



**DAIRY COUNCIL OF  
UTAH/NEVADA**

Nutrition Education &  
Research

**UTAH DAIRY COMMISSION**

Promotion

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Dear Friends,

As your local Dairy Council, we would like to take this opportunity to provide reassurance, updated materials, and resources for you regarding the safety of U.S. Dairy Products in the wake of Japan's nuclear disaster.

Rest assured that the U.S. milk supply is safe for everyone to drink, including infants and children. The FDA and EPA have stated that the extremely-low (trace levels) of iodine-131 that were discovered last week in California and Washington milk samples do not pose a health concern. To help put these levels in perspective, a person would need to drink 4,227 8oz cups of the sampled milk to receive the same radiation exposure he/she would get in a single chest x-ray.

For the last 50 years, the EPA has regularly tested milk for radiation levels to inform scientists and ensure public safety. Given this recent nuclear accident in Japan, these governing bodies have stepped up their testing and monitoring efforts to ensure safety of the US food supply.

Consumer safety is the **highest priority** for dairy farmers and dairy foods companies, and the U.S. dairy industry will continue to work closely with federal and state government agencies to ensure that we maintain the level of quality and safety that Americans expect.

The Dairy Council of UT/NV will continue to monitor national updates and responses as well as local media. Relevant materials will be communicated to our network of health professionals, school food service directors, and dairy producers as appropriate.

For additional resources, please monitor the EPA's Daily Summary report as well as their FAQ and monitoring updates pages. The FDA also has regularly updated information as well as a toll free consumer hotline. The health departments of Utah and Nevada will also continue to update information as it pertains to our local population. All EPA resources were last updated today, April 4, 2011.

- EPA Daily Update: <http://www.epa.gov/rpdweb00/data-updates.html>
- EPA FAQ: <http://www.epa.gov/radiation/japan-faqs.html>
- EPA Monitoring: <http://www.epa.gov/rpdweb00/data-updates.html>
- EPA/FDA Joint Statement (March 30, 2011): <http://www.fda.gov/NewsEvents/Newsroom/PressAnnouncements/ucm249146.htm>
- FDA Radiation Safety: <http://www.fda.gov/NewsEvents/PublicHealthFocus/ucm247403.htm>
- FDA Toll Free Consumer Information Line: 1-888-SAFE-FOOD (1-999-723-3366)
- Utah Department of Health: <http://health.utah.gov/uthealthnews/2011/20110323-DEQNuclearDocument.html>
- Nevada State Health Department: <http://health.nv.gov/RadiationInformation.htm>

Please contact us should you have any concerns. We will continue to monitor this issue and keep you informed as appropriate. As always the safety and quality of Utah and Nevada dairy products is our top priority.

Sincerely,

Karen Koncar, CEO  
Libby Lovig, VP  
Becky Low, VP  
Ray Buttars, EVP  
Kristi Spence, Director Health & Wellness

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