

# SASKATCHEWAN MILK MARKETING BOARD POLICY

## CONTINUOUS DAILY QUOTA

WHEREAS the purpose and objectives of the Saskatchewan Milk Marketing Board includes matters set out in s. 5 of The Milk Marketing Plan Regulations;

AND WHEREAS the Board has the power to do those things set out in ss. 7 and 20 of the *Plan*;

AND WHEREAS s. 7(y) establishes that the Board may control, regulate, or control and regulate the quantity of milk that may be produced and marketed by any person at any time, and all or any manner of distributing milk, and s. 20.8 establishes that the Board determines the terms and conditions of any quota transfer;

AND WHEREAS ss. 7(z), (aa), (ee), (ff) establish that the Board has the power to prohibit the production or marketing of milk, to regulate the time and place and the legal entity through which milk is to be marketed, to require any persons engaged in the production or marketing of milk to obtain licenses and provide guarantees, and to issue, categorize, and charge fees for such licenses;

AND WHEREAS the Board has determined it is in the best interests of the dairy industry in Saskatchewan to develop policy respecting these things;

THE SASKATCHEWAN MILK MARKETING BOARD, pursuant to the provisions of The Milk Marketing Plan Regulations and *The Agri-Food Act, 2004* hereby determines as follows:

### 1. Definitions

For the purpose of the policies outlined in this document, the following definitions apply:

- a) “credit days” are calculated by dividing a producer’s cumulative credits by daily quota;
- b) “credits” means the difference between a producer’s actual production and daily quota allocation, (in kgs of butterfat);
- c) “cumulative credits” are the total credits accumulated by a producer, including transfer credits;
- d) “daily quota” means quota in kilograms of butterfat allocated to a producer by the Board, per day;
- e) “direct transfer” means the transfer of daily quota directly between two producers; it excludes transfers through the Quota Exchange. In all cases, direct transfers require Board approval;

- f) “incentive day credits” are temporary quota allocations that are intended to stimulate production for a specific month;
- g) “monthly quota allocation” is daily quota multiplied by pick-up days;
- h) “negative credit limit” is the maximum negative cumulative credits that may be accumulated by a producer;
- i) “positive credit limit” is the maximum positive cumulative credits that may be accumulated by a producer;
- j) “pick-up days” are used to determine a producer’s monthly quota allocation. Pick-up days are calculated by determining the number of days from the last pick-up of the previous month to the last pick-up of the current month, less any days that milk pickup is suspended;
- k) “pro-rata” means calculated on a proportionate share, based on kilograms of butterfat;
- l) “transfer credits” are negative credits that are transferred from one producer to another to change each producer’s cumulative position.

## 2. Registration

All milk producers must be licensed with the Board. Only one Producer ID# shall be allotted to each complete dairy unit, even if there are multiple owners.

## 3. Continuous Daily Quota Maintenance

- a) Daily quota is allocated on a monthly basis, by multiplying daily quota by pick-up days:

$$\text{daily quota} \times \text{pick-up days} = \text{monthly quota allocation}$$

- b) Monthly quota allocation is measured against actual butterfat production to determine a licensed producer’s credit position. Over-production is referred to as positive credits, while under-production is referred to as negative credits.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{actual butterfat production} - \text{monthly quota allocation} \\ = \text{credits for the month} \end{aligned}$$

- c) Credits accumulated on a monthly basis, both positive and negative, are combined to determine a producer’s cumulative credit position which is carried forward indefinitely; there is no dairy year end.

- d) The cumulative credit position is divided by the current month daily quota allocation to determine the credit day position.

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{cumulative credit position} \div \text{current month daily quota} \\ & = \text{credit days} \end{aligned}$$

- e) Producers who experience missed pickups will receive a quota allocation for those missed pickups. Missed pickups may be the result of power failures, weather, mechanical breakdowns, etc.

#### 4. Credit Days

a) Positive Credit Days

- i. The positive credit day limit +5 days.
- ii. Producers may accumulate up to +5 credit days and receive full payment for those shipments.
- iii. Credit days produced in excess of the +5 credit day limit (excess kilograms of butterfat) will receive zero payment, with the revenue from this excess production being shared by all producers in the monthly pool. This excess production will be subject to all relevant deductions. The credit day position carried forward to the next month will be capped at +5 days. Producers cannot recoup these dollars in future months.
- iv. Credit days accumulated in excess of +5 days will incur a cost of \$10 per kilogram of production over the +5 day limit.

b) Negative Credit Days

- i. The negative credit day limit is -15 days.
- ii. Producers may accumulate up to -15 credit days without penalty.
- iii. Credit days accumulated in excess of -15 days are deemed to be lost production opportunity and cannot be carried forward by a producer. There is no opportunity to recoup lost negative credit days in future months. This lost production will not be reallocated to other producers.
- iv. Credit days accumulated in excess of -15 days will incur a financial penalty of a \$100 base administration fee, plus \$5 per kilogram of the lost production opportunity.
- v. Program participation penalties will apply as follows:
  1. First infraction (within a rolling 12-month period):
    - a. Not eligible to purchase quota for 6 months from the month of infraction;
    - b. Not eligible to transfer in credits for 3 months from the month of infraction; and
    - c. Will not be issued 0.5% of subsequent SaskMilk quota issuance.
  2. Second infraction (within a rolling 12-month period):

- a. Not eligible to purchase quota for 12 months from the month of infraction;
  - b. Not eligible to transfer in credits for 6 months from the month of infraction; and
  - c. Will not be issued 1.0% of subsequent SaskMilk quota issuance.
3. Third and consequent infractions (within a rolling 12-month period):
- a. All above consequences remain in effect, and:
  - b. In accordance with the Quota Board Order, producer is required to sell quota on the Exchange in accordance with the 15% rules (limit of 3 months, followed by 90% of previous month clearing price 4<sup>th</sup>+ months as per section 8(b)(iv), the average kilograms of the number of days below -15 in the three months of infraction.

Ex: 100 kg farm, 3 infractions at -18 days, -20 days, -19 days  
 Average -19, so 4 days below -15  
 $4 \text{ days} \times 100 \text{ kgs} = 400 \text{ kgs}/365 \text{ days} = 1.1 \text{ kgs daily quota (1.1\%)}$

Ex 2: 66.31 kg farm, 3 infractions at -29 days, -18 days, -26 days  
 Average -24.33 days, so 9.33 days below -15  
 $9.33 \text{ days} \times 66.31 \text{ kgs} = 617.67/365 = 1.7 \text{ kgs daily quota (2.6\%)}$

Ex 3: 203 kg farm, 3 infractions at -20 days, -17 days, -23 days  
 Average -20 days, so 5 days below -15  
 $5 \text{ days} \times 203 \text{ kgs} = 1015/365 = 2.8 \text{ kgs daily quota (1.4\%)}$

## 5. Incentive Day Credits

To stimulate production, the Board may issue incentive day credits. Incentive day credits are used after a producer's monthly quota allocation is used, and cannot be carried forward to the next month. Incentive day credits cannot be transferred to other producers. Incentive day credits do not affect a producer's cumulative credit position.

## 6. Private Transfer Credit Transactions

- a) Private transfer credit transactions enable licensed producers to transfer credits (negative credits/underproduction) from one licensed producer to another licensed producer. This policy allows licensed producers the opportunity to transfer credits to change a licensed producer's cumulative credit position.

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Example #1: transfer credit transaction of -500 credits from Producer A to Producer B:

Prior to the transfer:

Producer A has a cumulative credit position of -1400 credits

Producer B has a cumulative credit position of +400 credits

After the transfer:

Producer A has a cumulative credit position of -900 credits

Producer B has a cumulative credit position of -100 credits

Producer A has transferred -500 credits (negative credits) to Producer B

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Example #2: transfer credit transaction of -1200 credits from Producer C to Producer D:

Prior to transfer:

Producer C has a cumulative credit position of -1200 credits

Producer D has a cumulative credit position of -100 credits

After the transfer:

Producer C has a cumulative credit position of 0 credits

Producer D has a cumulative credit position of -1300 credits

Producer C has transferred -1200 credits (negative credits) to Producer D

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- b) Application forms for transfer credit transactions must be submitted to the Board office by midnight of the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month to be effective on the 1<sup>st</sup> of that same month.
- c) There is no limit on the amount of transfer credits that a licensed producer may transfer in; however each licensed producer must stay within the positive and negative credit day limits by the end of each month.
- d) There are two limits on the amount of transfer credits that a licensed producer may transfer out:
  - i. Licensed producers may transfer credits out (negative credits), up to a zero credit position; and
  - ii. Licensed producers are limited to an amount of transfer credits that may be transferred out during the most recent 12-month period (rolling 12-month period). This limit is calculated as follows:

$$\text{Transfer Credit Transfer Out Limit} = (\text{daily quota} \times 365 \text{ days} \times 10\%)$$

Ex.  $100 \text{ kgs/day} \times 365 \text{ days} \times 10\% = 3,650 \text{ kgs}$  that may be transferred out during the most recent 12-month period. Each licensed producer's limit is available on the Quota Management Sheet.

- e) As a licensed producer's daily quota is adjusted (up or down), that licensed producer's limit is adjusted accordingly. If a reduction in daily quota causes a producer to exceed the transfer out limit, that licensed producer will not be able to transfer out additional transfer credits until the limit is no longer exceeded.
- f) A licensed producer may request an exemption from the limit in (d) and (e) above in the form of a 'reset to 0%' by completing an application in a form prescribed by the Board. The Board will determine whether such an exemption will be approved solely at their discretion.

## **7. Leases**

- a) A licensed producer may request a temporary (up to 12 months) lease of their quota to another existing licensed producer in the following circumstances only:
  - i. A new entrant to the industry who would like to purchase quota and have it produced while they are preparing their production unit and facilities to begin production;
  - ii. A producer who is renovating existing facility on their production unit or building new facilities on their production unit;
  - iii. A producer who is exiting the industry and has ceased shipping from their production unit; or
  - iv. A crisis or catastrophe situation.
- b) The licensed producer must apply to the Board for the Lease on a form and in a manner determined by the Board.
- c) In the case of a new entrant, renovation or construction of facilities, and exiting the industry, application forms for Lease transactions must be submitted to the Board office by midnight of the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month to be effective on the 1<sup>st</sup> of the following month.
- d) In the case of a crisis or catastrophe situation, application forms for Lease transactions should be submitted to the Board office immediately, and the Board will make the Lease effective at the earliest possible time.
- e) A producer exiting the industry is subject to the requirements of section 14 of the Quota Board Order. Leasing provisions and allowances do not supersede the exiting timeframe requirements of that section.

## **8. Quota Transfers**

In Saskatchewan, all transfers of quota must be made through the Quota Exchange, except for transfers of daily quota within the immediate family (as defined by the 'Definitions' Board Order), and daily quota included in the sale of a complete dairy unit/production facility.

## 9. Private Quota Transfers – Immediate Family

- a) The complete application to transfer daily quota to immediate family must be received at the Board office prior to or by midnight of the 6<sup>th</sup> of the month to be eligible to be effective on the first day of the month following approval of the transfer; however, the effective date may be the first day of the month in later months at the Board's discretion.
- b) The complete application must include either:
  - i. a Confirmation that all Security Interest will be released upon satisfaction of any related conditions; or
  - ii. a written consent to sell quota from each lender or other secured party that has a security interest in the quota being transferred.
- c) The transfer of quota under this section will not be approved by SaskMilk until:
  - i. Personal Property search obligations are resolved;
  - ii. SaskMilk is in receipt of written communication from legal representation of both parties confirming the conditions between the parties to the transfer have been satisfied; and
  - iii. any other conditions by SaskMilk associated with the transfer have been satisfied.
- d) The Board may approve the transfer under this section if:
  - i. the producer applies to the Board in accordance with this section; and
  - ii. the Board is satisfied that the producer has otherwise complied with the Plan, all Orders, and all Policies of the Board.
- e) Where a producer proposes to transfer their quota under this section to a person who is not an existing licensed producer, the Board shall not approve the transfer unless:
  - i. the Board is satisfied that the location where the person proposes to produce milk is appropriate; and
  - ii. the production facilities to be used by the person are approved pursuant to the Milk Production and Facility Standards Board Orders.
- f) It is the producer's obligation to fill their daily quota until the effective date of the transfer.
- g) Where the Board approves the transfer, the transfer is effective on a date set by the Board.
- h) For new producers, daily quota allocation will start on the day that milk is picked up on the farm. For example, if a producer's first shipment is June 26, six (6) production days would be allocated for June because the producer will have had their milk picked up three (3) times in that month. For greater clarity, a producer cannot accumulate production credits until milk shipments have commenced.

## **10.Private Quota Transfers – Complete Dairy Unit/Production Facility**

- a) Ten (10) per cent of quota being transferred as part of the sale of a complete dairy unit/production facility must be made through the Quota Exchange (subject to the Immediate Family exemption in Part 1). For example, a licensed producer (producer) wishing to transfer 100 kilograms of daily quota as part of the sale of a complete dairy unit/production facility must sell a minimum of 10 kilograms of that daily quota on the Quota Exchange. The process is as follows:
  - i. Any quota sold via the Quota Exchange up to six (6) months ahead of the effective date for the complete dairy unit/production facility sale may be utilized by the seller to satisfy the 10 per cent requirement. No prior notice of intent to SaskMilk indicating that the quota is being listed on the Quota Exchange to satisfy the 10 per cent rule is required.
  - ii. Sellers who have not satisfied the 10 per cent requirement as of the effective date of the sale of the complete dairy unit/production facility will have three (3) months to list this quota on the Quota Exchange.
  - iii. If a portion, or all, of the daily quota listed on the Quota Exchange fails to sell within the three-month period, SaskMilk, on behalf of the seller, will list the daily quota on subsequent Quota Exchanges, priced at 90 per cent of the previously established market clearing price. SaskMilk will continue to list this daily quota on the Quota Exchange until the entire amount of daily quota is sold.
- b) The complete application to transfer daily quota included in the sale of a complete dairy unit/production facility must be received at the Board office prior to or by midnight of the 6<sup>th</sup> of the month to be eligible to be effective on the first day of the month following approval of the transfer; however, the effective date may be the first day of the month in later months at the Board's discretion.
- c) The complete application must include Confirmation that all Security Interest will be released upon satisfaction of any related conditions.
- d) The transfer of quota under this section will not be approved by SaskMilk until:
  - i. Personal Property search obligations are resolved;
  - ii. SaskMilk is in receipt of written confirmation from the seller's lawyer that funds have been received in trust and are available to the seller; and
  - iii. any other conditions by SaskMilk associated with the transfer have been satisfied.
- e) The Board may approve the transfer under this section if:
  - i. the producer applies to the Board in accordance with this section; and
  - ii. the Board is satisfied that the producer has otherwise complied with the Plan, all Orders, and all Policies of the Board.
- f) Where a producer proposes to transfer their quota under this section to a person who is not an existing licensed producer, the Board shall not approve the transfer unless:



- i. the Board is satisfied that the location where the person proposes to produce milk is appropriate; and
  - ii. the production facilities to be used by the person are approved pursuant to the Milk Production and Facility Standards Board Orders.
- g) It is the producer's obligation to fill their daily quota until the effective date of the transfer.
- h) Where the Board approves the transfer of total production quota, the transfer is effective on a date set by the Board.
- i) For new producers, daily quota allocation will start on the day that milk is picked up on the farm. For example, if a producer's first shipment is June 26, six (6) production days would be allocated for June because the producer will have had their milk picked up three (3) times in that month. For greater clarity, a producer cannot accumulate production credits until milk shipments have commenced.

## **11. Quota Transfers – Quota Exchange**

- a) There will be one quota exchange per month:
  - i. All complete offers to sell and bids to purchase (Quota Exchange Application Form and all required supporting documents) through the Quota Exchange must be received by the Board by midnight of the 6<sup>th</sup> of each calendar month to be eligible to participate in that month's Quota Exchange. Any bid or offer received after this deadline will be entered on the next month's Quota Exchange, unless the Board is advised, in writing, to change or cancel the bid.
  - ii. Daily quota must be sold, or bid for, in terms of dollars per kilogram of daily quota (kgs)
  - iii. A producer who wishes to cancel or change an offer or bid may do so by advising the Board office of the changes by sending a written notification that must be received at the Board office by midnight of the 6<sup>th</sup> of the same month.
  - iv. A producer cannot offer to sell and bid to purchase daily quota on the Exchange in the same month.
- b) Offering to sell:
  - i. Offers must be accompanied by written consent to sell quota from each lender or other secured party that has a security interest in the quota being offered for sale; offers to sell will not be part of the exchange unless accompanied by the letter(s) of consent; and
  - ii. Offers must be a minimum amount of 0.25 kgs.
- c) Bidding to purchase:

- i. Bids must be accompanied by a letter from a financial institution or lender confirming funds; bids to purchase will not be part of the exchange unless accompanied by this letter.
  - ii. Bids must be a minimum of 0.25 kgs and a maximum of 10 kgs.
  - iii. A producer may submit up to three (3) bids to purchase per monthly Quota Exchange; these bids must be at varying prices (i.e. all individual bids must not be at the same price). A minimum price spread between bids/offers of \$25 per kg is required; and
  - iv. All successful bids to purchase must be honoured.
- d) Quota Exchange Process
- i. The clearing price is set at the price where the smallest difference exists between the accumulated volume offered for sale and the accumulated volume bid to purchase. The Board establishes the clearing price on the first regular business day following the 14th day of each month. All producers will be advised of the results of the Quota Exchange.
  - ii. Daily quota will be allocated to each successful bidder when the daily quota available on the Quota Exchange is sufficient to meet the requests, subject to Priority Status bids to buy. If there is not sufficient daily quota to meet the amounts requested, subject to Priority Status bids to buy, producers will receive a pro-rata share of available daily quota up to the number of kgs of their bid.
  - iii. Producers who listed offers to sell or bids to purchase daily quota on the Exchange will be advised in writing of whether their offer or bid was successful. Only after written notice is received should the settlement for daily quota be completed.
  - iv. A producer successful in their bid to purchase must make payment to the Board by 5:00 p.m. on the date specified in the notification communication from the Board. Failure to make payment will result in cancellation of the bid and suspension of Quota Exchange privileges for twelve months. Payment may be made by cheque, money order, or electronic transfer.
  - v. Producers who were successful in their offers to sell can expect payment from the Board during the month following their successful Quota Exchange offer.

## **12. Quota Transfers – Quota Exchange Priority Status**

- a) Qualified new entrants to the dairy industry may apply to the Board for Priority Status on the Quota Exchange.
- b) Where such priority status has been granted, bids to purchase that meet the Quota Exchange qualifications (i.e. clearing price) submitted by that qualified new entrant will be 100% filled before any remaining qualifying quota offered to sell is distributed, to a lifetime maximum of 20 kgs.

- c) To qualify for Priority Status, the applicant must meet the following qualifications:
  - i. Be age of majority, a permanent resident of Saskatchewan, and genuinely intend to be actively engaged in milk production in Saskatchewan; AND
  - ii. Have been accepted to the Dairy Entrant Assistance Program of SaskMilk; **or**
  - iii. Be a new entrant to the Saskatchewan dairy industry, meaning neither the applicant nor their spouse nor partners or other participants in the farming unit are or have been a licensed producer in Saskatchewan.
- d) Priority Status is granted at the sole discretion of SaskMilk and may be granted or refused based upon any information that may be gathered in the course of establishing qualification.

### **13. Voluntary Declaration of Multiple Quota Ownership on a Production Unit**

- a) A licensed producer may choose to voluntarily declare quota interest holdings within their production unit.
- b) Such declaration can only be made by the licensed producer on a form prescribed by the Board, and does not alter the license, payment arrangements, quota maintenance, signing authority, credits, transfers, or security of that production unit.

### **14. Licensed Producers Leaving the Industry/Ceasing Shipments**

- a) When a licensed producer ceases production and has transferred their quota, any milk shipped or recorded after the last day of the month will automatically be transferred to the purchaser.
- b) Licensed producers exiting the industry will receive daily quota allocations up to their final shipment date. For example, if a producer's last shipment is January 26, that producer's allocation will be 26 days based on 13 pickups for the month.
- c) Producers who exit the industry in a positive credit position must reconcile their production in order to receive payment for any production on positive credits. Producers will be given two months following their last shipment to transfer in negative credits from other producers to reconcile their production. Any over production that has not been reconciled at the end of this time will not receive payment, with any remaining funds to be distributed in the next monthly producer pool. For example:

Producer A transfers his entire quota to another producer(s) on March 1 and is in a positive credit position of 500 credits.

Producer A will have an opportunity to find negative credits up to the April 20th transfer credit deadline.

If Producer A transfers in 400 negative credits, he will be paid for that production, with the revenue from the remaining 100 kgs of production being paid out in the producer pool for April production.

- d) No producer exiting the industry will be granted an exemption on the limits established for transferring out negative credits. This policy does not override the catastrophe provision in Part 13 of the Quota Board Order.
- e) All daily quota sales and dairy operation name changes require that the Board obtain written searches through the Personal Property Registry to ensure that the daily quota is free and clear of all encumbrances. The Board will be assessing the producer a fee for this service equivalent to the amount charged to the Board by the Registry. Licensed producers will be invoiced on a monthly basis.
- f) Producers wishing to re-enter the Industry once they have ceased shipping milk:
  - i. Licensed producers that have stopped shipping and have not sold all daily quota within the permitted three consecutive months' time period will be permitted to restart shipments within the same period.
  - ii. The licensed producer must ship milk for at least 60 days at a level consistent with the daily average production quota held for that year to qualify under this section.
  - iii. The licensed producer must adhere to the Board's Continuous Daily Quota Policy.
- g) All producers exiting the industry are subject to the requirements of section 13 of the Quota Board Order.

## **15. Quota as Security**

- a) Quota may be used as security for loans. In order to prevent daily quota from being exchanged or transferred with security interests still in existence, the Board, when receiving a request to sell or transfer daily quota will undertake the following procedures:
  - i. Check to determine whether there has been a Letter of Understanding filed with the Board. If there is, the Board will request the licensed producer to obtain consent to the transfer or sale from the lender involved.
  - ii. The Board will check to determine if the licensed producer has applied for approval to grant security interest in daily quota. If the Board has approved such a request, the staff will ensure that the licensed producers have a signed consent by each secured party referred to on the Joint Application forms.
  - iii. If the consents are not provided, the Board will not allow the daily quota to be transferred.
  - iv. The Board will obtain a search from the Personal Property Registry.
  - v. When a written search is received, the Board will note situations where the licensed producer has given a general security agreement or security on daily quota. If either is found, the licensed producer will be notified that their daily quota will not sell until written consent is obtained from those persons holding the security on the secured party.

- vi. If there are Writs of Execution registered against the licensed producer, the licensed producer must be notified that these must either be removed, or the licensed producer must obtain written consent from the Execution creditor.
- vii. Only when all written consents have been obtained, will the daily quota be placed on the Quota Exchange or transferred. If there is consent missing, the Board will not place the daily quota on the Quota Exchange or transfer it. It is up to the licensed producer to obtain all consents, releases or waivers from the secured parties or the Writ holders. When a licensed producer is planning to transfer daily quota or plans to sell that daily quota, they should take steps to obtain these consents. Failure to do so will cause a suspension in the sale or transfer of daily quota until consents are obtained.

This policy is effective August 23, 2024.