

VCAAP October Milk Losses – Preliminary Estimate

By law, all Vermont COVID-19 Agriculture Assistance Program (VCAAP) Dairy Assistance applications are due by November 15, 2020. The Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food & Markets (Agency) cannot unilaterally change this date but wants to allow dairy producers to be able to claim their October milk losses. The Agency recognizes that given the milk payment schedule, actual losses for October may not be known until approximately November 20, 2020.

If a dairy producer expects to have milk price losses in October and wants to claim those losses, the producer must submit an application claiming all losses by November 15, 2020 at 11:59 PM. If proof of October losses is not yet available, the Agency will request follow-up documentation for the October 2020 losses when it becomes available in November 2020.

Dairy producers can submit an application by November 15, 2020 at 11:59 PM that includes October milk losses through the following process.

- To claim milk pounds and price for October, the producer must submit pounds of milk for October by estimating milk pounds and a price of \$1.
- This preliminary estimate document should be marked as “Preliminary Estimate” and must be uploaded as a placeholder for further documentation of actual losses once it becomes available on or around November 20, 2020.
- Once proof of losses is available, the Agency will return the application with the estimated October losses and provide the applicant 7 days to upload the final pounds and milk price to prove actual losses for the month of October.

If the applicant fails to upload the final documentation within 7 days (likely by November 28, 2020), then the line item indicating October milk production and price will be marked denied and removed from the award calculation, and the producer will be ineligible for any October milk revenue losses.

By uploading this preliminary estimate document as a placeholder for proof of actual losses, the applicant and Agency agree to this procedure to allow dairy producers to prove their October losses after submitting an application. Applications cannot be submitted or considered after November 15, 2020 at 11:59 PM.