

Dairy UK Position Statement Milk Waste – WRAP Report November 2018

Dairy UK welcomes the publication of WRAPs report outlining: *Opportunities to Reduce Waste along the Journey of Milk, from Dairy to Home*.

The UK dairy industry has a well-documented history of tackling food waste and this report highlights our success in this area. Total global food waste stands at 33% of all food production¹. In the UK, milk accounts for 3% of all food waste and only 7% of the milk sold goes to waste. Of that, 90% is accounted for as food waste generated by consumers². Food waste generated by milk processing in plant, now goes to alternative uses such as animal feed and energy recovery³.

Despite our success, there is always room for improvement, and through the UK Dairy Roadmap we have committed to cutting the food waste generated by processors by 30% between 2015 and 2025.

This report provides valuable insights into further opportunities that will help us to achieve our goals, and we look forward to working further with WRAP and their partners to expand on our commitments to develop practical solutions to reduce milk waste.

Recognising the role of consumers Dairy UK has worked closely with WRAP to improve the ways in which we communicate food waste reduction to consumers. Based on the recommendations of this report we have launched a new target under the UK Dairy Roadmap, aimed specifically at consumer food waste. The new target calls on processors to increase in-product and packaging design features, aimed at reducing consumer food waste, which will be monitored with WRAPs assistance.

Dairy UK and its members remain committed to tackling food waste, and to ensuring that consumers benefit from the abundant nutritional benefits that come from drinking and not wasting milk.

References:

1. <http://www.fao.org/save-food/resources/keyfindings/en/>
2. WRAP, *Opportunities to Reduce Waste along the Journey of Milk, from Dairy to Home*.
3. The UK Dairy Roadmap - <http://www.dairyuk.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/The-Dairy-Roadmap-2018.pdf>