



QUALITY OF MILK AND OTHER DAIRY PRODUCTS

(PRJ-0073-2015)

DAIRY STANDARD AGENCY

Quarter 3 2015 (July 2015 till September 2015)

Project goals

Goal 1 - National monitoring of milk and other dairy products in collaboration with Health Authorities

Achievements

The quarterly sample runs for cycle 54 were completed as per predetermined schedule. 346 milk samples, and 230 cheese samples (92 hard, semi-hard, semi soft cheese; 47 cottage cheese samples; 28 cream cheese samples; 32 feta cheese samples; 7 goat milk cheese and 24 processed cheese samples) were analysed in order to determine compliance with regulatory requirements. 43 Cheese samples of unknown type were also submitted for analyses. 8 Metropolitan Municipalities, 13 District Municipalities and 64 Local Municipalities participated in the cycle 53 sampling runs, representing all provinces.

Samples were submitted at two laboratories whose analysts are 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 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).

Non-conforming results obtained were assessed and communicated to the processors and the relevant authorities for further action. Contact details of participating authorities as well as processors were updated as per standard procedure. The collection of contact information of processing facilities is an ongoing process. Non-conforming results obtained were assessed and communicated to the processors and the relevant authorities for further action.

Non-conformance reports regarding Cycle 54: >2% added water, inhibitory substance positive, phosphatase positive & E.coli positive were also forwarded to the relevant authorities for further action.

No Non-achievements / underperformance has been reported

Goal 2 - Investigations regarding complaints received in respect of product compliance with legal standards

Achievements

Investigations regarding complaints were initiated on:

- Non-conforming milk sold in the Gauteng – microbiological complaint.

- Milk with quality defects (rancid taste) sold in Gauteng.
- Composite fruit yoghurt with insufficient amount of fruit pieces as per regulation - Western Cape.

All complaints were processed, recorded on the DSA management information system and attended to.

No Non-achievements / underperformance has been reported

Goal 3 - Special investigations

Achievements

Imported UHT milk.

The investigation in conjunction with the relevant directorate of DAFF in order to determine the compliance of imported UHT milk with national standards was completed.

Tests conducted included added water, phosphatase, inhibitory substances, E.coli, coliforms, butterfat, protein and solids non-fat, melamine and aflatoxin M1. No non-conformances were recorded.

Investigation regarding aflatoxin M1 in national retail milk is to be initiated in the final quarter of 2015.

No Non-achievements / underperformance has been reported

Goal 4 - Milk and other dairy products risk identification project

Achievements

Reports on non-conforming results were presented to the respective government departments at the end of Cycle 54. Each municipality received a quarterly report on the analysis done of samples submitted. Non-conforming processors as well as processors whose contact details were verified and who requested to receive test results were provided with individual test reports.

The DSA national dairy monitoring program provides for the sampling of the categories namely packed pasteurised and unpasteurised milk and retail bulk pasteurised and unpasteurised milk. A decrease in compliance in all four categories of the sample populations were noted.

Relevant information regarding food safety and compositional standards for milk and other dairy products were communicated to the dairy industry and other organisations.

NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL FOOD SAFETY AND RECALL MONITORING

- 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

The focus remains on raw milk and milk products due to prevailing high trend of food poisoning cases as a result of listeria cases reported internationally. To this effect, workshops planned in the third quarters with Environmental Health Practitioners is primarily focused on food safety risks and awareness with specific reference to raw milk and other dairy products.

*RSS (Rich Site Summary) uses a family of standard web feed formats to publish frequently updated information: blog entries, news headlines, audio and video.

The report (Annexure A) of international food safety incidents and recalls are of particular interest to the Dairy Standard Agency. None of the food safety international alerts as per Annexure A in terms of imports posed a direct risk to the South African milk industry.

At national level a product recall of retail branded low fat milk was noted due to quality related defects as well as twelve of the companies ice-cream and sorbet products potentially produced and packed in packaging with inconsistent peanut allergen labelling.

No Non-achievements / underperformance has been reported

Goal 5 - Remedial action programs with the processors and distributors

Achievements

Due to the limited shelf life of most dairy products the follow-up of non-conforming results to ensure appropriate action by the parties involved, requires prompt action. Following the activities of project 1.1, project 1.5 provides for an opportunity whereby information regarding non-conforming test results as well as recommendations for corrective actions are effectively communicated to the suppliers either by means of a telephone call, e-mail report, posted report or a visit to the facility. EHP's were also requested to communicate all test results to relevant parties. DSA technical personnel provide the suppliers with a comprehensive after visit report that can be used for reference purposes by the suppliers. A significant amount had been done during cycle 54 on the format of the report in order to ensure comprehensive feedback and information in the report with the reduction of time spent by field officers writing the report. The DSA Code of Practice for the secondary industry was distributed to suppliers that had been visited.

Non-conforming brands were identified and included in the list of facilities to be visited as part of the remedial action program. Processing facilities, PD's and milk shops in Gauteng, KZN, Mpumalanga, Limpopo and Western Cape were visited as part of a program followed. In total 79

facilities were visited for the period July 2015 – September 2015.

2015	EC	FS	GA	KZ	LP	MP	NC	NW
Target amount of visits	8	31	51	26	30	65	1	58
Actual visits completed	0	0	26	26	27	65	1	5
Percentage completed	0	0	51	100	90	100	100	9

No Non-achievements / underperformance has been reported

Goal 6 - Communication with the authorities and other organisations

Achievements

Communication with authorities and other organisations

a. Department of Health: Directorate Food Control

DSA in its supportive role assisted the industry with a substantial amount of queries relating food labelling requirements as well as dairy technical matters which in several cases resulted in facilitation processes with the Directorate (See annexure B). DSA participated in the Food Legislative Advisory Group (Directorate Food Control) on 27 August 2015. DSA held a formal meeting with officials of the directorate regarding the sale of substandard retail bulk milk regarding a strategy to establish effective law enforcement at municipal level.

b. Municipal Health Authorities

Communication with the municipal health authorities based on information obtained from project 1 continued in the third quarter, followed up with strategic meetings at district level. Discussions resulted in workshops held in the Kenneth Kaunda District Municipality (Klerksdorp) and Ethekwini Metro (Durban) in August 2015.

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

i) Directorate: Inspection Services (IS)

Cycle 54 results regarding infringements in terms of the Regulations relating to dairy and imitation dairy products, as a result of the DSA national monitoring program were communicated to the Guardian Manager for the Agricultural Products Standards Task Team of the Directorate. Misleading claims, incorrect composition and labelling of dairy products continued to serve as priority.

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

Communication with FSQA included dairy product composition queries, interpretation of the new Regulations relating to dairy and imitation dairy products and the standards and requirements relating to export of dairy products. DSA assisted with the facilitation process regarding industry dispensations relating product compositional standards and labelling requirements.

iii) Directorate Animal Health

DSA continued liaison with the directorate in an attempt to resolve issues relating to the process of review of the Veterinary Procedural Notice 20.

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

A quarterly report regarding metrology infringements are forwarded to the Senior Manager, inspections: Legal Metrology NRCS, in terms of a standard agreement. Due to no infringements as a result of the DSA national milk monitoring programme, no formal report was forwarded in the third quarter of 2015.

e. Perishable Product Export Control Board (PPECB)

DSA liaison with PPECB is primarily focused on service rendering to the dairy industry in respect of inspection and testing of milk and other dairy products of export facilities as per standard operating procedures. This liaison is also as a result of the interaction between the organised dairy industry, other government departments and PPECB via Milk SA National Task Team on Export Certification.

f. South African Bureau of Standards (SABS)

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. DSA also participated in the SABS TC 1094, Livestock welfare, developing SANS 1694, Standards relating to the welfare of dairy cattle.

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. As standing arrangement, DSA regularly met with the Consumer Education Project Manager to discuss relevant issues of importance to CEP and DSA. DSA attended and exhibited at the MPO Gauteng Dairy Day at the Belnori estate near Bapsfontein.

Discussions with the Transformation Project Manager of Milk SA regarding extended services of the commercialisation of black farmer's project were furthered with the intention to initiate project activities in the final quarter of 2015. Regular assistance to SAMPRO and MPO members regarding food safety and product compositional standards were ongoing.

CGCSA: FSI – DSA as member of the Food Safety Initiative (FSI) interacts on a regular basis with management.

IDF – DSA acts as member of the Standing Committee: Food labelling and terminology and provide inputs at the SANCIDF meeting, together with the representative of DAFF. DSA also attended the IDF World Dairy Summit in Vilnius, Lithuania from 16 to 25 September 2015.

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

SASDT - DSA as elected member of the management of SASDT Northern division participated in the 2015 SASDT meetings.

SAAFoST – DSA as member attended the SAAFoST 2015 national congress in Durban during the first week in September 2015.

Tertiary institutions – DSA serves as a member of the Advisory Committee of the Department of Health at the Tshwane University of Technology as well as Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University. The purpose of the advisory committees is to give industry inputs and assist the universities with the development of course material for Environmental Health Practitioners.

No Non-achievements / underperformance has been reported

Goal 7 - Liaison on legislation with authorities and other organisations

Achievements

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

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

- Draft Regulations Governing General and Hygiene Requirements for Food Premises, the Transport of Food and Related Matters - R364 of 30 April 2015

- Draft R429 relating to the labelling and advertising of foodstuffs

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

- Regulations relating to dairy products and imitation dairy products R260 of 27 March 2015

- Regulations relating to the import of dairy and imitation dairy products

- Standards and requirements regarding control of the export of dairy products

Non-compulsory South African National Standards – SABS

- SANS 1694 - Standards relating to the welfare of dairy cattle

All relevant information relating to legislative matters are 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 project

Achievements

DSA presented information sessions based on the DSA Code of Practice and related guideline materials to professional EHP's as well as student EHP's, on a national level, at the undermentioned tertiary institutions. These information sessions are available for government/municipal officials, milk producers, processors and distributors that require information regarding food safety and quality prerequisites as well as regulatory matters.

21 August 2015 – a formal session was held with 38 UP veterinary final year students at Onderstepoort

27 and 28 August 2015 – a formal workshop was held with Environmental Health Officers of the Kenneth Kaunda District Municipality in Klerksdorp with visits to a milk shed and dairy processing facility. (30 EHP's attended)

28 Julie 2015 – Central University of Technology (58 students attended)

7 September 2015 and 14 Sept 2015 Tshwane University of Technology (76 students attended)

14 September 2015 – Cape Town University of Technology (31 students attended)

25 September 2015 – Nelson Mandela University of Technology (19 students attended)

No Non-achievements / underperformance has been reported

Goal 9 - Media communication

Achievements

Four articles and advertorials were published in the Veeplaas/Farmlink and Dairy Mail respectively and two radio recordings were broadcasted on a national radio station. Two articles were published in Milk Essay newsletter of Milk SA.

No Non-achievements / underperformance has been reported

Goal 10 - Development of guideline documentation

Achievements

The new DSA Code of Practice for the Secondary Industry was completed end March 2015 and launched at the SASDT national symposium in the Eastern Cape on 15 April 2015. The new DSA Code of Practice for the Secondary Industry was completed end March 2015 and launched at the SASDT national symposium in the Eastern Cape on 15 April 2015.

No Non-achievements / underperformance has been reported

Income and expenditure statement

Income and expenditure statement	Maandelikse bestuurstate Sept 2015.pdf
Unnecessary spending during period	No

Popular Report

No file has been uploaded

Additional documentation

[Annexure A Food Safety Alerts 2015 Q3.xls](#)
[Annexure B Label Queries 3rd Quarter 2015.xls](#)
[DSA Quarterly summary report July to September 2015.pdf](#)

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