

Executive Director Report for December 2025

WODPA topics of focus this month

1. Staying up to date with government shutdown, Farm Bill, etc.
2. 2026 Membership letters
3. Lunchtime Learning Re-launch

Legislative/Policy Work

1. “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)
2. “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)
3. Federal Government Reopened
 - i. Continuing Resolution that funds the government through January 30.
 - ii. Reversed any firings of federal employees that occurred during the partial government closure that began October 1 and prohibits Reduction in Force while the resolution is active.
 - iii. Includes a one- year extension of the Farm Bill programs through September 2026 and suspends permanent agricultural laws that would incentivize Congress to speed work on a full Farm Bill.

Letter Sign-Ons and Comments:

1. Organic Dairy Leaders Urge Emergency Market Adjustment Payment as Northeast Drought Crisis Looms (letter attached)

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. Contract was renewed for 2026 for \$4,150.
 - i. Quoted \$4,300 next year and \$5,000 the year after.
 - b. Mercaris/Argus collecting statements for Q4 2025 (October, November, December)

- 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

Reminders/ Resources:

- a. Lunchtime Learning: Project Talks with NRCS
 - i. January 15th @ 11:30am PST
 - ii. Join Zoom Meeting:
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83701007435?pwd=EdoeA5MljhCS6oypLU5CVhls2rvGIY.1>
 Meeting ID: 837 0100 7435
 Passcode: 313452
- b. NOC's Simplifying the Paperwork: Recordkeeping Strategies for Organic Farmers
 - i. Wednesday, December 10, 2025 @ 11am PST
 - ii. To register: [Simplifying the Paperwork: Recordkeeping Strategies for Organic Farmers — National Organic Coalition](#)
- c. OFA's Annual Policy Survey (due January 25th)
 - i. [OFA 2026 Annual Policy Development \(Closes Jan. 25, 2026\) Survey](#)
- d. Management of Organic Dairy Youngstock Survey
 - i. [Brochure 1page Final](#)
 - ii. Pays \$250 to complete