

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Agricultural Marketing Service
Dairy Program

FEDERAL MILK ORDERS 124 & 131

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October 3, 2023

HL 23-04

To: Handlers & Cooperative Associations, Federal Orders 124 and 131

From: Market Administrator, Bothell, Washington

Subject: Expiration of Dairy Forward Pricing Program

Many programs and policies of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) were authorized under the Agriculture 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 expired, including the Dairy Forward Pricing Program. 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.

If you have any questions concerning this notice, please contact Alyce Owen at 425-487-5614 or via e-mail at: AOWen@fmmaseattle.com.



Lisa K. Wyatt
Market Administrator