



Share Your Expertise this November at the Dairy Sustainability Alliance® Fall Meeting + Sustainable Agriculture Summit

Mark your calendars – this November we'll be back together in Minneapolis, MN, for the **Dairy Sustainability Alliance® Fall Meeting** (Nov. 18-19) and **Sustainable Agriculture Summit** (Nov. 20-21). Registration for both these events opens in July, but in the meantime, learn more about how you can be part of the action through a variety of sponsorship and session development opportunities:



Dairy Sustainability Alliance Fall Meeting

Call for Proposals: Sustainability in Action Mini Sessions

Proposals are [now being accepted](#) to fill three *Sustainability in Action* mini sessions – 20-minute TED-talk format presentations demonstrating how member companies across the value chain are helping U.S. dairy collectively advance solutions for a more sustainable world and a thriving dairy community. Submit your proposal today that:

- Creatively showcases your innovative approach, technology, solution, partnership, etc. to address the U.S. dairy value chain's shared challenges and opportunities in one or more social responsibility pillar (Advance Well-being; Regenerate the Environment; Care for Our Animals and Communities)
- Provides actionable insights, best practices, or recommendations that attendees can apply in their work or organization.
- Are applicable to a broad segment of the Dairy Sustainability Alliance's diverse stakeholder audience.

This opportunity is open to all Dairy Sustainability Alliance members in good standing. View all requirements and [submit your proposal here](#). **All proposals must be received by August 2.**

Sponsorship Opportunity: Welcome Reception

Kickstart networking and collaboration by [sponsoring](#) the Fall Meeting Welcome Reception. Networking consistently ranks among the top reasons dairy stakeholders attend Alliance meetings, and the Welcome Reception offers an early opportunity for attendees to connect and sow the seeds for future collaboration ahead of the main meeting the following day. Be the sponsor that makes this valued reception happen!

Sustainable Agriculture Summit

Call for Proposals: Breakout Sessions

This year's Summit, ***A Decade of Progress and a Vision for the Future***, will celebrate 10 years of collaboration – exploring the past, present, and, most importantly, driving the future of sustainable agriculture. Breakout sessions are a key way Summit attendees gain actionable insights from across the food and agriculture value chain. Proposals are now being accepted for breakout sessions that provide specific examples of actions, outcomes, and learnings that attendees can implement, adapt, and scale in their own businesses and operations. Download the [2024 Call for Proposals guide](#) for more information on selection criteria and submission requirements. [Proposals must be submitted online by August 2, 2024.](#)

Become a Summit Sponsor

Reach over 900 in-person attendees and 7,000+ agriculture sustainability leaders through event communications as a sponsor of the 2024 Sustainable Agriculture Summit. There are a range of opportunities to choose from, allowing you to tailor your package in a way that best fits your goals. From exclusive branding and sustainability sponsorships to convenient package levels and custom sponsorships, the options are almost limitless. Explore the [2024 Sponsorship Prospectus](#) to learn more.

To learn more about the meetings or for questions related to these opportunities, please contact angela.hessinger@dairy.org.



Dairy Sustainability Alliance® News

New Webinar Opportunity – Understanding Ag Carbon Markets: An Emerging Tool in the Conservation Toolbox

Join us for our next Member Discovery Series webinar presented by American Farmland Trust:

Understanding Ag Carbon Markets: An Emerging Tool in the Conservation Toolbox

Tuesday, July 30 from 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Central



Corporations working to reach their sustainability goals are increasingly turning to the purchase of carbon credits, some of which can be generated by farmers who adopt “climate-smart practices.” However, these ag carbon markets have repeatedly been described as the “Wild West” because they pay for different things in different ways, with different expectations. American Farmland Trust recently published a guidebook that aims to help farmers, ag advisors, and conservation professionals better navigate emerging agricultural carbon market opportunities.

Michelle Perez, Water Initiative Director at American Farmland Trust, will provide a background on ag carbon markets, GHGs, and climate smart practices; share tips for conservation professionals when talking about ag carbon markets; and discuss some of the current market challenges and potential solutions. [Register here](#) to join us.

Dates Announced for 2025 Dairy Sustainability Alliance Spring Meeting

The 2025 Dairy Sustainability Alliance Spring Meeting will be held May 21-22, 2025, at the Loews Chicago O’Hare Hotel in Rosemont. Save the date and plan to join the broader dairy community as we convene to share the latest on dairy social responsibility, gather your input on industry initiatives, and connect with colleagues from across the country.

Advance Well-Being

Toolkit Launched to Support Consistent Access to Dairy in Food Banks

Over 120 stakeholders from across 15 states gathered in Rochester, NY, last month for the Dairy Nourishes America Eastern symposium to explore opportunities to increase dairy distribution to food insecure communities in the eastern region of the U.S. These leaders developed plans to drive action by building connections, creating partnerships, and breaking through barriers to positively impact communities through dairy. Stay tuned for the summary report of this symposium. You can access the reports of the two earlier symposia (Midwest and Western) at DairyNourishesAmerica.org.



During the symposium, the Innovation Center and Feeding America announced the launch of the [Dairy Nourishes America Toolkit](#). The toolkit provides tools and resources to build partnerships between the dairy community and food banks who in turn can develop strategies to provide consistent access to dairy. There are three main sections of the toolkit:

- **Why Dairy?** provides resources that describe the value that nutritious dairy foods have to people facing food insecurity.
- **Working with Dairy** gives information on best practices and safety guidelines when working with dairy products.
- **Partnerships and Practices** explores ways that food banks and the dairy community have successfully sourced dairy for people facing food insecurity.

We want to hear from you: If you have a success story or best practice that you would like to highlight within the toolkit, please contact Tab.Forgac@dairy.org. Building out partnership examples and best practices will help to deliver value and drive utilization of the toolkit. And we’d love to feature your great work!

Reach out to Tab.Forgac@dairy.org or Katie.Bambacht@dairy.org if you have questions.

Regenerate the Environment

FDA Confirms Safety and Efficacy of Methane-Reducing Feed Ingredient



Late last month, Elanco Animal Health announced that the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) had completed its comprehensive, multi-year review of Bovaer® (3-NOP), a methane-reducing feed ingredient, and determined the product meets safety and efficacy requirements for use in lactating dairy cattle. The company expects to launch Bovaer in the U.S. marketplace in Q3 of this year.

Reducing enteric methane will be key to helping U.S. dairy reach its collective goal of achieving GHG neutrality by 2050.

Bovaer works by suppressing the enzyme in the cow's rumen that forms methane. According to a [news release](#) from Elanco, feeding one tablespoon of Bovaer per lactating dairy cow per day can reduce methane emissions about 30% or about 1.2 metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent (CO₂e) emissions annually. Feeding one million cows Bovaer would reduce emissions equivalent to removing more than 285,000 cars from the road for a year.

Elanco also anticipates Bovaer will create value for dairy farmers through a combination of government incentives and the sale of credits on the carbon marketplace. Katie Cook, Vice President of Livestock Sustainability and Farm Animal Marketing at Elanco, discusses both the environmental and economic aspects of Bovaer on the June 14 "Dairy Defined" podcast ([Apple Podcasts](#) and [Spotify](#)) from National Milk Producers Federation.

DMI Announces Research RFP for Sustainable Forage and Feed Production

As part of efforts to support the U.S. dairy industry in reaching its collective environmental stewardship goals and accelerating voluntary action on farm to reduce environmental impacts, Dairy Management Inc. (DMI) recently announced a [call for research proposals](#) on sustainable dairy feed and forage production. DMI invites researchers and experts in the field to submit proposals for innovative studies that explore novel approaches, technologies, and practices that enhance the sustainability and minimize the environmental impacts of dairy feed production systems.

The primary focus of this funding round will be on **"Alternative forage species or genetics, feed production systems, or feed formulation that result in irrigation water saving and/or a meaningful reduction in consumptive water use for producing dairy feed and forage."** Projects may encompass various aspects, including the evaluation of alternative water-conserving forage and feed crops, species, genotypes, or diversified or intensified forage production systems/rotations that offer water savings when compared to routine practices in the target regions.

Additional details, including eligibility and submission guidelines, are [included in the RFP PDF](#). The deadline for submissions is August 30.

If you'd like to learn more, please contact Reza.Afshar@dairy.org.

Online Educational Series Available for CCAs Working with Dairies



The American Society of Agronomy and Dairy Management Inc. have partnered to produce an online education series designed to empower Certified Crop Advisors (CCAs) with information about sustainable dairy management. The series includes five, 30- to 45-minute modules and a page with additional learning resources:

- Introduction to Working with Dairies
- Forages on a Dairy: Typical Crop Rotations and Silage Production and Harvest
- Sustainable Forage Production in the Dairy Operation
- Manure Management and Associated Environmental and Agronomic Impacts
- Manure Land Applications and Strategies for Nutrient Management

Create an account for free and access the course at <https://bit.ly/DairyCCA>.

If you'd like to learn more, please contact Bridgett.Hilshey@dairy.org.



Care for Our Animals and Communities

FARM Program Adds New On-Farm Resources

The National Dairy Farmers Assuring Responsible Management (FARM) Program released new and updated resources for farmers in response to H5N1 guidelines and in preparation for Version 5 of the Animal Care Program.

FARM Biosecurity

The [FARM Biosecurity Program](#) was established in 2021 with support from USDA's National Animal Disease Preparedness and Response Program. The resources developed as part of the FARM Biosecurity Program have proven to be invaluable tools for producers navigating the H5N1 outbreak in dairy cattle. The program's Enhanced Biosecurity component aligns with the Secure Milk Supply Plan for Continuity of Business. This voluntary plan was designed to support the movement of milk from farm to processing plant should a foot-and-mouth disease outbreak occur in the United States. Farmers can also utilize this tool to establish on-farm biosecurity measures in response to the recent H5N1 outbreak.



Milk & Dairy Beef Drug Residue Prevention

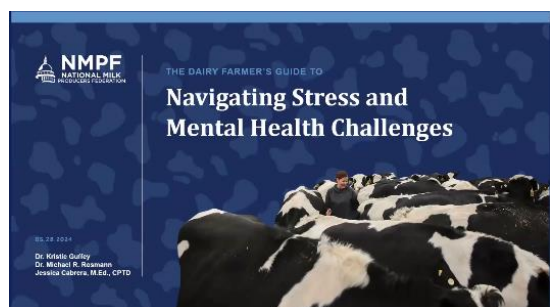
Another recently updated tool is the 2024–2025 revised Milk & Dairy Beef Drug Residue Prevention Manual. The new version of the manual contains the updated 2021 Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Guidance for Industry #263, "Recommendations for Sponsors of Medically Important Antimicrobial Drugs Approved for Use in Animals to Voluntarily Bring Under Veterinary Oversight All Products That Continue to be Available Over-the-Counter" (GFI #263). This change affected antimicrobials such as penicillin, tetracycline and cephalosporin that can now only be acquired through a veterinarian prescription. The manual is available for free [download](#) and hard copies will be made available for purchase from the [FARM Store](#) in the upcoming weeks. A pocket guide version is in development and will also be available this summer. This manual was developed in partnership with Zoetis and is updated every two years to reflect industry standards for judicious antibiotic use.

New Resource for Veterinarians

The FARM Program also launched a new webpage for [veterinarians](#) that highlights their important role in supporting FARM Animal Care standards implementation as a trusted advisor to their dairy producer clients. Veterinarians help establish guidelines pertaining to herd management protocols, vaccination records, and continuing education for participants. In addition to FARM-developed resources, resources from the American Association of Bovine Practitioners can also be found on the page.

To view these resources and others, visit [National Dairy FARM Program](#) or for more information, contact dairyfarm@nmpf.org.

Recording Available: The Dairy Farmer's Guide to Navigating Stress and Mental Health Challenges



Taking care of your mental health is just as important as taking care of your physical health. This is especially true for farming and rural communities, where [rates](#) of depression and suicide are higher than for those living in urban areas but where access to – and often a willingness to talk about – mental health care are frequently low.

Last month, the National Milk Producers Federation's National Young Cooperators Program and National Dairy FARM Program hosted a joint webinar addressing mental health in agriculture. The hour-long session covered practical strategies for managing stress, offering actionable techniques tailored to the unique demands of dairy farming. Available resources and support were also highlighted. You can access a recording of the webinar [here](#) (note: you'll need to provide basic contact information to access the recording).



Extra Moos

USDEC Awarded \$10 million in RAPP Funding to Help Develop International Markets for Dairy

The U.S. Dairy Export Council (USDEC) has been awarded \$10 million in Regional Agricultural Promotion Program (RAPP) funding to build partnerships with dairy farmers, processors, importers, distributors, retailers, foodservice operators, and policymakers in critical markets to cultivate dairy demand and trade.



Now more than ever, the U.S. dairy industry relies on exports. Milk from one out of six milk trucks leaving American dairy farms ends up in products and ingredients sold overseas. In 2023, U.S. dairy export value finished at \$8.11 billion, the second-largest value of all time. This year, dairy exports were \$2 billion through the first quarter. This new funding will allow USDEC to assist in delivering sustainable, healthy, nourishing U.S. dairy products to countries that lack an abundance of dairy in their diets while simultaneously creating mutually beneficial growth for the dairy sectors on all sides.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture launched RAPP in October 2023, authorizing \$1.2 billion in Commodity Credit Corporation funding to help U.S. exporters diversify and expand market opportunities for U.S. agricultural products beyond the traditional top customers – Canada, Mexico, the European Union, and China – which collectively comprise nearly 60 percent of U.S. agricultural export sales. RAPP introduces new support for exports to other regions like Africa, which has 54 different countries and is not a singular, homogenous market.

To learn more, please contact Jerry Brown (jbrown@usdec.org).

Upcoming Events

July	Registration Opens for Dairy Sustainability Alliance Fall Meeting + Sustainable Agriculture Summit	
July 30 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Central	Member Discovery Series Webinar - Understanding Ag Carbon Markets: An Emerging Tool in the Conservation Toolbox <i>Presented by American Farmland Trust. Click here to register.</i>	Webinar
July 30-31	Dairy Plant Food Safety Workshop <i>Hosted by Foremost Farms & Sargento Foods</i>	Madison, WI
Aug. 2	DEADLINE: Dairy Sustainability Alliance Fall Meeting Sustainability in Action Session Proposals Due	
Aug. 2	DEADLINE: Sustainable Agriculture Summit Breakout Session Proposals Due	
Oct. 1-2	Dairy Plant Food Safety Workshop <i>Hosted by HP Hood & Wells Enterprises</i>	Batavia, NY
Nov. 18-19	2024 Dairy Sustainability Alliance® Fall Meeting	Minneapolis, MN
Nov. 20-21	2024 Sustainable Agriculture Summit	Minneapolis, MN
May 21-22, 2025	2025 Dairy Sustainability Alliance® Spring Meeting	Rosemont, IL
Ongoing	Food Safety Basics for Ice Cream Makers Online Training Course	Online Training
Ongoing	Food Safety Basics for Artisan Cheesemakers Online Training Course	Online Training