

# United States Department of Agriculture

Agricultural Marketing Service

Dairy Program

## Louisville Office

10301 Brookridge Village Blvd  
(Mail) P.O. Box 91528  
Louisville, KY 40291

Phone: 502-499-0040  
Fax: 502-499-8749  
<http://www.malouisville.com>  
Email: [nierman@malouisville.com](mailto:nierman@malouisville.com)

## Atlanta Office

2763 Meadow Church Rd.  
Suite 100  
Duluth, GA 30097

Phone: 770-682-2501  
Fax: 770-545-8850  
<http://www.fmmatlanta.com>  
Email: [nierman@malouisville.com](mailto:nierman@malouisville.com)

## **Market Administrator**

Federal Order No. 5 – Appalachian Marketing Area

Federal Order No. 6 – Florida Marketing Area

Federal Order No. 7 – Southeast Marketing Area

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October 2, 2024

To: All Interested Parties

From: Jason Nierman, Market Administrator, Louisville, Kentucky

Subject: Expiration of Dairy Forward Pricing Program

Many programs and policies of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) were authorized under the Agricultural Improvement Act of 2018 ("2018 Farm Bill") through September 30, 2023. The Further Continuing Appropriations and Other Extensions Act, 2024 (Extension Act) reauthorized the Dairy Forward Pricing Program to allow handlers to enter into new contracts until September 30, 2024. Beginning October 1, 2024, the authority or funding provided under the 2018 Farm Bill, and reauthorized under the Extension Act, for USDA to operate a number of these programs, including the Dairy Forward Pricing Program, expired. As of October 1, 2024, Congress has not passed legislation extending the authority for USDA to carry out this program, and USDA cannot make new commitments to the program.

Therefore, proprietary handlers establishing new forward contracts on or after October 1, 2024, will not be exempt from paying minimum Federal order prices. Contracts established on or before September 30, 2024, that extend through September 30, 2027, are not impacted.

Any questions pertaining to the above should be directed to our office at 502-499-0040. You may direct them to John Herbert ([herbert@malouisville.com](mailto:herbert@malouisville.com)).