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## SD DAIRY PRODUCERS NEWS

# SDDP Recognizes Jody Kuper with "SDDP Friend of South Dakota Dairy Award":

SDDP recognized long time Valley Queen Milk Procurement Manager Jody Kuper as this year's SDDP Friend of South Dakota Dairy at the 2022 Central Plains Dairy Expo. Jody spent over 36 years working for Valley Queen Cheese starting as the Quality Assurance Manager and 17 years serving as Milk Procurement Manager.

His contributions to the South Dakota Dairy industry over his years of service were significant to say the least. Jody held countless leadership and board roles throughout his career including service on the Central Plains Dairy Expo board. In Jody's own words, "one of the most rewarding aspects of his career was working directly with dairy producers and the people that work hard every day to put dairy products in the hands of our consumers".

SDDP Board Chair Marv Post summed it up best at the conclusion of the presentation stating <u>"in addition to your career and accomplishments Jody, you are just a good man".</u>





Jody Kuper accepts SDDP Friend of SD Dairy award from SDDP Board Chair Mar

SDDP Executive Director Tom Peterson and Chair Marv Post congratulate Jody Kuper on his recognition and special night.

The award was presented in conjunction with the joint State Trade Association reception at Central Plains Dairy Expo with members of SDDP, Minnesota Milk, Iowa State Dairy Association, and Nebraska State Dairy Association all present in addition to representatives from Midwest Dairy.





Valley Queen Cheese

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### POLICY UPDATES:

- SDDP continues to have a seat at the table with the FMMO task force coalition consisting of members of Edge Cooperative, MN Milk, Iowa State Dairy and Nebraska State Dairy Associations. The group is currently assessing different options for improvement as well as monitoring NMPF as their leadership has listed FMMO reform as a top priority for 2022. The primary objective for SDDP continues to be gaining a better understanding of milk pricing and having an opportunity for input to groups as new ideas move forward.
- SDDP has offered a written request to USDA's Risk Management Agency (RMA) for continuous improvement of the Dairy Revenue Protection (DRP), Livestock Gross Margin (LGM), and Livestock Risk Protection (LRP) programs for Crop Year 2024. Underlining the importance of these programs.

Join SDDP Today! Visit <u>www.sddairyproducers.org</u> for online access to membership forms.
Contact Tom Peterson at 605.251.2439 with any questions on membership

2022 Membership Drive is Underway!

#### <u>Please verify that your organization has paid your member dues for 2022.</u> (\*Updates to 2022 Industry Partners will be made as memberships come in)

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