August 24, 2010

TO: Interested Persons - Upper Midwest Marketing Area

SUBJECT: Order Amending the Orders – Effective January 1, 2011

An order amending the orders regulating the handling of milk in the Upper Midwest and all other Federal milk orders was signed August 17, 2010 by Rayne Pegg, Administrator of the Agricultural Marketing Service. The document was published in the Federal Register on August 24, 2010. The amended orders will become effective January 1, 2011. The decision and a related news release are enclosed.

This order:

1. Maintains the current fluid milk product definition’s compositional standard of 6.5 percent nonfat milk solids criterion and incorporates an equivalent 2.25 percent true milk protein criterion for determining if a product meets the compositional standard.

2. Determines how milk and milk-derived ingredients should be priced when used in products meeting the fluid milk product definition.

3. Provides exemptions for drinkable yogurt products containing at least 20 percent yogurt (by weight), kefir, and products intended to be meal replacements from the fluid milk product definition.

A referendum was held and the required number of producers approved the issuance of the orders as amended.

For further information about the decision, please contact Henry H. Schaefer, Economist, USDA/AMS/Dairy Programs, Upper Midwest Milk Market Administrator’s Office, Suite 200, 1600 West 82nd Street, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55431-1420, (952) 831-5292, e-mail address: hschaefer@fmma30.com; or William Francis, Associate Deputy Administrator, USDA/AMS/Dairy Programs, Order Formulation and Enforcement, Stop 0231-Room 2971-S, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-0231, (202) 720-6274, e-mail address: william.francis@ams.usda.gov.

/s/ H. Paul Kyburz
Market Administrator

Enclosures