



The National Dairy Council & Kerrygold Quality Milk Awards 2017

First Prize: Perpetual Trophy & €5,000

It is at the discretion of the judges each year to select whether category prizes should be awarded for titles such as sustainability, animal welfare or care of the environment, or whether to present national category awards for either a manufacturing or liquid milk supplier.

All sections must be completed

ENTRY FORM

Please use block capitals

Name of entrant

Address

Tel (Landline) Tel (Mobile)

Email (If available)

Nominated by (Dairy/Co-op)

Contact name

Address

Tel (Landline) Tel (Mobile)

Email Fax

DEADLINE: CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS: FRIDAY 26th MAY 2017

Return entry form and on farm checklist to: NDC & Kerrygold Quality Milk Awards, c/o The National Dairy Council, The Studio, 55C Maple Avenue, Stillorgan Industrial Park, Stillorgan, Dublin A94 HY83
Tel: 01-2902451 Email: qualitymilkawards@ndc.ie Website: www.qualitymilkawards.ie

Rules & Information

- The competition is open only to farmers living in and farming in the Republic of Ireland.
- The competition is open to farmers who are producing liquid or manufacturing milk.
- In relation to the maximum number of farmers a co-op may nominate, the following criteria apply: Co-ops with an annual quota under 200 million litres: 1 nomination; Co-ops with an annual quota between 200 million - 500 million litres: 2 nominations; Co-ops with an annual quota between 500 million litres - one thousand million litres: 3 nominations; and Co-ops with an annual quota greater than one thousand million litres: 4 nominations.
- The minimum qualifying standard for entry is TBC of 15,000 or less/ml average per month; and average SCC of 200,000 or less/ml with no count greater than 400,000/ml in any given month of the year in question. Herds restricted within the period in question or currently are not eligible for nomination.
- The nominations received will be assessed by an independent panel of judges. The preliminary assessment of entrants is based on the entry form as completed by the nominator. The judges may select a short list of national finalists and will arrange to visit the farm of each of the finalists in order to select the winning farm.
- It is entirely at the discretion of the judges each year to select whether category prizes should be awarded for titles such as best family/small farm, sustainability, animal welfare or care of the environment, or whether to present national category awards for either a manufacturing or liquid milk supplier.
- The judges are independent experts - their decision is final and no correspondence will be entered in to.
- The overall winner of the NDC & Kerrygold Quality Milk Awards is excluded from re-nomination for this award programme for a period of 5 years (eligible for re-nomination within, or after, the 6th year after the original winning nomination).
- **The title and concept of the NDC & Kerrygold Quality Milk Awards are copyright protected and can not be used by third parties or other commercial interests without prior approval from the organisers and sponsors.**

Section One - To be completed and verified by the nominator (eg Co-op)

Please complete in black pen or print and attach all of the information requested in the format outlined.

A

2016	Milk Supply litres/month	Average TBC Results	Average SCC Results	Butterfat %	Protein %	Lactose % If available	Thermotolerant Bacteria (Count/ml) If available*
Jan							
Feb							
Mar							
Apr							
May							
Jun							
Jul							
Aug							
Sep							
Oct							
Nov							
Dec							
Annual Average for year							

2017 (if available)	Milk Supply litres/month	Average TBC Results	Average SCC Results	Butterfat %	Protein %	Lactose % If available	Thermotolerant Bacteria (Count/ml) If available*
Jan							
Feb							
Mar							
*Apr							
*May							
*Jun							
*Jul							

* Please note: If you are shortlisted as a finalist in this award programme, the judges may complete the final rows in this table

B. Was there any evidence of adulteration in the period above?

Yes ☐ No ☐

C. Was there any evidence of TCM residue during the above period? Give, if any, test results:

Yes ☐ No ☐

D. Was there any evidence of off-flavours in the milk supplied to you during the year

Yes ☐ No ☐E. How frequently **per month** is TBC assessed?F. How frequently **per month** is SCC assessed?

G. How often is milk collected by the processor ?

Note: Sections 2-7 to be completed by nominee (farmer)

Section Two - Performance Details & General Sustainable Practices

A. Average number of dairy cows milked (2016) _____ B. Total milk sales (2016) _____

C. Do you milk record Yes ☐ No ☐ If yes, how often? _____

Average herd yield Litres Average yield of 1st lactation animals Litres

D. Total farm area (Hectares) _____ Total grazing area (Hectares) _____

Annual stocking rate for dairy herd (ha/lu) _____ Months cows out on grass (from-to incl) _____

Concentrates (kgs per cow per annum) _____ Do you measure grass ? _____

If yes, how frequently do you measure grass ? _____ Nitrogen used (kg/ha) _____

Summarise slurry application _____

Describe grazing management practices _____

E. Number of cows in herd (2017) _____

F. Have you registered to participate in Bord Bia's Sustainable Dairy Assurance Scheme? Yes ☐ No ☐

Have you been audited and approved? Yes ☐ No ☐

If not, do you intend to register ? Yes ☐ No ☐

G. Do you participate in a dairy discussion group ? Yes ☐ No ☐

Name of discussion group if applicable: _____

H. If cow numbers increase, how do you plan to manage the extra slurry/effluent storage requirements ? _____

Section Three - Quality (Please attach a sheet for additional information if necessary)

A. How do you identify when a mastitis infection is present?

B. How do you ensure that cross transfer to other cows does not occur?

C. Please describe your pre-milking teat preparation procedures

D. Describe your milking machine washing procedure (detergent volume, water temperature etc)

(D.1) How many milking units ? _____

(D.2) What is the size of the wash trough in the dairy? _____

(D.3) Do you have an automatic or manual machine wash? _____

(D.4) How much water do you use to rinse plant after milking and after the main wash cycle? _____

- (D.5) How often do you use a hot/cold wash? _____
- (D.6) What quantity and temperature of hot water is available? _____
- (D.7) What detergent product do you use to wash plant and what rate is used? _____
- (D.8) Do you re-use the detergent solution and how often? _____
- (D.9) How often do you carry out a descale wash? _____
- (D.10) How often do you change the filter sock? _____
- (D.11) What detergent product is used to wash the bulk tank? _____
- (D.12) Any other details _____

E. Describe post milking disinfection procedures, if used:

F Name two important recommendations in maintaining lactose levels in late lactation

Section Four - Milking Facilities

A. Checklist - Is teat disinfection practised? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> - Is the outside of the milking machine clean (clusters, rubbers etc)? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> - Do you have paper towel dispensers in the parlour? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> - Is the dairy clean and tidy? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> - Is the bulk tank temperature reading correct? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	- Is milking parlour clean and tidy? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> - Is the water hose the right size for the parlour? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> - Is there a noticeboard in the parlour for recording cow treatments? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> - Are wash-up facilities sufficient (hot water supply, measures for detergent etc)? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> - Is the collecting yard clean and of adequate size? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
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B. Please describe any steps or initiatives you have introduced to improve efficiency and sustainability – for instance LED lighting, water metering, variable speed drives, plate cooler etc _____

Section Five - Dairy Herd Health & Animal Welfare

A. What do you consider to be your main herd problems and how are you tackling them?

B. Was there any incidence of Bovine Tuberculosis, Brucellosis or any other notifiable diseases

within the dairy herd in the period in question; or is the herd restricted at present? Yes ☐ No ☐

C.1 What dry cow therapy is used (please tick) Teat Sealer ☐ Antibiotic only ☐ Teat sealer + antibiotic only ☐

C.2 What lactating mastitis tubes are used _____ How many tubes are applied per individual case _____

C.3. Do you use injectable antibiotic in addition to the mastitis tubes? Yes ☐ No ☐ If yes, what product _____

C.4 Do you use laboratory tests to identify (i) the mastitis causing bacteria in quarter milk samples? Yes ☐ No ☐

(ii) the most appropriate antibiotic to use? Yes ☐ No ☐

D.1 What vaccination programme do you conduct on farm – please tick: Black Leg ☐ BVD ☐ Salmonella ☐

Leptosporosis ☐ IBR ☐ Other _____

D.2 _____% of cows in calf to Friesian AI _____% of cows in calf to other AI bulls _____% of cows in calf to natural service

D.3 Please outline your breeding policy including any information if available about EBI usage in breeding

E. What is the calving period ? _____

F. Can you give examples of how you are promoting best practice in the context of animal welfare and milk quality? (Consider trimming tails etc. NB docking tails is of course prohibited and therefore herds with docked tails will not be considered in the competition.)

Section Six - Care of the Environment & Sustainable Practice Please describe any steps taken to:

Conserve use of water (eg. meters, rainwater harvesting etc) _____

Improve efficiencies (eg. lighting/LED, wind turbines etc) _____

Reduce waste, emissions or carbon footprint _____

Analyse water & protect quality of waterways _____

Reduce soil erosion/field condition monitoring _____

Soil monitoring/nutrient management plan _____

Preserve or prevent loss of habitats and wildlife _____

Preserve/develop hedgerows, marsh or conservation areas _____

Do you have or have you considered a conservation plan? _____

Maximise use of farm slurry to reduce chemical fertilizer usage _____

Please describe any additional environmental or sustainable initiatives implemented: _____

Demonstration of good grassland management practice: _____

Section Seven: Farmer Commentary

For the nominee/farmer – Your opportunity to describe why quality and sustainability are important to you; and what you believe will stand out for the judges about your farm:

Section Eight: Nominator Commentary

For the Co-op milk quality/farm advisor – Your opportunity to describe how and why this farmer has been selected to represent your co-op and to comment on the achievements of this farm:

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

Section Nine

Declaration

To the best of my knowledge my farm is in compliance with all necessary food production legislation.

I hereby affirm that all of the information supplied by me is, to the best of my knowledge, accurate.

My dairy facility is in compliance with the requirements of Regulation 853/2004

We have read the rules and information regarding this competition (Page 1 of this entry form) ☐

Signed Farmer/Entrant: _____ Date: _____

Signed Co-op/Nominator: _____ Date: _____

PLEASE NOTE CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS: FRIDAY 26th MAY 2017

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