

## Main milk quotas forms

- MQ/1 Permanent transfer with land
- MQ/2 Permanent transfer without land
- MQ/3 Temporary transfer (lease) - wholesale
- MQ/4 Temporary transfer (lease) - direct sales
- MQ/5 Permanent conversion wholesale to direct sales
- MQ/6 Permanent conversion direct sales to wholesale
- MQ/8 Prospective apportionment
- MQ/9 Quota register enquiries
- MQ/10 Adjustment of purchaser quota
- MQ/11 Purchaser approval application
- MQ/12 Purchaser's monthly return
- MQ/13 Purchaser's annual return
- MQ/14 Purchaser's weekly return
- MQ/15 Direct sales - annual declaration and temporary conversion
- MQ/24 Change of producer's address
- MQ/25 Direct seller's monthly record
- MQ/33 Change of producer's name
- MQ/42 Authority to release information held on the quota register

## Useful contacts

### *Rural Payments Agency*

Milk Quotas Section  
PO Box 277  
Exeter  
EX5 1WB.  
Tel 01392 266466  
Fax 01392 266489

The Milk Quota Helpline will dispatch forms and scheme literature free of charge. Please contact them by ringing the above number.

The Agriculture Departments of the United Kingdom are responsible for policy on milk quotas. They can be contacted at:

### **England**

(DEFRA)  
Department for the  
Environment, Food  
Rural Affairs(DEFRA)  
Milk Branch  
Whitehall Place  
(East Block)  
London SW1A 2HH  
Tel: 020 7270 8246

### **Northern Ireland**

(DARD)  
Dept of Agriculture &  
Rural Development  
Food Policy Division  
Dundonald House  
Upper Newtownards Rd  
Belfast BT4 3SB  
Tel: 028 9052 4680

### **Scotland**

(SEERAD)  
Scottish Executive  
Environment  
Rural Affairs Dept  
Milk Branch  
Pentland House  
47 Robbs Loan  
Edinburgh  
EH14 1TY  
Tel: 0131 244 6422

### **Wales**

(NAWAD)  
National Assembly for  
Wales  
Agriculture Dept  
Cathays Park  
Cardiff CF1 3NG  
Tel: 029 2082 5942



# *An introduction to* **Milk Quotas**

Milk Quotas Helpline

**01392 266466**

Monday to Friday 8.30 - 16.30



## Background to the Milk Quotas system

Milk Quotas were introduced in 1984 as a way of limiting production of milk within the EU. Quota is defined as the amount in litres a quota holder can deliver or sell direct before being liable to a levy. We take the fat content of the milk into account when calculating the amount delivered.

There are over 35,000 registered quota holders in the UK. Those who hold wholesale quota have to register their quota and sell their milk only to purchasers approved by the Rural Payments Agency.

There are two types of quota:

- direct sales - for producers selling direct to the public
- wholesale - for producers who sell to other purchasers

A producer can hold both types of quota.

The current milk quota regulations have been extended to 31 March 2008.

## Facts and figures

Total UK quota - 13,988 million litres

In an average quota year, we process over 47,000 forms involving the movement of 2.3 million litres of quota, representing 15% of total quota.

## Milk Quotas - general rules

Quota holders can apply to transfer their quota to each other, permanently or just for one quota year. They can also convert it from wholesale to direct sales quota and vice versa, permanently or temporarily. In order to authorise this, a milk quota form has to be completed and sent to us .

Our main tasks are to:

- ensure that these changes comply with EC and UK legislation
- enter amendments on the milk quotas register

Many quota holders send their forms to us through quota agents.

## What the Rural Payments Agency does

### The Milk Quotas Register

Since 1994 we have been responsible for keeping a register of all holders of milk quota and the amount of quota they hold, both direct sales and wholesale.

### Calculating and collecting the Levy

The milk quota year commences on 1 April and ends on 31 March each year. At the end of each quota year, we calculate how much milk has been delivered or sold direct in the UK. If this is more than the amount the UK is allowed, we have to pay a levy to the EU. We recover the levy from direct sellers and the first purchases of milk.

## Important dates in the quota year

<b>1 April</b>	Start of quota year
<b>14 May</b>	Deadline for submission of temporary conversions for previous year
<b>14 May</b>	Deadline for submission of annual returns from purchasers and direct sellers for previous year
<b>31 August</b>	Deadline for payment of levies
<b>31 December</b>	Deadline for submission of permanent conversions
<b>1 March</b>	Deadline for submission of permanent transfer via lease of land
<b>31 March</b>	Deadline for submission of permanent transfer via end of tenancy, sale, inheritance, other
<b>31 March</b>	Deadline for submission of temporary transfer (leasing)

## Further information

### The Milk Quotas Guide

This guide explains the background, legislation and day to day administration of milk quotas. Please phone our helpline if you require a copy.

*EC Legislation -*

- Council Regulation (EEC) No 3950/92
- Commission Regulation (EEC) No 1392/2001

*UK Legislation -*

- Dairy Produce Quotas Regulations 2002