

# Texas dairies need emergency milk disposal options

## The problem:

Texas' dairy industry was faced with millions of gallons of excess milk with limited capabilities to dispose of the unanticipated surplus at the start of the COVID-19 pandemic and during Winter Storm Uri in 2021.

Texas dairies need the ability to safely dispose of excess milk in emergency situations through their lagoon systems or through land application.

## Current law:

The only legal method to dump milk in Texas is to transfer the milk to a disposal well. Texas has only two such wells: one in DFW and the other in Houston. This system places an undue, expensive burden on the state's hardworking dairy farmers and co-ops, as the average cost to dump a truckload of milk (about 50,000 pounds) is \$3,000. Under normal circumstances, the price tag is troublesome; in times of crisis, it can be devastating

## Support HB 692 and SB 872

Rep. Glenn Rogers/Sen. Drew Springer

The bill would allow for the safe disposal of milk and milk by-products by land applications and proper disposal in retention facilities as long as those applications protect water quality. The bill provides specific directives to the TCEQ to adopt rules to prescribe conditions to authorize proper disposal of milk and milk by-products.



### FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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