

- Voluntary Milking Systems
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- MI Business One Stop
- Emergency Rapid Response Team

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# Dairy Digest

**Food & Dairy Division****Summer 2009**

## Voluntary Milking System Update

Michigan's first voluntary milking system is now in place and operating on a 60-head dairy farm in St. Clair County. The installation required extensive research and coordination between the dairy producer, MDA Dairy Section staff, and the manufacturer of this newer technology. MDA has been exploring the technology for more than a year due to industry demand as the voluntary milking system required some modification to comply with regulatory requirements. In addition, Dairy Section staff is now working with Michigan State University on their plans to install a voluntary milking system at the Kellogg Biological Station (KBS) dairy farm near Battle Creek. The plan includes extensive grazing capabilities for the dairy herd at KBS. The voluntary milking system installation will provide information to dairy farmers who are considering the labor cost savings that a robotic milker might provide.

## Hauler/Sampler Identification on Weight Slips

In the last Dairy Digest, we addressed the issue of hauler/sampler identification on farm weight slips. While there has been improvement in this area, Michigan Grade A surveys indicate a significant number of haulers are failing to record their identification as required by the Pasteurized Milk Ordinance. The hauler/sampler name as it appears on the hauler/sampler license and the license number both must be recorded on the weight slip. This same information is needed if a ledger is used as the milk weight record left on the farm. Recording

the hauler/sampler information in places other than on the weight slip does not reflect who is sampling individual dairy farm milk pickups.

Milk samples are used by MDA for regulatory purposes. For this reason, these samples need to be taken by licensed samplers. Without proper identification on the weight slip, it can be difficult to determine if a licensed hauler/sampler took the milk sample.

Inspectors will be debiting Item 23j on routine hauler/sampler inspections if the name and identification number of the hauler/sampler is not recorded on the weight slips or ledger left on the farm.



## Michigan Business One Stop

A new state website provides a one-stop approach to doing business with the State of Michigan. For more information on this new website visit [www.michigan.gov/businesslicense](http://www.michigan.gov/businesslicense).

## Receive Food Recall Alerts

Are you keeping up on current food recalls that may affect your business? Sign up to receive recall alerts by e-mail or text message at [www.michigan.gov/mdaalerts](http://www.michigan.gov/mdaalerts).

## Emergency Rapid Response Team

Michigan was selected by the Food and Drug Administration as one of six states to develop an emergency Rapid Response Team. This competitive grant allows MDA to build on and improve its efforts in prevention, preparedness, training, and response related to food and feed emergencies, as well as work to reduce the possibility that any Michigan produced food or feed product may be a source of illness.

## Late License Submittals

This year, the Dairy Section will begin enforcing the late fee penalty that was made effective in June 2008. The law now states the department may impose a late fee of \$10 for each business day the renewal application is late. The total late fee shall not exceed \$100. Please remember to submit your license application on time. Each year, a small percentage of businesses place themselves in the unfortunate position of having to pay late fees and fines because their license was not renewed on time.

## Enforcement

Enforcement letters . . . . .	515
Informal hearing/compliance reviews . . . . .	17
Administrative fines collected by MDA . . . . .	\$12,250
Prosecutions . . . . .	0
Seizures. . . . .	2
Dollar amount of seized products . . . . .	\$217,985
Total permit suspensions. . . . .	144
Total pounds of contaminated milk disposal . . . . .	2,049,355 (\$386,303)

For the convenience of dairy farmers and those having dairy questions, Michigan is divided into two regions.

## Dairy Regional Offices



**West Region**  
**Gordon Robinson**  
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 Grand Rapids Regional Office  
 Dairy Section  
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**East Region**  
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 Dairy Section  
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Questions may also be directed to:

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