

## **Executive Director Report for June 2025**

### **Legislative/Policy Work**

1. Organic Dairy Assistance, Investment, and Reporting Yields Act of 2023 (O DAIRY Act of 2023) – Senate Bill 3097
2. “The Organic Dairy Data Collection Act” – House Bill 6937
3. Fiscal year 2026 spending bills
  - a. White House proposal includes \$6.7 billion reduction in discretionary USDA programs
4. House Republicans passed a significant budget package through the Reconciliation process
  - a. Includes tax changes, increased funding for military and border security and some ag programs, while proposing cuts to safety-net programs like Medicaid and Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and some green tax incentives
  - b. This bill must still pass through the Senate, where Republicans are expected to make further changes, aiming for presidential approval by June or July
  - c. This House budget bill includes funding for Organic Certification Cost Share Program, Organic Transition Initiative, Organic Data Initiative
5. USDA updates:
  - a. Dudley Hoskins was confirmed as Undersecretary of Agriculture
  - b. Dr. Jenny Tucker returned to the NOP
  - c. Organic Market Development Grants – existing contracts are being honored
6. Proposed Rescission of Mushroom and Pet Food Rule
  - a. Removes the regulatory foundation needed to allow the market to grow
  - b. The potential for organic livestock producers and other businesses to access organic pet food markets – particularly for slaughter by products- will remain out of reach

## 7. FMMO Update

- a. Members of the Coalition for Organic Dairy Exemption late last week filed 15A petitions with the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) seeking to exempt organic dairy from the Federal Milk Marketing Order (FMMO) Program.
  - b. Coalition Members include Organic Valley, Horizon and Aurora.
  - c. Petition attached for review.
8. Meeting with NOP: WODPA: NODPA regarding survey results from SOE & OOL Farmer Feedback Survey (PowerPoint attached for reference)

## Letter Sign Ons:

1. Opposition to Rescinding Organic Pet Food Rules

## Mercaris/ Argus update:

1. Q1 2025 Report is now available (attached)
2. Mercaris/Argus collecting statements for Q2 2025 (April, May, June)
  - a. Send statements to [AgData@ArgusMedia.com](mailto:AgData@ArgusMedia.com)
  - b. All organic dairy producers can submit statements. Only paying WODPA members can see the survey results.
  - c. SEND IN YOUR STATEMENTS NOW PLEASE

## Financial Opportunities:

1. Organic Dairy Exemption Request Form
  - a. [AMS-15 - Organic Exemption Request Form | Agricultural Marketing Service \(usda.gov\)](https://ams-15-organic-exemption-request-form | Agricultural Marketing Service (usda.gov))

## Reminders/ Resources:

1. Save the Dates:
  - a. WODPA Conference & Trade Show
    - i. October 28–29, 2025 in Santa Rosa, California
  - b. Virtual WODPA State Meetings:
    - i. Oregon: June 12<sup>th</sup>
    - ii. Idaho: June 19<sup>th</sup>
    - iii. California: July 17<sup>th</sup>
    - iv. Texas: July 24<sup>th</sup>
  - c. Sonoma County Regional (in-person) WODPA Meeting
    - i. July 8<sup>th</sup> at the Washoe House

