

## ARM's Undercover Investigation Of Largest Organic Milk Producer Prompts USDA Investigation: Corporate Agribusiness/USDA Collude To Protect



Natural Prairie Dairy, Violated Federal Organic Guidelines

Natural Prairie Dairy houses over 25,000 cows and consists of four locations near Dalhart, Texas, supplying raw dairy through Aurora Dairy's bottling plant in Denver, Colorado. Natural Prairie Dairy also has a new facility under construction in Indiana.

Today, the organic industry watchdog, <u>OrganicEye</u>, revealed <u>corporate agribusiness</u> and the <u>USDA</u> are <u>colluding to shift industrial-scale organics</u>. Citing Animal Recovery Mission's (ARM) <u>Operation Natural Prairie Dairy</u> released on July 23, 2019, OrganicEye filed a <u>formal legal complaint</u> against the country's largest organic milk producer. In addition to the egregious animal abuse uncovered by ARM, Natural Prairie Dairy failed to meet strict environmental requirements leading to severe ecological degradation. The failure of Natural Prairie Dairy to adhere to proper animal husbandry and disregard for the environment shows it violated federal organic guidelines.

OrganicEye obtained <u>documents</u> pointing to collusion between Corporate Agribusiness and the USDA to protect Natural Prairie Dairy and that "it appears likely that no qualified investigators, with a background in organic livestock management, investigated violations documented" by ARM.

Stating, "This scandal reflects a historic pattern at the USDA," Director of OrganicEye, Mark A. Kastel, concluded, thanks to their numerous investigations over the past 16 years, including collaborations with the Washington Post, and now ARM's latest undercover investigation that "federal investigators virtually never interview witnesses or weigh the initial evidence presented. Instead, they depend almost exclusively on what their often less-than-qualified staff observe themselves—after the alleged perpetrators have been tipped off and given ample opportunity to cover up violations."

More than ever, it is clear that big agriculture is controlling and dictating what the USDA and other government agencies do, showing the food safety and inspection system in the United States is corrupt and broken.

Some of the animal abuse violations observed are as follows:

- · Maltreatment and Excessive Abuse Dairy of Cows
- · Neglect of Sick and Injured Dairy Cows
- · Squalid, Overcrowded, Unsanitary Housing
- Force Feeding & Scientific Research Performed on Cows

Video Evidence Of Animal Abuse: https://vimeo.com/349554589

Media inquiries should be directed to the Founder of Animal Recovery Mission (ARM), Richard 'Kudo' Couto at (305) 494 2225 kudo@arminvestigations.org or Margarita Hart at (561) 510-3678 hart@arminvestigations.org

The Animal Recovery Mission is a Non-Profit animal cruelty investigative organization based in Miami Beach, Florida. ARM's mission is to be an uncompromising defending force for the welfare of animals, in addition to putting an end to and preventing pain, suffering, and torture inflicted as a result of inhumane practices. For additional information, photos, and video footage, please visit: <a href="https://www.animalrecoverymission.org">https://www.animalrecoverymission.org</a>, Animal Recovery Mission (ARM Investigations) PO Box 403344 Miami Beach, FI, 33140