

Executive Director Report for September 2025

WODPA topics of focus this month

1. Origin of Livestock discussions with certifiers & NOP; follow up with NOP regarding the survey results for OOL & SOE
2. 2025 Conference, Trade Show and Sponsorship Outreach
3. Congressional outreach for O DAIRY Act, Organic Dairy Data Collection and encouragement for a comprehensive Farm Bill

Legislative/Policy Work

1. Both the House & Senate Ag Appropriations Committees have advanced their own version of spending bills.
 - a. Senate maintains funding for USDA & FSA
 - b. House proposes cuts:
 - i. 56% cut to the Value- Added Producer Grant Program
 - ii. 9% reduction in Conservation Technical Assistance
 - iii. 16% cut to the Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education program
2. “The Organic Dairy Data Collection Act” – H.R. 4110 (attached)
 - a. Introduced by Congresswoman Pingree (D - ME), Congressman Langworthy (R - NY) and Congressman Wied (R - WI)
3. “The Organic Dairy Assistance, Investment, and reporting Yields Act of 2025” – Senate 2442 (attached)
 - a. Introduced by Senator Welch (VT), Senator Gillibrand (NY), Senator Sanders (VT) and Senator Booker (NJ)
4. Whole Milk for Healthy Kids Act – S. 222, H.R. 649
 - a. Reintroduce whole and 2% milk to school lunch programs, challenging long-standing USDA guidelines.

Letter Sign- On

- a. USDA reorganization plan comments (attached)
- b. Letter of support for Steve Pierson for NOSB nomination (attached)
 - i. <https://www.ams.usda.gov/rules-regulations/organic/nosb/nomination-process>

Farmer Resources & Financial Opportunities:

1. National Organic Farmer Education Network (NOFEN)
 - a. [Organic Events - Organic Farmers Association](#)
2. Organic Dairy Exemption Request Form

- a. AMS-15 - Organic Exemption Request Form | Agricultural Marketing Service (usda.gov)
- 3. Mercaris/ Argus update:
 - a. Mercaris/Argus collecting statements for Q3 2025 (July, August, September)
 - i. Send statements to AgData@ArgusMedia.com
 - ii. All organic dairy producers can submit statements. Only paying WODPA members can see the survey results.
 - iii. SEND IN YOUR STATEMENTS NOW PLEASE

Reminders/ Resources:

- 1. Save the Dates:
 - a. WODPA Conference & Trade Show
 - i. October 28–29, 2025 in Santa Rosa, California
 - ii. In person WODPA Board meeting on October 28th @ 12pm at the Americana Restaurant (205 5th Street Suite A, Santa Rosa, CA)
- 2. 25th Annual NODPA Field Days
 - a. September 25th & 26th in Pompey, NY
 - b. Save the Date! 25th Annual NODPA Field Days, September 25 & 26, 2025, Pompey Rod and Gun Club, 2035 Swift Road, Pompey, NY 13138 - Northeast Organic Dairy Producers Alliance
- 3. Organic Trade Association's Organic Week
 - a. September 15th – 17th in DC
 - b. [2025 Organic Week | OTA](#)
- 4. NOSB Fall 2025 Meeting
 - a. Public comment: October 28th & 30th from 9am to 2pm
 - b. Public meeting: November 4 – 6 in Omaha, NE
 - c. [National Organic Standards Board \(NOSB\) Meeting - Omaha, NE | Agricultural Marketing Service](#)