

COUNCIL ON DAIRY CATTLE BREEDING

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USDA ARS – CDCB Nonfunded Cooperative Agreement

Available for industry input – Deadline June 4, 2012 4:00 PM Central

The Council on Dairy Cattle Breeding (CDCB) is moving forward in the effort to continue having sustainable data flow, calculating genetic evaluations and providing management benchmarks for the US dairy industry. This involves updating a current Memorandum of Understanding that is in place between the Council on Dairy Cattle Breeding and USDA Agricultural Research Service –Animal Improvement Programs Laboratory (USDA-ARS-AIPL) with a Nonfunded Cooperative Agreement (CA). This CA will help to recognize and assure:

1. **Maintaining confidentiality of data** voluntarily contributed to have research conducted by the Animal Improvement Programs Laboratory of USDA (AIPL-USDA).
2. **Access to the cooperator database** of phenotypic and genomic data to calculate genetic evaluations and genomic prediction equations reflective of the dairy cattle population by contributors of data and non-contributors of data.
3. **Sustainability of the data flow** in and out of the national cooperative effort.
4. **Providing new entrants** coming to the system with data access and inclusion in genetic evaluation output.
5. **Research conducted** on new traits and those of economic and production significance be added for collection, analysis and distribution in the future.
6. ARS-USDA's (Agricultural Research Service) **desire to have AIPL focus on research** and **reduce or eliminate the service component** of its effort.
7. The Cooperative Agreement between AIPL and CDCB is to **ensure the research efforts of AIPL** have access to data needed to conduct research.

This Draft Nonfunded Cooperative Agreement between ARS and CDCB is being circulated to the dairy industry for comments and input to facilitate this effort. If you have comments, please provide them by June 4, 2012, to one of the CDCB member organizations, CDCB board of directors, members or officers listed below.

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