

CELEBRATING 20 YEARS

Positively Impacting Our Communities, Our Animals, and Our Environment



California dairy farmers strive to always be ahead of the curve. In the mid-90s, recognizing the need to address consumer concerns and fast-approaching regulation changes, dairy leaders came together to form the California Dairy Quality Assurance Program (CDQAP). California's dairy farmers continue to face many challenges, and likewise CDQAP continues to adapt and leverage its resources to serve their needs. For more than 20 years, CDQAP has been working with California's dairy farmers to make continuous improvements in their processes, resulting in a tremendous positive impact in sustaining their operations and adhering to the highest standards for protecting the environment, optimizing animal care and ensuring food safety.



1996 California Farm Bureau Federation (CFBF) organizes a steering committee to form a California-Specific Dairy Quality Assurance Program. The California dairy industry is on board.

The first meeting of the newly-formed Quality Assurance Committee is held.

A dairy producer directed survey, aimed to identify areas of concern, is created and conducted. The California Dairy Research Foundation funds this effort.

1998 The University of California Cooperative Extension, along with industry partners, holds 132 Environmental Stewardship short courses, which later become the base education requirement of the California Dairy Quality Assurance Program.

1997

1996

1998

Greater Compliance

The California Dairy Quality Assurance Program (CDQAP) is officially recognized. The Environmental Stewardship Partnership Agreement is signed by 14 partnering organizations. This historical agreement ensures that California dairy producers can demonstrate compliance with environmental, safety, and animal care concerns and regulations.

Voluntary

1999

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) joins the Environmental Stewardship Partnership Agreement. The USEPA commits over \$400,000 in grant funding to support the CDQAP program.

Improved Nutrient Management

2007 In response to the newly adopted General Order for Waste Discharge Requirements for Milk Cow Dairies, CDQAP launches the largest outreach effort in the history of the California dairy industry. Staff and partners travel the state hosting 28 workshops in just over six months. More than 1400 dairy farmers attend.

2004-2010 Similar efforts are organized in response to the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District Rule 4550 and San Joaquin Valley Air District Rule 4570 and round two of Rule 4570, and a new series to assist North Coast dairies (RB1 and RB2) in understanding and complying with newly-adopted Waivers and Waste Discharge for Dairy Facilities begins.

2016 CDQAP hosts a Foot & Mouth Disease prevention field day on a commercial dairy in Tulare demonstrating how producers could protect their facilities during an animal disease outbreak. The drill is the outcome of several years of planning by academic, regulatory, and industry leaders.

2018 As of today, nearly 800 California dairy farms are voluntarily CDQAP certified. California dairy farms continue to reduce their impact on our environment while doing more to demonstrate that the best animal care practices are in place. Californians can have confidence when purchasing and consuming nutritious dairy foods from California's dairy producers. California dairy producers are good stewards of the environment, care for our animals, and continue to sustainably contribute to our communities and local livelihoods!

2000

2004

2007

2010

2016

2018

The FIRST 12 DAIRIES are certified by CDQAP

CDQAP refines support programs in response to regulatory changes and consumer concerns. Workshops are held across the Central Valley to assist producers in meeting environmental compliance regulations. Dairy farmers, consultants and other representatives from more than 900 dairies complete education-outreach courses through CDQAP. The first 12 dairies earn their Environmental Stewardship certification after additionally creating a farm management plan and passing a third-party on-farm evaluation.

2005

The Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

notifies all dairy producers of a new form due Oct. 17, 2005. CDQAP responds with nearly 600 office hours to assist dairy producers in completing the new form.

2008

CDQAP certified dairies begin receiving a 50% reduction in annual permit fees

2011

CDQAP supports the national FARM program, delivers 28 animal care workshops to more than 800 producers.

2018 NEARLY 800 DAIRY FARMS ARE CDQAP CERTIFIED!

