



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

(PRJ-0073-2015)

### **DAIRY STANDARD AGENCY**

**Quarter 4 2015** (October 2015 till December 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 55 were completed as per predetermined schedule. 358 Milk samples, 78 UHT milk samples, 32 condensed milk samples, 20 powdered milk and 28 custard samples were analysed in order to determine compliance with regulatory requirements. 8 Metropolitan Municipalities, 13 District Municipalities and 64 Local Municipalities participated in the cycle 55 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 standard 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 for further action. Contact details of participating authorities as well as processors were updated as per standard procedure. Non-conformance reports regarding Cycle 55: >2% added water, inhibitory substance positive, phosphatasesitive & 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***

Composite fruit yoghurt with insufficient amount of fruit

###### ***Non-achievements / underperformance***

DSA reacts on official complaints

pieces as per regulation - Western Cape (this investigation continued from the third quarter)

received from persons (consumers, industry members and other persons). A low frequency of complaints were noted in the final quarter of 2015.

***Reasons for non-achievements / underperformance***

Nil

***Planned remedies for non-achievements / underperformance***

Nil

**Goal 3 - Special investigations**

***Achievements***

Imported UHT milk.

The investigation determining the compliance of imported UHT milk with national standards was extended into the final quarter of 2015 as new brand imports were identified. No non-conformances based on objective sampling and testing were detected.

Aflatoxin M1 in fresh milk

An investigation regarding aflatoxin M1 in national retail milk was conducted during the final quarter of 2015. The investigation was initiated following information gained from the DSA Risk Identification Project.

The MRL = 50ppt or as stipulated in R 313 Regulations governing tolerances for fungus-produced toxin (Foodstuffs, Cosmetics and Disinfectants Act, 1972 (Act No. 54 of 1972) - milk containing more than 0,05 micrograms per kg aflatoxin M 1;

	MP	NW	KZ
Samples submitted	50	75	64
Positive Results	1	27	0
Exceed MRL of 50ppt or 0.05 microgram per kilogram	0	8	0
%	MP	NW	KZ

<b>% No Non Conformance</b>	98%	64%	100%
<b>% Positive Results</b>	2%	36%	0%
<b>% Exceed MRL of 50ppt /% Calculated on the total amount of samples submitted</b>	0%	10%	0.0%
<b>% Exceed MRL of 50ppt /% Calculated on the positive samples submitted</b>	0%	29%	0.0%

The presence of levels aflatoxin M1 above the prescribed legal limit is considered a serious food safety risk and therefor receives high priority with DSA in terms of facilitation of remedial action plans with the relevant authorities as well as industry members.

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

### **Goal 4 - Milk and other dairy products risk identification project**

#### **Achievements**

Reports on non-conforming results were forwarded to the respective government departments at the end of Cycle 55. 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. 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**

International food risk monitoring - The following websites and RSS feeds\* were monitored on a weekly basis for possible food safety scares that might 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
- Google Alert - food poisoning; Food Production Daily
- [www.foodpoisonjournal.com](http://www.foodpoisonjournal.com);
- [www.foodsafetynews.com](http://www.foodsafetynews.com);
- [www.recalls.gov.au](http://www.recalls.gov.au);
- [efoodalert.net](http://efoodalert.net);
- [www.fastmoving.co.za](http://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. \*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.

The special investigation regarding Aflatoxin M1 indicated national food safety risks of the remedial action plans are dealt with under the project 2.1 (Goal 6).

## ***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. The activities of project 1.1, project 1.5 were followed up by interaction with processors/PD's regarding non-conforming test results as well as recommendations for corrective actions. Communication with processors/retailers were done 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 the relevant parties. DSA technical personnel provided the respective processors/PD's with a comprehensive reports after the visits that are also used for further reference purposes. 64 Visits were conducted during Cycle 55, during which the DSA Codes of Practice and other related guideline documentation were also distributed.

## ***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. DSA continued formal discussions 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. Legal opinion regarding payment requests for the issue of certificates of acceptability and inspections by certain health authorities in terms of milk shed regulations were initiated.

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

Communication with the municipal health authorities based on information obtained from project 1 continued in the fourth quarter. Communication is primarily focussed on the implementation of remedial action on non-conforming/ substandard milk and other dairy products.

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

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

Cycle 55 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. DSA upon invitation from DAFF and following industry participation submitted its application as proposed assignee of the Department to conduct certain tasks in terms of the relevant dairy regulations as provided for in terms of the Agricultural Product Standards Act.

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 fourth 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. DSA participated together with industry stakeholders and DAFF in the revision of the current Standard Operating Procedure for Inspection of Dairy Products Intended for Export in terms of the APS Act. This process is to continue by means of interaction between the organised dairy industry, other government departments and PPECB via Milk SA structures.

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 which is in the final stages of completion for public comment.

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. Upon request DSA rendered services to the Transformation Project of Milk SA by assessing 8 milk production facilities related to the commercialisation of black farmer's project. Regular assistance to primary and secondary industry 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 participated in rendering technical comments regarding milk and dairy based products.

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 during the fourth quarter.

SAAFoST – DSA as member of SAAFoST 2015 participate in association's activities when applicable.

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. DSA rendered specific services to Tshwane University of Technology during November and

December 2015.

## ***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 export of dairy and imitation dairy products
- Standards and requirements regarding control of the export of dairy products and the Standard Operating Procedure for inspection of dairy products intended for export in terms of the APS Act of 1990.

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 presents 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 respective

tertiary institutions. These information sessions are also available to other professions and government/municipal officials, milk producers, processors and distributors that acquire information regarding food safety and quality prerequisites on a national level. All scheduled sessions were completed by end September. DSA presented on request to University of Pretoria Bsc. 4th year students during October 2015.

***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. One radio recording was broadcasted on a national radio station as well as one live television broadcast.

***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. No further guideline development was scheduled for the final quarter of 2015

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

## **Income and expenditure statement**

Income and expenditure statement	<a href="#">Maandelikse bestuurstate November 2015.pdf</a>
Unnecessary spending during period	No

# Popular Report

No file has been uploaded

## Additional documentation

[Annexure A Summary of Food Safety Alerts\\_ 2015 Q4.xls](#)  
[DSA Quarterly summary report October to December 2015 - Milk SA.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