



QUALITY OF MILK AND OTHER DAIRY PRODUCTS

(PRJ-0049-2014)

DAIRY STANDARD AGENCY

Quarter 3 2014 (July 2014 till September 2014)

Project goals

Goal 1 - National milk monitoring in collaboration with health authorities

Achievements

DSA has successfully completed its cycle 50 monitoring activities as planned. 371 milk samples and 230 cheese samples (98 Hard- Semi Hard- Semi Soft Cheese samples; 30 Cottage cheese samples; 17 Cream cheese samples; 19 Feta Cheese samples; 8 cheeses made from Goats milk and 15 Processed cheese samples) were analysed in order to determine compliance to regulatory standards. The class designations of 43 cheese samples could not be verified due to incorrect labelling and were submitted only for microbiological analysis. 7 Metropolitan Municipalities, 13 District Municipalities and 54 Local Municipalities participated in the sampling runs representing all provinces. The amount of milk and other dairy product samples submitted for analysis is within the budget framework and measures are continuously implemented to ensure objective sampling in collaboration with the Metropolitan Municipalities, District Municipalities and Local Municipalities participating in the sampling runs in all 9 provinces.

Sample submission is currently centralised to one laboratory to ensure effective control over logistics, the numbering system of submitted samples as well as the sample preparation procedure followed by the laboratory. DSA remains in direct contact with the assigned laboratory of which the analyst is required to be authorised in terms of the Foodstuffs, Cosmetics and Disinfectants Act, 1972 (Act 54 of 1972).

As per procedure results of milk and other dairy products were effectively 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 the Trade Metrology Act, 1973, (Act 77 of 1973).

The communication of sample results to participating authorities and processors/manufacturers are controlled with strict protocol to ensure confidentiality. At the same time contact details of participating authorities as well as processors are updated on a regular basis.

Table 1 below provides statistical data of cycle results 1 to 50. This data represents the general status of the samples submitted for analysis for the purpose of the DSA project activities and is not a reflection of the general status of milk in South Africa.

No Non-achievements / underperformance has been reported

Goal 2 - Investigations of complaints i.r.o. product compliance with legal standards

Achievements

Investigations regarding complaints were initiated on:

- The use of food colourant in Amazi
- Composition of butter

Complaints were documented. Closeout of complaints due to analysis is expected in the beginning of the last quarter of 2014.

No Non-achievements / underperformance has been reported

Goal 3 - Special investigations

Achievements

Special investigation regarding the flocculation of heat treated (UHT) milk is currently undertaken. In view of the complexity of the problem, work done was also brought to the attention of the Milk SA: Research and Development Advisory Committee. A special investigation regarding addition of stabilisers and colourants to plain fermented milk (maas) is initiated in August 2014. Further investigations as per the DSA project plan include heavy metals in final dairy products which are scheduled during the last two quarters of the year.

No Non-achievements / underperformance has been reported

Goal 4 - Milk and other dairy product risk identification

Achievements

Reports on non-conforming results were presented to the respective Government Departments at the end of Cycle 50. Each municipality received a quarterly report on the analysis done on samples submitted. Non-conforming processors as well as processors of whose contact details were verified and who applied to receive results were submitted with quarterly reports.

The DSA national milk and other dairy product monitoring activities provide for the sampling of the categories namely packed pasteurised and unpasteurised milk and retail bulk pasteurised and unpasteurised milk.

As a result of the interaction with the municipal health authorities (as per the DSA National Monitoring Program) an increase in retail bulk samples is noted. This is mainly due to continuous difficulties experienced with the level of non-compliance (food safety and product composition) of retail bulk milk and follow up samples taken according to the risk based approach implemented. As these non-compliances are communicated to the owners of the relevant businesses and health authorities, DSA procedures are followed to ensure that follow up work is done under the DSA project relating to remedial action with producer/distributors and processors of non-complying product.

National and International food safety (dairy) risk monitoring - The following websites and web feeds (Rich Site Summary) were monitored on a weekly basis for possible food scares that might affect the local dairy industry:

- www.foodproductiondaily.com
- www.dairyreporter.com
- FSA newsletters and alerts
- Dairy Markets monthly newsletter

- www.fda.gov/Safety/Recalls/
- www.foodqualitynews.com/...Alerts/
- www.foodqualitynews.com/Food-Alerts/New-evidence-calms
- www.dairysafe.vic.gov.au/
- www.foodsafety.gov
- www.thefoodsafetynetwork
- International Food Safety Authorities Network (INFOSAN)
- European Union Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed (RASFF) – newsletters
- Google Alert - food poisoning; Food Production Daily
- www.foodpoisonjournal.com
- www.foodsafetynews.com
- www.recalls.gov.au; efoodalert.net
- www.fastmoving.co.za

International food safety (dairy) risks recorded mainly related to typical issues of the presence of pathogens such as Listeria and Campylobacter in final product manufactured from unpasteurised milk. The DSA is a member of the National Department of Health Food Safety Alert Team. No national and international incidents that may have an effect on the South African industry and consumer were recorded until end September 2014.

No Non-achievements / underperformance has been reported

Goal 5 - Remedial action programmes with processors and distributors

Achievements

All non-conforming results obtained through analysis of samples submitted by EHP's were communicated to processors and PD's by post or e-mail as well as via EHP's in the case where contact details were not available on the system. The scheduled visits of the DSA to non-complying outlets are considered to be very successful as the interaction on a one-on-one basis has proven to produce positive outcomes in terms of compliance. This statement is made against the background that DSA guideline documentation is extensively used during visits and consultative sessions relating to trouble shooting. It is the experience since the implementation of this project that a significant number of small to medium enterprises not linked to the normal communication network of the organised dairy industry are now starting to network. The relationship between the DSA and the respective authorities is of great significance in terms of this project as in certain cases statutory measures to facilitate immediate remedial action are required. Expansion of the activities of this project is considered a priority in the DSA 2015 strategic approach as the role of the DSA as self-regulatory initiative (of the organised dairy industry) is increasingly acknowledged by the government departments and other stakeholders.

Non-conforming brands were identified and included in the list of facilities to be visited as part of the remedial action program. The work procedure and all documentation to be used before, during and after visits were revised during this quarter. Planned visits to processing facilities and milk shops in Gauteng, Free State Mpumalanga, North West, Eastern Cape and Limpopo were finalised, reports were sent out as well as

Non-achievements / underperformance

Visits in KZN did not occur due to resource constraints.

Reasons for non-achievements / underperformance

Visits in KZN did not occur due to resource constraints.

Planned remedies for non-achievements / underperformance

Visits in KZN did not occur due to resource constraints. Contractor appointed as from October 2014 to deal with the problem. Provision made in 2015 budget for permanent appointment

follow up action taken where necessary.

Goal 6 - Communication with authorities and other organizations

Achievements

. Department of Health: Directorate Food Control

The DSA actively participated in the joint industry – government initiatives to reduce the prevalence of non communicable diseases in South Africa. DSA participation is a result of these initiatives impact on formulation of government policies and legislative matters e.g. the use of sweeteners and salt as well as other additives in foodstuffs (dairy).

b. Municipal Health Authorities

Communication with the municipal health authorities based on information obtained from the National Milk and Other Dairy Product Monitoring Programme is ongoing with specific reference to infringements relating inhibitory substances, E.coli, phosphatase positive results. Facilitation of remedial action regarding the sale of substandard milk and other dairy products are followed up with strategic meetings at district municipality level. This matter has been raised to the level of the South African Local Government Association annual general meeting of Municipal Health Managers at which DSA will present and propose intervention strategies to address continual non-conformances.

c. Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF)

i) Directorate: Inspection Services (IS)

DSA relationship with the DAFF lead to the Managing Director serving as chairman of an appeal board of DAFF during a hearing regarding R2581 related matters. Cycle results regarding infringements in terms of the Regulations relating to dairy and imitation dairy products (relating to the DSA national monitoring program) were communicated to the Guardian Manager for the APS Task Team of the Directorate. Misleading claims and incorrect composition and labelling of dairy products continued to serve as priority. Imitation dairy products and the composition of cheese offered for sale in the hospitality industry is once again prioritised and followed up with the Directorate. Liaison in this regard will continue into the final quarter of 2014.

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

Communication with FSQA included dairy product composition queries, requests for dispensations, the draft regulations relating to dairy and imitation dairy products and formalising an amended standard operating procedure for the export of dairy products in conjunction with PPECB and Sampro.

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

The DSA is in regular liaison with the Senior Manager, inspections: Legal Metrology. A quarterly report regarding metrology infringements was forwarded to the NRCS ending cycle 49 as per standard agreement.

e. SABS (South African Bureau of Standards)

DSA serves 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. The relationship between DSA and SABS has been further strengthened in view thereof that following liaison SABS representation is established on the

development of DSA guideline documentation work groups.

Communication with other organisations

DSA attended where possible Milk SA Advisory Committee meetings on which it serves and also interacted on a regular basis with the project managers of the Milk SA Consumer Education Project and SAMPRO Training. DSA rendered services to the Milk SA Transformation project by conducting milking sheds as part of the Commercialisation of black farmer's project. Regular assistance to SAMPRO and MPO members regarding food safety and product compositional standards is continuous.

CGCSA - Food Safety Initiative: Participation of the DSA in the CGCSA: Food Safety Initiative regarding the proposed retail food safety audit (Global Market System) continued. DSA personnel attended the training sessions of the CGCSA: FSI Global Market Capacity Building Programme. DSA also delivered a presentation at the CGCSA: National Symposium on July 2014 with the topic Integrated chain management for food safety in the dairy industry: The role of the CGCSA: FSI GMCBP.

IDF – DSA regularly communicates with the SANCIDF secretariat and IDF members with specific reference to the Standing Committee: Food labelling and Terminology and Codex Alimentarius dairy related matters.

SANCU - DSA communicates with the SA National Consumer Union regarding food safety and quality related issues as required.

SAAFoST – DSA attends the general meetings of SAAFoST on an adhoc basis subject to agenda discussions.

SAIEH – DSA attended the national congress of the SA Institute for Environmental Health in September and presented on the important contribution of the organised dairy industry in terms of self-regulation in terms of dairy food safety and product composition as well as effective collaboration with law enforcement bodies to ensure improvement of compliance with legal standards.

No Non-achievements / underperformance has been reported

Goal 7 - Liaison with authorities and legislation

Achievements

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

i. Food Control Legislation

- Food for infants: R991/2012 replaces R1330/1994 – Newly published guidelines
- Reduction of salt in foodstuffs: R214/2012 – First effective date – 2016

New regulations to be drafted or amended

- New: Hygiene Regulations (R962) New draft expected to be published in 2014
- New: Microbiological Standards for foodstuffs (with micro criteria)
- Amendment of R908: HACCP and the possible listing of dairy in the regulations
- Amendment: Regulations relating to milk and milk products R1555 (review of test methods, microbiological standards and inclusion of alternative methods of treatment)

ii. DAFF legislation

Product composition

- Amendment of R2581 relating to dairy and imitation dairy products
- Draft regulations relating to the export of animal products

No Non-achievements / underperformance has been reported

Goal 8 - Information and Education

Achievements

Successful EHP information sessions were held at the following institutions, attended by a total of 231 students:

CPUT (14 May 2014) - 33 students
 UJ (21 May 2014) - 52 students
 MUT (27 May 2014) - 36 students
 DUT (28 May 2014) - 30 students
 NMMU (30 May 2014) - 36 students
 CUT (5 August 2014) - 44 students
 DSA exhibited and presented at the South African Institute for Environmental Health attended by 360 delegates in Port Elizabeth. The topic was "The role of the Environmental Health Practitioner ensuring integrated chain management for food safety in the dairy industry".

Non-achievements / underperformance

TUT (Tshwane University of Technology) information session did not take place as scheduled

Reasons for non-achievements / underperformance

Due to student unrest

Planned remedies for non-achievements / underperformance

Session postponed until further notice

Goal 9 - Media communication

Achievements

DSA continued with the placement of dairy technological articles, advertorials and advertisements in the Dairy Mail, Veeplaas and Stock Farm magazines in the second quarter of 2014. DSA also presented on national radio on the topic of labelling requirements.

No Non-achievements / underperformance has been reported

Goal 10 - Development of Guideline documentation

Achievements

The DSA's Guide to dairy product labelling in South Africa has proven to be very popular between industry members and law enforcement officers. Technical corrections were finalised and the latest version of the document together with other guideline documentation are now available on the DSA website.

Non-achievements / underperformance

The process of revision of the DSA Code of Practice (2006 edition) is prolonged.

Reasons for non-achievements / underperformance

Delay is as a result of amendment of

legislation. and it is projected that this project will continue into the second quarter of 2015.

Planned remedies for non-achievements / underperformance

Work to continue and it is projected that this project will continue into the second quarter of 2015.

Income and expenditure statement

Income and expenditure statement	Bestuurstate Sept 2014.pdf
Unnecessary spending during period	No

Popular Report

No file has been uploaded

Additional documentation

No file has been uploaded

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