

HARRY WELLS

108 Whitworth Road
Clover, S.C.
704-228-728
Jcow3@aol.com

*Postmarked
9/29/2006*

**USDA/AMS Dairy Programs
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20250-023**

Dear Sir,

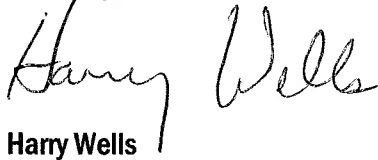
The only reasonable way to price milk is by cost of production on all classes. Our cost of production in South Carolina is \$16.01. (last year) \$14.00 milk does not pay the bills. At the present time, we owe two feed companies a total of \$37,000.00. We owe the dairy supplier \$30,000.00 and the fertilizer company \$6,000.00 and the vet \$10,000.00. This does not include the two credit cards we lived off of when milk prices were getting \$12.00 for our milk. If we went out of business today, we would be lucky to have \$10.00 left.

We have sold cattle every year for the last three years to pay bills. I have heard this story over and over from local farmers and I am sick of it.

My parents started this farm in 1940 and they had hard times, but nothing like this. Somehow I have managed to send two daughters to college with one left to go. We have no insurance and no savings at the present time.

This is not the American life I envisioned and something is going to have to be done. My wife and I work 16 hour days and she even has an off farm job. There has got to be a new pricing formula and quickly or there will be very few farmers left!

Sincerely,


Harry Wells