

September 10, 2021

The Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets, University of Vermont Extension, and Vermont Farm and Forest Viability Program have put together this guide to provide assistance as you navigate next steps for your family and farm.

First and foremost – Horizon has stated that the coversheet sent with the contract is not correct. The program does include a winter premium and a quality program, but the information sent to farmers did not include the proper cover page. Farmers **MUST** call Danone/Horizon and request the updated cover page that includes information on the winter premium and quality program to be able to receive these premiums.

Max Dawes at (614) 940 4687 or [maxwell.dawes@danone.com](mailto:maxwell.dawes@danone.com)

OR

Greg Wolf at (330) 289-2724 or [Gregory.WOLF@danone.com](mailto:Gregory.WOLF@danone.com)

If you are feeling stressed, anxious, considering suicide, or overwhelmed with the circumstances, reach out to [Farm First](#). Farm First offers free, confidential services and can work with you and your family regarding family dynamics, mental health, legal, and financial concerns.

**Call:** (802) 318-5538 during daytime work hours or **Call:** 877-493-6216 to reach our 24/7 hotline

**Email:** Kevin Channell at [KevinC@farmfirst.org](mailto:KevinC@farmfirst.org) - **Website:** [www.farmfirst.org](http://www.farmfirst.org)

If you would like support around business planning, comparing different market and production strategies, managing your cash-flow, and thinking long-term about your business, reach out to Calley Hastings at the VT [Farm & Forest Viability](#) Program. Farm Viability will provide you with an experienced farm advisor who can meet your specific needs and provide one-on-one assistance free of charge. Farm Viability is also partnering with NOFA-VT to reach out to each Horizon farmer, so you will be receiving a direct call if you have not already.

Contact information – Calley Hastings, [calley@vhcb.org](mailto:calley@vhcb.org), 802-828-3370

Do you have legal concerns regarding the contract you have received and are unsure how to proceed? Contact the [Ag Mediation Center](#) for free, confidential services. Do you have concerns over the contract you received or other financial issues that need to be resolved? The VT Ag Mediation Program offers free mediation services and credit counseling.



Contact Matt Strassberg ([www.vtamp.org](http://www.vtamp.org)) for confidential services at [matts@emcenter.org](mailto:matts@emcenter.org) or (802) 583-1100 ext 101.

The Vermont Law School Legal Food Hub can provide pro-bono legal advice to many farmers and processors. This is best applied to business aspects of the farms, contracts, finance, establishment of business entities, labor issues, mediation etc. (just not litigation). This is federally funded and available to farms across the region, not just in Vermont. Contact information is below:

<https://www.vermontlaw.edu/academics/centers-and-programs/center-for-agriculture-and-food-systems/projects/vermont-legal-food-hub>

Whitney Shields, program coordinator - [legalhub@vermontlaw.edu](mailto:legalhub@vermontlaw.edu) - 802-831-1307.

If you know you want to utilize production strategy changes, need assistance with forages or cow health, or have concerns about milk quality, contact the [Dairy Herd Management Technical Assistance Program](#) for free services offered through University of Vermont – Extension.

Contact information – Tony Kitsos, 802-524-6501, [tony.kitsos@uvm.edu](mailto:tony.kitsos@uvm.edu)

Not sure where to start or who to talk to? Call Calley Hastings at Farm Viability to discuss your situation and get connected with the right assistance providers.

Contact for other buyers of Organic Milk in Vermont

Organic Valley – John Cleary  
New England Regional Manager  
Organic Valley/CROPP Cooperative  
[John.cleary@organicvalley.coop](mailto:John.cleary@organicvalley.coop)  
Mobile: 612-803-9087

Stonyfield – Jason Johnson  
Farmer Relationship Manager  
Stonyfield Farm, Inc.  
10 Burton Drive, Londonderry, NH 03053  
[jason.johnson@stonyfield.com](mailto:jason.johnson@stonyfield.com)  
cell: 802-356-0908

If you kept your membership with a conventional cooperative (DFA, Agri-Mark or NFO), please contact them directly with questions.

