

Summit Program

Day 1 Dairy's Role in Advancing California's Sustainability Objectives

9:00 AM - 10:00 AM	<p>Opening Session California dairy farmers are true pioneers—using innovation and cutting-edge research to redefine dairy farming for the world.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Karen Ross, Secretary of the California Department of Food and Agriculture • Frank Mitloehner, PhD, Professor and Air Quality Specialist, UC Davis Department of Animal Science
10:00 AM - 11:00 AM	<p>Panel 1 - Consumption with a Conscience: The New Playing Field for Food Brands Dive into dairy consumption trends and retail markets, including a discussion on increased consumer interest in the environmental impacts of food choices—from farm to table. Moderator: John Talbot, Chief Executive Officer, California Milk Advisory Board</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Linda Eatherton, Partner, Managing Director, Global Food & Beverage, Ketchum • Bob Langert, President, Mainstreaming Sustainability Editor at Large, GreenBiz Group, Retired McDonald's VP of Sustainability • David Ahelm, Chief Executive Officer, Hilmar Cheese Company • Alex Palczek, Director of Marketing – Shopper COE, Nestlé
11:00 AM - 11:10 AM	<p>Refreshment and Networking Break Recharge and network during a brief coffee, tea and water break.</p>
11:10 AM - 12:10 PM	<p>Panel 2 - Dairy's Role in a Healthy and Sustainable Diet Explore nutrition in the context of sustainable food production, green eating (including the concept of plant-based eating), and the appropriate balance between the nutrition needs of people and the stewardship of our planet's resources. Moderator: Tammy Anderson-Wise, Chief Executive Officer, Dairy Council of California</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Katie Brown, EdD, RDN, Senior Vice President Sustainable Nutrition, National Dairy Council • Cindy Schweitzer, PhD, Principal, Schweitzer Consulting LLC • Marianne Smith Edge, MS, RDN, LD, FADA, FAND, Founder and Principal, The AgriNutrition Edge • Lynn Giacomini Stray, Co-Owner, Point Reyes Farmstead Cheese Co.
12:10 PM	<p>Lunch Enjoy a buffet lunch and time to network with dairy sustainability leaders.</p>
1:00 PM - 1:30 PM	<p>Dairy 2.0 - The Journey From Sustainable to Relevant Linda Eatherton, Partner, Managing Director, Global Food & Beverage, Ketchum</p>
1:30 PM - 2:30 PM	<p>Panel 3 - Planet-Smart Dairy: California Leading the World California dairy farmers are world leaders in sustainable farming practices. Discover how dairy farmers are partnering to enhance water supply/quality, improve air quality, and protect our climate, while continually working to ensure the best possible animal care. Moderator: Michael Boccadoro, Executive Director, Dairy Cares</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Frank Mitloehner, PhD, Professor and Air Quality Specialist, UC Davis Department of Animal Science • Annette Jones, DVM, Director and State Veterinarian, California Department of Food and Agriculture • Tyler Bennett, President, Bennett Environmental, Inc. & Bennett Water Systems • Steve Maddox Sr., Managing Partner, Maddox Dairy • Sahar Kamali, Director, Business Development, Clean Energy Renewables
2:30 PM - 2:40 PM	<p>Refreshment and Networking Break Recharge and network during a brief coffee, tea and water break.</p>

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- 2:40 PM - 3:45 PM** **Panel 4 - Encouraging Sustainable Food Production: A Workable Regulatory Approach**
 Using past achievements as a guide, panelists will discuss the appropriate role of regulatory versus voluntary, incentive-based actions to improve sustainability. Looking ahead, regulatory and dairy industry leaders will strategize about how to ensure the sustainability of California's dairy farms, while advancing environmental protections.
 Moderator: **Richard Matteis**, Administrator, California Farm Bureau Federation
- **Jenny Lester Moffitt**, Undersecretary, California Department of Food and Agriculture
 - **Ashley Boren**, Executive Director, Sustainable Conservation
 - **Samir Sheikh**, Executive Director, San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District
 - **Richard Corey**, Executive Officer, California Air Resources Board
 - **Patrick Pulupa**, Executive Officer, Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board
- 3:45 PM - 4:00 PM** **Purpose Led, Performance Driven - Sustainability**
David Blakemore, President, Animal Nutrition & Health, DSM
- 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM** **Expo Hall Opening Reception**
 Join us for refreshments, including Real California Cheese. Network with dairy farmers and industry leaders. Connect with technology and service suppliers that can help the dairy industry continue to address environmental challenges with cost-effective solutions.

Day 2 Strategies and Tools to Advance Sustainability, Improve Efficiency, and Reduce Costs

- 8:00 AM - 9:00 AM** **Expo Hall Breakfast**
 Start your morning with some tasty treats and a walk around expo hall while networking with dairy farmers and industry leaders.
- 8:30 AM - 8:45 AM** **Welcome Remarks**
- **Felicia Marcus**, Chair, State Water Resources Control Board
- 8:45 AM - 9:15 AM** **Opening Session - Achieving True Sustainability: Perspectives from the Major Dairy Cooperatives**
- **Matt Carstens**, Senior Vice President, Land O'Lakes, Inc.
 - **Rob Vandenheuvel**, Vice President of Industry and Member Relations, California Dairies Inc.
 - **Francis Pacheco**, Vice President of Membership and Public Affairs, Dairy Farmers of America
- 9:30 AM - 10:20 AM** **Breakout Sessions**
- The Next Generation of Digesters: Electricity, Transportation Fuel, and Beyond**
 Find out how development companies, state agencies, dairy farmers, and utilities are working collaboratively to voluntarily meet the state's manure methane reduction target, while boosting economic sustainability, and helping achieve California's increasingly ambitious clean energy goals.
 Moderator: **Cliff Gladstein**, President, Gladstein, Neandross & Associates
- **Neil Black**, President, California Bioenergy
 - **Daryl Maas**, Founder and Chief Executive Officer, Maas Energy Works
 - **Kevin Dobson**, Vice President, Business Development, DTE Biomass Energy
 - **Tyler Henn**, Vice President & General Manager, Clean Energy Renewables
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- Automation on the Farm: Robotic Systems and Increasing Efficiency**
 Two California dairy farmers, a nutritionist, and a veterinarian will share their experience implementing robotic milking systems and how these investments are benefiting animal well-being and farm economics.
 Moderator: **William Ray**, Vice President/ Senior Relationship Manager, Yosemite Farm Credit
- **Jonathon Postma**, Managing Partner, Pete Postma and Sons Dairy, GP
 - **Halley Fobes**, Consulting Veterinarian, Lander Veterinary Clinic
 - **Rick Jones**, Partner, Jones Family Farm
 - **Steve Riesenbeck**, Consultant, Dairy Works

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9:30 AM - 10:20 AM

Breakout Sessions (continued)

Money from manure? How do we get there?

A diverse panel of experts from the private sector, NGOs, and the research community will discuss opportunities to transform surplus manure into environmental and economic benefits.

Moderator: **J.P. Cativiela**, Regulatory Director, Dairy Cares, Executive Director, CVDRMP

- **Mark Stoermann**, Chief Operating Officer, Newtrient LLC
- **Ryan Flaherty**, Director of Business Partnerships, Sustainable Conservation
- **Denise Mullinax**, Interim Director, California Dairy Research Foundation, Assistant Director, CDQAP
- **Ruihong Zhang**, PhD, Professor, UC Davis Department of Biological and Agricultural Engineering

10:30 AM - 11:20 AM

Breakout Sessions

Take Control of Your Energy Destiny: Manage Rising Costs through Efficiency and Renewable Energy

Representatives from major utilities and renewable technology providers will highlight opportunities for dairy farmers to combat rising energy costs through energy efficiency and on-site energy technologies.

Moderator: **Michael Boccadoro**, Executive Director, Dairy Cares & Agricultural Energy Consumers Association

- **Justin Witte**, Senior, Customer Relationship Manager, AG/Food Processing, Pacific Gas & Electric Company
- **Traeger Cotten**, Field Engineer, Southern California Edison
- **Dean Swanson**, Director, Business Development, Sunworks Solar Power

Water-Smart Dairy: Strategies to Survive Increasing Water Scarcity

A diverse panel of experts will discuss what's being done to address water scarcity challenges, including the development and expansion of drip irrigation to increase water-use-efficiency and improve yields.

Moderator: **Ryan Flaherty**, Director of Business Partnerships, Sustainable Conservation

- **Tyler Bennett**, President, Bennett Environmental Inc. & Bennett Water Systems Inc.
- **John Cardoza**, Project Manager, Sustainable Conservation
- **Geoffrey Vanden Heuvel**, Director of Regulatory and Economic Affairs, Milk Producers Council

Feed Additives: Can they Reduce Methane and Improve Your Bottom Line?

Panelists will discuss research efforts, feed additives, and other ways to reduce enteric emissions, and how these efforts might impact feed efficiency, milk production, and animal health.

Moderator: **Michael FitzGibbon**, Research Division's Climate, Atmospheric Science, & Economic Studies Branch Chief, California Air Resources Board

- **Ermias Kebreab, PhD**, Professor and Sesnon Endowed Chair, Sustainable Animal Agriculture Department of Animal Science, UC Davis
- **Thomas Hafner**, Chief Executive Officer, Mootral
- **Todd Armstrong**, Head, North American Ruminant Operations and Strategy, DSM

11:30 AM - 12:10 PM

Breakout Sessions

Managing Employment Trends, Retention, and Costs

Learn about dairy labor trends, challenges, and opportunities, and hear from dairy farmers as they discuss hiring, training, and retaining employees and providing valuable career opportunities.

Moderator: **Anja Raudabaugh**, Chief Executive Officer, Western United Dairymen

- **Frank Cardoza**, Consultant, Dairy Works, Farm Manager, Phillip Verwey Farms
- **Aaron Wickstrom**, Managing Partner, Wickstrom Dairies L.P. and Valsigna Farms
- **Landon Fernandes**, General Manager, Fernjo Farms

Increasing Nutrient Use Efficiency for Survival and Profit

Dairy producers and experts will talk about practical, innovative solutions for gaining more value from manure applications, improving water and nutrient distribution, and streamlining recordkeeping for daily decision making.

Moderator: **Deanne Meyer, PhD**, Livestock Waste Management Specialist, Department of Animal Science, UC Davis & UC ANR

- **Bob Hutmacher, PhD**, UC Cooperative Extension Specialist and Center Director, West Side Research and Extension Center
- **Blake Alexandre**, Owner, Alexandre Family Farm
- **Michelle Tacherra**, Environmental Manager, Morning Star Dairy, Inc.
- **Simon Vander Woude**, Owner, Vander Woude Dairy

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Day 2 Strategies and Tools to Advance Sustainability, Improve Efficiency, and Reduce Costs

11:30 AM - 12:10 PM **Breakout Sessions** (continued)

Genetic Opportunities: Setting Your Strategy for Long-Term Success

Dairy farmers will discuss tools and strategies for continuing to advance environmental and economic sustainability through genetic progress—further increasing milk production and improving animal health.

Moderator: **Stanley Henderson, PhD**, Professor Emeritus, Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo

- **Brian Fiscalini**, Chief Executive Officer, Fiscalini Farms and Cheese Company
- **Frank Denis**, Herd Manager, Charles Ahlem Ranch
- **Wayne Glaeser**, Member Owner, Glaz-Way Enterprises, LLC

12:10 PM - 1:40 PM

Lunch in the Expo Hall

Enjoy a buffet lunch and time to network with dairy sustainability leaders.

1:40 PM - 2:30 PM

Breakout Sessions

Water Quality: What's Coming Next, and How to Prepare for the Challenges and Opportunities

Legal, regulatory, and technical experts will discuss what California dairies can expect with the changes in water quality regulations coming next year, as well as potential strategies to help navigate the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead.

Moderator: **Justin Gioletti**, Vice President, Robert Gioletti & Sons Dairy

- **Doug Patteson**, Confined Animal Facilities Program Manager, Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board
- **J.P. Cativiela**, Executive Director, CVDRMP, Regulatory Director, Dairy Cares
- **Theresa "Tess" Dunham**, Managing Shareholder, Somach Simmons & Dunn
- **Till Angermann**, Hydrogeologist and Technical Program Manager, Central Valley Dairy Representative Monitoring Program

Funding Incentives to Boost Economic and Environmental Sustainability

Learn about significant funding incentives available from regional, state, and federal agencies and how these can help dairy farmers invest in environmental and economic sustainability projects on their farms.

Moderator: **Paul Sousa**, Director of Environmental Services and Regulatory Affairs, Western United Dairymen

- **Amrith Gunasekara, PhD**, Science Advisor, California Department of Food and Agriculture
- **Kevin Abernathy**, General Manager, Milk Producers Council
- **Todd DeYoung**, Manager, Strategies and Incentives, San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District

Optimizing Cow Health and Comfort: Emerging Technologies and Strategies

Panelists will discuss milestones to date, and new developments both within and beyond the FARM program, including the use of cow monitoring devices, tools for employee training, and other strategies to further improve animal health and comfort.

Moderator: **Michael Payne, DVM, PhD**, Program Director, California Dairy Quality Assurance Program, Dairy Program Coordinator, Western Institute of Food Safety & Security (WIFSS)

- **Frank Cardoza**, Consultant, Dairy Works, Farm Manager, Phillip Verwey Farms
- **Dr. Robert Hagevoort**, Associate Professor & Extension Dairy Specialist, New Mexico State University
- **Nicole Ayache**, Director, FARM Environmental Stewardship and Workforce Development, National Milk Producers Federation

2:40 PM - 3:00 PM

Closing Remarks

Marcus Benedetti, Chairman and CEO, Clover Sonoma

3:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Expo Hall Reception

Join us for refreshments and networking with dairy farmers and industry leaders. Connect with technology and service suppliers that can help the dairy industry continue to address environmental challenges with cost-effective solutions.