

Notice to Producers

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Please visit www.milk-bc.com

BC Continuous Quota Position

as of
January 2016 = -0.53 %
February 2016 *forecasted = -0.40%

New Delivery Data Collection System (Hand-helds) for Milk Pickup

With the new system, transporters will no longer be using printers or leaving pickup slips at the farm. Pickup information (volumes) will only be sent via email to the registered quota holder. Please ensure that we have the correct email on file, since we can only send pickup information to a single email. It is your responsibility to forward these emails to other farm employees, if necessary. **You must contact BCMMB office staff (see below) to add or change an email address for the pickup information.** Additionally, each farm will be provided barn sheets on which transporters will hand-write pickup information.

On the other hand, **lab test results** will be delivered to the email addresses that you have provided on the BCMMB website for lab test results (a primary e-mail and any affiliates that you have set up). The email address(es) stored on the producer website may be different than the single email address that we have stored for the pickup information (above). We encourage all producers to login to the BCMMB website and check the following:

- Do we have the **correct email address(es) to which you want lab results to be sent?**
- Check who you have **set up as affiliates** on your account, and ensure that you have given them the appropriate level of access (Lab Tests, Statements, or Both)
- **Remove any affiliates that you no longer want to provide access** to your information
- If more than one designated person has the same email address, you will receive **multiple copies** of the lab results

If you don't have an online account set up, please contact any one of the following and they will assist you in setting up your main account or affiliates: Kathy Wallis 604.854.4471; Pam Gregory 604.854.4474; Lori Sharpe 604.854.4481

Organic Expression of Interest List

The Board would like to invite producers interested in becoming an organic producer to request to be added to the Organic Expression of Interest List. Any organic producer who has not previously received a specialty allocation from the Board is eligible to receive a one-time incentive quota equivalent to 30% of non-allocated quota (up to a maximum of 25kg/day). Please review pages 6 and 7 of the Organic Policy Guide for a complete outline of the Organic Producer Invitation Policy and the Organic Expression of Interest List. The guide can be found at milk-bc.com under News > Updates > Organic. If you have any questions or need assistance, please contact Woody Siemens at 604.854.4476 or wsiemens@milk-bc.com

Quota Exchange Policy Change

The Quota Exchange the Committee (QEC) has been monitoring quota exchange operations since 2010. At the February 11, 2016 QEC meeting, the QEC recommended the Board amend its price trigger on the quota exchange. The Board has accepted the recommendation, with an effective date of **April 1, 2016** to change the policy as outlined in #1 below (#2 and #3 will remain unchanged from previous policy).

1. **Minimum Kilograms: changes from 100kg/day to 250 kg/day**
2. Value of increase: \$500
3. Frequency of change: 3 exchanges

To view this amended policy please go to milk-bc.com and click on Notice to Producers – QE Policy Change March 3, 2016. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Zahra Abdalla-Shamji at zabdalla@milk-bc.com

Provincial Freight

The producer freight rate calculations for the months of January and February are summarized below:

Freight Rates (\$/hl)	January	February
Zone Transportation Costs	2.93	2.88
Less: Vendor Billings	(0.15)	(0.12)
Gross Provincial Freight Rate	2.78	2.76
Add: Train/Volume Discounts	0.32	0.31
Less: Stop/Extra Pick-Up Charges	(0.14)	(0.14)
Transportation Department Costs	0.00	0.00
Adjustments from Prior Period	0.02	0.06
Net Provincial Freight Rate	2.98	2.99

Continuous Quota

Cumulative Over/Under Production (with limits) as of:

	January 2016	
	Kg of BF	%*
NL	-321,809	-14.18%
P5	-665,045	-0.27%
WMP	-1,176,030	-1.47%
P10	-2,162,884	-0.65%
BC	-150,081	-0.53%

*Cumulative Over/Under Production (with limits) expressed as a % of the most recent 12 months total quota.

Milk Quality Report

The provincial averages and quality bonus data based on the official milk quality tests for January and February are:

Milk Quality Data	January	February
Individual Bacteria Count	21,457	18,071
Somatic Cell Count	153,539	152,823
Quality Bonus Qualifiers(%)	78.96%	80.80%

Producer Payments

Participants in the February | March | April Pools will receive their payments as follows:

Month of Production:	Advance Payment	Final Payment
February	Mar 1	Mar 17
March	Apr 1	Apr 19
April	May 2	May 18

Credit Transfer Average Prices

Effective Feb 1	Conventional Organic	
Average Price	\$11.78	\$6.00

A Summary of Credit Transfer Statistics can be found at www.milk-bc.com with other credit transfer documents.

Quota Management: Important Dates

Application Deadlines	Date & Time	Effective Date(s)
Quota Exchange	Apr 1 @ 1:00pm	May 1
CDQ Buy/Sell of Credits	Mar 24 @ 1:00pm	Mar 1 Apr 1

If you have any questions, please contact:

Kathy Wallis 604.854.4471 kwallis@milk-bc.com
Pam Gregory 604.854.4474 pgregory@milk-bc.com

Producer Component Prices and Standard Blend

The producer component prices for the month of February are as follows: BF=\$9.9428, PR=\$8.0358, OS=\$1.6969 or an equivalent return of \$71.4177 per standard hectolitre. This return compares to \$73.5772 in January 2016 with a difference of (\$2.1596)/std.hL.

The P10/WMP equalization charged to the producer pool in February for the production month of January was \$3,275,599.

Please note: At the January 21-22 CMSMC meetings, a one-time adjusting entry was permitted to processors to reflect the reduction in inventory valuation resulting from the Class 4A (powder) and 4D (closing inventories for raw milk and cream and finished Class 1 products) as of January 31, 2016. The total dollars adjusted for BC processors was \$1,931,433 and is reflected in the audit adjustment line on the pooling sheet.

www.milk-bc.com

Important Note from the Ministry of Agriculture: Change in Sensitivity and Range in Testing of Raw Milk for Residues of Antibiotics

Recently the milk processors changed their methodology for testing raw milk for antibiotic residues on arrival. This notice is to make producers aware that the new testing is both more sensitive and capable of testing a wider range of antibiotic families than the previous system. Confirmatory testing of violation samples by the Abbotsford Animal Health Centre changed to the same system to minimize discrepancies.

As always, it is safest to use antibiotics on the advice of your veterinarian and following the label recommendations. As agriculture's use of antibiotics comes under increasing scrutiny by Health Authorities, it becomes more important for all producers to use these drugs cautiously and prudently.

Reminder: Organic Producers

All organic producers should be aware that they are required to have a current organic certificate on file with the BCMMB office. Please ensure that you provide an updated organic certificate prior to the expiry of your current certificate. If you have any questions or concerns please contact Woody Siemens at 604.854.4486 or wsiemens@milk-bc.com

Thank you for attending the Spring Producer Meetings

The Board would like to thank all the producers who were able to take the time to attend the spring producer meetings held across BC in March. Attendance was very good and the Board appreciates the active participation of producers.

