

Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development

DAIRY DIGEST



Kevin Besey, Director
Terrance Philibeck, Deputy Director/Dairy Section Manager

Spring 2014

Michigan Dairy Industry Expansion

In last three years, the dairy industry in Michigan has seen significant growth, with more slated over the next two years and beyond. MDARD dairy inspectors have been key to helping these facilities with plan reviews and meeting regulatory requirements to begin processing. Since 2011, four new or expanded dairy processing facilities began production in Michigan:

- 1) MMPA Ovid – Expansion
- 2) Yoplait Reed City – New addition
- 3) Meijer Holland – New receiving facility, plant renovation
- 4) Continental Dairy Coopersville New Plant
- 5) FairLife Coopersville New Plant

Another three processing facilities are currently under construction:

- 1) Dairy Farmers of America – Cass City
3 million pounds per day
- 2) Verndale Dairy products – Detroit
- 3) Philos Greek Yogurt – Norton Shores

Proposed Construction to start in 2015

- 1) MMPA – Bay City/Saginaw
4-5 million pounds per day

Michigan has also seen expansion/construction at dairy farms. A 3,000 cow operation began production near St. Louis in December 2013, and Milk Source, a Wisconsin processor, purchased Vreba-Hoff farms in Hudson and will milk two 3,500 cow operations.

Dairy Statistics and Enforcement Activity

MDARD dairy inspectors conduct milk safety inspections on all of Michigan's:

2,016 farms (1,726 Grade A and 290 manufacturing)

90 dairy processing plants, as well as 32 other dairy facilities

1,705 milk haulers/samplers, milk tank trucks and milk transportation companies.

In FY13, dairy law violations resulted in:

- 205 enforcement letters
- 68 permit suspensions
- 11 informal hearings/compliance reviews
- 3 seizures; \$390 in seized products
- \$10,300 in administrative fines collected by MDARD
- Disposal of 1,460,352 lbs. of contaminated milk (valued at \$280,096)

Terry Philibeck Rejoins MDARD Staff

Terry Philibeck was named the Food and Dairy Division's deputy division director and Dairy Section program manager in September 2013, replacing Sue Esser, who retired. Terry's responsibilities include managing the division's supervisory and program staff and providing oversight for dairy food safety rules and regulations.

Terry came to MDARD after serving five years as Dairy Division Director for the Indiana Board of Animal Health, followed by a six-month term at United Dairy Industry of Michigan, where he served as director of industry relations. Terry is a familiar face at MDARD -- he spent 13 years with the department, serving as a dairy inspector for about two years, followed by nearly 11 years as MDARD's West Region Dairy Supervisor.



One of the biggest changes Terry noticed after being away from Michigan for several years is the growth of our state's dairy industry, especially in the size and scope of dairy operations. Michigan recently surpassed Minnesota in total milk production, moving from 8th in the nation to 7th, and is gaining on Texas. The state has also seen huge growth in new dairy plant construction to handle the increase in milk production.

"It's been great to see familiar faces at MDARD and to be welcomed back so warmly," Terry commented. "I've also had the opportunity to spend time with many of the new dairy inspectors to get to know them and their backgrounds, and I am impressed by their level of professionalism and expertise."

Terry's extensive knowledge of the dairy industry and state and federal rules and regulations are a huge asset to the department.

Consumer Complaint Hotline

If you see a food-related problem, please report it to the MDARD Food and Dairy Division at **800-292-3939** or through the MDARD website:

www.michigan.gov/mdard

Some Pressure Washer Systems Require Changes to Meet Code

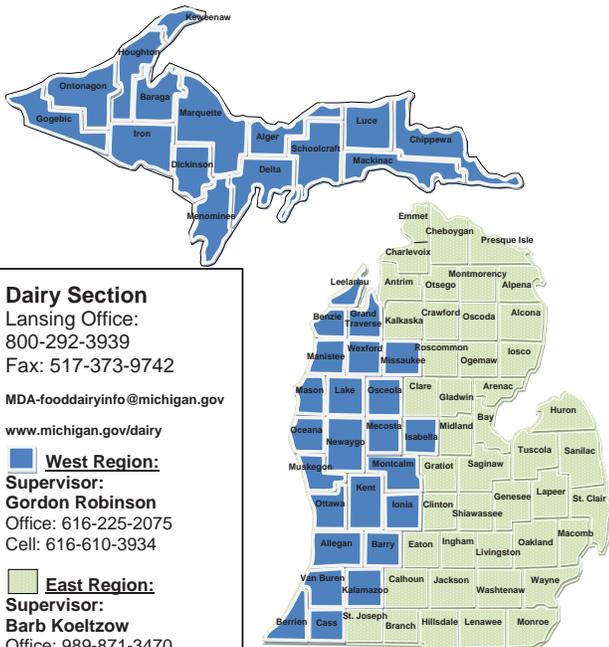
During a recent audit of MDARD's dairy inspection program, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) informed MDARD the use of a Watts N36 valve is not approved for use in the Michigan plumbing code to prevent water backflow in pressure washer applications at dairy facilities. An approved application to replace the use of a Watts N36 valve is:

- 1) Low pressure cut of switch
- 2) Separate water reservoir
- 3) Reduced Pressure Zone (RPZ)

During routine inspections, MDARD dairy inspectors will inform dairy producers of necessary changes that must be implemented by January 1, 2015, in order to comply with the Michigan plumbing code. This requirement applies to new or modified system applications only; existing systems will be grandfathered in.

DAIRY SECTION REGIONS

MARCH 1, 2013



Dairy Section

Lansing Office:
800-292-3939
Fax: 517-373-9742

MDA-fooddairyinfo@michigan.gov

www.michigan.gov/dairy

West Region:

Supervisor:

Gordon Robinson
Office: 616-225-2075
Cell: 616-610-3934

East Region:

Supervisor:

Barb Koeltzow
Office: 989-871-3470
Cell: 517-749-5846

MDARD Contact Information

Phone: 1-800-292-3939

After Hours Emergencies: 517-373-0440

Fax: 517-373-9742

Email: mda-FoodDairyInfo@michigan.gov

Web:

www.michigan.gov/mda-dairy

Electronic Complaints Submission:

www.michigan.gov/complaints

Licensing Information:

www.michigan.gov/business

Business Start-up and Expansion:

www.michigan.gov/miagbusiness

Marketing Information:

www.michigan.gov/mdamarketingguide

Bodies of Dead Animals

Bodies of Dead Animals -- no one wants to think about this part of farming, but it is a reality of the industry. The death of an animal means the loss of a life, the loss of income, sometimes even an economic setback. But, for whatever reason the animal death has occurred, be it old age, unknown cause, or disease, we must think of what we do next -- proper disposal of the animal.

Proper Disposal of Animal Carcasses in Michigan, The Bodies of Dead Animals Act (BODA), Public Act 239 of 1982, as amended, establishes guidelines for the proper disposal of dead animals to protect human, animal, and environmental health. MDARD investigates complaints or answers questions about methods for safe and legal disposal of dead animals, not intended for human food.

In general, all dead animals must be properly disposed of within 24 hours after death. The following methods of disposal are allowed by law: burial, burning, composting or rendering. Alternatively, you can contact your local landfill to see if they accept dead animals.

Burial of animal carcasses is permitted under the following conditions:

- All body parts must be buried at least two feet beneath the natural surface of the ground, and in accordance with local ordinances.
- Animal carcasses may only be buried with the landowner's permission.
- Buried animal carcasses must not come in contact with the Great Lakes or any surface bodies of water (including inland lakes, streams, rivers, open drains), or groundwater.
- Animal graves must not be located within 200 feet of any existing groundwater well used to supply potable drinking water.

Animal carcasses may be buried in individual graves or common graves under the following conditions:

Individual Graves

- No more than 100 individual graves per acre are allowed, with a total combined weight of no more than five tons per acre.
- Individual animal graves must be separated by a minimum of 2-1/2 feet.

Common Graves

- The total animal carcass weight in a common grave cannot exceed 5,000 pounds per acre.
- If there is more than one common grave per acre, each common grave within that acre must be separated by a minimum of 100 feet.
- Animal carcasses in a common grave must be covered with at least one foot of soil within 24 hours of burial.
- A common grave cannot remain open for more than 30 days and must receive at least two feet of soil as final cover.

For more information, contact MDARD's Animal Industry Division at 800-292-3939 or visit www.michigan.gov/mdard, and search for 'BODA'.