



# SD DAIRY PRODUCERS NEWS

## Board of Directors:

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- Allen Merrill, 605.929.6406
- Deb Wehde, 712.578.8877
- Darrel Rennich, 605.695.3676
- SDDP Staff, Tom Peterson, 605.251.2439

## Renew your Membership Today!

Visit [www.sddairyproducers.org](http://www.sddairyproducers.org) for online access to membership forms. Also attached with this newsletter are forms that can be printed and filled out. Member dues can be mailed to SDDP, 2015 Rice Street, St. Paul, MN 55113.

\* Contact Tom Peterson at 605.251.2439 with any questions on membership

**SDDP is committed to 4 pillars: Policy, Growth, Education, and Consumer Confidence and delivering value for your membership dollars!**



## Legislative Update:

HB 1153—Design and Construct a new dairy research farm at SDSU

Late Monday evening, HB 1153 successfully passed the Senate floor with a vote of 30-5 in favor of the state funding \$7.5M of the SDSU dairy research farm. On Tuesday, the amendment which took the funding from \$1 back to the original bill amount was concurred in the House and enrolled by the LRC pending signatures of the Speaker of the House, President of the Senate and eventually Governor.

Thank you to the South Dakota Dairy Industry for all of the work that went into moving this bill along. We also recognize the leadership of Representative Larry Tidemann, Senator John Wiik, and Representative Randy Gross for steering this legislation from start to finish. SDDP lobbyist Brenda Forman stepped in once the bill moved past House appropriations and did an excellent job in ensuring that all legislators had one-pagers highlighting the benefits the entire dairy industry provides South Dakota to shore up support.

## South Dakota Dairy in the Media

SD Newswatch Bart Pfankuch recently produced a series of releases covering the growth in South Dakota dairy over the past years and opportunities that lie ahead. While SD Newswatch is an online media platform, he also promoted it to newspapers and the work was published in the Argus Leader, Brookings Register and other print media. The article can be viewed in e-editions of most.





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## Central Plains Dairy Expo:

SDDP will be exhibiting at the CPDE March 24th and 25th. In addition, SDDP will be co-hosting a social/reception along with dairy associations from Iowa, Minnesota, and Nebraska Wednesday evening from 5:00pm to 7pm. All dairy farmers are encouraged to stop by and network with neighboring state farmers to hear about collaborative work that is done or can be done through our coalition of state trade associations.

Join us at  
**CENTRAL PLAINS**  
*Dairy Expo*

### THREE OPPORTUNITIES TO ENGAGE & WIN PRIZES!

**1. Stop by the Midwest Dairy Expo booth #C204**

to engage with Midwest Dairy staff and dairy farmer leaders from IA, NE, SD, and MN. Claim your Midwest Dairy-branded rain gauge and enter to win raffle prizes throughout the event!



**Dairy Farmer Booth Hours, Wednesday March 24th:**

8:30 - 10:30  
**Molly Pelzer,**  
Midwest Dairy CEO

**Dan Hotvedt,**  
Iowa Division Board Chair

10:30 - 12:30  
**Allen Merrill,**  
Midwest Dairy Corporate Board Chairman

12:30 - 2:30  
**Mary Temme,**  
Nebraska Division Board Chair

2:30 - 4:30  
**Kristine Spadgenske,**  
Minnesota Division Board Member

**2. Join us on Wednesday, March 24th from 2:30 - 3:30 in Meeting Rooms 8-10**

as Midwest Dairy Corporate Board Chairman Allen Merrill facilitates a panel discussion with three Midwest Dairy regional partners in the retail and foodservice industry as they highlight efforts to grow dairy demand throughout the covid pandemic. The panel will uncover lessons learned as well as insights they will carry forward to fuel continued growth in dairy sales in 2021.



**Allen Merrill,**  
Midwest Dairy Corporate Board Chairman



**Martha Kemper,**  
Vice President of Dairy Experience - Demand at Midwest Dairy

**3. Network with us!**

Join us for a networking reception on **Wednesday, March 24th from 5-7 p.m.** in Meeting Rooms 8-10 in partnership with ISDA, MN Milk, NSDA, and SDDP. Enjoy appetizers and cocktails and a chance to chat with fellow dairy farmers and Midwest Dairy staff to hear about local checkoff in action.



**SEE YOU THERE!**

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### Individual

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