

FDA FACT SHEET

Milk Drug Residue Contract Program

Program Description

- The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the states share responsibility for assuring that the nation's milk supply is safe and not contaminated with harmful drug residues.
- This responsibility is assisted through a cooperative agreement between FDA, all fifty states, the territory of Puerto Rico, and the dairy industry under the National Conference on Interstate Milk Shipments (NCIMS).
- The NCIMS is a voluntary organization that promotes the availability of a high quality milk supply for the nation.
- The contract with GLH, Incorporated (an independent third party) is part of an effort to demonstrate the amount and results of milk drug residue testing conducted by the industry and states.

Intended Outcomes

- Maintain the database that archives milk sample testing results for drug residues submitted by the industry and states.
- Promote maximum participation by the dairy industry and states to report their testing results.
- Provide guidance and interpretation on the technical aspects of the data, reporting and coding of data elements.
- Prepare and distribute an annual report to FDA, the States, industry and academia.
- Ensure that harmful milk drug residue is decreasing.

Sample Results

A **sample** is defined as representing a load or lot of milk samples, a producer, or milk transport tanker, silo, etc.

Data is reported by four sources of samples:

- Bulk Milk Pickup Tanker: Bulk raw milk from a dairy farm.
- Pasteurized Fluid Milk and Milk Products: After pasteurization; finished product in package form or bulk. This term includes milk products such as milk, reduced fat milk, low-fat milk, nonfat milk, and creams.
- Producer: Raw milk obtained from the farm bulk tank/silo from a dairy farm.
- Other: Milk plant tanks/silos, milk transport tankers, etc.

A **positive** result means that the sample was found to be positive for a drug residue through testing in a certified laboratory by a certified analyst or the milk was rejected on the basis of an initial screening test by the milk processor.

Table 1. Sample Results (October 1, 2015 to September 30, 2016)

Source of Sample	Total Samples	Number Positive	Percent Positive	Disposition per PMO (Pounds)
Bulk Milk Pickup Tanker	3,085,627	350	0.011%	14,413,000
Pasteurized Fluid Milk and Milk Products	38,329	0	0.000%	0
Producer	407,592	261	0.064%	690,000
Other	49,848	7	0.014%	225,000
TOTALS	3,581,396	618	*	15,328,000

Have you seen our Blog? [FDA Voice](#)



The FDA, an agency within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, protects the public health by assuring the safety, effectiveness, and security of human and veterinary drugs, vaccines and other biological products for human use, and medical devices. The agency also is responsible for the safety and security of our nation’s food supply, cosmetics, dietary supplements, and products that give off electronic radiation, and for regulating tobacco products.