

United States Department of Agriculture

Agricultural Marketing Service

Dairy Program

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Market Administrator

Federal Order No. 5 – Appalachian Marketing Area

Federal Order No. 6 – Florida Marketing Area

Federal Order No. 7 – Southeast Marketing Area

October 2, 2023

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. Beginning October 1, 2023, the authority or funding provided under the 2018 Farm Bill for USDA to operate a number of these programs, including the Dairy Forward Pricing Program, expired. As of October 1, 2023, 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, 2023, will not be exempt from paying minimum Federal order prices. Contracts established on or before September 30, 2023, that extend through September 30, 2026, 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. In addition, my email address is herbert@malouisville.com.