



Best Management Practices for Producing Raw Milk for Direct Sale Workshop Series

Speakers *(in agenda order)*

Shelby Girard is Rural Vermont's Organizer, and has been with the organization since July 2006. She is responsible for coordinating outreach and providing support for all campaigns. She lives in Calais with her husband and dog, and received her bachelor's degree in psychology and legal studies from the University of Massachusetts-Amherst in 2001. Over the last several years, Shelby has spent a lot of time on Rural Vermont's campaign to enact progressive raw milk legislation, and has found working with a large and diverse group of farmers to be endlessly rewarding.

(802) 223-7222 or shelby@ruralvermont.org.

Leo Larocque is a Loss Control Supervisor for Co-operative Insurance Companies who works with the company's underwriters on risk assessments. He also works with clients to help reduce their property and casualty exposures. Leo has owned a small dairy farm in the past and presently has a small beef herd.

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Dave Wemette is the Casualty Claims Supervisor at Co-Operative Insurance Companies. He has been an adjuster for 22 years. Dave's main focus is handling liability claims. These include bodily injury claims as well as property damage.

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Dan Scruton is the Senior Agricultural Development Coordinator for the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets. For over 20 years he has headed the milk quality programs for the Agency. Dan grew up on a farm that, processed, packaged and delivered their own milk in Farmington, NH so understands milk production from both personal experience and experience helping farmers improve their quality. Dan is nationally known for his work on goats, sheep, water buffalo, and now camels as he is on the technical committee for the National Conference on Interstate Milk Shipments that advises on proper "Grade A" regulation of dairy operations that wish to milk animals other than cattle. He is now very much involved in the on-farm production of renewable energy, helping farms that wish to produce energy on their farm.

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Laurel Junkins is the Dairy Systems Coordinator for the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets. He works to enhance milk quality and production on Vermont's dairy farms by trouble shooting and testing milking system and assisting farmers in implementing a strategic plan to reduce their mastitis cases. He also conducts flavor analysis, to assess product quality and consistency, on milk and milk products obtained by routine sampling from Vermont's dairy processors. Prior to working for the Agency of Agriculture, Laurel spent over 20 years working in the feed industry providing technical assistance in nutrition, quality control, marketing and sales positions.

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Coordinator/Facilitator

Jenn Colby is the Outreach Coordinator for the Pasture Program at the UVM Center for Sustainable Agriculture. In that capacity, she coordinates the annual VT Grazing Conference, provides staff support to the VT Grass Farmers Association, produces the monthly *Pasture Calendar* and quarterly *Solar Dollar* newsletter, manages media outreach and organizes pasture-based educational activities around the state. Jenn has spent the past 15 years focusing on issues of community sustainability, environmental policy, organic dairy, and grass-based livestock agriculture. She operates a small diversified livestock farm in central VT.

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