



SD DAIRY PRODUCERS NEWS

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Awards

Robert Ode named SDDP Friend of Dairy for 2019

South Dakota Dairy Producers was pleased to award the 2019 Friend of the Dairy Industry to Robert W. Ode of rural Brandon.

Robert himself is a 4th generation dairy farmer on a farm homesteaded by his Grandfather in the late 1800's and was on the front edge of testing to improve performance on his herd. He began testing through the Dairy Herd Improvement Association in 1941 and the farm continues the practice to this day.

Robert has been an active leader for the dairy industry and has served on many boards including the original planning committee that started the Sioux Empire Farm Show. Other boards he has served on include: The stockyard advisory board, Minnehaha Farm Bureau and the State Farm Bureau, National Cattleman's Association, SD Pork Producers, the Veterinarian Diagnostic Lab Board at SDSU, and a board member for Land O'Lakes Corporate Board.

In the early 2000's Robert worked with Ag United and opened his farm to the public for an annual event, "Breakfast on the Farm". This Spring will be the 12th year welcoming over 1,200 visitors to increase awareness for animal welfare, good stewardship of the land, and effective management practices implemented on today's modern dairies.

Robert has been supported through his dairy career by his wife Marilyn, and sons Gregg and Doug. With Grandson Alex, their farm (Royalwood Farms) is now a 6th generation SD Dairy farm.



Above: SDDP Board Chair Marv Post presented Bob his well deserved award for his many years in and supporting the dairy industry.



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South Dakota Dairy Princess Crowned at Central Plains Dairy Expo

Ytsje Andringa, from Clear Lake, was crowned South Dakota Dairy Princess during the opening of the Central Plains Dairy Expo March 26 in Sioux Falls. Andringa is the 64th woman to hold the title representing South Dakota's dairy farm families.

Andringa is the daughter of Sietse and Aafke Andringa. She has lived on her family's dairy farm her entire life. She lived in Canada until her family moved to Clear Lake when she was two. Andringa is active in public speaking through speech class, FFA and other youth groups. Andringa plans to attend Lake Area Technical Institute majoring in nursing.



In photo from left: Runner up Kendra Schweer, 2019 SD Dairy Princess Ytsje Andringa, and 2018 SD Princess

Ytsje will receive a scholarship from Midwest Dairy and assist with promotion and advocacy at many events through the course of this year.

Named runner-up was Kendra Schweer, 18, daughter of Richard and Michelle Schweer of Milbank. Schweer is a senior at Milbank High School and plans to attend Lake Area Technical Institute majoring in agriculture precision technology.

Policy:

Many of you would have noted the below excerpt of NMPF's Jim Mulhern's President's Update in his e-mail communication dated April 12th.

SDDP worked with Senator's Thune and Rounds offices, along with Representative Johnson in order to secure the full support of the SD Delegation on this issue by signing on in letters urging Secretary Perdue to prioritize implementation of the dairy provisions included in the Farm Bill.

Perdue Reiterates DMC Timetable – During an appearance this week at a hearing, Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue repeated his pledge that sign-up for the new Dairy Margin Coverage program is a top priority for the department and is on track to begin in June, with payments expected the following month. Perdue also told House lawmakers that he wants the USDA to work with Congress to fashion a disaster aid package that will help Midwestern farmers and ranchers suffering from adverse weather, including grain destroyed and cattle lost because of flooding. Efforts earlier this week to pass a disaster bill foundered over the amount of aid for Puerto Rico.



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