

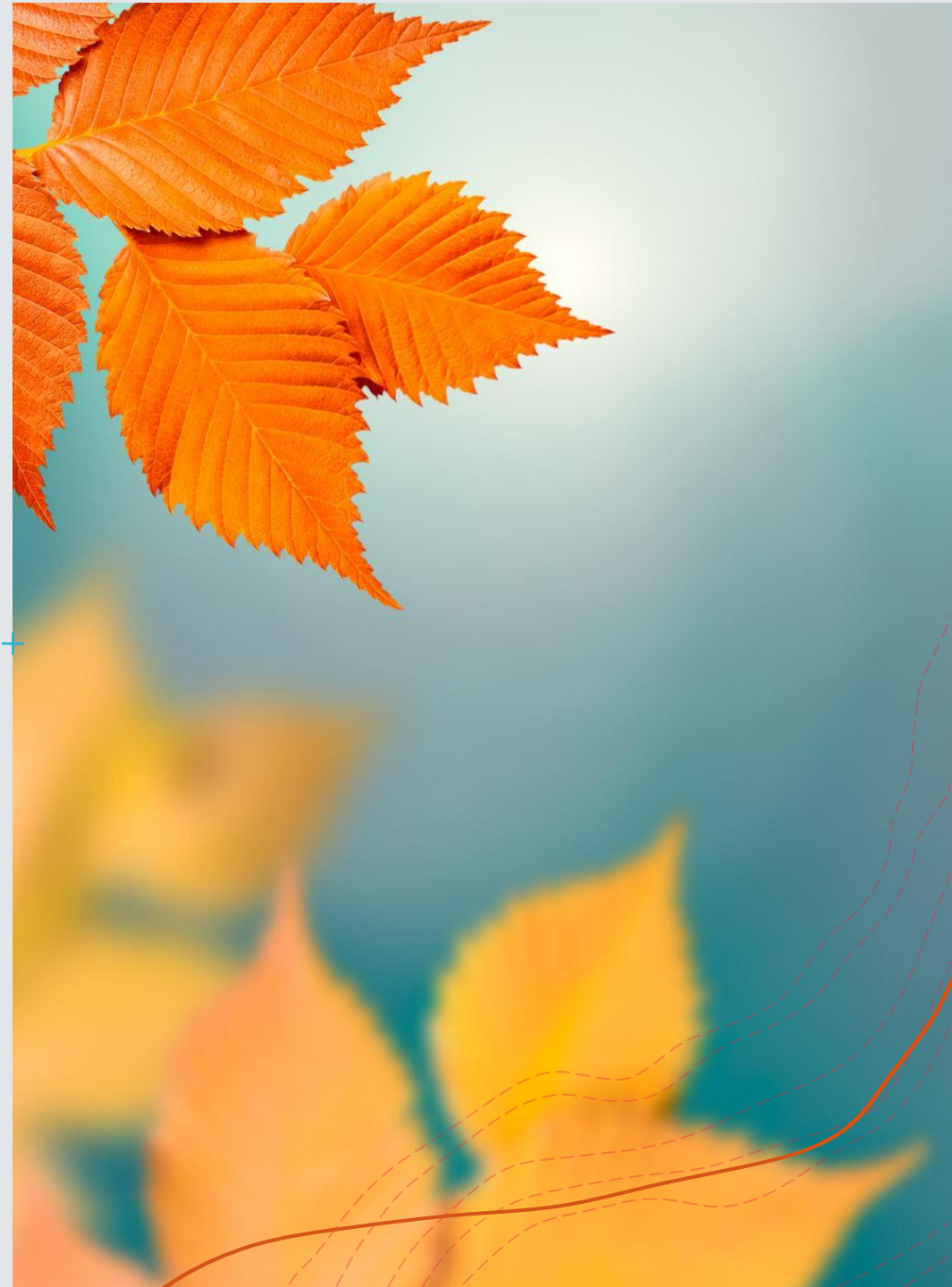
Task Force to Revitalize the Dairy Industry

Diane Bothfeld

Vermont Agency of Agriculture Food and Markets

Danone Horizon Task Force

September 13, 2021



Danone Horizon Task Force

+ Task Force members represent:

- Agency of Agriculture Food and Markets
- Agency of Commerce and Community Development
- Agri-Mark, Inc.
- Agriculture Service Provider
- Dairy Farmers of America
- Morrison Feeds
- NOFA-Vermont
- Organic Valley
- Stonyfield
- VEDA/VACC – lender
- Vermont Cheese Council
- Vermont Congressional Delegation
- Vermont Farm Bureau
- Vermont Farm and Forest Viability

Danone Horizon Task Force

+ Task Force Goals:

- Farmer Centered
- Provide reviewed options to farmers by January/February 2022
- Allow farmers time to work with Vermont Farm and Forest Viability to determine which option works best for their farm

- Task force will review options
 - Best information and specific contact information
 - Legitimate options not just exploratory
 - Determine a wide range of possible options – potential options
 - Possible organic buyer
 - Processor interested in expanding production
 - Goat's milk demand
 - Diversification into other livestock/crops

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+ Task Force work to date:

- Farmer survey to collect pertinent data on farms that will be useful in future discussion with buyers or processors
- Web page on the Agency of Agriculture Food and Markets web site – resource for farmers as well as interested parties
- Resource list for farmers – provided
- Draft survey for processors – to be launched week of September 20
- Regional discussions – Farm Bureau, Congressional Delegation
- USDA – Secretary Tebbetts working with Secretaries and Commissioners from other impacted states on this issue

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+ Task Force on-going work:

- Continue to collect farmer data
- Finalize processor survey, launch survey and collect data
- Follow-up with interested processors that respond to the survey
- Review and develop options for farmers