



IN THIS ISSUE

Around the Board Table

Farming for Mental Health

Market Update

And more ...

Spring Meetings

This Spring, DFNB will be hosting in person Producer meetings. Each local have the following dates and locations scheduled: *Sussex/Moncton: April 7 at 10am at the Petitcodiac Legion North East: April 8 at 10am DAAF, Bathurst North West: April 9 at DAAF, St-André Woodstock/Fredericton: April 10 at 10am at Nackawic Lions Den*

The agenda will include the following topics:

- Dairy Farmers of Canada: Impacts of Tariffs on Dairy Trade
- DFNB AGM Actions on Resolutions
- DFNB Strategic Plan Developing future leaders/directors.
- New Milk Payment System (MPS)
 - New Producer Statement Changes to Credit Exchange Rules
- Updated Board Orders
 - Catastrophe and Construction Letters of Direction Designated Representative
- Market Updates
- Market Growth Program- Market and Production Report
 Promotion
 - Promotion Committee Update School Milk Program Update
- Sample Collection Logistics (NB Farm Products Commission)
- Kingsco Transport Ltd acquisition of Agropur's Bulk Milk Hauling Division (March 1)

BLEND PRICE DECEMBER 2024

\$104.67 hl or \$23.19/kg of BF

BF: 4.5135 kg/hl, PRO: 3.4105 kg/hl LOS: 5.9002 kg/hl

CREDIT EXCHANGE DEADLINE

March 18, 2025, 4:00 PM Please submit credit bids/offers on DFNB Portal at www.nbmilk.org

QUOTA EXCHANGE DEADLINE

April 1, 2025 4:00 PM Please send bids to quota@nbmilk.org

Market Update

*The CDC's January 2025 report was unavailable at the time the newsletter was published, we republised December 2024's report. These reports are available at the following link:

https://www.cdc-ccl.ca/en/2024-market-updates

The CDC publishes a monthly market update on the public facing side of their website. Overview:

- Total Requirements forecast shows an average growth of between 1.3% and 3.0% for January-December 2024.
- Total Requirements for the 12 months ending December 2024 were 2.17% higher than those of the previous 12 months but saw a decrease of 4.58% compared to November 2024.
- Compared to November 2024, apparent consumption decreased for cream, ice cream and butter while it increased for milk, yogurt and cheese. For the 12 months ending December 2024 all products saw an increase in consumption.
- Total Quota decreased from November 2024 by 4.66% and had an increase of 6.63% for the 12 months ending December 2024.
- P10 production increased by 0.5% in December compared to November 2024. This represents a 2.22% increase for the 12 months ending December 2024.
- Butter stocks increased in December 2024 by 1,800 tonnes to 30,427 tonnes

DFNB OFFICE 506-432-4330

Steve Michaud General Manager	Ext. 22
Ashley Baskin Policy Analyst	Ext. 23
Veronica McEwen Transportation	Ext. 24
Luke Chase Producer Services	Ext. 25
Delaney Lewis Office Clerk	Ext. 26
Katie Bleakney Promotion Coordinator	Ext. 27
Natasha McKillop proAction	Ext. 28

DFNB BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Wietze Dykstra <i>Chair</i>	506-325-8192
Gilbert Matheson Vice Chair	506-434-2357
Becky Perry 2nd Vice Chair	506-435-0651
Denis Cyr <i>North Wes</i> t	506-426-0788
George Wesselius Moncton	506-227-0463
John Schuttenbeld Frederictor	n 506-461-9254
John Best Woodstock	506-425-0765
Mike Bouma North East	506-547-5843
Paul Gaunce At-Large	506-650-9595

DFNB MISSION

To represent the interests of New Brunswick dairy farmers in their pursuit of operating sustainable dairy farms that produce high quality milk within a supply management system.

UPCOMING EVENTS

DFNB Board Meeting March 31, 2025



FARMING FARMING FOR THE FUTURE

JESSE ANDERSON

YOUR FAVOURITE PART ABOUT AG?

My favorite part is probably feeding everyday, it's always to identify the cows intake and make presumed changes in the ration to best match them. It always feels good when there is no feed waste behind, plus I enjoy listening to the radio in the morning.

WHAT DID YOU STUDY POST-SECONDARY?

I graduated with a Diploma in Business management/ Dairy technology from Dalhousie Faculty of Agriculture.

WHAT GOALS DO YOU HAVE AS PART OF THE FUTURE OF AGRICULTURE?

A particular goal in mind I strive for is efficiency, I often review our daily practices and time put into the barn and try to determine what things are most valued and if there is anyway we can do certain things more efficiently while still getting the same results if not better.

AGROPUR Club of Excellence Animal Welfare Award

Agropur is proud to announce the launch of the 6th edition of the Animal Welfare Award from the Club of Excellence. This competition was created to recognize the concrete and exemplary actions in animal welfare implemented by Agropur members. It will also be an opportunity to highlight the initiatives of our dairy producer members in the field of sustainable development.

During this competition, nominations will be evaluated by a jury made up of Agropur employees and experts in animal welfare. Nominations should demonstrate the implementation of actions by members that:

- 1. Reflect excellent standards of animal welfare
- 2. Can inspire producers to reproduce this model on their farm
- 3. Project a positive image of the dairy industry to consumers

The finalists and the Grand Champion will be recognized by our cooperative for their successes. In addition, they will be invited at Agropur's Annual General Meeting where they will be honoured for the time and effort devoted to animal welfare.

Visit the <u>Sustainable Farms / Club of Excellence section</u> of the Members' Extranet to download the nomination package and to obtain more information or email <u>cooperation@agropur.com</u>. Nominations must be submitted online by 4:00 p.m. (EDT), Friday, May 2, 2025.

SPRING WEIGHT RESTRICTIONS

Spring weight restrictions have taken effect. The new routes are expected to remain until the end of May after the restrictions have been lifted.

RANDOM DAIRY FACT

Cows have best friends! *** Studies show that cows form close bonds with certain herd mates and get stressed when separated from them. So, if you ever see two cows hanging out together all the time, they're probably BFFs!

Link to research paper on this random fact:

<u>http://nectar.northampton.ac.uk/6</u> <u>466/</u>

LACTANET CALENDARS

Looking for a Lactanet calendar? Please contact the office 506-432-4330, or your proAction Coordinator 902-890-8348 to get yours today!

BUY & SELL

Please send for sale and wanted items to nbmilk@nbmilk.org



HOLSTEIN CANADA -Lactanet's new Lifetime Profit Index (LPI), launching April 1, 2025, introduces key updates to better align with modern dairy priorities. Production weighting has been reduced to place greater emphasis on udder health, herd life, and efficiency traits, ensuring sustainable profitability. This shift helps avoid over-selection for high-yielding animals at the expense of longevity and fertility. Milkability now plays a role in rankings, with bulls selected for proper teat placement and moderate milking speed, making them more adaptable to robotic and parlor systems. Methane efficiency is also now considered, rewarding bulls that convert feed efficiently while producing lower emissions, supporting sustainability. Fertility and longevity have gained importance, favoring cows that breed easily and remain productive, reducing involuntary culling. The upcoming Calf Health Index, set for release in 2025, will assess genetic resistance to respiratory disease and diarrhea, leading causes of early-life losses.Farmers should refine sire selection strategies by prioritizing udder conformation, milkability, and efficiency traits alongside production. Bulls with a well-balanced genetic profile will contribute to long-lasting, high-performing herds in both traditional and automated systems.

Holstein Canada National Convention and AGM in Halifax from April 1-5 in conjunction with Dairy Focus Atlantic. Make plans today to take in Dairy Focus Tuesday and Wednesday April 1-2. Farm tours on Thursday, April 3. The Atlantic Spring Showcase in Truro on Friday April 4 and the Holstein Canada AGM – April 5 – Your vote matters. Holstein Canada is your organization—make your voice count.

Congratulations to Combination Holstein and Hazelhill for surpassing 100 EX cows. Lactanet's Top 3 Best Managed Dairy Herds in NB: 1. Willie A. Leblanc & Sons Ltd. 2. Pascobac Holsteins Inc. 3. Hazelhill Farms. The future of Holsteins is bright—let's keep raising the standard together.



Karen Versloot National Director for Holstein Canada in Atlantic <u>kversloot@holstein.ca</u>



Claudia Perdomo Atlantic Holstein Canada <u>cperdomo@holstein.ca</u> 519-865-8172



The Social Media Scoop

New Brunswickers love getting a glimpse of farm life through photos and videos! If your farm has a Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, or TikTok account, we'd love to check it out. Please send the links to our social media manager (<u>michelle.kempton@dfcplc.ca</u>), so she can share your posts, pictures and videos on the DFNB accounts.



Find Dairy Farmers of New Brunswick on Facebook and Instagram to see how we show our commitment to our consumers!

AROUND THE BOARD TABLE

KEY DISCUSSIONS & MOTIONS:

- Minutes Approval: Approved minutes from January 27-28, 2025.
- Upcoming Meetings:
 - DFNB In-Person Board Meeting: March 31.
 - DFO Spring Policy Conference: George to attend.
 - DFPEI AGM (April 10): Becky and Denis to attend.
 - PLQ AGM: Wietze, Gilbert, and Denis to attend.
- Producer Request: Approved an extension to a previous construction transfer
- NB Leader Selection: Approved Nancy Colpitts and Julie Vanderlaan for the DFNB Leader program; both will attend the March 31 board meeting
- Quota Policy: Directors planned a discussion at the next board meeting to review quota policies.

ATTENDANCE

All directors were in attendance.

DATE February 25, 2025 Sussex, NB

PRESENTATIONS

Manager's Report: Steve presented his report, including a request from DFNL to pool transportation costs with the P5 and WMP.

P5 Quota Report:

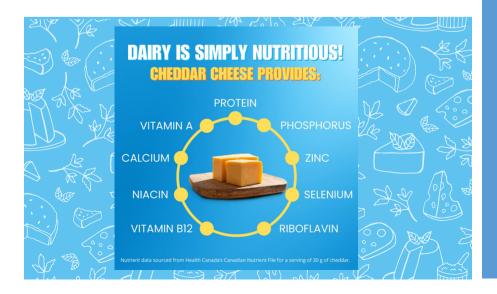
John Best provided an update on discussions around high butter stocks and the P5 SNF payment policy review.

Financial Report: Sharon reviewed January pre-P5 financials.

Milk2020: The board received an update on Milk2020 initiatives.

OTHER TOPICS DISCUSSED

• The board reviewed topics for the 2025 spring meetings.



NATURAL PRODUCTS ACT REGULATIONS

Plans for construction, extension, alteration, installation or replacement

50(1) Plans for the construction, extension or alteration of a dairy farm, including a dairy barn, milking parlour or milk house, shall be submitted to the Commission or an inspector for approval before the work is undertaken.

50(2) Plans for the installation or replacement of a farm bulk tank shall be submitted to the Commission or an inspector for approval before the work is undertaken.

http://laws.gnb.ca/en/ShowTdm/cr/2010-19//

QUALITY MILK

Additional testing is available from RPC. Please contact RPC directly by email dairy.rpc@rpc.ca Or 506-452-1212

Bulk milk graders are trained and licensed to grade milk. They only reject milk according to regulations. Once rejected a producer is required to dispose of that milk and correct the problem that contributed to the rejection and clean their tank before adding their next milking.

Producer are welcome to reach out to the public safety inspectors for assistance in determining the causes for the rejections.

MILK PENALTY FUNDING

Pro-active funding: Producers advised of second or subsequent milk quality infraction, prior to a penalty assessed, is allowed to offset, once per year, cost of a visit from milk quality technician to a maximum of \$1000. Producers may apply for funding by forwarding paid invoices to DFNB office.

5

Farming for Mental Health: Cultivating Mental Wellness in Six Simple Steps The Second in a Three-Part Series by John Fletcher

In the last article, we explored the first two universal pillars of mental health: Food and Attachments. We are now moving on to the next two pillars: Rest and Mother Nature.

Let's get right into it.

Pillar # 3: Rest

When we think of rest, we often think of sleep. Sleep is the primary way we rest our bodies and brains, but we can also rest during the day while awake, which we will explore below.

But the bad news first: We are more sleepdeprived in 2025 than ever before. The last well-slept generation was our grandparents back in the 1940s. When we are underrested, our mental health starts to deteriorate quite quickly. So, what can we do?

1. Consistency

Go to bed and wake up at the same time every day. Our brain loves predictability when it comes to falling asleep and waking up.

2. Three S's

Use your bedroom for three things, and three things only: sleep, sickness, and sex. If we have workspaces and screens in our bedrooms, our brains confuse this environment with being awake and alert. This is not good.

3. Non-Sleep Deep Rest (NSDR) Use a NSDR exercise to capture rest when you are awake. Meditation, deep breathing, mindfulness, grounding techniques, and yoga nidra are all great ways to do this. As little as five minutes a day can do wonders.

Pillar # 4: Mother Nature

Spending time in nature has profound effects on our mental health and wellbeing. So profound that Canada has created a program called the Parks Prescription Program, where health professionals prescribe National Parks passes to their clients to reduce their stress and symptoms of anxiety and depression.

So, what can we do?

Rachael Lapland, a renowned researcher in this field developed the 20-4-1 protocol. Here is how it works:

Spend at least 20 minutes per day outside. Spend 4 hours per month immersed in a nature setting away from urban life. Spend 1 day per year roughing it in a backcountry setting.

*Farmers spend a lot of time outdoors by virtue of their profession, which is great; however, the time outdoors may be associated with the stress of the job, which makes things a bit tricky. To get the most bang for your buck, finding ways to get into Mother Nature that are not associated with the farm is recommended. Some examples are going for a hike on the property with no agenda (not chasing cows or fixing fences!), visiting a provincial or national park, fishing or hunting, canoeing or backpacking. *

Stay tuned for next month's article when we explore the last two pillars: Exercise and Resistance.

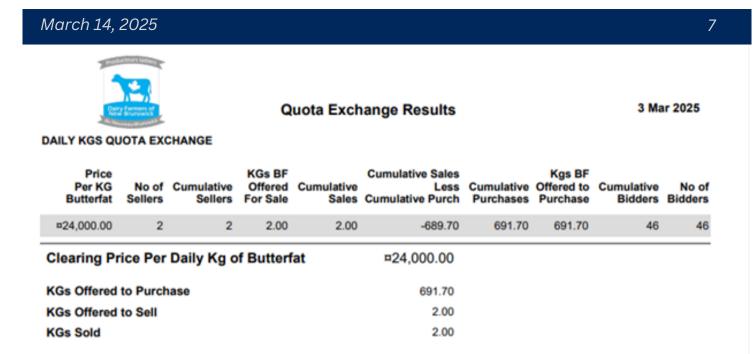


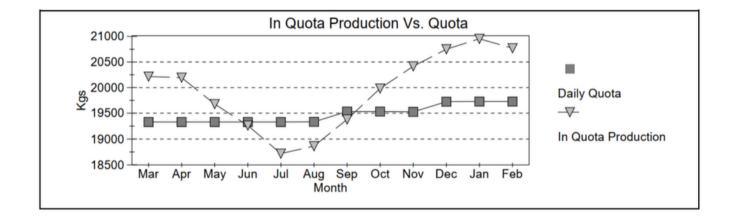
John Fletcher is a counselling therapist, educator, and small-scale farmer based in Miramichi, New Brunswick. Combining his love for nature and farming with his professional expertise, John leads Fletcher's Four Seasons offering innovative mental health services such as Nature and Animal-Assisted Psychotherapy, on-the-land mental health excursions, workshops, public speaking, and consulting. For more information, visit John's website: www.johnbfletcher.com



Additional resources are available to NB producers through Farm Talk Care. Farm Talk Care supports resilient farmers in New Brunswick. Their website has more information here: <u>www.farmtalkcare.ca</u>

Access Farm Talk Care's facebook page for updates here: <u>www.facebook.com/talkparlenb</u>





QUOTA CORNER

Quota Exchange Procedures

Bids/Offers must be submitted on forms provided prior to 4:00 p.m. on 1st working day of month. All bids must be accompanied by confirmation of funds from your lending institution if bid is greater than prior month's "Due Producer". Producers will not be allowed to combine their "Due Producer" amount with their confirmation of funds from a financial institution to bid for quota equal to the combined amounts. Bids or offers above \$24,000 will not be accepted. Producers selling all of their quota on an exchange will be subject to a security deposit of \$1000/kg that will be returned 30 days after effective date of the transfer.

Minimum Quota Holdings Policy

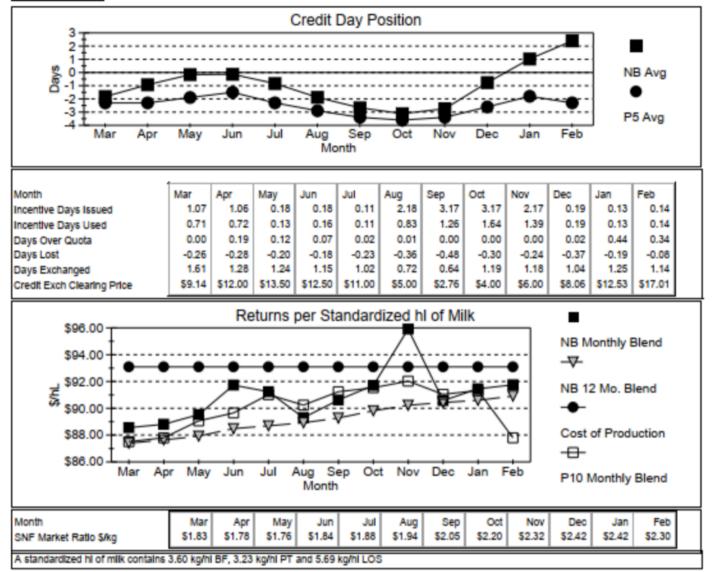
The Board will cease picking milk up when the farm's total daily quota falls below ten (10) kilograms.

<u>An over quota penalty of \$20/hl is in effect.</u>

Daily Quota Transfer Order

Section 3 b) j); Producers must pay the Board the QESP for the Daily Quota so purchased on or before noon of the 20th day of the month or noon of the first working day thereafter if the 20th falls on a holiday or weekend. Payment received after that is subject to a 2% penalty applied on the value of the purchased Daily Quota and deducted from the producer's statement. The producer will also be prohibited from purchasing on the following month's exchange. If payment is not received by the last working day of month, that purchased guota will be revoked and be offered for sale on the next month's exchange. Any losses incurred from the resale of the revoked Daily Quota will be charged back to the producer along with an additional 2% penalty.

Credits



CREDIT CORNER

Credit Exchange Procedures

Bids/Offers must be submitted on forms provided prior to 4:00 p.m. on the 2nd working day after the 15th of the month. Results are available on the morning of 4th working day after the 15th. Producers exiting industry may purchase/sell credits one month following effective date of sale. If you do not receive your statement in time to review your credit position, please call the office and we will fax /email your statement to you.

February 2025 Credit Exchange \$17.01/kg

22,390 of 22,815 kgs wanted at or below the CESP were sold.

Producers above 0 days of credits are eligible to buy credits. Producers below 0 days of credits are eligible to sell credits. The kilos that you can sell or buy on the next exchange are available through your portal account. The portal will also allow you to submit your bid or bid.

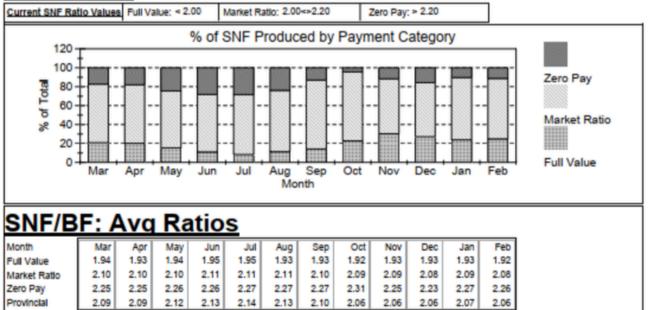
In the next few months the O-day limit will be removed which will allow producers to buy or sell regardless of their credit positions. Producers with quality penalties will also have the percentage of credits that they can buy reduced for a number of months. Producers will be informed 2 months prior to those changes taking effect.

NB Domestic Milk Pool Over Quota BF Kg BF \$/kg BF \$ PT Kg PT \$/kg PT \$ OS Kg OS \$/kg OS \$ February 2025 (\$9,770) 8,876 6,776 -\$2.7327 (\$18,517) 5,113 -\$1,9107 -\$.3917 (\$3,477) 12 Months 23,725 -\$2,7327 (\$64,834) 17,689 -\$1.9107 (\$12,209) (\$33,797) 31,169 -\$.3917 SNF > 2.20 February 2025 1,454 \$.0000 \$0 2,601 \$.0000 \$0 12 Months 26,486 \$.0000 \$0 48,760 \$.0000 \$0 SNF 2.00<>2.20 February 2025 \$2,3000 \$35,743 27,439 \$.6300 \$17,287 15,540 12 Months 251,160 \$2.0309 \$510,076 451,565 \$.6300 \$284,486 Domestic Market February 2025 417,100 \$10.8627 \$4,530,830 720,916 \$,9000 \$648.824 \$14.0827 \$8,090,255 574,482 12 Months \$8,264,277 7,247,774 \$13.9697 \$101,248,896 5,210,560 \$10.7571 \$56,050,563 9,182,530 \$.9000

Production & Payment

Revenue	\$/HL	BF \$	PT \$	OS \$			Total Paid \$
February 2025	\$104.67	\$8,071,738	\$4,556,803	\$662,634			\$13,291,175
12 Months	\$100.81	\$101,184,063	\$56,526,841	\$8,536,554			\$166,247,458
Deductions	Transport	Promotion	Admin	Lab Fee	Research Levy	Total Ded	Total
	Per HL	Per Kg of Total	Solids			Per HL	Deductions
February 2025	\$3.81	\$.1015	\$.0786	\$.0085	\$.0016	\$6.44	\$829,272
12 Months	\$3.76	\$.1015	\$.0769	\$.0085	\$.0016	\$6.30	\$10,463,243
Quality	Somatic Cell Count		Lab Past. Count	IBC			Rejected Loads
February 2025	167,361	0	0	29			0
12 Months	178,597	0	0	46			0
Production & Component Tests	Production Volume	Butter Fat	Protein	Lactose & O.S.	Total Solids	SNF Ratio	
February 2025	12,878,189	4.5135	3.4105	5.9002	13.8241	2.0628	
12 Months	165,548,643	4.3924	3.3258	5.8678	13.5860	2.0931	

SNF Policy



10

Maritime **Quality Milk**

Maritime Quality Milk (MQM) is a research and service program at the Atlantic Veterinary College, located at the University of Prince Edward Island in Charlottetown. www.milkgualitv.ca

NB Environmental Farm Plan

Contact Likhita Potluri by phone at: 506.452.8101 506.259.0020 or by email at: efp-pfe@fermeNBfarm.ca

Milk Matters

Any producer who wishes to receive a copy of the Milk Matters Newsletter by mail monthly should make their request to the DFNB office by email nbmilk@nbmilk.org or by phone 506 432-4330.

If you have photos that could be featured in future Milk Matters please email katie.bleakney@nbmilk.org

BULK MILK TANKS

All bulk milk tanks needing calibrated will be coordinated by DFNB staff using the calibration services of both Dairy Farmers of Ontario (DFO). If you are planning to install a new tank or have installed one recently, please call 432-4330 so your farm can be added to the schedule. Before replacing your bulk milk tank remember: New tanks of 1000 US gallons (3780 liters) must have a minimum outlet of 3 inches with a butterfly valve; New tanks less than 1000 must have a minimum tank outlet of 2 inches with a butterfly valve; Used tanks of any size must have a minimum tank outlet of 2 inches with a butterfly valve.

Milk 2020

MILK 2020's mission is to develop and enhance knowledge and innovation, through its leadership and its actions, with a view to encouraging the sustainable growth of New Brunswick's dairy industry.

www.milk2020.ca

Composition & Microbiology Testing

Composition testing contact Jill Hay at: jill.hay@rpc.ca

Microbiology testing contact Corrie Maston at: corrie.maston@rpc.ca

Co-operators Group Insurance

Group rates as of Dec 1, 2024 Monthly single coverage: \$140.94 Monthly family coverage: \$369.74

Claims, rates, enrolment: Emily Murphy 506.850.1643 emilymurphy@gotoinsure.ca David Scott 506.458.1220 1.800.994.5155

Hoof Trimming

Contact E. Duivenvoorden Phone: 506.433.1864 or Peter Jones

> Phone: 506.866.0531

Dairy Specialist

Contact David Dykstra Cell phone:

506.434.5755 Email:

David.Dykstra@gnb.ca

TRANSPORTATION

If you have concerns about your scheduled pickups, you can contact:

Kingsco Transportation: (506) 432-9128

Fisher Transportation: Troy Mason (506) 435-0500

Dairy Farmers of New Brunswick: Veronica McEwen (506) 432-0092

For any milk transportation questions or issues please call DFNB at (506) 432-4330 ext 24

NB Research & Productivity Council

RPC is New Brunswick's provincial research organization (PRO), a research and technology organization (RTO) offering contract R&D and technical services at our locations in Fredericton and Moncton, New Brunswick. 506.452.1212

Crop Specialist

Contact Jason Wells Phone:

506.434.2543

Email:

Jason.Wells@gnb.ca

Links

GNB Livestock Sector Development https://www2.gnb.ca/content/ gnb/en/contacts/ dept renderer.137.203310.40 73.html#employees

Bob Calve Prices https://www.fpbq.upa.qc.ca/ infoprix/BovinReforme/ BRInfoPrixHebdo.asp? Langue=A

Research Council: Free webinars https://www.beefresearch.ca/ resources/webinars.cfm

Canadian Dairy Commission https://www.cdc-ccl.gc.ca/

Dairy Farmers of Canada News Centre https://www.dairyfarmers.ca/ news-centre/documentlibrary

AgriStartNB

https://www2.gnb.ca/content/ dam/gnb/Departments/10/ pdf/Agriculture/ FarmingInNewBrunswick-RoadMapForNewEntrants.pdf

STRESSING ABOUT STRESSING STRESSING ABOUT STRESSING ST

ASK A PURINA DAIRY ADVISOR HOW HL+ CAN HELP YOU ACHIEVE PEAK EFFICIENCY.

Thanks to Herd Lifetime Productivity (HL+), our team can use in-depth data to identify new opportunities for your farm. Whether we're finding ways to better nurture your youngest calves or make the most of your most mature cows, we'll show you how to maximize the profitability of your entire herd.

Join us at Dairy Focus. April 1-3 at Booth 16.

©2024 Caraill, Incorporated. All Rights Reserved. Purina® and the Checkerboard Design are licensed trademarks of Société des Produits Nestlé S.A.



