

## **FARM Program 3.0**

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Beginning January 1, 2017, the new FARM 3.0 program will take effect. FARM 3.0 includes the ban on tail docking in addition to other changes.

FARM 3.0 will have a Mandatory Corrective Action Plan or MCAP. Previously, the FARM program had a Continuous Improvement Plan or CIP. The CIP served as an action plan for when the evaluator identified an area needing improvement. There are 3 main "Phase One Priority Areas" that will trigger a MCAP. Farms that do not meet these requirements will receive a MCAP and a timeframe for re-evaluation within 1 year. If the re-evaluation reveals a farm is still not meeting these requirements, the farm will be placed on probationary status and will receive a formal notice of suspension.

These areas include:

1. VCPR: Every dairy must have a current Veterinarian-Client-Patient Relationship form, signed by the Veterinarian of Record and by the farm owner or manager. This must be updated annually.
2. Dairy Cattle Care and Ethics Training Agreement: All employees with animal care responsibilities must have signed this agreement. This must be updated annually.
3. Tail Docking: To be stopped by January 1, 2017.

There are also "Phase Two Priority Areas" and if these are not met, it will trigger a CIP which is developed by the evaluator. These include:

1. Herd Health Plan (newborn and milk-fed calf management, pain management, management of non-ambulatory or down animals, and euthanasia).
2. 95% of the lactating/dry cow herd must score a 2 or less on the FARM locomotion Scorecard.
3. 95% or more of lactating/dry cows must score a 2 or less on the FARM Hock and Knee Scorecard.
4. 95% of all animals must score a 2 or more on the Body Condition Score Scorecard.

Other areas of examination will include training documentation of stockmanship, calf care, non-ambulatory animal management, euthanasia, posted emergency contact information, drug treatment records, and written protocols for herd health management. More information can be found online at <http://www.nationaldairyfarm.com/>.