

WESTERN UNITED DAIRIES

WEEKLY UPDATE | OCTOBER 2, 2024

Western United Dairies mourns the passage of fellow dairyman, Jake DeRaadt

Jake served on the WUD Board between 2007-2017. He brought joy and laughs to every Board meeting, every convention, and every farm show.

Jacob De Raadt was born in Escondido, CA on December 12, 1961, to Arie and Gre De Raadt. He was one of six children: Trudy Vander Luit (Leen-Wim), Cobie Tucker, Willy Vander Woude, Nellie Bem and John De Raadt (Joanne). The day he was born was a memorable day for his family, as he was the first boy born after 4 sisters.

Jake had the love of cows and was always by his Dad's side on the dairy. He shared his love of cows – the more unusual, the better, with his mom. Attending and showing animals at the Del Mar Fair was an annual event that he loved and had many of his nephews and nieces involved as well. He continued this tradition with Jacque and the kids, as well as with Janie later on in life.

He ran Eden Vale Dairy, in Escondido, CA after his dad passed. He married Jacque Peterson in 1992 and raised 4 children Katrina Waardenburg(Ryan) Eileen Martinho (John), Arie De Raadt (Grace), and Josh McCarter. As a family they moved to Lemoore, CA in 1999 where they started a dairy and spent many wonderful years.

He instilled a work ethic in his kids early on, always including them with responsibilities around the dairy, which his kids look back on with fondness.



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Weekly Update Delivery Options

Send change of address or request for delivery to WUD by phone or email at: **(209)527-6453**
info@wudairies.com

Struggling with Depression?

Call 1-800-784-2433 any time, 24x7, for a live, trained person to talk with or to find local resources.

LUC: Lecheros Unidos de California

Lecheros Unidos de California Western United Dairies is proud to host LUC, a clearinghouse of resources to assist in all aspects of searching for and hiring employees for your dairy. LUC services are offered in Spanish & English & include Free advertisement of job postings to a wide audience of potential employees Phone call interviews with translation services Access to a pool of pre-screened employees with dairy experience.

For more information, visit: westernuniteddairies.com/lecheros-unidos

WUD Offering FREE PPE to All Dairies through Generous Partnership with CDPH

WUD has launched a dairy [PPE request page](#). Products available include face shields, goggles, gloves, and N-95 masks. This assistance comes as a courtesy of the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) who are working to keep our workforce healthy at this time. Dairies do not need to be a WUD member and may request as much PPE to protect their employees as necessary. WUD will be happy to ship this protective gear to your dairy or make arrangements for a safe delivery off-site of the dairy. Orders may take up to a week to process so please utilize this free service as soon as possible. If you have any questions, please contact the WUD office at (209)527-6453. Thank you to the excellent team at CDPH for helping our farms keep their workers safe.



USDA Offers \$58 Million in Available Assistance to Help Organic Dairy Producers

The USDA has made \$58 million available through the Organic Dairy Marketing Assistance Program (ODMAP) 2024 to support organic dairy producers. This funding is intended to help cover marketing costs for organic milk produced in 2023 or estimated 2024 marketing expenses for producers who have increased production or entered the organic dairy market. The program aims to keep the organic dairy sector sustainable by providing financial assistance while the market stabilizes. ODMAP 2024 is funded through unused Commodity Credit Corporation funds from earlier pandemic assistance programs.

Applications for ODMAP 2024 are open from Sept. 30 to Nov. 29, 2024. Eligible producers should contact their local USDA Service Center to apply. To complete the application, producers must certify their 2023 milk production, provide documentation of organic certification, and submit the required application form. This program offers much-needed support to organic dairy operations during a challenging market period.

[MORE INFORMATION](#)

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HPAI Latest Herd Protections – Preventing and Responding to Bird Flu

By Dr. Michael Payne, UC Davis, School of Veterinary Medicine, Director, CDQAP | Originally published in the September CDQAP newsletter

As of this writing, 41 California dairies had been confirmed as infected with HPAI. A handful of additional herds will likely be [confirmed](#) this week. A single Merced [turkey farm](#) has also been infected and depopulated. As the number of infected herds climbs, producers are understandably concerned, wanting to know how to prevent the disease from entering their herd and how to best manage the disease if it does. On Thursday, September 26, CDQAP, UCCE, and CMAB brought both disease control experts and dairy practitioners together to discuss Managing Cattle Through HPAI. The webinar was recorded and can be made available to dairy producers and industry partners by contacting CMAB.

Dr. Natalie Ward from CDFA provided a status update on the outbreak. Dr. Jason Lombard from Colorado State, the foremost veterinary epidemiologist on the subject, shared information on how the virus is transmitted and what biosecurity steps are believed to be effective. Finally, two leading private dairy practitioners from the Central Valley, Dr. Maxwell Beal and Dr. Murray Minnema, focused on managing infected herds and treating sick cows.

Highlights from the Webinar

The Virus Started in One Place – Genetic studies suggest that migrating waterfowl carried a strain of Avian Influenza which mutated in the Texas Panhandle in late 2023 or early 2024. These mutations allowed it to easily infect cows, particularly the mammary tissue. All subsequent cow infections in the U.S. have occurred either by cow-to-cow transmission or through mechanical transfer on inanimate objects. Disease spread into California likely occurred through transfer of infected but asymptomatic cattle.

How the Virus Spreads in a Herd is Unclear – Small experimental challenge studies have shown the virus can be transmitted through oral contact and through contamination of the teat surface.

Research continues, however, to determine if the primary method of transmission is through nose-to-nose contact or during milking, or both. How big a role shared equipment (water troughs, feed bunks), flies or “peri-domestic” species (rodents, barn cats, nuisance birds) play in disease transmission is also unclear. Airborne plumes containing virus do occur on infected poultry flocks, but whether this happens on dairies is unknown. CDQAP is partnering with dairy trade organizations to identify potential collaborator dairies for additional research.

Spread to New Herds Doesn’t Require Live Cows

– High concentrations of virus are found in milk and movement of infected cows has resulted in disease spread to other herds. At least half of new herd infections, however, have not involved movement of live cows, presumably through contaminated equipment such as trailers or potentially visitors. How much risk is associated with movement of younger and nonlactating cows is under investigation. Sharing of employees with other dairy herds or poultry flocks appears to be a major risk factor. Sampling of wild migratory water fowl (ducks, geese etc.) throughout the U.S. suggest that these birds are not spreading the disease.

Milk Tankers May Not Be High Risk – An initial Michigan study sampled 18 tanker trucks transporting milk from infected farms. A total of 125 samples were taken from wide variety of sites including the external tank, tires, transfer hose, truck cab and the sampling dipper. Only a single sample from a direct load floor was positive, suggesting that milk tankers may not be a primary method of viral transfer. Additional research is needed. CDFA has released guidance for milk haulers.

It’s Unclear if Reinfection is Happening – Some herds, thought to have recovered from the disease, have experienced new infections. It is not

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(continued) HPAI Latest Herd Protections

yet clear if these new cases represent cattle that initially escaped infection or are rather actual reinfections or relapses of cows that had been previously infected.

It Takes Several Weeks to Move Through a Herd

– In a study from one dairy, about 14 days prior to recognition of clinical signs, some cows were shedding enough virus to be detected in the bulk tank. Viral shedding peaked about 5 days after the first clinical signs, and decreased as cows developed antibodies. In this herd, virus was no longer detectable about three weeks following the first clinical signs, but viral detection in other herds has been more prolonged. How long clinical symptoms persist on different farms also varies greatly. In general, the number of clinical cases in the herd seems to peak at about 7 to 14 days and slowly tapers off. The duration of time clinical cows is reported present in the herd varies, ranging in one study from about two weeks to over a month. In California herds it seems that the worst of the outbreak (and the associated constant drenching) lasts about 2 to 3 weeks.

Recovered Cows “Reset” at Lower Production

– It appears that the lactation curve is being “reset” in recovered cows. A typical example discussed was a cow producing roughly 100 lbs./day, dropping to about 20 lbs. a week later. Production climbed as the cow recovered, plateauing at about 70 to 80 lbs. Whether this approximate 20 to 30% decrease in production represents a permanent change due to scarring of the udder and will persist in the next lactation is unknown. Losses in total herd production varies greatly. The 3-day rolling average in two herds fell by 6% and 16% during the infection period.

Effective Treatment Focuses on Oral Fluids

– Keeping cows hydrated and reestablishing rumination as quickly as possible quickens recovery and minimizes secondary pneumonia, abortions, mortalities and culls. Frequent oral drenching with 5 to 6 gallons using electrolyte solution is effective, with cows being treated 1 to

2 times per day depending on number of affected cows and employee resources. A variety of commercial drench powders ([TechMix](#), [MB Restore](#), [Drench-Mate](#)) or [homemade](#) electrolyte recipes are being used effectively.

Oral Fluid Therapy – During the peak of the outbreak producers may be treating 30–40% of the herd every day for a week or more, so an efficient system to deliver large volumes of drench is essential. Producers have either constructed or purchased “drench carts” with a fluid reservoir, pump, a one-inch administration hose and mixing equipment. Mixing through the use of a paddle mixer or reservoir recirculation is important to prevent electrolytes and medications from settling out. An inexpensive flow meter attached on the administration hose removes the need to time the pumping duration and ensures a correct volume is given. Using this equipment, a couple of [trained](#) employees can safely administer six gallons of drench solution in several minutes. Rapid over hydrating, particularly without electrolytes, can result in brain swelling and death. Intravenous fluids are expensive and impractical. Commercial drench carts can be purchased, but may be back-ordered several months. Producers should begin ordering or constructing their own drenching systems now.

Medications – Anti-inflammatory drugs are typically used, but treatment with flunixin or aspirin to a dehydrated animal can result in cow death through abomasal ulcers, kidney, or liver failure. Exceeding the label doses of anti-inflammatory drugs can cause similar problems. In particular, powdered aspirin added to the drenching solution is reported as efficient and effective, but milk from treated cows must be withheld from the bulk tank using a withdrawal time prescribed by the herd veterinarian. Administration of aspirin in the TMR is illegal and ineffective. Antibiotics are only administered to cows with secondary bacterial infections, like pneumonia, and then only when using veterinary prescribed milk withdrawal times.

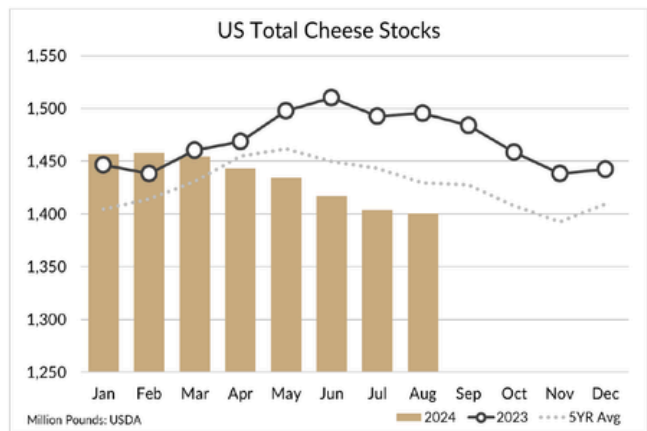
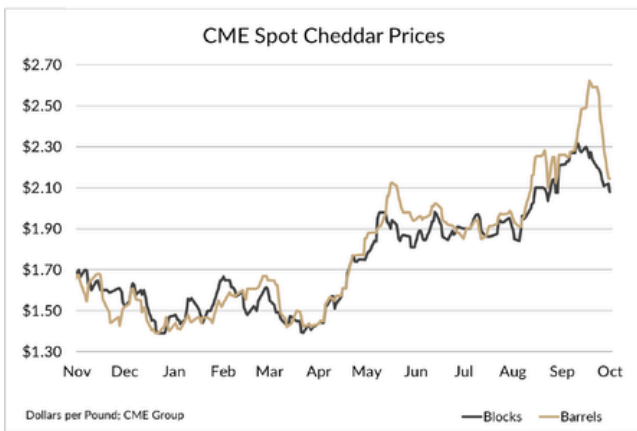
WEEKLY MARKET UPDATE

Recent record-high prices in the CME barrel market caused some buyers to pull back. Prices plunged from the \$2.40s to the mid-\$2.10s in just a week. Blocks also weakened, but at a much slower pace, settling below the \$2.10-per-pound mark.

- According to USDA’s August *Cold Storage* report, cheese inventories remain lower on the year, as expected. However, the stock decline of 3 million pounds was lighter than the five-year average of -14 million.
- Cream is readily available, consumer demand is relatively soft and butter supplies are adequate. Those factors continue to weigh on the CME butter market, which dropped as low as \$2.7325 per pound, a price last seen in February.
- US August butter inventories reached 323.3 million pounds, down on the month at a pace slightly ahead of the five-year average. Stocks remain well above prior-year levels.
- This week’s GlobalDairyTrade auction was mixed, as China pulled back slightly on its purchasing. The Middle East, Southeast Asia and Oceania stepped up to fill in the gap.


Skim milk powder prices eased, while whole milk powder climbed.

- In Chicago, nonfat dry milk prices remain fairly stable, amid balanced supply and demand. Prices are hovering in the mid-\$1.30s without major movements.
- According to USDA’s *Quarterly Grain Stocks* report, there are more corn and soybean supplies than at this time last year, with 1.76 billion bushels of corn and 342.0 million bushels of soybeans. While that was the highest corn ending stock amount since 2020, both inventory totals were below pre-report expectations.
- Nearby corn and soybean futures climbed higher, even after the USDA report. Concerns about Brazil’s drought and its impact on crops are keeping prices from falling too far.



Dairy Revenue Protection Program			
	Futures	Milk Price (Floor) Guarantee @ 95%	Premium Per CWT (CA)
January - March 2025			
	Class III	\$20.19	\$19.18
	Class IV	\$21.19	\$20.13
April - June 2025			
	Class III	\$19.38	\$18.41
	Class IV	\$21.39	\$20.32
July - September 2025			
	Class III	\$19.53	\$18.55
	Class IV	\$21.56	\$20.48
October - December 2025			
	Class III	\$19.46	\$18.48
	Class IV	\$21.35	\$20.28
January - March 2026			
	Class III	\$17.61	\$16.73
	Class IV	\$16.18	\$15.37

*As of 10/01/24 for 95% coverage, 1.0 Protection Factor



Tiffany LaMendola
209.768.6313

CME Commodity Prices					
	Blocks	Barrels	Butter	NDM	Dry Whey
Sep-25	\$2.1750	\$2.4275	\$2.8600	\$1.3775	\$0.5950
Sep-26	\$2.1450	\$2.4000	\$2.7900	\$1.3700	\$0.5975
Sep-27	\$2.1100	\$2.2975	\$2.7325	\$1.3575	\$0.5975
Sep-30	\$2.1200	\$2.1475	\$2.8050	\$1.3600	\$0.5975
Oct-01	\$2.0800	\$2.1450	\$2.7500	\$1.3575	\$0.6025
Average	\$2.1260	\$2.2835	\$2.7875	\$1.3645	\$0.5980
Weekly Change	-0.1100	-0.4000	-0.1500	-0.0200	0.0125

Order 51: Latest Prices					
	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct
Class I LA	\$22.38	\$23.41	\$23.62	\$23.90	\$25.47
Class II	\$21.60	\$21.82	\$22.05		
Class III	\$19.87	\$19.79	\$20.66		
Class IV	\$21.08	\$21.31	\$21.58		
PPD	\$0.79	\$1.05	\$2.10		
Blend: LA*	\$20.66	\$20.84	\$23.60		
Blend: Tulare*	\$20.16	\$20.34	\$23.20		

*Does not include Quota Deduction

USDA Dairy Margin Coverage (per CWT)					
	Month	All Milk	Feed	Margin Estimate	Indemnity Estimate @ 9.50 Margin
2024 Program	Jan-24	\$ 20.10	\$ 11.62	\$ 8.48	\$ 1.02
	Feb-24	\$ 20.60	\$ 11.16	\$ 9.44	\$ 0.06
	Mar-24	\$ 20.70	\$ 11.05	\$ 9.65	\$ -
	Apr-24	\$ 20.50	\$ 10.90	\$ 9.60	\$ -
	May-24	\$ 22.00	\$ 11.48	\$ 10.52	\$ -
	Jun-24	\$ 22.80	\$ 11.14	\$ 11.66	\$ -
	Jul-24	\$ 22.80	\$ 10.47	\$ 12.33	\$ -
	Aug-24	\$ 23.60	\$ 9.88	\$ 13.72	\$ -
	Sep-24	\$ 25.26	\$ 9.94	\$ 15.33	\$ -
	Oct-24	\$ 25.53	\$ 10.24	\$ 15.29	\$ -
	Nov-24	\$ 25.54	\$ 10.34	\$ 15.21	\$ -
	Dec-24	\$ 24.80	\$ 10.44	\$ 14.36	\$ -

Estimates only. As of 10/1/2024 and based on futures markets which can change daily.

