



United States Department Of

Agriculture
Agricultural Marketing Service
Dairy Programs

FEDERAL MILK ORDER No. 1
Northeast Marketing Area
89 South Street, Suite 301, Boston, MA 02111-2671

Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 51478
Boston, MA 02205-1478
Phone: 617-737-7199 --- Fax: 617-737-8002
E-mail: NortheastOrder@fedmilk1.com
Website: <http://www.fmmone.com>

Albany:
302A Washington Avenue Ext.
Albany, NY 12203-7303
Tel.: (518) 452-4410
Fax: (518) 464-6468

Alexandria:
P.O. Box 25828
Alexandria, VA 22313-5828
Tel.: (703) 549-7000
Fax: (703) 549-7003

January 7, 2015

TO: Northeast Order Handlers
FROM: Erik F. Rasmussen, Market Administrator
SUBJECT: Authorization for Release of Producer Production Volumes

The recently approved settlement by Dairy Farmers of America, Inc. (DFA) and Dairy Marketing Services (DMS) in the class action case of Allen et al, v Dairy Farmers of America et al, (case number 5:09-cv230, U.S. District Court for the District of Vermont) means that eligible dairy farmers, upon submitting their production history, may receive a payment as part of the settlement.

Although the Northeast Market Administrator’s Office has no interest or involvement with this case, we are offering to compile the production records for eligible producers for the entire stipulated period (January 1, 2002–December 31, 2014), regardless if a producer has switched handlers during the period. This summary data will be provided to whoever is the current handler that has eligible producers pooled on the Northeast Order. Retired producers may request their production history directly from the Market Administrator’s Office if a handler no longer has such records.

Authorization to Release

The Agricultural Marketing Agreement Act requires that the Market Administrator’s Office keep all information provided by handlers as confidential. This would include producer production records as submitted on monthly producer payrolls. However, such information may be released if so authorized by the handler. Before the Market Administrator compiles and provides producer data to handlers, we are asking that the **attached authorization** be completed by your organization, authorizing the Market Administrator to compile and provide this information on behalf of eligible producers to their current handler. The completed form may be faxed to Peter Fredericks at (518)464-6468; scanned and emailed to pfredericks@fedmilk1.com, or mailed to the following address by **January 23, 2015**.

Northeast Milk Marketing Area
302A Washington Avenue Extension
Albany, NY 12203
Attention – Peter Fredericks

Timing

The court in charge of this case has amended the date by which producer claims must be submitted to May 30, 2015, (for more information go to the settlement website www.northeastdairyclass.com). Following our payroll verification process, we expect to be able to provide you with an excel file of all such producer production records by mid March 2015. The information will consist of the producer(farm) name, address, and collated production history for the entire period summarized to a single farm operation regardless if there are multiple farm owners/operators or patron numbers.

/s/ Erik F. Rasmussen

Attachment: Authorization Form