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USDA ANNOUNCES INTERIM ORDER TO AMEND UPPER MIDWEST MILK ORDER

WASHINGTON, D.C, May 31, 2001 - The U.S. Department of Agriculture today issued an interim order amending current provisions of the Upper Midwest Federal milk marketing order. The interim order was approved by Upper Midwest dairy farmers.

This interim order amends the performance standards and transportation credit provisions of the Upper Midwest order. The amendments include: 1) revising the supply plant performance standards so that milk seeking to be pooled on the order demonstrates consistent service to the Class I market; 2) preventing handlers located within the States that comprise the Upper Midwest marketing area from qualifying milk located outside of the States that comprise the marketing area; 3) eliminating diversions to nonpool plants outside of the States that comprise the Upper Midwest marketing area; and 4) establishing a limit on the receipt by handlers of a transportation credit to milk movements of 400 miles or less.

The interim order will be published in the June 1 Federal Register. The interim amendments to the order will become effective on July 1, 2005.

For additional information about the decision contact:

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