Executive Director Report for July 2025

Legislative/Policy Work

- 1. "The Organic Dairy Data Collection Act" H.R. 4110
 - Text of H.R. 4110: The Organic Dairy Data Collection Act (Introduced version) GovTrack.us
- 2. One Big Beautiful Bill Act
 - a. Comprehensive budget reconciliation bill
 - b. A separate, comprehensive Farm Bill would need to be passed (not just the "mini Farm Bill") to include the Organic Dairy Data Initiative.
 - c. Current Farm Bill (from 2018) is postponed through September 30th
 - d. Increased funding for the Specialty Crop Block Grant Program starting in 2026
 - e. Organic Certification Cost Share Program
 - f. Provides \$8 million annually through FY2031
 - g. Organic Data Initiative
 - h. Provides \$10 million from 2026 through 2031 for collecting and analyzing organic production
 - i. Organic Certification Trade & Tracking System
 - j. Provides \$6 million to improve the integrity of the organic label and enforce regulation by providing technology infrastructure for tracking organic imports
- 3. Voluntary Removal of Artificial Dyes from Ice Cream
 - Voluntary, proactive pledge to eliminate the use of Red 3, Red 40, Green 3, Blue
 1, Blue 2, Yellow 5 and Yellow 6 from ice cream and other frozen dairy desserts
 by 2028
 - b. International Dairy Foods Association is spearheading this
- 4. Meeting with NOP: WODPA: NODPA regarding survey results from SOE & OOL Farmer Feedback Survey (PowerPoint attached for reference)
 - a. Second Meeting scheduled for September 11th

b. Survey results will be shared in our August e-newsletter. We have been sharing them during our virtual state/regional meetings.

National Organic Standards Board (NOSB) Nominees

- 1. Applications must be received by 9/9
- 2. Board Positions available:
 - a. 2 individuals who own or operate an organic farming operation or employee of such individual
 - b. Two individuals who represent public interest or consumer groups
 - c. One individual who is a USDA- accredited certifying agent
 - d. Federal Register :: National Organic Standards Board Call for Nominations

National Organic Farmer Education Network (NOFEN)

 The purpose of NOFEN is to highlight the great education your organization creates for organic farmers and connect your farmer-members with online education nationwide.
 It's a win-win for your organization, it expands the farmer audience for your programming and the education offered to your farmer-members.

Mercaris/ Argus update:

- 1. Q2 2025 Report will be available August 1st
- 2. Mercaris/Argus collecting statements for Q3 2025 (July, August, September)
 - a. Send statements to 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)

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. California: July 17th
 - ii. Texas: July 24th
- 2. Organic Dairy DC Fly-In (with OFA)
 - a. July $20^{th} 24^{th}$
- 3. 25th Annual NODPA Field Days
 - a. September 25th & 26th in Pompey, NY
 - 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
- 4. Organic Trade Association's Organic Week
 - a. September $15^{th} 17^{th}$ in DC
 - b. 2025 Organic Week | OTA