



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL,
AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

Hardin County Extension News Release

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Dairy Farm Bill Meeting

Hardin County – The 2014 Farm Bill authorized the Margin Protection Program (MPP-Dairy) for dairy producers. The new, voluntary risk management program replaces the Milk Income Loss Contract (MILC) program which expired. MPP-Dairy offers protection to dairy producers when the difference (the margin) between the all-milk price and national average feed cost falls below a certain producer selected amount. The Dairy Margin Protection Program decision tool is available online and will be covered during the meeting to help producers make coverage level decisions. Enrollment ends on November 28, 2014 for 2014 and 2015.

Eligible producers may purchase coverage for their dairy operation by paying an annual administrative fee of \$100 and a premium, as applicable, for higher levels of coverage. Producers in the dairy operation will have to select a desired coverage level ranging from \$4.00 to \$8.00, in \$0.50 increments and a desired coverage percentage level ranging from 25 to 90 percent, in 5 percent increments. Producers will also have to decide whether or not to participate in the MPP-Dairy Program or the Livestock Gross Margin program administered by the Risk Management Agency (RMA), but they will not be allowed to participate in both.

Participating farmers must remain in the program through 2018 and pay a minimum \$100 administrative fee each year. Producers have the option of selecting a different coverage level during open enrollment each year. Dairy operators will establish their production history during sign-up. Verification of the production records will be required. Dairy operations can obtain more information on MPP-Dairy at the FSA county office and online.

A meeting has been established to assist dairy producers with MPP-Dairy decisions. A joint meeting for Champaign, Delaware, Hardin, Logan and Union County producers will be held on November 6, 2014 at 1:00 pm in the Union County Services Building located at 940 London Avenue, Marysville, OH 43040. (Please note this is not where the FSA and OSU Extension offices are located; this is a separate county

building south of the hospital on State Route 38.) Dairy producers are encouraged to attend the information meeting. FSA County Executive Directors along with Denny Riethman, Mercer County OSU Extension Agriculture and Natural Resources Extension Educator will conduct the meeting and provide guidance on your enrollment options.

Producers can register for this meeting online at <http://go.osu.edu/2014dairyfarmbill> or by contacting the Union County Extension office at 937-644-8117.