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## **PRESS RELEASE:**

### **Code of Practice for Use of Copra in Dairy Feeds**

The dairy industry and feed manufacturers have joined forces to develop a best practice guideline to manage the use of copra cake by dairy producers.

The Code of Practice for the Importation, Handling and Distribution of Copra Cake for supply to the dairy industry has been released by the New Zealand Feed Manufacturers Association (NZFMA) and the Dairy Companies Association of New Zealand (DCANZ).

There has been an increase in the use of copra as a supplementary feed in the dairy industry in recent years.

The Code of Practice was jointly developed by the two organisations in response to the use of copra by the dairy industry and feed industries. The Code was developed to manage the potential risk of aflatoxin contamination of milk when using copra. Aflatoxins can be produced by moulds that grow naturally on crops before harvesting or can develop on feeds and other organic materials during storage.

“NZFMA members recognised that potential aflatoxin contamination of milk was a concern for dairy producers, processors and consumers alike, and were keen to put in place a mechanism which would mitigate the potential risks,” said Michael Brooks, Executive Director of the NZFMA.

Jason Minkhorst, Executive Director of DCANZ, is pleased that the two organisations have produced a comprehensive code of practice which protects milk quality and also addresses the commercial practicalities of ensuring the ongoing availability of cost-effective feed supplies to the dairy industry.

The Code of Practice can be downloaded off the NZFMA website ([www.nzfma.org.nz](http://www.nzfma.org.nz)). The Code includes guidelines for the analysis, transport and storage of product as well as highlighting the importance of traceability.

For more information contact:

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