



United States Department of Agriculture



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News Release

Massachusetts Farm Service Agency

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Dairy Margin Protection Program Informational Meetings

The USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) and UMass Extension announce dates and locations for public meetings on the Dairy Margin Protection Program (MPP-Dairy). The voluntary program, established by the 2014 Farm Bill, replaces the Milk Income Loss Contract program. MPP-Dairy provides financial assistance to participating farmers when the margin – the difference between the price of milk and feed costs – falls below the coverage level selected by the farmer.

Dairy farmers and interested parties are invited to attend one or more of the following sessions:

Hampshire and Hampden Counties

Tuesday, October 7, Hampshire/Hampden County FSA Office, 195 Russell Street, Hadley: 1pm – 3pm
Wednesday, October 8, Hampshire/Hampden County FSA Office, 195 Russell Street, Hadley: 7pm-9pm
Thursday, October 9, Cummington Community House, 33 Main Street, Cummington; 7pm-9pm

Bristol/Norfolk/Southeastern Massachusetts

Thursday, October 9, with the Rehoboth Agricultural Commission, Rehoboth Town Hall: 7:30pm-9:30pm
Friday, October 17, Bristol/Norfolk/Suffolk County FSA Office, 104 Dean Street, Taunton: 1pm-3pm

Middlesex and Essex Counties

Monday, October 20, Middlesex/Essex County FSA Office, 319 Littleton Road, Westford: 12pm-3pm
Monday, October 27, Shaw Dairy Farm, 204 New Boston Road, Dracut: 12pm-3pm
Wednesday, October 29, Topsfield Fair, 207 Boston Street, Topsfield: 12pm-3pm

Worcester County

Monday, November 3, Whittier Dairy Farm, 86 Douglas Road, Sutton: 1pm-3pm
Wednesday, November 5, Hollis Hills Farm, 340 Marshall Road, Fitchburg: 1pm-3pm
Friday, November 7, Carter Stevens Farm, 281 Old Stage Road, Barre: 1pm-3pm

Franklin County

Wednesday, November 12, Shelburne Fellowship Hall, 17 Little Mohawk Rd, Shelburne: 12 noon - 2 pm
Thursday, November 13, Hunt Farm, 702 South Main Street, Orange: 12 noon - 2 pm
Friday, November 14, Williams Sugar House, 491 Greenfield Rd, Deerfield: 12 noon - 2 pm

Staff will be on hand to provide program information, answer questions, and demonstrate a web-based decision tool designed to help producers review current and historical margins to help with their decision making.

Producers unable to attend a meeting convenient to them are encouraged to contact their local FSA county office.

For more information contact the FSA state office at 413-253-4500 or UMass Extension at 413-545-0895

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