

Date: November 4, 2020

Proposed by: DRAC Subcommittee – Single Farm Raw Milk Pick-up

Purpose: To provide guidance to WDATCP single farm pick-up practices as they relate to current regulation.

Background: On March 10, 2020 WDATCP presented information to the DRAC on enforcement/regulatory gaps in ATCP 92, 65 & 82 in regard to farms utilizing silos or other bulk tank as raw milk storage that results in a single farm pick-up.

Overview of the proposal:

Single farm pick-up is defined as a single load of milk removed from a storage container on the farm and delivered directly to the dairy plant without further commingling. Single farm pick-ups differ from milking directly to a bulk transport container (direct ship) as the milk is stored in a permanent container on the premises. Silos are an example of a permanent container for raw milk which meets the definition of a bulk tank as defined, however the regulations applied to bulk tanks may not be applicable or practical.

- *“Bulk tank” means a permanent or semi-permanent tank, container, or silo used to receive, cool, or store bulk quantities of milk on a dairy farm. “Bulk tank” does not include milk cans.*
- *“Bulk transport container” means a vehicle or container into which milk directly flows during milking and that a milk producer uses to ship the milk from a dairy farm to a dairy plant.*

Silos have filled a niche for more capacity on dairy farms without requiring addition of direct ship methodology. The number of silo’s currently in use on dairy farms in Wisconsin is unknown but appears to be increasing. Silos pose some unique problems to current dairy regulation and WDATCP enforcement. Some of the problems the subcommittee discussed are as follows:

1. Do silos meet the cooling requirements for a traditional bulk tank?
2. Will silos likely fall under partial pick-up requirements?
3. Do silos or single farm pick-up bulk tanks have proper agitation installed to ensure a representative sample?
4. Where does sampling take place?
5. Where does weighing take place?
6. What other scenarios, other than silos, would be considered single farm pick up?

After review of the regulations, the proposal and the questions above, the subcommittee is proposing WDATCP utilize a hybrid approach when applying ATCP 92, 65 and 82 regulations to single farm raw milk bulk tank pick-up practices.

Recommendations:

Silos or other bulk tank storage containers, other than bulk transport containers, shall meet the definition of a bulk tank in ATCP 65 and shall meet the requirements in ATCP 65.16 (1) Location, (2) Construction, (3) Temperature recording, and (4) Cooling (with exemption below).

- **Exemption to ATCP 65.16(4)** – Currently the rule requires the *“bulk tank shall be capable of cooling all milk placed in the tank...”*. The subcommittee recommends there be an allowance

for cooling prior to the bulk tank similar to the requirements in ATCP 65.16(5)(g) for milking directly into a bulk transport container.

- ATCP 65.16(5)(g) *The milk producer cools all milk to a temperature of 45° F. (7° C.) or lower before the milk enters the bulk milk tanker. The milk producer may use a plate cooler, tube cooler or bulk tank to cool the milk. Coolant used in cooling devices shall comply with the requirements of s. ATCP 65.10 (6).*
- Cooling of either method must meet the temperature and time requirements outlined in ATCP 65.16(4) *...be capable of cooling all milk placed in the tank to 50°F. (10°C.) or less within 4 hours after the start of the first milking, and to 45 °F. (7°C) or less within 2 hours after the end of milking. The temperature of the blended milk from the first milking and later milkings shall not exceed 50°F. (10°C.).*

The silo shall meet ATCP 82.11(am) Partial removal of milk from the bulk tank requirements if the silo or bulk milk tank is not fully emptied during loading.

- Single farm pick-ups shall not be commingled with any other load.

Weighing shall be conducted to meet ATCP 92 – Weights and measures. Weighing can be accomplished through any method approved by weights and measures (metering or scale). The dairy plant and milk producer can choose to weigh the load at the dairy plant. A copy of the weigh ticket must be located in the milkhouse.

Agitation for single farm pick-up shall meet ATCP 65.16(2)(d) – The silo or bulk tank shall be equipped with an agitator that will ensure homogeneity of all milk contained. Requiring agitation will assist in obtaining loads that are representative of multiple milkings and to avoid stratification of milk that could result in quality or payment discrepancies.

- *65.16(2)(d) A bulk tank with a capacity of less than 1,500 gallons shall be equipped with a mechanical agitator that will ensure homogeneity of all milk contained in the bulk tank within 5 minutes after the agitator begins operating. A bulk tank with a capacity of 1,500 gallons or more shall be equipped with an agitator that will ensure homogeneity of all milk contained in the bulk tank within 10 minutes after the agitator begins operating.*

Sampling shall be performed to meet ATCP 65 & 82 and PMO requirements for collection of a representative sample. Agitation or other approved method to obtain sample or FDA approved sampling device must be in place. The BMWS shall follow all requirements outlined in ATCP 82.10 with exemption from sampling prior to unloading (exemption below). The subcommittee determined sampling at the dairy plant would yield the most representative sample of the load and recommend all single farm pick-ups be sampled at the dairy plant.

- **Exemption to ATCP 82.10(9)(a)** – Currently the rule requires “*Before milk is transferred from a dairy farm bulk tank to a bulk milk tanker, a bulk milk weigher and sampler shall collect a representative sample of that milk from the bulk tank for testing.*” The subcommittee recommends there be an allowance for sampling at the dairy plant to the bulk tank similar to the requirements in ATCP 65.38(3) samples collected from bulk transport containers.
- 65.36(1) *SAMPLE REQUIRED. A dairy plant operator who receives a milk shipment from a milk producer shall collect a representative milk sample from that shipment. Sufficient agitation or a*

milk sampling method approved by the division shall be used to ensure that the milk sample is representative of the milk shipment. A person licensed under s. 97.17 or 98.146, Stats., shall collect the sample before the dairy plant operator commingles the milk with milk from any other milk producer.

Bulk milk tanker (for pick-up) shall meet 82.06 Construction and maintenance and shall adhere to 82.10(7) Connecting the milk hose.

- *ATCP 82.10(10)(7) CONNECTING MILK HOSE. Before a bulk milk weigher and sampler connects a bulk milk tanker hose to a dairy farm bulk tank, the bulk milk weigher and sampler shall examine the fittings of the bulk milk tanker hose and the dairy farm bulk tank outlet to ensure that both are clean. Before connecting the hose, the bulk milk weigher and sampler shall clean and sanitize the bulk tank outlet if the outlet valve is leaking. The bulk milk weigher and sampler shall attach the milk hose to the bulk tank outlet in a manner that does not contaminate the hose or hose cap. The hose shall be connected through the hose port in the milkhouse, and not through the milkhouse door.*