

Questions for Anson Tebbetts

1. Update the Task Force on status of the Vermont dairy industry. This should include:
 - compare 2000, 2010, present
 - number of farms by farm size and number of farms
 - farms participating in the federal order and those that are not participating in the order
 - identify different numbers and types of non-pool producers – raw milk farms, on-farm cheese, other manufacture, and fluid milk produces
 - number of cows in the State;
 - amount of production, total, average per farm, per cow;
 - identify primary plants where milk is being shipped to or used in Vermont as well as the many smaller plants referred to in the DRF Report
 - total capacity of in-state plants
 - total use of VT raw milk used by the plants; and
 - how much milk is being imported into Vermont to these plants from other states. Is the milk from out of state just from NY or other states?
2. Review the loss of dairy farms in the State between 2000 and 2019.
3. Summarize what the Agency has done between 2000 and present day to mitigate the loss of dairy farms in the state. This should include:
 - What the Agency is doing to promote high end products, such as Ben and Jerry's or Cabot Cheese.
 - What the Agency is doing to promote or respond to the trend in the industry for filtration and separation of milk, such as the O-AT-KA milk products plant/Upstate Cooperative.
4. What is the Agency's plan for supporting, promoting, and growing the Vermont dairy industry over the next 5 to 10 years?