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Agency of Agriculture, Food & Markets  
116 State Street  
Montpelier, VT 05620-2901  
(Phone) 802.828.5667

Office of the Secretary

April 16, 2020

Dear Vermont Milk Retailer,

We are so grateful to you and your staff for providing Vermonters with essential food items, and we appreciate the pressures on people, equipment, and technology that you are experiencing in this unprecedented time.

Given the stress on grocery operations, it appears that some Vermont retail stores are mistakenly limiting customers' purchase of milk despite a currently robust milk supply. While we understand that some products have become more difficult to obtain, Vermont dairy supply has caught up with, and exceeded, demand.

We are writing to assure you that Vermont has ample milk supplies, and request that you remove any limits you may have established on the purchase of milk in your store, as this erroneously signals to consumers there is a dairy shortage. Restrictions in some stores are currently resulting in customers being unable to get the products they desire while stores are not able to provide for the customers' needs, in the face of widespread product availability. Retail establishments are critical in how all communities will get through this time. Eating well, maintaining the economic engine in our food supply, and serving our customers is truly essential.

From vegetables to meat, specialty items to dairy, you have a critical role in making healthy and nutritious products available to Vermonters. Thank you for your assistance in helping Vermont customers buy the milk that they need.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Anson Tebbetts".

Anson Tebbetts  
Secretary

