

October 12, 2007

To: All Producers and Handlers of Market Milk Statewide

Subject: Change in Dairy Farm Score and On-Farm Market Milk Cooling Requirements

As a result of legislation (AB 1735) passed this year and chaptered into law on October 8, 2007, the following changes in dairy farm score and milk-cooling requirements on market milk dairies will take effect on **January 1, 2008:**

- 1) Market milk shall be produced on farms that score a minimum of 90 on the Dairy Farm Scorecard. This is an increase from the currently required minimum score of 85.
- 2) Market milk dairies shall provide sufficient refrigeration capacity to reduce the temperature of the milk, as indicated by a recording thermometer, to 50 degrees Fahrenheit (F) or less within four hours of the commencement of the first milking and to 45 degrees F or less within two hours after the completion of milking, and to maintain the milk at that temperature until delivery. The blend temperature after the first milking and subsequent milkings shall not exceed 50 degrees F.

The maximum temperature that market milk may reach during transit in bulk milk tankers remains unchanged at 52 degrees F.

These new requirements will apply to all market milk dairy farms, including those inspected by county Approved Milk Inspection Services. The changes will make California's requirements for these items uniform with national standards for Grade-A dairy farms as set forth in the Pasteurized Milk Ordinance.

The specific sections and text of the Food and Agriculture Code as amended in bill AB1735 may be found at <http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/bilinfo.html>. Questions regarding the new requirements may also be directed to our closest Regional Office at the numbers below:

Fresno Regional Office:	Phone - (559) 445-5506, Fax - (559) 445-5509
Oakland Regional Office:	Phone - (510) 622-4810, Fax - (510) 622-4808
Ontario Regional Office:	Phone - (909) 923-9929, Fax - (909) 429-1288
Stockton Regional Office:	Phone - (209) 466-7186, Fax - (209) 466-1738

Sincerely,



Dr. Stephen W. Beam, Chief
Milk and Dairy Food Safety Branch
Animal Health and Food Safety Services

cc: Dr. Richard Breitmeyer, State Veterinarian
Dr. Annette Whiteford, Director, AHFSS
County Approved Milk Inspection Services

