

**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, TRADE, AND CONSUMER PROTECTION
(DATCP)
DAIRY RULES ADVISORY COMMITTEE (DRAC)
MEETING MINUTES**

Date: May 19, 2026

Time: 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Location: Dairy Farmers of Wisconsin in Madison, WI and Virtual Teams Meeting

Welcome and Introduction

Call to order:

Gloria Joseph called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and thanked Dairy Farmers of Wisconsin for hosting.

Open meeting notice:

The open meeting notice has been posted.

Roll Call:

Members in attendance: Jeff Kirchburg, Errin Nondorf, Andrew Johnson, John Umhoefer, Helen Schmude, Jennifer Wickman, Kristin Houck, Scott Rankin, Tim Anderson, Alex O'Brien, Jason Mugnaini, Betty Lund, Bob Wills, and Tim Neubauer.

Others in attendance: Max Huebner, Tyson Villarreal, Adam Brock, Rhonda Reddy, Kate Angeles, Michelle Steinmetz, Lucas Dawson, Jim Pikka, Mary Rollins, Brian Wiegand, Kevin Dulin, Heidi Jenks, Alexis Berndt, and Trisch Roessler.

Approval of agenda:

No additions needed.

Approve previous meeting minutes:

No corrections to the previous meeting minutes for the DRAC February 17, 2026, meeting. Scott Rankin made a motion to approve the agenda. Motion was seconded by Bob Wills. Meeting minutes were approved.

Public comments: There were no public comments made.

DATCP Update

Tyson Villarreal presented the DATCP Update (see slides from DATCP Update 05-19-2026).

Overview of the Dairy Section Services webpage: [DATCP Home Dairy Services](#) offers useful information regarding licensing questions, DATCP contact information, and support email mailbox for industry questions and assistance. The website has been updated with staffing changes and email contact information.

Staffing Update: There are three new sanitarians- Melissa Siegmund (Outagamie, Winnebago, and Calument Co.), Trevor Quandt (Jefferson, Waukesha, Milwaukee, Walworth, Racine and Kenosha Co.), and Troy Gilbertson (Vernon, Crawford, and Grant Co). Sanitarian training typically takes 1 year.

Dairy Section Data: Grade A producers are down 179 farms from 12 months ago. For Grade B, there are more goat producers than bovine producers. Tyson shared the PBFi inspection frequency numbers and current numbers for licensed facilities.

Bulk Milk Weight and Sampler (BMWS) Renewals: 2026 renewals will be sent out in July for the inspections that are due by 9/30/26. Please schedule a date for the BMWS inspection. Group exercises can be coordinated with a sanitarian. Tyson shared the fairground dates and these dates will be shared via GovDelivery. Scheduling a fairground inspection is available for licensed individuals only (no new licenses).

Current Issues:

- All in One cleaners are being seen on farm inspections. Some of these sanitizers used are not registered with EPA.
- A few plants are adding cottage cheese, which requires a cheesemaker license. A cheesemaker license is also needed for processed cheese and cream cheese. DATCP will be working with these facilities to gain compliance as this has been overlooked in the past. DATCP will draft language for GovDelivery to send out to industry with instructions for gaining compliance.

Guidance Documents:

- Electronic Record Requirements: This is a DATCP guidance document which overviews App. H of the PMO. The committee will be given a copy of this document.
- Water Flush: This is a DATCP guidance document which overviews flushing Grade A milk with water.

Subcommittee Updates

John Umhoefer reported for the Pasteurizer sub-committee. There has been no meeting since the last sub-committee update. John will try to meet with Michelle Steinmetz-DATCP to gather information for industry and draft a communication for industry. DATCP has had one new plant submit documentation for the Emergency Sealer Program and Dr. Rankin with CDR has had 2-3 individuals sign up for the training portion.

Alex O'Brien gave an update for the phosphatase sub-committee. There has been no movement with this sub-committee. Alex has been in discussion with other regulatory groups on other pasteurization technologies (UV) being utilized and different ways to test pasteurization. This would need FDA and NCIMS approval before use. The Emergency Sealer Program is an important verification tool with all the issues for phosphatase testing.

Alex O'Brien gave an update for the hydrogen peroxide sub-committee. Updates to the Federal Registrar allows for hydrogen peroxide use if it is not detected in the final product. CDR will share the FDA correspondence with the committee. This technology will be useful for some of the smaller processors. Some drawbacks noticed are faster pitting of stainless steel.

John Umhoefer reported for the Cream Cooling sub-committee. John will organize a meeting and Margot Dahling will represent DATCP for any technical questions that need to be discussed.

Member Concerns

Adam Brock discussed the FSMA 204 Traceability Rule. The effective date has been pushed back to 2028. This will be an important hurdle for industry to overcome. Please reach out to Adam with any concerns about this rule.

Recalls of whey with spore formers: Is there any research? Any questions from customers? There have been a couple studies and some proposal discussions at the Food Research Institute. Spore formers are very common in the environment and not a great method or tool for removing spores from the whey as compared to using pasteurization to remove vegetative cells.

How long can a load of milk sit in a tank? There is no PMO or ATCP 65 requirement for how long a tank of milk can sit. Partial pick-ups require the tank to be washed every 72 hours. ATCP [82.08\(1\)\(a\)](#) requires, after 96 hours of washing, the empty tanker would need to be re-sanitized. The sanitizer used is not required to be listed on the wash tag but this creates issues for organic farms. The committee suggested DATCP provide guidance to industry on these scenarios.

Adam Brock asked if the committee heard of any issues from laboratories finding qualified analysts and if industry is running into bottlenecks with their laboratory requests. Please notify Adam of any issues that are occurring.

Summary of Action Items and Person(s) Responsible

Gloria Josph and Kate Angeles will work to schedule the next meeting in August. The meeting will be shortened to 1.5 hours. A motion to adjourn was made by Bob Wills and seconded by Tim Neubauer. Meeting ends at 10:15 a.m.