MMPA

MemberConnection

CONNECTING MEMBERS TO THE LATEST CO-OP NEWS | SEPTEMBER 2026



MMPA hosts Sen. Elissa Slotkin at Ovid for tour and roundtable

MMPA and the International Dairy Foods Association (IDFA) welcomed Senator Elissa Slotkin (D-Mich.) to Ovid, Michigan, for a tour of MMPA's recently expanded milk ultrafiltration facility and a roundtable discussion with dairy leaders representing IDFA member companies across the dairy supply chain. The visit brought together dairy farmers, processors, cooperatives, retailers and suppliers to discuss the industry's growing economic impact and the policy priorities necessary to ensure continued growth and innovation in Michigan and across the country.

The dairy industry continues to invest in new processing capacity, advanced manufacturing technologies and innovative value-added products that strengthen America's food system and create jobs in rural communities. Dairy processors have announced more than $13 billion in new processing capacity expected to come online by 2028, including $1.38 billion in the state of Michigan. These investments reflect growing consumer demand for dairy products and underscore the importance of policies that support nutrition, trade and workforce development.

"Michigan dairy farmers work hard every single day to feed families here at home and across the country, and they are a cornerstone of our rural economy," said U.S. Senator Elissa Slotkin. "During my visit to Ovid, I saw firsthand how Michigan's dairy industry is investing in new technology, expanding processing capacity, and creating jobs in our communities. As we strengthen Michigan's economy, we need to make sure dairy producers have the workforce, infrastructure and reliable access to markets they need to compete, grow and keep Michigan's dairy industry strong."

Pictured above (L-R): Sheila Burkhardt, MMPA Chief Corporate Affairs Office; Doug Chapin, MMPA Board Chairman; Joe Diglio, MMPA President & CEO; Senator Elissa Slotkin (D-MI); Michael Dykes, IDFA President & CEO; Chase McClure, MMPA Director of Engineering; and Adam Tarr, IDFA Vice President of Legislative Affairs.

DEADLINE EXTENDED: MMPA Nominating Committee accepting applications for MMPA Board

Four district positions on the MMPA Board of Directors are up for election at the District Meetings to be held in December. The district directors with terms expiring in 2027 are Paul Keener from District 1, Brian Preston from District 2, Eric Frahm from District 4, and Corby Werth from District 4.

To be nominated and run for one of these positions on the board of directors, candidates must submit an application by October 1. The District Nominating Committees will meet virtually to determine the slate of nominees. Contact Jessica Welch at jessica.welch@mimilk.com or at 248-897-3400 to receive an application.

Save the Dates for MMPA District Meetings

MMPA District Meetings are scheduled for early December. Additional information, including times and locations will be shared closer to the meeting dates.

District 1: Monday, December 7
District 2: Tuesday, December 8
District 3: Wednesday, December 9
District 4: Thursday, December 10
District 5: Friday, December 11

UPCOMING EVENTS

October 16: MMPA Dairy Promoter Webinar

October 25: MMPA Young Cooperator Fall Fest

December 7-11: MMPA District Meetings

News from Novi

As harvest season gets underway, hopefully the weather has cooperated and many of you have been able to make progress in the fields.

As I mentioned last month, we were preparing to host Senator Elissa Slotkin at our Ovid facility. I'm pleased to report that the visit was a great opportunity to showcase your cooperative and the investments you, the member-owner, continue to make. Senator Slotkin toured our recently expanded ultrafiltration facility and joined dairy industry leaders for a discussion about the opportunities and challenges facing our industry. She saw firsthand how we are investing in new technology and processing capacity to meet growing consumer demand, particularly for high-protein dairy products.

It's important for our elected officials to see these investments and understand where they begin: with the high-quality milk you produce on the farm every day. We spent time talking about the growing demand for protein and the nutritional value dairy brings to consumers. Opportunities like this allow us to tell your story and communicate what our industry needs to continue investing, innovating and growing.

We've also seen movement on the Farm Bill. The Senate Agriculture Committee recently advanced the bill, moving the legislation forward. There is still more work to be done in the legislative process, but we're encouraged to see progress on an issue important to agriculture.

Engagement with leaders doesn't just happen at our facilities. Recently, MMPA Board Vice Chairman Tony Jandernoa and his family hosted the Michigan State University (MSU) president, his wife and members of his team on their farm during a visit organized by the MSU College of Veterinary Medicine. Opportunities like these are important because they give leaders outside of our day-to-day industry a chance to see what happens on the farm, ask questions and better understand the commitment it takes to produce milk every day.

Whether we're hosting an elected official at Ovid or university leadership on a member farm, engagement matters. We have a great story to tell, and opening our facilities and farms helps us communicate both the opportunities ahead of dairy and the challenges that need to be addressed.

That engagement is equally important within your own cooperative. It was great to see many of you participate in our Virtual Membership Briefings, where we had the opportunity to update you on what's happening across MMPA and some of the initiatives we're excited about moving forward. The investments we continue to make in our assets and product mix are focused on one thing: creating additional opportunities to market your milk and return value to you, the member-owner.

If you didn't get a chance to participate in the Virtual Membership Briefings, I highly encourage you to attend your District Meeting in December. It's another opportunity to hear more about the state of the industry, ask questions and learn about the momentum we continue to build as a cooperative.

I look forward to seeing you there!

—Joe Diglio, MMPA President & CEO

UPDATES & REMINDERS

MMPA Dairy Promoter Webinar: Oct. 16

MMPA Dairy Promoters will meet virtually on Friday, Oct. 16 to hear from Hailey Gilbert, manager of the Michigan Ag Council, about the organization's efforts to promote Michigan agriculture. The meeting will also give Dairy Promoters an opportunity to learn more about statewide promotion efforts and consider ways those initiatives can complement dairy promotion in their own communities. Registration is required. Dairy Promoters received registration details via email. If you did not receive them, contact Jessica Welch at jessica.welch@mimilk.com or 248-897-3400.

MMPA Young Cooperator Fall Fest: Oct. 25

MMPA members under the age of 41 are invited to join peers at Dick Haven Farms on Sunday, Oct. 25 from 1 to 4 p.m. for a farm tour, corn maze and pumpkin patch! Spend the afternoon connecting with fellow young farmers while enjoying a fun fall outing on the farm. Don't miss this opportunity to network and celebrate the season together. Registration by Oct. 21 is required attend: https://bit.ly/26YCFF.

MMPA Deferred Payment Agreements available

MMPA members who are cash basis taxpayers and desire to defer some or all of their October, November and December 2026 milk proceeds until January 2027, must complete and return a Deferred Payment Agreement prior to the beginning of the month for which income deferral will commence. For example, if you want to defer payment for October milk, you must sign and return the contract agreement so it arrives at the MMPA Novi office before October 1. Similar timing would apply for November and December milk deliveries. To access the Deferred Payment Agreement, login to the producer portal and access it under the Member Resources shared files folder, or contact the MMPA member services department at 800-572-5824, ext. 203 or members@mimilk.com.

MMPAC Challenge

The Michigan Milk Political Action Committee (MMPAC) Challenge will soon be underway! The MMPAC helps support legislators who support the dairy and agriculture industry. It is a way to assist MMPA in having discussions with lawmakers on issues of importance to MMPA and the dairy industry. In addition, by supporting the MMPAC, you have the chance to support a charity. MMPA will award the MMPA district with the highest percentage of members contributing to the district's choice of selected charity organizations or youth foundations. Last year's winner was District 4. Information regarding the MMPAC Challenge will be mailed to members in October.

Statistical Summary | FOR MILK MARKETED IN JULY 2026

MMPA Reporting

Average All Milk Price
$19.97

Average Butterfat
4.09%

Average Protein
3.15%

Average SCC
200,000 cells / mL

Total Milk Production
-2.08% over July 2025

AMS Survey Prices
(monthly average, per pound)

Cheese
1.5149 / LB

Butter
1.6036 / LB

Milk Powders
Nonfat Dry Milk
1.6474 / LB

Dry Whey
0.6522 / LB

Market Statistics - Mideast Federal Order #33

	# This Month	# Year Ago	% Change
Total Class 1 Sales	532,080,459	555,632,883	-4.24%
Total Class 2 Sales	164,610,005	297,283,804	-44.63%
Total Class 3 Sales	745,222,694	723,919,842	2.94%
Total Class 4 Sales	194,097,998	172,346,531	12.62%
Total Production	1,636,011,156	1,749,183,060	-6.47%
Class 1 Utilization	32.5%	31.8%	

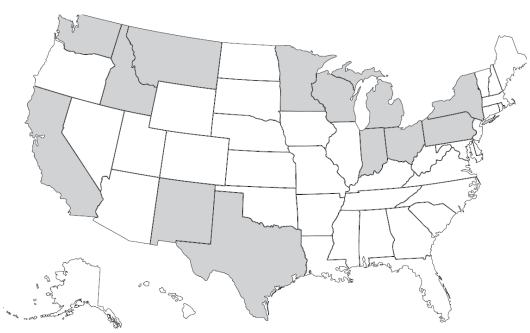
Mideast Federal Order #33

Total Producers.....3,298
Avg. Daily Production per farm.....16,002
Avg. Protein Test 3.21%
Avg. Butterfat Test 4.15%
Avg. Oth Solids Test 5.77%

Component Pricing Information - Mideast Federal Order #33

Protein Price /lb. $2.3202
Butterfat Price /lb. $1.6668
Other Solids Price /lb.....$0.3970
Class III Price @ 3.5% $15.52
Prod. Price Diff /cwt. - Mich Mkt $3.61
Uniform Price @ 3.5%.....$19.13
SCC Adjustment /cwt /1000.....$0.00076

National Trends*
(production in millions of pounds)



*For 24 States

	2026	2025	% Change
California	3,479	3,507	-0.8
Wisconsin	2,851	2,779	+2.6
Texas	1,612	1,544	+4.4
Idaho	1,646	1,612	+2.1
New York	1,454	1,423	+2.2
Michigan	1,100	1,067	+3.1
Minnesota	936	903	+3.7
Pennsylvania	810	810	+0.0
New Mexico	493	487	+1.2
Washington	481	491	-2.0
Ohio	483	485	-0.4
Indiana	399	380	+5.0
Total U.S.*	19,399	18,967	+2.3
U.S Y-T-D*	133,655	129,990	+2.8

INDUSTRY NEWS

MMPA Food Bank Legacy Award



Applications are available for the 2027 MMPA Food Bank Legacy Award. Members involved in supporting their local food bank or pantry are encouraged to fill out an application. The recognition, created in honor of past MMPA Board President Ken Nobis, recognizes members for their efforts supporting local food banks and pantries. This annual award gives you the chance to support a Michigan food bank or pantry to receive a $1,000 donation toward their hunger relief work. Interested members can contact Jessica Welch at jessica.welch@mimilk.com or at 248-897-3400 to receive an application. Deadline to submit nominations is Nov. 2, 2026.

MARKET NEWS | *USDA Dairy Market News - September 18, 2026*

BUTTER HIGHLIGHTS: Stakeholders in the East and Central regions report steady domestic butter demand. Some stakeholders in the Western region report domestic butter demand is lighter. Export demand varies from steady to strong. Cream volumes are more than sufficient to meet the needs of butter makers, despite some Class II manufacturers securing spot loads. Butter production continues to be steady, and many butter manufacturers report churns are highly active. Spot loads of butter are available. Bulk butter overages range from 3 cents below to 5 cents above market across all regions.

DRY PRODUCTS: Low/medium heat nonfat dry milk (NDM) prices in the Central and East regions moved higher at the lower end of the range, while the upper end and the mostly series were unchanged. In the West, low/medium heat NDM increased at both ends of the range and at the top of the mostly series. High heat NDM prices rose at the lower end of the range across all regions. The upper end of the range increased in the West but held steady in the Central and East. Dry buttermilk prices increased throughout the full range and mostly series in the West. In the Central and East, increases were limited to the lower end of the range, with the upper end unchanged. Dry whey prices rose at the lower ends of the ranges in the Central and East but declined in the West; upper ends across all regions were steady. The mostly series in the Central region edged higher at the lower end, while the West saw a decrease at the upper end. The dry whole milk price range widened as the bottom declined and the top increased. Lactose prices were steady at the lower end and decreased slightly at the upper end. Whey protein concentrate (WPC) 34% was unchanged at the bottom but higher at the top. WPC 80% instant continues to price above regular WPC 80%, with both trading in the $11s and $12s. WPI remains in the $14s. Acid casein prices were unchanged.

CHEESE HIGHLIGHTS: The cheese market tone is steady across regions, with milk availability ample in the East and tightening in the Central due to supply pressure from lower corn silage production. Spot milk prices are mostly steady, ranging from flat to $2.00 over Class. Cheese production remains well supported nationwide, with strong demand for cheddar curds and mozzarella, while artisanal makers note typical seasonal slowdowns. Domestic retail sales are firm, though food service demand lags expectations. In the East, seasonal retail improvement and increased merchandising support steady movement, while the Central and West report accessible spot cheese loads and stable production schedules. Export activity from the West, particularly cheddar shipments to Asia Pacific markets, remains a key outlet as evolving global trade dynamics present potential market considerations.

FLUID MILK: Milk production is steady across most of the country. East region fluid supplies are sufficient for current draws and contract obligations. Central supplies have tightened further. In the West, California and Arizona report minor declines. Spot milk is tightening or tight nationwide. Class I demand is firm in all regions. Ultrafiltration pulls in the East remain strong, and Class I handlers are seeking additional loads. Contacts note milk continues to move East from California. In the East, Class II continues seasonal draws. Milk for Class III use is sufficient for all regions, and cheese plant operations are steady. Class IV butter churns are active nationwide. Cream is available in all regions. Northeast and Central manufacturers are taking maximum contract volumes, and spot loads are trading. In the Central region, most spot cream is moving to Class II and III users. Condensed skim supply is tight in the East and Southwest. Some handlers in the East are sourcing loads from the Central and West regions. Availability in California is adequate. Cream multiples for All Classes: East 1.20– 1.45; Central 1.18–1.35; West 1.10–1.24.

MMPA | FARM SUPPLY STORE

The MMPA Farm Supply Store, based in Mt. Pleasant, offers a variety of products including sanitation chemicals, udder and milk prep supplies, minerals, milk replacers, hoses, filters, inflations, testing equipment and MMPA apparel.

Featured Product: J&L Hoof Gel ($31.61-$94.84 *OR* $30.03-$90.10*)

To order products, call 877-367-6455 or visit mimilk.com/farm-supply-store.

**Valid on online orders only through October 22, 2026.*

