

Farmers waiting for the USDA (government) to help getting a fair price for milk will not survive the wait. Government knows our situation, yet does nothing. So how about dairy farmers and Co-ops do something for themselves for once! Be a price maker, not a taker.

Think about this: All Co-ops take bids per hundred weight, from farms with manure lagoons. One day of production is randomly picked from every farm, every month, and dumped into the lagoons. (The farmer doesn't know when their milk is selected for dumping until it happens). The farmers will see a deduction in their milk checks to pay for this.

This equals about 3 percent of that month's production. This would go on a monthly basis until the supply and demand gap closes and the price for the milk moves closer to the \$20 plus that we need.

Let's do some math. 75 cows at 60 lbs. average = 4,500 lbs of milk daily. That equals about 140,000 lbs. for a 31 day month. At \$15/cwt that equals about \$21,000 milk before deductions. Let's take that 4,500 lbs for that day and dump it in a lagoon. This gives you 135,000 lbs milk times \$20/cwt. Equals \$27,000. Can we agree that a \$6,000 jump in income for that month, after you dumped a days milk was an OK thing to do?

This keeps the government out of it, and for the first time, dairy farmers control their own survival. This plan can use some tweaking from smarter people than myself. !Let's get rolling on something!