

# Dairylea President Testifies For Government Purchases

SYRACUSE, N.Y. — Price support through government purchases is at the heart of any workable dairy program, according to Clyde Rutherford, president of Dairylea Cooperative.

Rutherford, a past chairman of the National Commission on Dairy Policy (NCDP), testified June 18 before the U.S. House of Representatives Agriculture Subcommittee on Livestock, Dairy and Poultry.

In his testimony, Rutherford talked about similarities between

the commission's recommendations, which were issued in March, and a program by the National Milk Producers Federation (NMPF) to balance milk production and consumption.

Overall, Rutherford said that the NMPF plan has broad industry support and would achieve most of the goals of the NCDP.

He told the subcommittee that both the recommendations of the NCDP and the NMPF plan indicate that an adequate milk supply is dependent on a minimum federal

support price.

In addition, balancing the domestic market through purchases of dairy products should be the job of the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC), and the CCC should maintain reserves for national and international food assistance programs.

Market forces, together with adjustments in the government support price, should be used to balance supply and demand for dairy products, according to the commission's report. It recom-



From left, Clyde Rutherford, president of Dairylea Cooperative Inc., testifies before the U.S. House Ag Committee about national milk market balancing. Also testifying is Fred Douma, chairman of the Dairy Farmers For Responsible Dairy Policy, an organization representing southern California dairymen.

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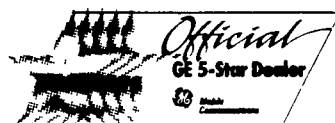


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