

Innovative Dairy Farmer of the Year 2026 Nomination Form

Co-sponsored by the
International Dairy Foods Association and *Dairy Herd Management*

Criteria for nominations: Must be an active, U.S. dairy farm operation.

You may want to talk with your nominee to get additional information for the questions listed below; complete information will provide the judges with a better opportunity to evaluate the nominee. Please feel free to provide additional information in response to any question, including a short write-up if you prefer. If sending additional attachments (such as news clippings, etc.), please limit to three.

There is no fee to enter this nomination. Applications should be typed and must be postmarked to the International Dairy Foods Association (IDFA) by **Friday, October 31, 2025.**

1. Please provide your name/contact information:

Your Name: _____

Title: _____

Company: _____

Street Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Fax: _____

Email: _____

Website: _____

2. What dairy producer/farm operation would you like to nominate?

Name of Operation: _____

Name of Prime Contact: _____

Title of Prime Contact: _____

Street Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Fax: _____

Email: _____

Website: _____

3. Summarize the primary reason(s) you are nominating this dairy producer.
4. Describe at least two ways this producer operation is **currently** using technology or industry partnerships to improve efficiency, sustainability and growth opportunities for the farm. Examples include innovative management practices, production technologies like telemetry or robotics, measuring and reducing GhG emissions, marketing approaches, etc. Please include the length of time that the innovations have been in place and give specific examples of the economic, environmental and/or social impacts of these innovations.
5. How do you feel this farm is positioning itself to meet **future** economic and sustainability challenges?
6. What sets this operation apart from its regional peer group? How does this operation demonstrate leadership to its peers?
7. What is this farm's role within its local community? And within the dairy industry?
8. Are there any other aspects of this dairy farm operation or its employees that you would like the judges to consider?

Information on Nominee Farm:

9. Farm Organization (check one): Sole Proprietorship Partnership
Corporation LLC Other, describe: _____

10. How long has this farm been in operation (in years)? _____
11. Size of operation (in acres): _____
12. Average number of cows (milking and dry): _____
13. Volume of milk sold in the most recent 12-month period: _____
14. Number of employees (including owner/operator): Full-time _____ Part-time _____

Thank you for this nomination! Nominations must be postmarked by **October 31, 2025**. Send your nomination to IDFA by fax (202-331-7820), email (jmatsko@idfa.org) or by mail to IDFA, 1250 H Street NW, Suite 900, Washington, D.C. 20005, ATTN: Jessica Matsko. Upon receipt of your entry, IDFA will send a confirmation of your nomination submission. If you do not receive a confirmation notice by November 7, contact Jessica Matsko at 202-220-3526.

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