

# Application

## Vermont Dairy of Distinction Program

### Purpose of Program

Attractive dairies give the consumer greater confidence in the wholesomeness of milk and stimulate milk sales which encourages public support for the dairy industry. The award gives recognition to the dairy farmer for maintaining a well-kept farmstead.

### Eligibility

All Vermont dairy farms producing milk for sale are invited to apply for the award. Dairies receiving scores of 90 points or higher will receive an 18" X 24" Dairy of Distinction sign to be displayed in front of the dairy.

### Application

Owner Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Farm Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Physical-911- Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address, if different from physical address: \_\_\_\_\_

County: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Cooperative or Dealer/Handler: \_\_\_\_\_

Producer Number + BTU's: \_\_\_\_\_

Location (driving directions for Judging Team) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

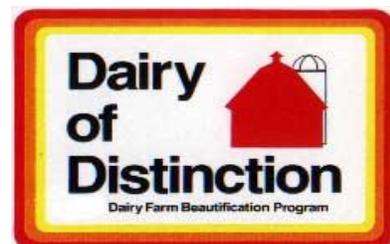
\_\_\_\_\_

I hereby apply to the Dairy of Distinction program to have my dairy scored in accordance with the rules of the program for the purpose of obtaining a Dairy of Distinction sign to be displayed on my premises. (No producer will be charged for scoring or sign expense.)

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature of owner or operator: \_\_\_\_\_

**Applications must be received in our office by May 16th.**

Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets  
Attention Louise Waterman  
116 State Street  
Montpelier, VT 05620-2901  
Or email to: Louise.Waterman@state.vt.us



## How is your farm scored? Dairy of Distinction

Awards are based upon neatness, good maintenance and other factors which can be controlled by the farmer. Attractive background scenery is not weighed heavily in judging. All judging observations should be made from a vehicle at one or more points on an adjacent public highway (or if farm is off road, the nearest lane). Judging gives equal consideration to old wood construction and new construction of metal or concrete block.

The award program may be used for subsequent advertising or promotion activities for dairy products or dairy farming. Farmers who apply agree that, if selected they will cooperate with these activities and make all reasonable efforts to maintain both the exterior and interior of their properties in an acceptable condition.

### How the Application Works

Owner, operator or dairy farm should sign application and send to State of Vermont by May 16th.

### How Judging Works

Judging teams will visit farms during the month of June. Farms will be judged regularly and the award presented on an annual basis. Any dairy failing to maintain appearance standards will be asked to remove their sign. The Dairy of Distinction signs remain the property of the program, not the property of the dairy farmer. All farms must achieve a compliance score of 90 percent on the Dairy of Distinction score card.

### Rules for the Dairy of Distinction Award

1. The Dairy of Distinction sign remains the property of the Dairy of Distinction program.
2. The post and bracket shall be supplied by and maintained by the producing dairy farmer. It is suggested that a wood post 4" x 4' x 12' or iron pipe 2" x 12' be used. Posts or pipe should be installed and maintained in true vertical position with 8' above ground. Top of bracket should not be lower than six inches from the top of the post.
3. Sign shall be displayed in front of the producing dairy at roadside. An attractive post and bracket or other frame shall be used to display the sign. No more than three signs may be displayed from the sign frame or post, and all shall be of a style, general in size and quality comparable to the Dairy of Distinction sign. Sign should be secured at bottom to avoid wind damage.
4. Signs shall not be moved to other premises. New owners of a Dairy of Distinction farm must apply to retain the sign.
5. Replacement of damaged signs shall be at the discretion of the committee.
6. No producer shall be charged with scoring or sign expense.
7. Judge's decisions will be final.
8. Judging will take place between July 1 and July 31.
9. Farms awarded Dairy of Distinction signs in previous years will be judged on a regular basis, but do not need to re-apply each year. If they do not qualify, they will be re-judged in August so they have the opportunity to keep the sign.
10. Farms that do not re-qualify will return their sign to the Dairy of Distinction program in Vermont.

