

## **AMS NEWS RELEASE**

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### **USDA ISSUES FINAL RULE AMENDING FLUID MILK DEFINITION IN ALL MILK ORDERS**

WASHINGTON, Aug. 24, 2010 – The U.S. Department of Agriculture today issued a final rule amending the definition of Class I fluid milk products in all Federal milk marketing orders effective Jan. 1, 2011.

These amendments, which were approved by producers, maintain the current 6.5 percent nonfat milk solid standard and incorporates an alternative 2.25 percent true milk protein criterion to determine whether a product meets the compositional standard for fluid milk products. This rule also amends the fluid milk product definition to provide exemptions for drinkable yogurt products containing at least 20 percent yogurt (by weight), kefir, and products intended to be meal replacements. The decision clarifies how milk and milk-derived ingredients should be priced under all Federal milk marketing orders when used in fluid milk products.

The final rule appears in today's Federal Register and becomes effective Jan. 1, 2011. For additional information about the decision contact: Paul A. Huber; USDA/AMS/Dairy Programs, P.O. Box 5102, Brunswick, OH 44212; Tel. (330) 225-4758; email: [pahuber@fmmaclev.com](mailto:pahuber@fmmaclev.com). A copy of the decision can be found on the website at [www.fmmaclev.com/hearings.htm](http://www.fmmaclev.com/hearings.htm).