

Executive Director's Report for April 2026

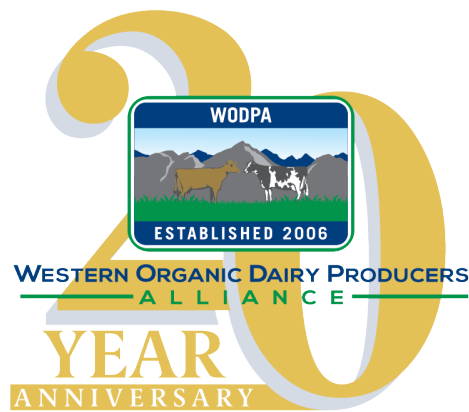
WODPA topics of focus this month

1. Outreach for 2026 Conference & new farmer members
2. Continuing to stay updated on Farm Bill updates
3. Comments for Spring NOSB meeting 2026

Legislative/Policy Work

WODPA supports:

1. "The Organic Dairy Data Collection Act" – H.R. 4110 (attached)
 - a. Sponsors: Rep. Pingree (ME), Rep. Langworthy (NY) and Rep. Wied (WI)
 - b. Aims to improve data collection for organic dairies by requiring the USDA to gather and publish information about the cost of producing organic milk, including the cost of key organic feedstuffs—whether produced domestically or imported. The USDA must also report monthly on the payments organic dairy farmers receive for their milk and release state-level cost-of-production reports, along with regional statistics on organic milk production quantities and prices.
2. "The Organic Dairy Assistance, Investment, and reporting Yields Act of 2025" – Senate 2442 (attached)
 - a. Sponsors: Senator Welch (VT), Senator Gillibrand (NY), Senator Sanders (VT), Sen. Smith (MN), Senator Booker (NJ)
 - b. The Organic Dairy Assistance, Investment, and Reporting Yields Act aims to enhance data collection for organic dairy, mandates that the USDA create an effective safety-net program for organic dairy farmers, and allocates funding to support regional organic dairy infrastructure.
3. "Domestic Organic Investment Act (DOIA) – S. 3427 & H.R. 6593
 - a. Sponsors: Sen. Baldwin (WI), Sen. Collins (ME), Rep. Salinas (OR), Rep. Van Orden (WI)



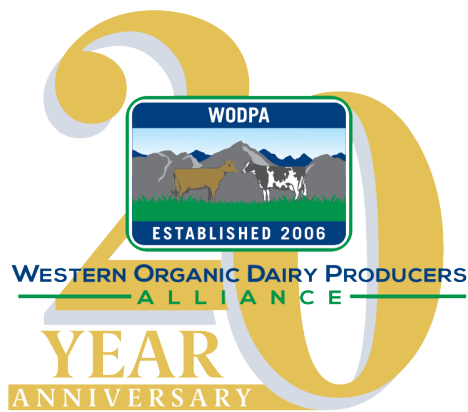
- b. DOIA aims to boost domestic organic production by encouraging USDA to reduce imported organic goods and offering grants to help domestic producers invest in storage, processing, aggregation, and distribution facilities.
- 4. “Opportunities in Organic Act of 2026” – H.R. 7318
 - a. Sponsors: Rep. Panetta (CA), Rep. Adams (NC), Rep. Tonko (NY), Rep. Lieu (CA), Rep. Tokuda (HI), Rep. Lofgren (CA), Rp. Pingree (ME)
 - b. Expands the Organic Certification Cost-Share Program and adds flexible funding to enhance the USDA Organic Transition Initiative, prioritizing underserved producers.

WODPA opposes:

- 1. “Meeting Demand for Organic Produce Act – S. 2797 & H.R. 5367
 - a. Sponsor: Rep. Newhouse (WA)
 - b. The bill would let producers test land for banned substances instead of completing the mandated three-year transition to organic methods without synthetic chemicals or GMOs, a period crucial for maintaining organic integrity.

Federal Government Updates

- a. On February 13th, House Ag Committee Chairman introduced the Farm, Food, and National Security Act of 2026 (H.R. 7567) intended to reauthorize the 2018 Farm Bill that originally expired in 2023, but has since been extended multiple times.
- b. The House Ag Committee has passed – this but it has yet to be voted on by the entire House.
 - i. Organic dairy data collection was included!
 - ii. Funding would be maintained but not increased. This fails to keep pace with both raising consumer demand and the challenges faced by organic producers.



- iii. The bill also shields pesticide companies from liability and gives authority to state and local government to regulate pesticide usage. An amendment was proposed but denied to remove this language.
- iv. Prohibits states from creating animal welfare standards (like Prop 12 in CA) that apply to animals raised outside of the state borders.

Initiative Petition (IP) 28 – Oregon

- a. Oregon Farm Bureau is leading the PAC effort, and the Oregon Dairy Farmers Association is on the steering committee.
- b. This website will be built out further, but you can sign up as supporting the effort: [Families for Affordable Food](#).
- c. The Oregon Hunters Assn has great information about IP 28: [Oregon IP28: Hunting & Fishing Ban Explained – Oregon Hunters Association](#)
- d. Finally, Oregon Farm Bureau: [No on IP28 | Oregon Farm Bureau](#)

NOSB Spring 2026 Meeting

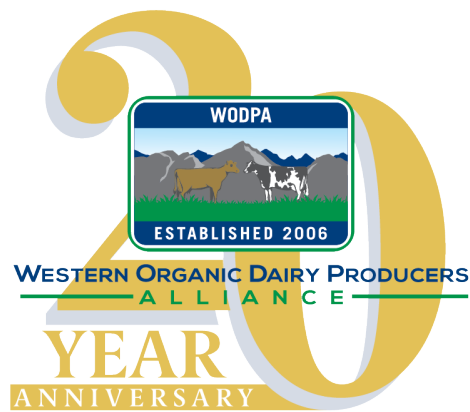
- a. NOSB Spring meeting topics feedback can be provided at: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSew5ggMNLxF9frw0oGzV0cogzjROTb50oLqRaWrr2CCa4hz0g/viewform?usp=sharing&oid=108725568603538648499>

Letter sign- ons:

- a. Alternative Manure Management - support AB 2100 (attached)

Farmer Resources & Financial Opportunities:

1. New World Screwworm - What Organic Farmers need to know and what their treatment options are
 - a. [New World Screwworm update edited.pdf](#)
 - b. OTA is creating a working group as well.



2. National Organic Farmer Education Network (NOFEN)
 - a. <https://organicfarmersassociation.org/organic-events/>
3. Organic Dairy Exemption Request Form
 - a. [AMS-15 - Organic Exemption Request Form | Agricultural Marketing Service \(usda.gov\)](#)
4. Mercaris/ Argus update:
 - a. Mercaris/Argus collecting statements for Q2 2026 (April, May, June)
 - i. Send statements to AgData@ArgusMedia.com
 - ii. All organic dairy producers can submit statements. Only paid- in WODPA members can see the survey results.
 - iii. SEND IN YOUR STATEMENTS NOW PLEASE
 - b. Waiting on Q1 (January, February, March 2026) final report now

Reminders/ Resources:

- a. The 26th Annual NODPA Field Days: September 24 – 25, 2026
 - i. [SAVE THE DATE for the 26th Annual NODPA Field Days, September 24 & 25, 2026 - Northeast Organic Dairy Producers Alliance](#)
- b. WODPA's 20th Anniversary WODPA Conference & Trade Show
 - i. October 27 – 28, 2026 in Chico, CA
 - ii. [CONFERENCE & TRADE SHOW](#)
- c. Spring 2026 NOSB Meeting
 - i. May 12th - 14th in Omaha, Nebraska
 - ii. [National Organic Standards Board Meeting - Omaha, NE | Agricultural Marketing Service](#)
 - iii. Virtual comments will be given May 5 & 7 as well as in person comments on May 12th