



Dairy Pool Membership Qualifications

I. Minimum Requirements

A producer must meet all of the following requirements in order to qualify for membership in the Dairy Pool at CROPP Cooperative:

- Certified organic by a USDA-accredited certification agency.
- Ship a minimum of 1,000 lbs. every other day (EOD) and meet CROPP's routing requirements.
- Have a Grade A Interstate Milk Shippers (IMS) license and meet Grade A standards with good farm sanitation and conditions.
- Meet the CROPP Raw Milk Storage and Bulk Tank Requirements Policy.
 - Install and maintain a bulk tank temperature recorder.
 - Minimum bulk tank capacity of 5 milkings during the dairy's flush period.
- Have (or gain) an association with a CROPP-approved milk handler.
- Meet minimum milk quality standards for 60 days prior to first shipment.
 - SCC monthly average below 350,000 cfu/mL
 - SPC/PLC monthly average below 30,000 cfu/mL
 - PIC monthly average below 50,000 cfu/mL
 - LPC monthly average below 250 cfu/mL
- New start-up herds are required to submit at least two bulk tank samples taken not less than three days apart.
- Meet the CROPP Dairy Pool Animal Care Standards.

II. Split Dairy Operations

Split dairy operations, defined as managing a certified organic dairy herd and a non-organic dairy herd at the same location using shared infrastructure, are prohibited unless specially approved by the cooperative.

III. Maximum Herd Size

CROPP Cooperative was created to grow an organic market for small family farms. A prospective member whose total herd size (lactating/dry on all interested operations) exceeds 500 cows will require special consideration by CROPP Cooperative committees, staff, and the board of directors to join the Dairy Pool.

III. Capital Base Equity Requirement

The capital base equity investment is made through the purchase of Class B Stock, a membership-only stock. The minimum investment requirement for each pool is \$550 or 5.5% of the Member's annual gross income from products marketed through the Cooperative, whichever is greater. Class B Stock is issued and begins to earn dividends once the Member satisfies the equity requirement for each applicable pool. More details on the equity requirement are available in the Dairy Pool Policy Manual.