

NCIMS and Food and Drug Administration (FDA) are very concerned about the increased public interest in drinking raw milk and the health hazards associated with it. According to the Centers for Disease Control, there were 39 outbreaks from consumption of raw milk or cheese made from raw milk. The outbreaks occurred in 22 states, causing over 800 illnesses, 66 hospitalizations and one death. Two of the outbreaks occurred in Michigan, even though the sale of raw milk is illegal here.

The other resolution calls for all Grade A milk suppliers to participate in the USDA Voluntary Bovine Johne's Herd Certification Program. The NCIMS recognizes Johne's disease as a significant issue and passed the resolution to send a message to the dairy industry that we had better start paying attention to Johne's disease. The USDA program promotes best management practices to eliminate or reduce the incidence of Johne's

disease in domestic cattle to the lowest possible level. The program includes biosecurity, improved on-farm husbandry, test/cull procedures and on-farm sanitation practices.

Due to our early involvement with Michigan Department of Agriculture (MDA) and Michigan State University (MSU) in developing the Michigan Johne's Control Program, MMPA is one step ahead of this resolution. MMPA Member Representatives are trained to conduct Johne's risk assessments on member farms upon request. Through these assessments, the Member Representatives can help producers alter their management styles to eliminate or prevent Johne's disease in their herds. This assessment can then be shared with the farm's veterinarian who can help the producer establish a Johne's control strategy.

We will continue to work with MDA and MSU to further expand the Johne's Control Program.

MDA will likely be providing information to producers on Johne's certification and control programs. Through meetings and mailings, we will keep you informed as to when meetings and workshops are scheduled for this program.

If you would like a Johne's risk assessment on your farm, contact your Member Representative or the Member Services department in the Novi office. If you have any questions or concerns about the NCIMS conference, PMO or MMPA's Johne's risk assessments, please contact me in the Novi office.



MMPA Quality Premium Program

Somatic Cell Count premiums and deductions (in addition to Federal Order SCC Adjustments computed in the producer pay price) will be paid at the following levels:

- 50,000 or below +45¢ / cwt.
- 51,000 - 75,000 +40¢ / cwt.
- 76,000 - 100,000 +35¢ / cwt.
- 101,000 - 125,000 +30¢ / cwt.
- 126,000 - 150,000 +25¢ / cwt.
- 151,000 - 175,000 +20¢ / cwt.
- 176,000 - 200,000 +15¢ / cwt.
- 201,000 - 225,000 +10¢ / cwt.
- 226,000 - 275,000 +05¢ / cwt.
- 600,001 - 750,000 -10¢ / cwt.
- Over 750,000 -50¢ / cwt.

A payment of 5¢ / cwt. will be added for each of the following, if the count is equal to or below:

- 10,000 Raw Bacteria Count
- 20,000 Pre-Incubated (PI) Count

There will be a deduction of 10¢ / cwt. for the following criteria:

- Greater than 100,000 Raw Bacteria Count

A high raw count deduction will be waived if the producer has received the quality premium the previous three months for raw bacteria count.

To qualify for Raw, PI and Somatic Cell Count premiums there must **not** be any of the following during the month:

- Positive drug residue
- Abnormal freeze points
- High load count shipment or rejected load shipment
- #3 or #4 sediment *
- Raw Bacteria count over 100,000 *

The count levels for raw and PI will be determined on one test run per month.

** Note: These do not affect the somatic cell count premium.*

To qualify for MMPA volume premiums there must be:

- No abnormal freeze points during the month
- An average somatic cell count of 750,000 or less.