

## The New Dairy Margin Protection Program is Worth Considering for 2018

In years past, the Dairy Margin Protection Program (MPP) has failed to deliver payments to many producers; however, 2018 looks to be a different story. The major updates to the program include increasing the amount you can protect under Tier 1 to 5 million pounds, calculating the margins on a monthly (not bi-monthly) basis, and eliminating the administrative fee for certain farmers (veterans, beginning, and disadvantaged). Further, coverage is retroactive to January 1, 2011, and we already have the numbers for January, February, and March. It looks extremely likely that payouts will more than cover premium costs (for the \$8 coverage level) and even bring in thousands of dollars for certain farms. Use the decision tool link below to see what your estimated payment should be. The deadline to enroll in the 2018 MPP is June 1, 2018, so do not delay!

Contact your local FSA office to ask about enrolling and to discuss ways to have your premium payments deducted from your program payout payments before you receive them.

For more information on the updates to MPP, watch the webinar presented by Andrew Novaković, Cornell University, and Mark Stephenson, University of Wisconsin, or visit the MPP Decision Tool site:  
<https://www.farmcrediteast.com/knowledge-exchange/Webinars/inside-2018-mpp>  
<https://dairymarkets.org/MPP/Tool/>