



Food Safety & Consumer Protection Div
Dairy Section
116 State Street
Montpelier, VT 05620
www.VermontAgriculture.com

[phone] 802-828-2433
[fax] 802-828-5983

Agency of Agriculture Food & Markets

CERTIFIED-RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

February 10, 2011

Jared Carter, Director
Rural Vermont
15 Barre Street, Suite 2
Montpelier, VT 05602

NOTICE OF WARNING

It has come to the Agency of Agriculture's attention that Rural Vermont is in violation of 6 V.S.A. Chapter 152 pertaining to the sale and use of raw milk by holding classes in which raw milk is processed and served to the persons attending the class.

6 V.S.A. Chapter 152 §2777 limits the sale of unpasteurized (raw) milk to the end users for fluid consumption only. §2776 defines "unpasteurized milk" or "unpasteurized (raw) milk" as "unpasteurized milk sold for fluid consumption and does not include unpasteurized milk to be pasteurized or unpasteurized milk produced for use in manufacturing of milk products other than fluid milk."

6 V.S.A. requires that a person in the dairy processing business must hold a valid milk handlers license (except for those selling fluid raw milk only that are following the rules of Chapter 152). Cheese to distributed in commerce (served to the class) would fall into that category. Also raw milk cheeses need to age at least 60 days under specific conditions before they can be sold. You can get more information on licensing requirements by contacting the dairy office at (802) 828-2433.

Your home page is advertising for a class to make cheese and other products from raw milk with the tag line of "* Farmers! Interested in boosting your raw milk sales by teaching OR hosting a dairy processing workshop? Let's talk!" This clearly show that your intent is to both put on classes that are in themselves a violation of 6 V.S.A. Chapter 151 §2721 and to encourage farmers break the law by selling milk to be processed to unlicensed persons.

If you proceed to hold this class you will be violation of this statute. 6 V.S.A. §15 provides that administrative penalties can be assessed for violations of the statues in 6 V.S.A.. You are expected to comply with the requirements of these statutes. Please be advised that violations could result in legal action.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Daniel L. Scruton".

Daniel L. Scruton, Chief
Dairy Section

Cc: Dr. Kristin Haas, Director, Food Safety and Consumer Protection

