Low prices endanger La dairies

The price Louisiana dairy farmers receive for their milk has dropped more than $4 a hundred pounds in the last two to three months, and some dairymen say they are only one step away from going out of business.

The problem of a steep drop in raw milk prices is putting pressure on dairy farmers, who are already struggling to make a living. The problem is especially troubling in the wake of similar drops in prices in other dairy states.

According to a Louisiana dairy group, prices have dropped more than $4 per hundred pounds for the first time in recent memory. The group says the sudden drop is a result of the growing global dairy market, which has put downward pressure on prices.

For example, an average price for raw milk in California has dropped from $12.85 to $11.92 per hundred pounds in the last three months. The same trend is also happening in other dairy states, including Wisconsin and Texas.

Bob Wallace, manager of a dairy cooperative in southeast Louisiana, says the drop is due to overproduction. He says the state has seen a significant increase in the number of dairy cows, which has led to a surplus of milk.

Wallace says the state has always been able to sell its milk, but the drop in prices is making it difficult for farmers to make a living. He says dairy farmers are already struggling to cover the costs of production, and the drop in prices is making it even harder.

The drop in prices is also affecting the state's economy. The dairy industry is an important part of the state's economy, and the sudden drop in prices is expected to have a significant impact on the industry.

Dairy farmers are also facing other challenges, including rising costs for feed and labor. Some farmers say they are considering selling their cows to pay the bills.

Wallace says the situation is not unique. He says dairy farmers in other states are also facing similar challenges. He says the problem is not just Louisiana, but an industry-wide problem.

Wallace says the situation is serious, and it is important to address it. He says the state needs to work with dairy farmers to find ways to support the industry and keep it thriving.


dairyCoop paid $17.86 per hundred pounds of raw milk at the time of the report.

Between 1990 and 1991, the average price paid by cooperatives to dairy farmers increased from $12.85 to $13.50. This is a 5.2% increase. But between 1991 and 1992, the average price paid by cooperatives dropped to $12.80. This is a 5.3% decrease.

Between 1975 and 1980, the price paid by cooperatives to dairy farmers increased from $10.50 to $11.75. This is a 12.7% increase. But between 1980 and 1985, the price paid by cooperatives dropped to $9.70. This is a 12.7% decrease.

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Wallace said dairy farmers are operating pretty much in a free-market situation. In previous years, there was a quota system that restricted the amount of milk that could be produced, which helped to stabilize prices.

But that system was abolished, and now farmers are free to produce as much milk as they can. This has led to a surplus of milk, which has put downward pressure on prices.

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