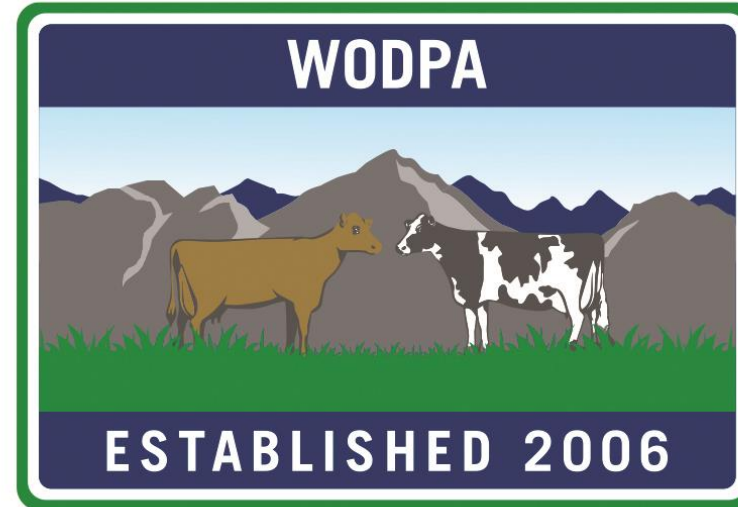


# What has WODPA done this year?

2024 - a year in review



**WESTERN ORGANIC DAIRY PRODUCERS**  
— **A L L I A N C E** —

# Nurtured strong relationships with affiliate organizations

- Organic Trade Association (OTA)
- Organic Farmers Association (OFA)
- National Organic Coalition (NOC)
- Northeast Organic Dairy Producers Alliance (NODPA)



# Benefits for our Farmer Members

- Monthly e-newsletters & network connections
- Announcements on financial and other opportunities for farmers and stakeholders
- Argus Media- Mercaris survey and commodity reports
- WODPA Exchange E-Mail
- Representation with affiliate organizations and on Capitol Hill
- Advocacy on the local, state and federal levels



# Presence in Washington DC

- Zach Cahill (WODPA President) attended the Farmer Fly-In with the Organic Farmers Association in March.
  - Meetings with:
    - NOP (focusing on SOE implementation)
    - Ag Committee Staffers (discussing NRCS funding & organic dairy data collection)
    - 7 individual staffer meetings (5 members of the House and both of the CA Senators to discuss data collection and distribution of ODMAP)
    - FSA (discussing ODMAP & Cost Share)



# NOSB Meeting highlights

- Meets twice per year
  - Fall meeting was in Portland, OR
    - Stewart Kircher participated in a farmer panel for OFA & NOC
- Comments submitted in support of the addition of Meloxicam to our materials toolbox as well as comments on sunset materials
  - The petition on Meloxicam passed!
  - No materials up for sunset review were removed from the approved materials list.

A copy of our comments for both meetings can be found at [CURRENT NEWS \(wodpa.com\)](http://CURRENTNEWS.wodpa.com)



# Regional Farm & Stakeholder visits

- Petaluma, CA
  - December 12<sup>th</sup> & July 18<sup>th</sup>
- Oregon
  - September 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup>
- Ferndale, CA
  - October 26<sup>th</sup>
- Idaho
  - October 2<sup>nd</sup>



# Milk & Cookies w/ the Cows (and their Farmers too!)

- Applied in partnership with Sonoma County Farm Bureau for a grant from the CA Cattle Council
- Invited policy makers, local influencers and community members to attend
- Hosted a tour of 2 local farms (thank you Berretta Dairy & Bianchi Dairy!)
- Lunch & Cheese tasting (thank you American AgCredit & Valley Ford Creamery!)
- Q & A with farmers and processors
- Milk & Cookies at our last farm





# Who attended?

Invited policy makers, local influencers and community members to attend



Big thank you to our Partners & Sponsors!



# CALIFORNIA CATTLE COUNCIL



# Letter Sign- Ons & Submissions

- Several Organic Dairy Market Assistance Program (ODMAP) letters
- Organic Research / Support organic in the Farm Bill letters
- Many letters in support of our industry stakeholders for grants & programs
- Measure J - Sonoma County
- NOSB comments (Spring & Fall 2024)

**A copy of these letters and comments can be found on our website at:**

**CURRENT NEWS ([wodpa.com](http://wodpa.com))**

# What are we working to include in the Farm Bill?

- Organic Dairy Assistance, Investment, and Reporting Yields Act of 2023 (O DAIRY Act)
- The Organic Dairy Data Collection Act
- WEATHER Act
- COWS Act
- Orphan Programs



# Organic Dairy Assistance, Investment, and Reporting Yields Act of 2023 (O DAIRY Act)

- Senate Bill 3097
- Improved Data Collection
- Extension of ELAP
- Safety Net Program for Organic Dairy
- Investments in organic Dairy Processing infrastructure

# The Organic Dairy Data Collection Act

- House Bill 6937
- Improved data collection for organic dairy

# Withstanding Extreme Agricultural Threats by Harvesting Economic Resilience (WEATHER) Act

- Senate Bill 3401
- Development of an index-based insurance policy that would better support farmers facing income losses after extreme weather events
- Reduces administrative hurdles and ensures that insurance payouts are based on ag income losses

# Converting Our Waste Sustainably (COWS) Act

- Senate Bill 2479
- Establishes an alternative manure management program
- Awards producers contracts to support carbon sequestration and greenhouse gas emissions reductions
- USDA may provide 100% federal cost share up to \$825,000 every 5 years

# “Orphan Programs”



- **Organic Cost Share Program**
  - aids in obtaining and renewing organic certification – up to 75% or \$750 per scope
- **Organic Data Initiative**
  - collects info to maintain stable markets, create risk management tools, and assist in negotiating equivalency agreements with foreign governments
- **Organic Certification Trade & Tracking Program**
  - fraud prevention; this has mandatory funding but ends after 2024

# Organic Dairy Marketing Assistance Program (ODMAP)

- Program aims to offset marketing costs incurred in 2024
- First launched in 2023 with \$104 million allocated
  - \$58 million remaining as of program relaunch on 9/26
- Program improvements for 2024 include:
  - increased payment rate \$1.68 per cwt
  - Production cap increased to 9 million lbs.
  - Initial amount paid out is 75% of \$1.68
  - If money remains after application deadline, the remaining 25% will be automatically distributed

**Application deadline was just extended to December 13<sup>th</sup>.**

# Organic Dairy Marketing Assistance Program (ODMAP)

- Apply at your local FSA Office
  - EVERYONE needs to re-apply this year
  - Applications are open until November 29<sup>th</sup>
  - To apply, you will need your 2023 production, proof of organic certification and a completed application form

# Organic Dairy Product Promotion (ODPP)

- Allocated \$15 million to expand access to organic dairy products in educational institutions and youth programs
- The program will help children and young adults access organic dairy products while also creating new markets for small and mid-sized organic dairy farmers

Organic Dairy Product Promotion Program | Agricultural Marketing Service

# New NOP rule - OLPS

- Organic Livestock and Poultry Production Standards (OLPS) Rule
  - Full compliance date: January 2, 2025
  - Link: [Federal Register :: National Organic Program \(NOP\); Organic Livestock and Poultry Standards](#)
    - Prohibiting certain physical alterations (wattling, tail docking, face branding)
    - Lameness monitoring, management and treatment
    - Euthanasia requirements have been added to ensure prompt, humane and effective plans and methods are documented and used
    - Parasite control is now formally required
    - Requirements have been added for what sufficient shelter:
      - Animals have sufficient space & ability to express normal behavior patterns
      - Youngstock can be housed individually until weaned but must be designed so animals can hear, see and smell each other.

# OLPS continued

## ➤ New requirements for transportation:

- Organic livestock must be clearly identified as organic, and their identity must be traceable for the duration of transport.
- Fit for transport; calves must have a dry naval cord and be able to walk on their own
- For transport that exceeds 8 hours, operation must describe how animal welfare and organic management was maintained.

**If you have questions about how this will impact your far specifically, reach out directly to your certifier!**

# Impacts of SOE

SOE = Strengthening Organic Enforcement Rule

- Compliance Date: March 19, 2024
- Harsher requirements for certifiers and accreditation requirements
- Increased the entities who need to be organically certified
- Increased the amount of traceability paperwork and record keeping

Federal Register :: National Organic Program (NOP); Strengthening Organic Enforcement

# WODPA's SOE/ OOL Feedback Survey



- ✓ Collect information and feedback regarding the newly implemented Strengthening Organic Enforcement (SOE) Rule and the Origin of Livestock (OOL) Rule
- ✓ More ramifications effecting organic dairy farmers than originally expected or intended with the implementation of these two new rules passed by the National Organic Program (NOP).
- ✓ Complete the survey so we (WODPA) can better understand how to promote organic dairy farmers and advocate for you, especially with the NOP.

- Provided quarterly reports from submitted milk statements
- Disbursed to paid in farmer members
- Provided reports on crops in the US
- No longer subscribing to them

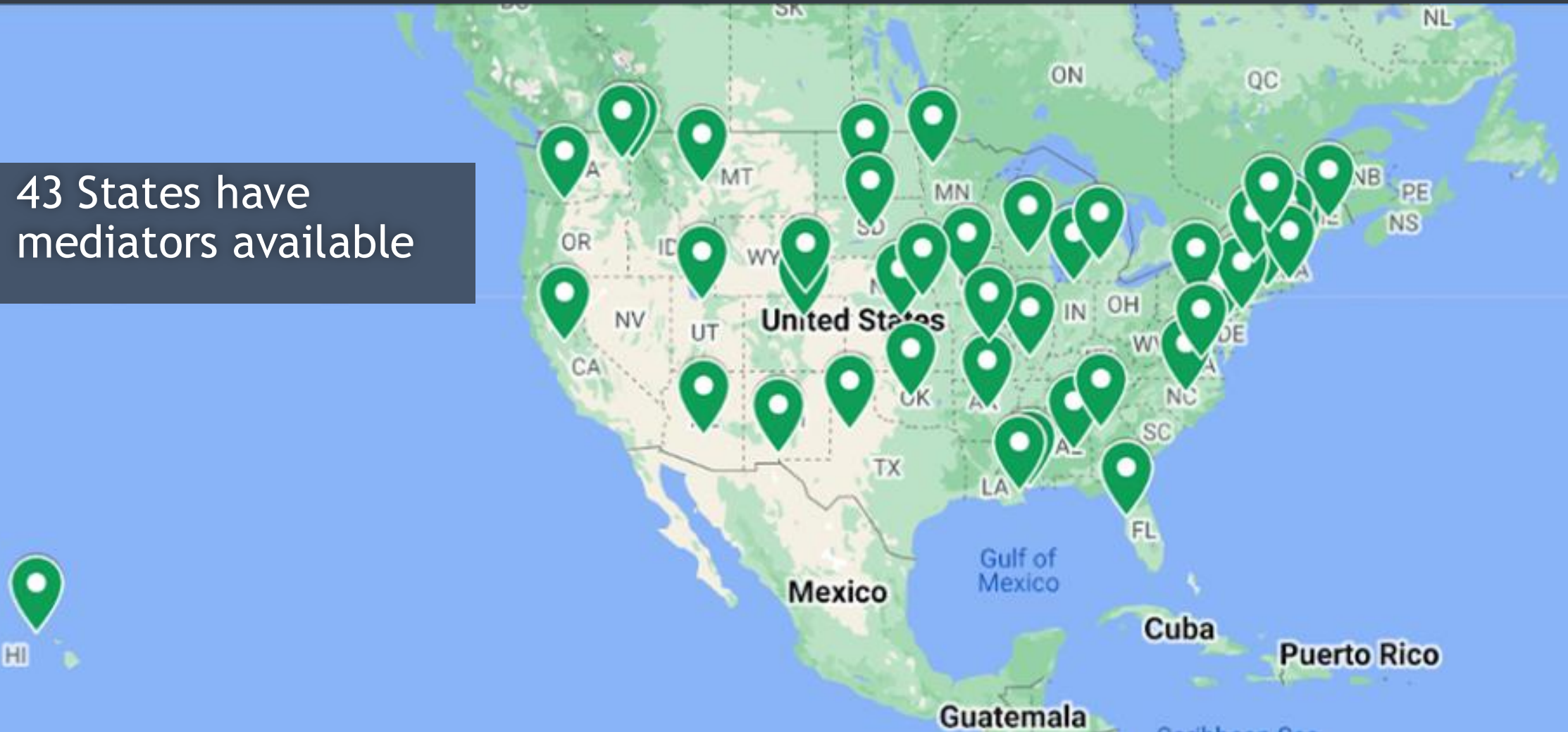
WODPA Western Organic Dairy Statement Values <sup>1</sup>				
	Q1 2023	Q2 20243	Q3 2024	Q3 2023
Survey Sample Metrics				
Farms	10	10	9	12
States	4	4	4	4
Statements	40	38	30	42
Processors	7	6	7	6

# COALITION OF AG MEDIATORS PROGRAM

- A team of mediators that offer their services for free to farmers, funded by USDA for challenging conversations with business partners, neighbors, feed companies, creditors, farm transitions, etc.
- “Conflict may be an unavoidable part of life, but it doesn’t have to be negative. When handled correctly, conflict can also be an opportunity for growth and understanding,” Jenna Muller
- About Mediation - Coalition of Agricultural Mediation Programs  
([agriculturemediation.org](http://agriculturemediation.org))

# COALITION OF AG MEDIATORS PROGRAM

- 43 States have mediators available



# Lunchtime Learning Opportunity

- Kemin Animal Nutrition & Health
  - Presenter: Dr. Elliot Neto
    - [Elliot.neto@kemin.com](mailto:Elliot.neto@kemin.com)
  - Topic: KemTRACE Chromium- OR

**This can be re-watched on our website:  
[LUNCHTIME LEARNING \(wodpa.com\)](http://LUNCHTIME LEARNING (wodpa.com))**



# Avian Influenza Detection & Spread

- Increase biosecurity & decrease allowance of visitors
- USDA to Begin Accepting Applications for Expanded Emergency Livestock Assistance Program to Help Dairy Producers Offset Milk Loss Due to H5N1 | Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
  - Confirmed H5N1 positive test results are required for recovery assistance
  - OFA Farmer Hotline: (833)724-3834



# Check out our website to become a member today!!



WESTERN ORGANIC DAIRY PRODUCERS ALLIANCE



## FARMER MEMBER

**SUPPORT WODPA TODAY**

WODPA continues to work hard to be heard on a national level, making sure the collective voice of our producers is represented. We share the organic dairy producers perspective when lobbying on crucial issues currently facing dairy producers. In addition, we work in collaboration with national organic advocacy groups and industry stakeholders to provide perspective on what matters most to organic producers.

**HELP WODPA FIGHT FOR YOU AND YOUR FUTURE**

### FARMER MEMBER OPTIONS



**\$1.50 PER MILKING/DRY COW**  
Producers can pay one time per year, \$1.50 per milk/dry cow located on their dairy.

AND/OR



**DONATION**  
Producers can make a voluntary additional donation above the \$1.50 per milking/dry cow

**FARMER BENEFITS INCLUDE:**

- Representation within industry Trade groups in Washington D.C.
- Constant updates on new funding opportunities as they come available for organic dairy
- Access to Mercaris, an organic and non-GMO commodity market data and trading company  
WODPA is working with them to create a new organic milk analysis program
- Monthly e-newsletter including industry happenings
- Access to invitation only lunchtime learning webinars from industry stakeholders
- Network connections to utilize like mediation programs and grant opportunities
- First glance at 2024 Conference & Trade Show plans PLUS receive a discounted registration rate

Dairy Name

Contact Name:

Address:

Phone Number:

City, State:

E-Mail:

Payment: Number of Milking/Dry Cows \_\_\_\_\_ x \$1.50 = \$\_\_\_\_\_

Additional Donation: \$\_\_\_\_\_

**Western Organic Dairy Producers Alliance**  
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wodpa@outlook.com • www.wodpa.com

**HAVE YOUR VOICE HERD!**



WESTERN ORGANIC DAIRY PRODUCERS ALLIANCE



## STAKEHOLDER MEMBERSHIP

**JOIN WODPA TODAY**

Maximize your business and product exposure by reaching organic dairy farms throughout the Western United States. By working with WODPA, you'll have the opportunity to support your dairy customers, reach a broad range of industry stakeholders, and connect with our networks and collaborators.

**MAXIMIZE YOUR EXPOSURE WITHIN THE ORGANIC DAIRY INDUSTRY**

### STAKEHOLDER OPTIONS

**PLATINUM**

Your logo will be located on WODPA's home page listed as Platinum Stakeholder with a yearlong link to your website, monthly publicity for marketing of new products & advertisements, reoccurring recognition of your Platinum membership in our correspondence & social media, subscription to our monthly e-newsletter, receive half price Lunchtime Learning event... PLUS MUCH MORE \$1,500.00

**GOLD**

Your eye-catching medium sized company logo will be located on WODPA's Stakeholder webpage with your company description & link to your website, reoccurring recognition of your Gold membership in all correspondence and social media, your business logo included in all WODPA e-newsletters with link to your company's website, subscription to our monthly e-newsletter... PLUS MORE \$750.00

**COLLABORATOR**

A reoccurring recognition of your membership in all of WODPA's correspondence and social media platforms, Your business listing in our e-newsletters and on our website with link to your company's homepage, subscription to our monthly e-newsletter, your company listed as an Collaborator in our Conference promotional materials... \$400.00

**LUNCHTIME LEARNING**

Host and sponsor a Lunchtime Learning one hour Webinar for our 250+ organic dairies across the Western United States and our extended network of dairy producers across the country. The webinars are free to those affiliated with the livestock industry and are promoted to all of our industry stakeholders... \$750.00

Business Name / Contact Name

E-Mail:

Business Website:

Phone Number:

Address:

City, State, Zip:

☐ PLATINUM LEVEL ☐ GOLD LEVEL ☐ COLLABORATOR LEVEL ☐ LUNCHTIME LEARNING WEBINAR

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**SUPPORT OUR FARMERS TODAY!**

PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR FULL DETAILS

# Open Discussion

- How can WODPA best support you?
- What issues are prevalent in your area?
- How can WODPA improve and better represent you?





# ANY QUESTIONS?

**Lia Sieler**

(209) 712 - 9470

[Lia.wodpa@outlook.com](mailto:Lia.wodpa@outlook.com)



# WODPA Conference & Trade Show 2025

We'll see you in **Petaluma, CA** next year in November!!

