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Canada Announces Details of Support Programs to Dairy Sector

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Dairy and Products

Policy and Program Announcements

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Report Highlights:

On August 1, 2017 the Government of Canada revealed details of two new programs worth C\$350 million to support Canadian dairy producers and processors. The Dairy Farm Investment Program and the Dairy Processing Investment Fund are meant to increase productivity and competitiveness and prepare the dairy sector for the implementation of the Canada – European Union Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA), which establishes greater access for European cheeses into Canada (two cheese TRQs totaling 17,700 metric tons – see GAIN Report CA17032).

General Information:

On August 1, 2017, Lawrence MacAulay, Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food, [announced](#) details of two programs worth C\$350 million to support dairy producers and processors. The programs were initially announced on [November 10](#), 2016.

The programs are meant to increase productivity and competitiveness and prepare the dairy sector for the implementation of the Canada – European Union Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA), which establishes greater access for European cheeses into Canada (two cheese TRQs totaling 17,700 metric tons – for more details on the CETA cheese TRQs, please consult the related GAIN Report CA17032).

The Dairy Farm Investment Program is a five-year, C\$250 million program for dairy producers. This program will provide up to C\$250,000 (per licensed dairy farm) to support cow milk producers in making upgrades to their barn technology and equipment. The program will support large investments, such as the adoption of robotic milkers and feeding systems, as well as small investments, such as herd management and barn operation equipment.

The Dairy Processing Investment Fund is a four-year, C\$100 million program for dairy processors. This program will provide up to C\$10 million for capital investment projects, such as installing new equipment and infrastructure, or up to C\$250,000 for projects to access technical, managerial or business expertise. For example, the program could support a cheesemaker's investment in a new processing line that would allow them to increase their production or introduce new varieties of cheese to the market.

For more information about these two programs please consult this [link](#).