



## **QUALITY OF MILK AND OTHER DAIRY PRODUCTS**

(PRJ-0002-2013)

### **DAIRY STANDARD AGENCY**

**Year 2013** (January 2013 till December 2013)

#### **Project goals**

##### **Goal 1 - National milk monitoring in collaboration with health authorities**

###### ***Achievements***

The quarterly sample runs for 2013 were successfully completed as per predetermined schedules. A total of 1635 milk samples in the predetermined categories (packed pasteurised and unpasteurised and pasteurised and unpasteurised retail bulk milk), 43 cultured milk, 13 buttermilk, 84 cream, 69 UHT milk, 50 yoghurt, 45 butter, 103 cheese, 9 sterile milk and 28 condensed milk samples were analysed in order to determine compliance to regulatory specifications.

Seven Metropolitan Municipalities, 19 District Municipalities and 63 Local Municipalities participated in the sampling runs representing all provinces. As per procedure results of all milk and other dairy products were benchmarked against food safety, compositional and trade metrology standards as respectively gazetted under the Foodstuffs, Cosmetics and Disinfectants Act, 1972 (Act 54 of 1972), Agricultural Product Standards Act, 1990 (Act 119 of 1990) and where applicable the Trade Metrology Act, 1973, (Act 77 of 1973).

Sample results were e-mailed and faxed respectively to participating authorities and contact details were updated. The collection of contact information of processing facilities is an on-going process. Letters and requests for the purpose of updating contact details have been communicated to all processors.

Non-conforming results obtained were assessed and communicated via post to all the applicable processors. Non-conformance reports of continues substandard results were generated and forwarded to the project manager of Goal 6 to deal with as official complaints. These included separate reports reflecting the following non-conformances:

- >2% Added Water,
- Inhibitory substance positive,
- Phosphatase positive,
- E.coli positive.

A 7.9 % increase in compliance was noted (based on a year on year comparison made) for packed pasteurised milk. An increase in compliance was also noted for bulk pasteurised milk. The positive contribution of facility visits to promote product compliance through goal 6 and food safety management system audits are valued.

#### ***No Non-achievements / underperformance has been reported***

##### **Goal 2 - Investigations regarding complaints received i.r.o. product compliance with legal standards**

## **Achievements**

Investigations regarding complaints were initiated on:

1st Quarter of 2013

- Suspected selling of poor quality and unsafe milk to the public. WC –area.
- Food safety related complaint on cream sold in Gauteng region.
- Incorrect labeling of butter sold in Gauteng region

2nd Quarter of 2013

- Suspected selling of poor quality and unsafe milk to the public. Gauteng area
- Food safety related complaint on milk sold in Schweizer-Reineke region (North West)
- Adulteration of milk (addition of milk powder / milk powder blend to milk)
- Product compositional complaint - Process cheese wedges and dairy spreads

3rd Quarter of 2013

- Under filling of milk sachets in the WC area
- Food safety related complaint on milk sold in Sweizer-Reineke region (NW) followed by intensive follow-up action by project 2.1

4th Quarter of 2013

Investigations regarding complaints were initiated on:

- Composition of cultured milk of two brands sold in the North West province

All complaints received were investigated and where necessary subjected to further scientific testing to establish possible nature and proof of non-conformities. All complaints received were attended to according to protocol which included submission thereof to the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF), municipal health authorities and NRCS where applicable.

***No Non-achievements / underperformance has been reported***

## **Goal 3 - Special investigations**

### **Achievements**

Varieties of flavoured milk were collected from the retail and investigated in terms of compliance with the labelling regulations and the regulations governing additives/ingredients in foodstuffs as well as compositional standards under the regulations relating to dairy and imitation dairy products.

The investigation into values for  $\beta$ -lactoglobulin, lactulose and peroxidase values of milk sold in SA were completed with additional samples submitted in the various categories sterilized, UHT, ultra pasteurized and pasteurized milk. 20 cream samples were submitted in December 2013 to determine the values of  $\beta$ -Lactoglobulin. This investigation formed part of the process to determine values for consideration by DAFF in compiling the draft regulations relating to compositional standards relating dairy and imitation dairy products.

The DSA indicated the potential risks relating to the presence of Campylobacter bacteria in pasteurised bulk milk and unpasteurised bulk and pre-packed unpasteurised milk dedicated for consumption. 202 Bulk milk samples as well as unpasteurised packed milk samples were submitted for analysis, for the presence of Campylobacter in milk sold directly to the consumer. The project was completed in October 2013.

***No Non-achievements / underperformance has been reported***

## **Goal 4 - Milk and other dairy product risk identification**

### ***Achievements***

DSA compiled comprehensive statistical reports following the completion of each quarterly cycle. The reports were interpreted to determine possible industry specific food safety risks. All cycle results indicating non-conformances were subsequently communicated to the respective health authorities.

International food risk monitoring - The following websites and electronic media were monitored on a weekly basis for possible food scares that may affect the local dairy industry.

- [www.foodproductiondaily.com](http://www.foodproductiondaily.com)
- [www.dairyreporter.com](http://www.dairyreporter.com)
- FSA newsletters and alerts
- Dairy Markets monthly newsletter
- [www.fda.gov/Safety/Recalls/](http://www.fda.gov/Safety/Recalls/)
- [www.foodqualitynews.com/...Alerts/](http://www.foodqualitynews.com/...Alerts/)
- [www.foodqualitynews.com/Food-Alerts/New-evidence-calms](http://www.foodqualitynews.com/Food-Alerts/New-evidence-calms)
- [www.dairysafe.vic.gov.au/](http://www.dairysafe.vic.gov.au/)
- [www.foodsafety.gov](http://www.foodsafety.gov)
- [www.thefoodsafetynetwork](http://www.thefoodsafetynetwork)
- International Food Safety Authorities Network (INFOSAN)
- European Union Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed (RASFF) - newsletters

National food safety risk monitoring - Quarterly analysis and trending of results obtained from goal 1 – National milk and other dairy product monitoring program in collaboration with health authorities were conducted.

The presence of high E. coli positive results identified during quarterly cycle runs remained a persistent problem. The main contributors to this risk are the uncontrolled sale of unpasteurised packed and bulk milk as well as pasteurised retail bulk milk. These were followed up in terms of goal 6 with the Directorate Food Control and municipal health authorities. Facilitation of remedial action plans with producer/distributors and processors were conducted in terms of Goal 5.

## ***No Non-achievements / underperformance has been reported***

## **Goal 5 - Remedial action programmes with producers / processors / producer-distributors**

### ***Achievements***

All non-conforming results obtained through sample analysis submitted by Environmental Health Practitioners (EHP's) were communicated to processors and PD's by post as well as via EHP's in the case where contact details were not available on the system. Letters were sent to processors and PD's in the case where any of the 11 analysis per sample indicated a major deviance from the standards as defined in the applicable regulations.

Facility visits to PD's and processors whose results indicate non-conformances within the past 4 cycle runs were conducted. Potential problem areas in terms of a lack of or non-compliance with prerequisite programmes that may contribute to poor results were identified and corrective actions were discussed with the owners/managers of these facilities. Additional information in the form of the DSA guideline documentations were conveyed during the visits and follow-up reports on the day's discussions together with new results were forwarded to each facility visited.

A total of 248 facilities on a national level were visited. The appointment of an additional person as well as contractor increased the effectiveness of the specific project which were successfully

expanded during the last two quarters of 2013.

## ***No Non-achievements / underperformance has been reported***

### **Goal 6 - Communication with authorities and other organizations**

#### ***Achievements***

##### **a. Department of Health: Directorate Food Control**

The DSA with the assistance of its DSA Technical Advisory Committee compiled a technical report to the Food Legislative Advisory Group (Directorate Food Control) regarding UV treatment of fresh milk. DSA also requested the review of the regulations relating to milk and dairy products as well as review of the regulations governing microbiological standards for foodstuffs and related matters, R692 of 16 May 1997 as amended. The DSA through the Food Legislative Advisory Group (Directorate Food Control) continued with the process to review the regulations relating to milk and milk products with specific reference to alternative process methods of treatment of milk such as ultra violet and microwave. The work conducted form part of the Technical Advisory Committee of the DSA.

##### **b. Municipal Health Authorities**

Communication with the municipal health authorities based on information obtained from goal 1 were completed per quarterly cycle with reference to category A infringements relating inhibitory substances, E.coli, phosphatase positive results. Facilitation of remedial action regarding the sale of substandard milk and other dairy products, were followed up with strategic meetings at district municipality level. This facilitation process however is continuous and is to be expanded in 2014 due to the lack of service delivery in mostly rural jurisdiction areas.

##### **c. KZN Provincial and Port Health**

Communication between DSA and KZN Port Health was ongoing and actions to address non-conformities following project 1.1 activities were followed up with three strategic workshops held on 29, 30 and 31 October 2013 in Richards Bay, Ladysmith and Durban. Communication between DSA and KZN Port Health regarding import and local manufacturing of imitation dairy products continued with the assistance of the Directorate Inspection Services of the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries.

##### **d. Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries**

###### **i) Directorate: Inspection Services (IS)**

Misleading claims and incorrect composition and labelling of fermented products (amasi, yoghurt and cheese) served as priority during 2013. A formal meeting of the established labelling workgroup consisting of officials of DAFF, NRCS, CGCSA and DSA took place in March 2013 which placed emphasis on dairy product labels. DSA liaised with the Chief Director: Inspection Services with the aim to prioritise matters relating to control over milk and other dairy products in the retail industry. Regular contact was maintained with the Guardian Manager for the APS Task Team and inspectorate of the Directorate regarding infringements in terms of the Regulations relating to dairy and imitation dairy products.

###### **ii) Directorate Food Safety and Quality Assurance – FSQA (policy making)**

Communication with FSQA included discussions regarding compositional standards relating to flavoured and fermented milk as well as review of the existing standards relating to dairy and imitation dairy products. Communication with FSQA also included discussions regarding geographical names of cheese products, labelling of milk and other dairy products and dispensation on labelling of cheese products.

###### **iii) Directorate Animal Health**

DSA communicated with the officials responsible for import/export policy regarding the review of the Veterinary Procedural Notice 20 due to changes in legislation. Inputs to the reviewed VPN was forwarded to the Directorate Animal Health and completion is expected in the first quarter of 2014. The draft of the reviewed VPN also forms part of the work of the Milk SA Export Certification work group. Positive results relating to inhibitory substances detected during the quarterly cycles were communicated to the department as part of collaboration on chemical residue control.

e. NRCS (National Regulator for Compulsory Specifications) : Legal Metrology

The DSA maintained regular contact with the senior manager, inspections: Legal Metrology. Quarterly reports regarding metrology infringements were forwarded to the NRCS as per standard agreement. DSA also participated in the activities of the NRCS as member of the Dairy forum.

f. SABS (South African Bureau of Standards)

DSA continued to serve on the Technical Committee 1038: Dairy Standards, Sub-Committee 70D: Legal Metrology - sale of goods as well as giving inputs in the technical committee 1025 Hygiene practises in the food industry. DSA also serves as a member of the SABS Food Sector Advisory Forum. All relevant information regarding current, amended and new standards were communicated to the dairy industry.

Communication with other organisations

Milk SA, MPO and SAMPRO

DSA also attended the scheduled Milk SA and Milk SA Advisory Committee meetings on which it serves namely the Sub-committee: Skills Development: Secondary Industry; Advisory Committee: Research & Development; Advisory Committee: Dairy Regulations & Standards; Task Team on Export Certification; Research & Development Work Groups; R & D WG on Food Safety & Quality. DSA attended and exhibited at the Large Herds Conference that took place on 3 to 5 June 2013 in KZN and also interacted with the Institute for Dairy Technology (IDT) regarding the integration and use of the DSA Code of Practise for Milk Producers during IDT training sessions for milk handlers. DSA also continuously interacted with the project managers of the Milk SA Consumer Education Project, and SAMPRO Training. Regular assistance to SAMPRO and MPO members regarding food safety and product compositional standards is continued.

SASDT - DSA as elected member of the management of SASDT Northern division actively participated in the society's activities. DSA presented a talk and exhibited at the SASDT symposium that was held in Parys in April 2013 and also co-hosted the Northern division meeting that took place on 20 June 2013 at Irene ARC.

SANCU - DSA communicated with the SA National Consumer Union regarding food as required.

SAAFoST – DSA as member attended general meetings of SAAFoST on an ad-hoc basis subject to agenda discussions.

AFMA – DSA liaised with the Executive Director of the Animal feed manufacturers association on 22 November regarding integrated chain management for food safety in the dairy value chain.

PPECB – DSA liaised with the senior management of PPECB regarding dairy product monitoring for export purposes.

IDF – DSA has been elected by SANCIDF to serve on the Standing Committee: Food labelling and Terminology together with representatives of DAFF.

CGCSA - Food Safety Initiative: scheduled meetings with the manager of the Food Safety Initiative regarding the proposed retail food safety audit (Global Market System) and the position and role of the DSA in the context of the proposed system continued. The matter served at the DSA Board and the service level agreement was finalised to enable the benchmarking process

with the GFSI standards. DSA in collaboration with FSI personnel managed the benchmarking process and a draft guideline based on Global Food Safety Initiative was prepared during the last quarter of 2013. Further discussions were held with representatives of Global G.A.P. as roleplayer in the Global Market System food safety audit scheme.

## ***No Non-achievements / underperformance has been reported***

### **Goal 7 - Liaison with authorities and other organizations**

#### ***Achievements***

DSA liaised with the authorities regarding the following legislation and standards:

Foodstuffs, Cosmetics and Disinfectants Act, 1972 (Act 54 of 1972)

DSA actively participated in the Food Legislative Advisory Group and departmental meetings regarding dairy related matters, in terms of the abovementioned (Act 54 of 1972)

- Regulations Governing General and Hygiene Requirements for Food Premises and the Transport of Food (R.962/2012)
- Regulations relating to milking sheds and the transport of milk (R961/2012)
- Regulations relating to Foodstuffs for Infants and Young Children (R991/2012)
- Regulations relating to the reduction of sodium in certain foodstuffs and related matters (R214 of 20 March 2013)
- Regulations relating to milk and dairy products (R1555/1997)
- Regulations relating to the labelling and advertising of foodstuffs R146 phase 2

Agricultural Product Standard Act, 1990(Act 119 of 1990)

- Regulations relating to dairy products and imitation dairy products – R2581/1987
- Regulations regarding the classification, packing and marking of edible ices intended for sale in the Republic of South Africa - R78 of 8 February 2013

Regulations relating to dairy products and imitation dairy products – R2581/1987

- DSA participated in a meeting with DTI (Department of trade & industry) regarding matters that will affect the dairy industry in terms of geographical names with specific reference to cheese.

- DSA participated in discussions with DAFF on 10 July 2013 regarding the issue of a dispensation on the labelling of packed cheese. A dispensation has been granted to the packers/distributors and retailers of cheese in view of difficulties experienced with final marking of containers.

Non-compulsory South African National Standards - SABS

- SANS 10049:2011 – Edition 4. Food safety management- requirements for prerequisite programmes (PRPs)

Compulsory South African National Standards - SABS

- SANS 289:2012 – Edition 1.4 Labelling requirements for prepackaged products (prepackages) and general requirements for the sale of goods subject to legal metrology control

All relevant information relating to legislative matters were communicated to the Milk SA: Advisory Committee on Dairy Standards and Regulations, for communication and discussion purposes.

## ***No Non-achievements / underperformance has been reported***

## **Goal 8 - Information and education**

### ***Achievements***

Scheduled information sessions during which DSA guideline documentation is used took place at the following tertiary institutions:

Central University of the Free State: 26 April 2013 – 29 students

Cape Peninsula University of Technology: 6/7 May 2013 – 42 students

Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University of Technology: 13 May 2013 – 37 students

University of Johannesburg: 17 May 2013 – 56 students

Durban University of Technology: 6 June 2013 – 42 students

Mangosuthu University of Technology: 7 June 2013 – 20 students

Tshwane University of Technology – 27 August 2013 – 39 students

DSA participated in the Lejweleputswa District Environmental Health Forum day. The information session included a theoretical session regarding milking shed inspections to Environmental Health Practitioners as well as a practical session at a milk farm near Wesselsbron.

A farmers day arranged by Nestle Mossel Bay was attended by invitation. DSA addressed the farmers on the principles of food safety at milk production level in the context of integrated chain management in the value chain.

DSA in conjunction with DSA Dairy Quality Club members presented on 17 October 2013 in Howick at dairy seminar on regulatory matters. The seminar was mainly attended by processors and input suppliers.

KZN Provincial Health workshops took place in Richards Bay, Ladysmith and Durban on 29, 30 and 31 October 2013. 208 Professionals which included nutritionists and DAFF personnel attended

DSA facilitated two workshops in Mpumalanga in Nelspruit and Ermelo with professional EHP's on 14 and 15 November 2014. 118 EHP's attended.

DSA presented at the Eden District Municipality Health Forum in Riversdal on a synopsis of the dairy regulatory environment 29 EHP's attended

DSA participated in an advisory/consultation workshop at the Tshwane University of Technology on 25 November regarding new developments and trends occurring in the dairy industry that may have a direct impact on the training of Environmental Health Practitioners.

***No Non-achievements / underperformance has been reported***

## **Goal 9 - Media communication**

### ***Achievements***

Advertorials and articles relating to dairy technical information were published in the Dairy Mail and Veeplaas magazines on monthly basis. Two broadcasts on dairy technical information and promoting the DSA Code of Practice took place on national radio. A podcast was also placed on the Milk SA website.

***No Non-achievements / underperformance has been reported***

## **Goal 10 - Development of guideline documentation**

### ***Achievements***

The Code of Practice for Milk Producers which as an extension of the first Dairy Standard Agency Code of Practice was initiated in the first quarter and completed mid-September 2013. The Code of Practice was officially launched on 13 November 2013 at ARC Irene is currently distributed to the organised dairy industry and other stakeholders.

DSA initiated the process of developing a generic labelling chart as well as a guideline document to packers of dairy products and other stakeholders in the dairy industry. The intention is also to assist and promote compliance with Regulation 2581, R146 as well as SANS 289 and to add value in a collaborative manner between the organised dairy industry, CGCSA and government. The concept documents have been compiled and the first meeting with stakeholders took place on 23 October 2013.

DSA through its Technical Advisory Committee initiated the process of developing the second publication of the DSA Code of Practise for milk processors and dairy manufacturers. This project is to be completed end 2014.

***No Non-achievements / underperformance has been reported***

## Income and expenditure statement

Income and expenditure statement	<a href="#">Des besuurstate 2013.pdf</a>
Unnecessary spending during period	No

## Popular Report

No file has been uploaded

## Additional documentation

[5. DSA 2013 Annual Report.docx](#)

## Statement

Levy funds were applied only for the purposes stated in the contract	Yes
Levy funds were applied in an appropriate and accountable manner	Yes
Sufficient management and internal control systems were in place to adequately control the project and accurately account for the project expenditure	Yes
The information provided in the report is correct	Yes