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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Dairy Processing Manufacturers Recognized for Commitment to Quality and Production Excellence**

*Quality Chekd names finalists from the United States and South America for its highest awards.*

**LISLE, Ill.** — Quality Chekd Dairies, Inc., a member-owned organization of independent dairy processors, announced the finalists & winners for its Production Excellence Awards, which recognize outstanding processors in three categories: fluid milk, cultured dairy and ice cream. The winners in each category will be based on selection criteria that includes a plant audit, evaluation of all plant processes and systems for assuring product quality evaluation results. Quality Chekd will present the winners at the 2020 QCS Virtual Leadership Conference in October.

The following processors are finalists for the **Production Excellence Award**:

**Fluid Milk Category**

- Alqueria Dairy, Medellin, Columbia
- Hiland Dairy Foods Company, Little Rock, Arkansas
- Prairie Farms Dairy, Inc., Olney, Illinois

**Cultured Products Category**

- Prairie Farms Dairy, Inc., Quincy, Illinois
- Prairie Farms Dairy, Inc., Jefferson City, Missouri
- Umpqua Dairy Products Company, Roseburg, Oregon

**Ice Cream Category**

- Lochmead Dairy, Junction City, Oregon

Winners of the Production Excellence Awards will also be announced at the 2020 QCS Virtual Leadership Conference in October. Quality Chekd extends warm congratulations to each of the Weber Award and Production Excellence Award finalists for their continued commitment to outstanding production processes.

**About Quality Chekd Dairies, Inc.**

Quality Chekd works on behalf of dairy processors by providing them with services to improve business success, as well as providing consumers with safe, delicious dairy products. Food safety is first, and Quality Chekd has established quality assurance (QA) measures and evaluations, laboratory resources, and employee training and planning that include and surpass government regulations. Members have access to human resource tools, marketing trends and information, and purchasing opportunities to help them maintain costs. All of these services are part of the Quality Chekd trademark, which signifies product excellence. For more information about the Quality Chekd organization or membership, please visit

[www.qchedk.com](http://www.qchedk.com).

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