent fibre (NDF), and total digestible nutrients (TDN). Relative forage quality takes fibre digestibility into account and it has a direct correlation to the relative amount of milk produced per acre,” explains Dyck.

## FORAGE QUALITY HEAD TO HEAD PERFORMANCE VERSUS CONVENTIONAL VARIETIES:

Variety	Crude Protein	UNDF420 <sub>2</sub>	Relative Forage Quality (RFQ)	Milk/Acre
Surge HG	106%	86%	108%	105%
54Q14	101%	99%	102%	103%
55Q27	99%	104%	99%	101%
LegenDairy XHD	101%	97%	98%	96%

Two cut weighted mean during crop year 2016. Three replications per variety.

## FLEXIBLE MANAGEMENT OPTIONS

Surge HG will easily fit into your alfalfa management system. The variety has flexibility to adjust to aggressive harvest systems to maximize yield and quality or to more relaxed schedules focused on tonnage. Either way, growers put the odds of improved returns per acre and animal performance in their favour.

“For dairy producers, alfalfa production is about quality, and Surge HG maintains that quality through a wider harvest window,” says Dyck.

Surge HG will be available for the 2019 growing season through BrettYoung Seeds retailers.



The increased rate of fibre digestion, extent of digestion, and crude protein data was developed from replicated research and on-farm testing. During the 2015 growing season at West Salem, WI and Woodland, CA, the following commercial dormant, semi-dormant and non-dormant alfalfa varieties were compared head-to-head with Hi-Gest® alfalfa for rate of digestion, extent of digestion and percent crude protein; America’s Alfalfa Brand Ameristand 427TQ, Cropland Brands Legendary XHD and Artesia Sunrise, Fertizon Brand Fertiac, S&W Seeds Brands SW6330, SW7410 and SW10, and WL Brands WL 319HQ and WL 354HQ. Also during the 2015 growing season, 32 on-farm Hi-Gest hay and silage samples were submitted to Rock River Laboratory, Inc. for forage analysis.

## *Who Should I Call?*

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


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

## Did You Know?



### DELETING CONTACTS

As people involved with your farm change you should always remember to update your contact list. The SaskMilk Producer Portal allows you to easily remove any of your contacts that no longer require access, as employees, financial institutions, and nutritionists change. See instructions below.

1. From the Contact menu item select Contacts
2. Click the delete button (  ) beside the contact that needs to be removed
3. A message will pop up asking “Are you sure you would like to delete this contact?”
4. Hit OK

## DAIRY FARM WORKERS

**AVAILABLE IMMEDIATELY!**



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- **TRUCK DRIVERS, COMBINE OPERATORS**
- **GENERAL LABOR & MANY MORE.**

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- **Workers providing permanent long term commitment to you**



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## *QUOTA EXCHANGE*

The market-clearing price established for the March 2019 Quota Exchange was **\$34,050.00**.

The next Quota Exchange will be held on **April 15, 2019**. All offers to sell and bids to purchase quota through the Quota Exchange must be received at the SaskMilk office by midnight, **April 6, 2019**. 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.

### MARCH 2019 QUOTA EXCHANGE RESULTS SUMMARY

<b>Market Clearing Price per kilogram of butterfat</b>	<b>\$ 34,050.00</b>
<b>Daily Kilograms offered to Purchase</b>	<b>146.78</b>
<b>Kilograms offered to Sell</b>	<b>15.79</b>
<b>Kilograms sold</b>	<b>15.79</b>
<b>Number of Producers</b>	
<b>- offered to purchase</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>- purchased quota</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>- offered to sell</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>- sold quota</b>	<b>7</b>

### MARCH 2019 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
\$32,501.00	0	0	0.00	0.00	-146.78	146.78	10.50	8	1
\$33,000.00	4	4	12.00	12.00	-124.28	136.28	110.48	7	4
\$34,000.00	3	7	3.79	15.79	-10.01	25.80	5.80	3	1
<b>\$34,050.00</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>15.79</b>	<b>-4.21</b>	<b>20.00</b>	<b>10.00</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>
\$35,000.00	0	7	0.00	15.79	5.79	10.00	10.00	1	1

\* 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.



## TRANSFER CREDIT SUMMARY REPORT

MONTH	# OF PRODUCERS TRANSFER IN	# OF PRODUCERS TRANSFER OUT	TOTAL KGS BUTTERFAT
March	21	18	16,406
April	28	23	28,792
May	17	17	22,203
June	24	23	20,038
July	24	20	28,252
August	20	22	18,781
September	21	17	23,836
October	27	20	25,667
November	36	36	27,234
December	29	29	26,841
January, 2019	27	27	15,748
<b>February</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>18,341</b>

## PRIVATE TRANSFERS PROCESSED

MONTH	DAILY KILOGRAMS
Mar	282
Apr	225
May	0
June	148.19
July	107.13
August	65.44
September	70.92
October	233.45
November	328.00
December	60.00
January, 2019	253.29
<b>February</b>	<b>164.25</b>

## OVER QUOTA (OVER 5 DAYS) REPORT BY MONTH

MONTH	# OF PRODUCERS	KGS BUTTERFAT
February	16	3,396
March	15	5,054
April	6	3,434
May	8	1,716
June	6	939
July	4	487
August	2	230
September	4	647
October	2	294
November	4	626
December	6	962
January, 2019	10	2,377
<b>February</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>3,220</b>

## SUMMARY REPORT OF CREDITS FEBRUARY, 2019 – 164 PRODUCERS

DAYS	# OF PRODUCERS	POSITIVE CREDITS ACCUMULATED (KGS OF BUTTERFAT)
+ 5	13	1,278
0 to + 5	34	5,864
TOTAL	47	7,142
DAYS	# OF PRODUCERS	NEGATIVE CREDITS ACCUMULATED (KGS OF BUTTERFAT)
-15	1	-5,589
-10 to -15	18	-42,875
-5 to -10	41	-74,111
0 to -5	57	-32,674
TOTAL	117	-155,250

## LOST OPPORTUNITY REPORT

MONTH	# OF PRODUCERS	LOST OPPORTUNITY (KGS OF BUTTERFAT)
<b>February, 2019</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>186</b>
January, 2019	1	18
December, 2018	1	331
November, 2018	3	330
October, 2018	0	0
September, 2018	0	0
August, 2018	3	1,039
July, 2018	1	13
June, 2018	3	1,361
May, 2018	1	198
April, 2018	3	458
March, 2018	6	1,226
February, 2018	5	887

## WEIGHTED AVERAGE COMPONENT TESTS & PRICES FEBRUARY, 2019

Components	Average Test	Price per kilogram Class 1 to 5
Butterfat	4.1938	17.057329
Protein	3.2655	2.577209
Other Solids	5.9000	0.713218

**The average butterfat price received per kilogram was \$20.07.**

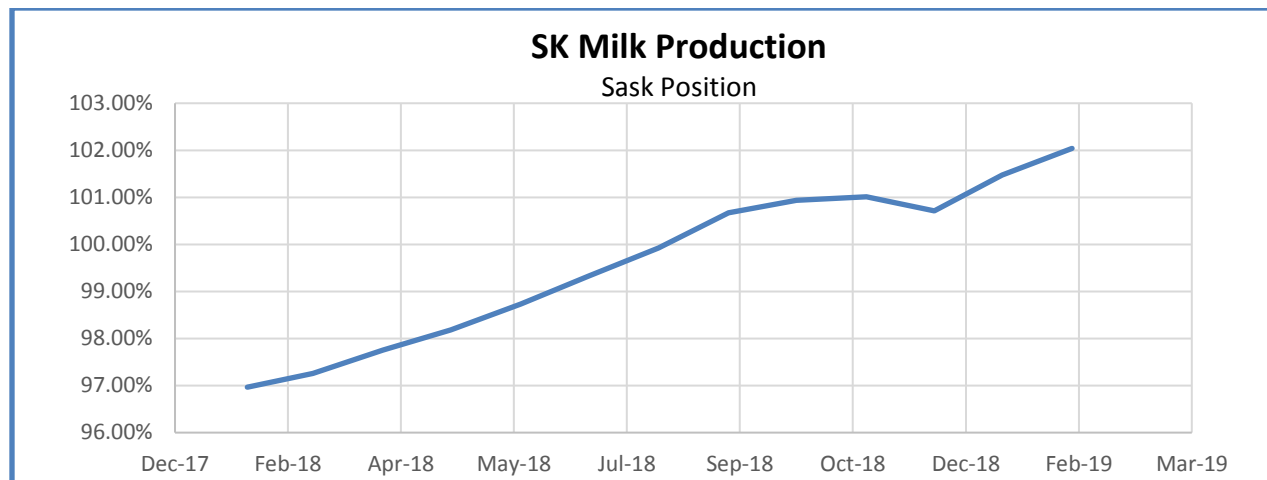
### SASKATCHEWAN MILK POOL RESULTS FEBRUARY 2019

Milk Sale Revenue	\$ 17,614,120.34
Western Milk Pool	\$ 1,467,756.12
<b>Total Pool Value</b>	<b>\$ 19,081,876.46</b>

In February, Saskatchewan had a monthly CDC allocation of **850,154 kilograms** of butterfat. In the month of February, Saskatchewan production was **101,888** of butterfat **over** and cumulatively **over** by **39,182 kilograms** of butterfat. On a percentage basis, Saskatchewan is **0.34% above** our CDC allocation flexibility limits based on the Continuous Quota model. The -2.00% lower flexibility limit is in effect.

	(1) Monthly Total Production  Kgs bf	(2) Total Monthly CDC Quota Allocation  Kgs bf	(3) Monthly Over or (Under) Production  Kgs bf  col. 1 - 2 = 3	(4) Lower Flexibility Limit <b>-2.00%</b>  Kgs bf  col. 8 * -1.5%	(5) Upper Flexibility Limit <b>1.25%</b>  Kgs bf  col. 8 *1.0%	(6) Cumulative Over or (Under) Production with limits  Kgs bf	(7) Cumulative Over or (Under) Production with limits in - %  col. 6 / 8	(8) Rolling 12 Month Total Quota  Kgs bf
<b>Feb-18</b>	920,553	885,091	35,462	-226,352	141,470	(705,558)	-6.23%	11,317,606
<b>Mar-18</b>	1,020,174	999,132	21,042	-227,975	142,485	(684,516)	-6.01%	11,398,765
<b>Apr-18</b>	983,089	952,267	30,822	-228,877	143,048	(653,694)	-5.71%	11,443,839
<b>May-18</b>	1,002,542	958,739	43,803	-229,231	143,270	(115,431)	-1.01%	11,461,574
<b>Jun-18</b>	957,756	945,811	11,945	-229,681	143,550	(114,260)	-0.99%	11,484,026
<b>Jul-18</b>	982,110	955,315	26,795	-230,035	143,772	(88,244)	-0.77%	11,501,756
<b>Aug-18</b>	988,502	974,319	14,183	-230,359	143,974	(48,899)	-0.42%	11,517,937
<b>Sep-18</b>	979,618	946,287	33,331	-230,593	144,121	(131,409)	-1.14%	11,529,665
<b>Oct-18</b>	1,034,312	1,026,685	7,627	-231,475	144,672	(123,782)	-1.07%	11,573,770
<b>Nov-18</b>	1,005,120	1,074,305	(69,185)	-233,899	146,187	(192,967)	-1.65%	11,694,944
<b>Dec-18</b>	1,050,954	1,052,951	(1,997)	-234,522	146,576	(194,964)	-1.66%	11,726,103
<b>Jan-19</b>	1,053,651	921,393	132,258	-233,846	146,154	(62,706)	-0.54%	11,692,295
<b>Feb-19</b>	952,042	850,154	101,888	-233,147	145,717	39,182	0.34%	11,657,358

- (1) Monthly Production in Saskatchewan
- (2) Total Monthly Quota = Class 1 sales + Monthly MSQ + Carry Forward
- (3) Difference between the monthly production (1) and the total monthly quota (2)
- (4) The Lower Flexibility Limit is -2.00% of Rolling 12 Month Total Quota (9)
- (5) The Upper Flexibility Limit is 1.25% of Rolling 12 Month Total Quota (9)
- (6) Previous Month Cumulative Over or (Under) Production + Current Monthly Over or (Under) Production (capped at lower or upper limit if applicable)
- (7) Equal to Column (6) expressed as a percentage basis within the flexibility limits
- (8) Total Monthly CDC Quota Allocation for the previous 12 months



## 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 <sup>†</sup> (ppb*)	US Safe Level or Tolerance / Canadian MRL (ppb*)	Sulfa Drug	Detection Level <sup>†</sup> (ppb*)	US Safe Level or Tolerance / Canadian MRL (ppb*)
Amoxicillin	3.1	10 / None	Sulfadimethoxine	4.7	10 / 10 <sup>∞</sup>
Ampicillin	7.7	10 / 10	Sulfamethazine	7.7	10 / 10 <sup>∞</sup>
Ceftiofur and Metabolites <sup>^</sup>	53	100 / 100	Tetracycline Drug	Detection Level <sup>†</sup> (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 <sup>&amp;</sup>	Tetracycline	21	300 / 100

<sup>†</sup> Positive at least 90% of the time with 95% confidence.

\* parts per billion or ng/mL

<sup>^</sup> Ceftiofur parent drug sensitivity is approximately 1/2 that reported in the table.

<sup>&</sup> Canadian MRL for penicillin G is 0.01 IU/ml, equivalent to 6 ppb.

<sup>∞</sup> Canadian MRL for sulfa drugs are singly or in combination with other MRL listed sulfonamides.

Test stations are located at the following locations:

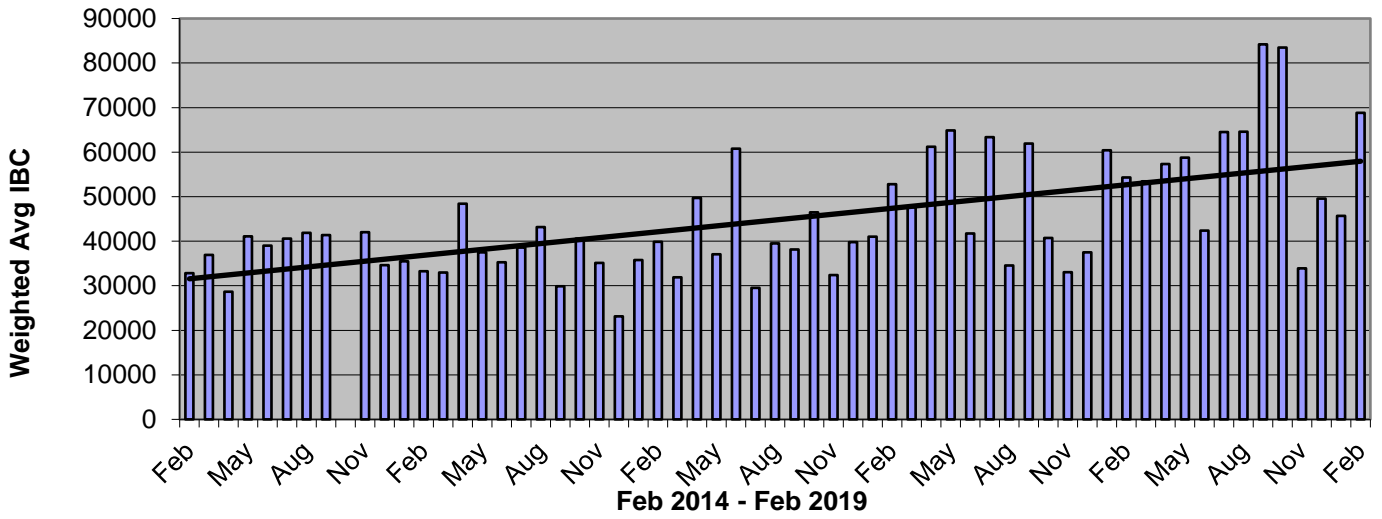
1. Swift Current, SK - Agrifoods truck bay - 675 Cheadle Street West  
Office 306-773-1097 or Rodger Ruf 306-741-3261
2. Star City, SK - Star City Colony - Reuben Tschetter 306-921-9381
3. Grenfell, SK - Jim Ross 306-697-2232
4. Yorkton, SK - Ford Dairy Farms Inc. - Bud and Margaret Ford 306-782-7240
5. 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.

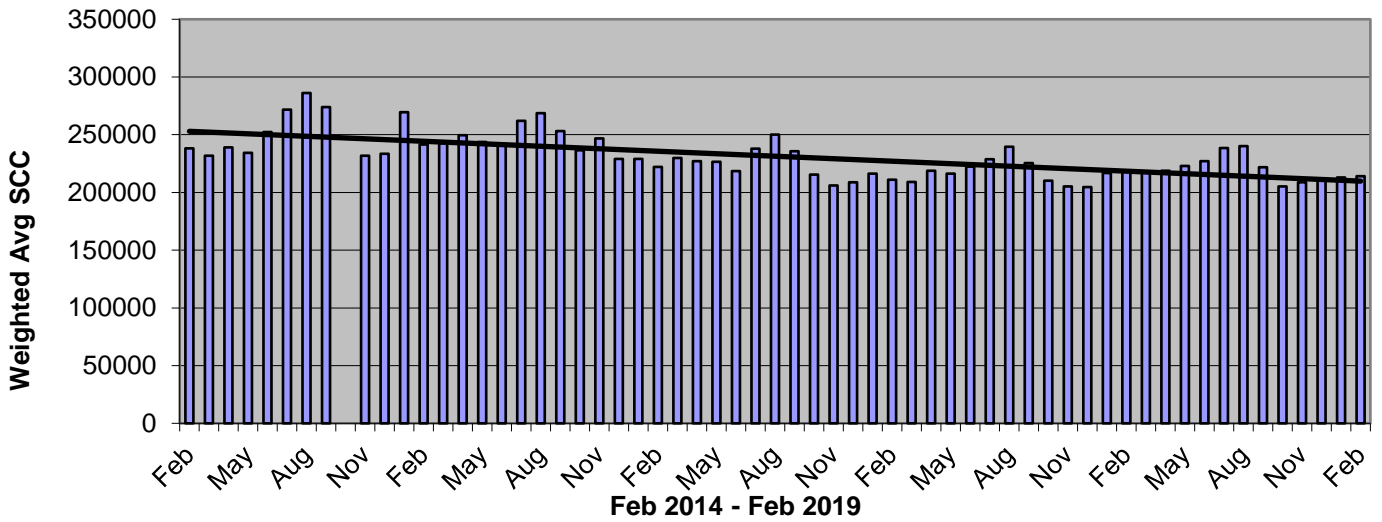
For further information you can contact: Deb Haupstein 306-721-9486

# Provincial Weighted Average

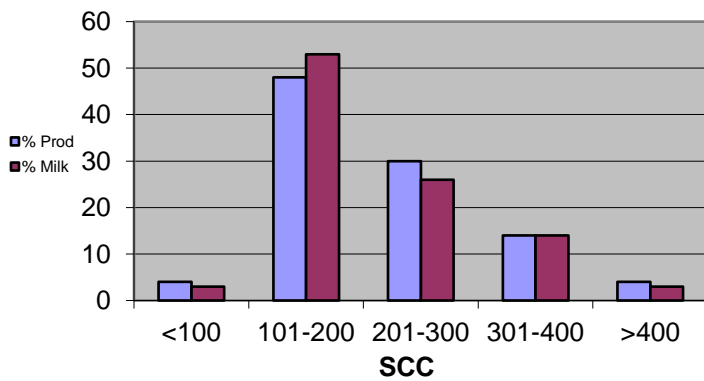
## Monthly Weighted Average IBC



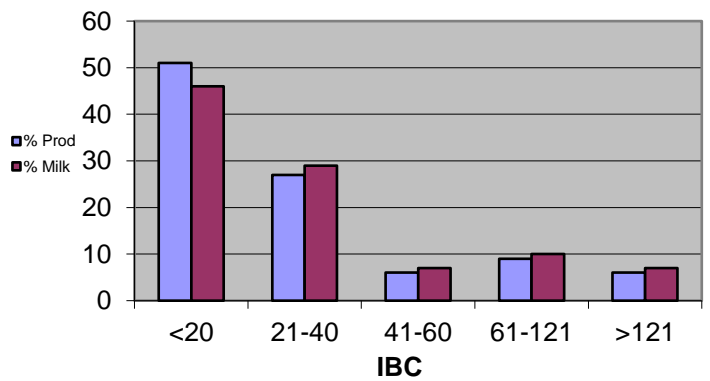
## Monthly Weighted Average SCC



### Feb 2019



### Feb 2019

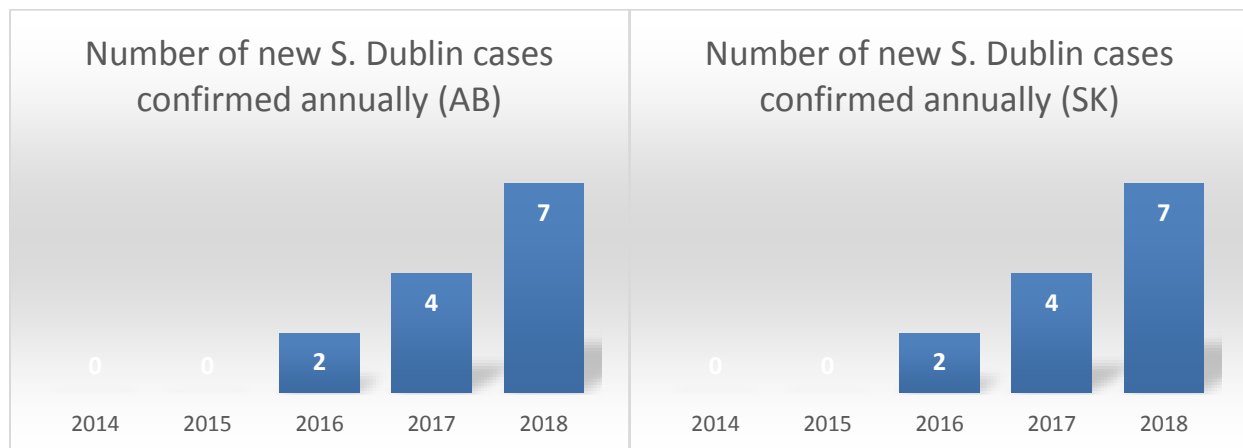


# Multi-drug Resistant *Salmonella* Dublin in Cattle

Prairie Diagnostic Services (PDS) has increasingly been isolating *Salmonella Dublin* (Group D) from diagnostic samples submitted from cattle premises in Alberta and Saskatchewan. They have all shown the same antimicrobial susceptibility profile, being resistant to multiple antibiotics including:

- Ceftiofur
- Tetracycline
- Tilmicosin
- Florfenicol
- Tulathromycin

While the number of cases diagnosed annually is still relatively low, there is a clear increasing trend:



It is unknown how and when multi-drug resistant *Salmonella Dublin* strains emerged in the Canadian bovine industry, or how widespread they are. In Quebec, the disease was first diagnosed in 2014 and, since then, surveillance has shown that it has spread to at least 10 per cent of that province's dairy herds. *Salmonella Dublin* is characterized by a common multi-drug resistant profile regardless of where it is found, be it Canada, the United States or Europe.

(the following has been largely excerpted from Cornell University Animal Health Advisory on *Salmonella Dublin*, accessed from <https://ahdc.vet.cornell.edu/programs/NYSCHAP/docs/SalmonellaDublinUpdate.pdf>. Visit this link for more information on the epidemiology and management of *Salmonella Dublin* in cattle. )

It is advised that cattle operations take steps to prevent the introduction and transmission of *Salmonella Dublin* and other enteric pathogens. Illness associated with *Salmonella Dublin* can be difficult to treat, may be fatal, and the environment, once contaminated, may be difficult to clean up. People, other livestock and companion

animal species are also susceptible to infection and could suffer serious illness. Carrier animals can maintain the infection within a herd and may continue to shed organisms contributing to repeat exposure of healthy and sick animals. Cattle owners and caretakers should be especially alert to cattle illnesses involving fever, diarrhea, abortions, and respiratory signs (especially in calves) including coughing and labored breathing. While pneumonia is not considered to be an unusual illness in cattle populations, all pneumonia associated with a high incidence or mortality rate should be investigated promptly by a veterinarian. Blood cultures, nasal swabs, transtracheal washes, fecal cultures and other samples from sick animals can be submitted to PDS in Saskatoon for *Salmonella* diagnostic testing and other infectious diseases.

*Salmonella spp.* have the potential to infect people and can cause illness and death. Notify a physician or the local health department if any animal caretakers show signs of serious illness, such as fever, delirium, vomiting, diarrhea with or without blood, and abdominal cramping. Individuals with weakened or suppressed immune systems, pregnant women, and the very young and very old are most susceptible to infection and illness with *Salmonella spp.*  
**Consumption of raw milk is a high risk practice, especially from herds experiencing a suspected or confirmed outbreak of *Salmonella***

**Dr. Wendy Wilkins, Disease Surveillance Veterinarian, Animal Health Unit, Ministry of Agriculture**

### **Surveillance for *Salmonella Dublin* (*S.Dublin*) in Saskatchewan**

SaskMilk, in conjunction with the Ministry of Agriculture, is working on a surveillance project for *S. Dublin* in Saskatchewan dairy herds.

The details are still being finalized but the goal is to test all bulk tanks for the presence of antibodies to *S. Dublin* and to test blood samples from 10 calves per herd between three and eight months of age. Further information will be provided within the next month.

Funding for this project is provided under the Federal Provincial Agricultural Partnership (CAP).



### **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, 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:** First and second cut alfalfa bales. Feed tests available. Bales are located in northeast Sask. **Contact Mike at 306-873-0241.**

**For Sale:** 1500 US gallon Mueller bulk tank and one year old refrigeration unit. **Contact Neil at 306-873-0240.**

**For Sale:** Westward bottle washer that holds 30 bottles, and a Grober 180 L milk cart for feeding calves. **Contact 1-306-295-3321 ext. 706 or [dairysierra@gmail.com](mailto:dairysierra@gmail.com)**

**For Sale:** Houle manure pump, centrifugal type; Houle track scrapers, 12 and 9 ft alleys; Delaval calf feeder cf1000 with nipple and pellet feed station, optional whole milk distribution feature; Delaval cow brush 2x parts or fixer uppers; 4 black plastic foot baths. **Call or text for pictures 306-280-7646.**

### **Reminder!**

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

Your Quota Transfer, and 10% Exemption Applications must be received on or before the 6<sup>th</sup> of the month in order to be effective the 1<sup>st</sup> of the following month  
Quota Exchange forms must be received in the SaskMilk office on or before the 6<sup>th</sup> of the month for that month's Exchange

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Website: [www.saskmilk.ca](http://www.saskmilk.ca)  
Email: [info@saskmilk.ca](mailto:info@saskmilk.ca)



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**SaskMilk Ambassador Program Application Form**

Application Deadline: April 15, 2019

Full Name \_\_\_\_\_

Farm Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/Town \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

**Why do you want to be a SaskMilk Ambassador?**

**What qualities do you have that will make you successful in this position?**

**What are the biggest challenges facing the dairy industry today?**

Once completed, please submit this form to the SaskMilk office by email ([info@saskmilk.ca](mailto:info@saskmilk.ca)) or fax to (306) 949-2605.