



Improvement of the quality of milk and other dairy products and compliance with legal standards

(PRJ-0188-2018)

DAIRY STANDARD AGENCY

Quarter 2 2018 (April 2018 till June 2018)

Project goals

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

Achievements

The quarterly sample runs for cycle 65 were completed as per the predetermined schedule and the amount of samples per product are indicated in Table 1 below.

Table 1

Dairy Product	Total
Fresh milk in the categories named packed pasteurised and unpasteurised, pasteurised and unpasteurised retail bulk milk	328
Salted and unsalted butter	18
Cream (all categories)	63

7 Metropolitan municipalities, 13 district municipalities and 54 local municipalities participated in the sampling runs representing all provinces.

Samples were submitted to SANAS accredited laboratories as per standard procedure and 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 65: e.g. inhibitory substance positive, phosphatase positive and E.coli positive were also forwarded to the relevant authorities for further action. In respect of product compositional non-compliance results, are currently not forwarded to the authorities in view of the legal dispute regarding the appointment of the assignee by the Minister of Agriculture. The categories packed unpasteurised, retail bulk pasteurised and unpasteurised milk continuously indicated a negative compliance rate during the second quarter of 2018 in terms of food safety standards and compositional standards. Although the figures relating to this substandard products may seem insignificant in relation to the total of fresh milk sold in South Africa, it remains a persistent problem mainly due to poor control measures (law enforcement) and the unlawful sale of substandard milk to the end user.

DSA in terms of its project protocol and relationships with the relevant authorities (see project

goals 5 and 6) continuously liaise with the relevant law enforcement bodies, providing support through dairy technical information, workshops and guideline documents to limit the sale of non-conforming products.

No Non-achievements / underperformance has been reported

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

Achievements

2nd Quarter of 2018

1. Labeling of dairy products sold in KZN not complying to R146/2010 – Assessment reports were compiled by DSA and communicated to relevant parties in order to implement corrective action measures. Follow-up investigations are to be conducted in this regard during the following sample cycle.
2. Selling of unpasteurised milk in MP in a jurisdiction not authorised by regulation. Complaint completed. The industry as well as the District Health Authority were involved in resolving the matter.
- 3 Labeling of dairy products sold in WC not complying with R146/2010. Complaint still under investigation.

All complaints were documented and investigated. Follow-up verification, where applicable to be conducted during Cycle 66.

No Non-achievements / underperformance has been reported

Goal 3 - Special investigations

Achievements

Listeria monocytogenes

Follow up tests (spot checks) were performed on dairy products during C65. No non-conformances relating to the presence of *L. monocytogenes* in final product were detected. The following figure reflects the updated situation report from the NICD until 4 July 2018. From the report the decline in the Listeriosis cases is evident. Although the situation report is a relief it should not give reason to a false sense of security in terms of pathogen control in the dairy industry. This statement is made against the fact that DSA investigations done in collaboration with retailers under non-statutory projects indicated evidence of contamination of dairy products with other pathogenic organisms of major concern. It is considered imperative (and as per DSA communication to industry) that pathogen control through product risk assessment is essential, which should allow for a wider scope and improved frequency of pathogen testing and control in final product.

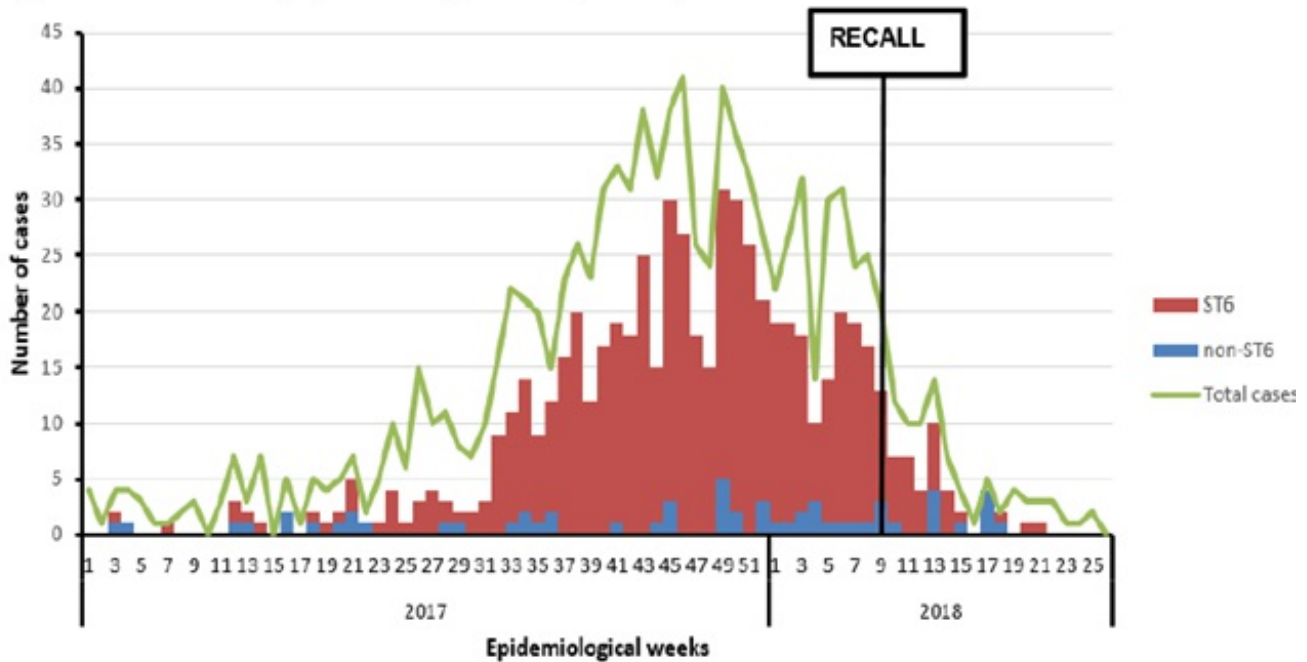


Figure 1: Epidemic curve of laboratory-confirmed listeriosis cases by date of clinical specimen collection (n=1 052) and sequence type (ST) (n=632), South Africa, 01 January 2017 to 29 June 2018 (n=1056)

Aflatoxin M1

The second leg of the Aflatoxin M1 sampling programme started during C65. The project work is to be completed at the end of August 2018.

No Non-achievements / underperformance has been reported

Goal 4 - Milk and other dairy product risk identification

Achievements

Reports on non-conforming results were forwarded to the respective government departments at the end of Cycle 65. Each participating 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. A total of 201 quarterly reports forwarded to Health Authorities as indicated in Table 2 below.

Table 2

Province	Quarterly Reports to Health Authorities
MP	14
LP	24
WC	22
NW	31
GA	30
FS	35
NC	2
EC	29
KZN	14

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

The use of the DSA Industry Guideline document: INDUSTRY GUIDELINE - CONTROL OF LISTERIA MONOCYTOGENES FOR THE SA DAIRY INDUSTRY together with other DSA guideline documents were as per the first quarter promoted and communicated to the organised dairy industry and other stakeholders to assist with the implementation of precautionary measures relating to substandard milk.

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 incidents 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/FoodAlerts/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

NICD reports

The focus remained on raw milk and milk products due to prevailing high trend of non-conformances detected as a result of the DSA National milk monitoring program in collaboration with Health Authorities.

*RSS (Rich Site Summary) uses a family of standard web feed formats to publish frequently updated information: blog entries, news headlines, audio and video. None of the food safety international alerts monitored and in terms of posed a health risk to the South African consumer.

No Non-achievements / underperformance has been reported

Goal 5 - Remedial action programs with the processors and distributors

Achievements

Quarterly milk and other dairy product sample results once processed were forwarded to the respective PD's and processors/manufacturers. These activities are followed up by means of interaction with PD's and processors/manufacturers regarding non-conforming test results as well as recommendations for corrective actions. Communication is done either by means of a telephone call, e-mail report, posted report or a visit to the facility.

DSA technical personnel provided the respective processors and producer/distributors and retailers (milk shops) with comprehensive reports after the visits that are also used for further reference purposes. In total 35 facilities were visited.

Table 3 - Quarterly Summary for Project 5 – April to June 2018

Province	Areas visited	Companies visited	E-mails	DSA further assistance provided
Gauteng	9	13	26	2

Mpumalanga	0	0	29	4
Free State	0	0	16	2
North West	0	0	18	1
Northern Cape	0	0	0	0
Western Cape	1	2	13	12
Eastern Cape	0	0	7	0
Limpopo	7	20	15	4
KwaZulu Natal	0	0	0	0

* Producer distributors (PD's) are defined as milk producers that are also engaging in the packing, distribution and selling of milk whether raw or as heat treated milk and may include other dairy products.

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 queries relating to food labelling, food safety and food additive requirements as well as dairy technical matters, which in several cases resulted in facilitation processes with the Directorate Food Control. DSA participates as member of the Food Legislative Advisory Group (FLAG) of DOH. The next FLAG meeting is scheduled for September 2018.

b. Municipal Health Authorities

Communication with the municipal health authorities remained focussed on the Listeriosis outbreak and effective pathogen control. Publication of the latest hygiene regulations in June 2018 also resulted in regular liaison regarding interpretation of new requirements relating to dairy in the said regulations.

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

i) Directorate: Inspection Services (IS)

Due to the appointment of the DAFF assignee in terms of the Agricultural Product Standards Act limited activities by the Directorate Inspections Services were noted. Cycle 65 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 partly communicated to DAFF.

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

Communication with FSQA continued regarding dairy product composition queries, interpretation of the Regulations relating to dairy and imitation dairy products and the standards and requirements relating to export of dairy products. A request from DAFF for an industry workshop regarding industry challenges pertaining to product compositional requirements took place on 10 May 2018. Formal communication with industry via the Regulations and Standards Project of Milk SA continued. Extensive liaison with the DAFF continued regarding the appointed Assignee and the development of a standard operating procedure which were later rejected by the DAFF Executive Officer due to technical matters currently challenged by Milk SA Regulations and Standards Project. Meetings with the Assignee as well as industry meetings with DAFF were attended on behalf of Milk SA.

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

Standard procedure provides for a quarterly report regarding metrology infringements to the Senior Manager, inspections: Legal Metrology NRCS. No formal complaints were raised with

NRCS in the second quarter.

e. Perishable Product Export Control Board (PPECB)

Following the industry SOP information sessions that took place on 16, 18 and 20 April 2018 in Pretoria, PE and Cape Town respectively, a final meeting was conducted on 31 May 2018 between PPECB, DAFF and industry to ensure the uniform implementation of regulation R260/2015. The implementation was halted by the DAFF Executive Officer due to concerns considered unjustified by the Regulations and Standards Project of Milk SA and currently challenged.

f. South African Bureau of Standards (SABS)

DSA participated as member in the activities of the Technical Committee SABS TC 70/SC 4, Legal Metrology - sale of goods as well as the SABS TC 034 SC 17 Food products – Hygiene practices in the food industry and technical committee of the SABS TC 1094 and SANS 1694, Standards relating to the welfare of dairy cattle which was published in May 2018 as well as SABS TC 034 SC 05 Standards for pasteurised and sterilised milk. Outcomes applicable were communicated to the Regulations and Standards Project of Milk SA.

Communication with other organisations

Milk SA, MPO and SAMPRO

DSA attended the Milk SA and Sampro general meetings as well 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. During the second quarter DSA consulted regularly with the organised dairy industry via the Regulations and Standards Project of Milk SA with specific reference to the appointment of the DAFF Assignee and regulatory matters.

Liaison with industry members continued regarding the Milk SA project relating to the standardisation of standards for calibration of laboratory equipment. Further work on the project is subject to approval by Milk SA following application by DSA in June 2018. On 30 May 2018 DSA participated in the WWF MPO Dairy Water Stewardship Programme.

CGCSA: FSI – DSA as member of the Food Safety Initiative (FSI) interacted on a regular basis with management regarding matters relating to regulations under the Foodstuffs, Cosmetics and Disinfectants Act, Agricultural product Standards Act and the DAFF appointed Assignee. The Regulations and Standards Project of Milk SA attended an industry meeting on 10 May 2018 at the offices of the CGCSA.

IDF – DSA MD is a member of SANCIDF and of the IDF Standing Committee: Standards of Identity and Labelling and provide inputs to SANCIDF electronically.

PPECB – DSA participated in a joint meeting on 31 May 2018 between PPECB, DAFF and industry regarding the finalisation of a draft SOP to be enforced by PPECB on the export of dairy products.

SANCU - DSA communicates with the SA National Consumer Union regarding dairy food safety and quality related issues as and when required. DSA interacted with the acting chairperson of SANCU whom was appointed as SANCU member representative and Director of the DSA.

SASDT - DSA MD as member of the management of the Northern region participated in the SASDT meeting held on 7 June 2018.

TERTIARY INSTITUTIONS – DSA serves as a member of the Advisory Boards of the Departments of Environmental Health of the Tshwane University of Technology (TUT) as well as Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University. The purpose of the advisory boards is to give industry inputs and assist the universities with the development of course material for Environmental Health Practitioners. The annual scheduled meeting of TUT was attended on 18 May 2018.

No Non-achievements / underperformance has been reported

Goal 7 - Liaison on legislation with authorities and other organisations

Achievements

Although a blended role of activities exist, it is important to note that the work of the Regulations

and standards project of Milk SA project is not a duplication of this DSA project. The fundamental difference of Project 7 relates to the relationship and involvement of DSA as self-regulatory initiative with government structures and execution of the law. The Regulations and standards Project of Milk SA relates to participation in the formalisation of draft regulations and standards and comments on regulatory matters, as well as communication through Milk SA in the interest of the dairy industry and other stakeholders.

DSA continued liaison with the authorities regarding the following legislation and standards:

1. Department of Health: Directorate Food Control

Foodstuffs, Cosmetics and Disinfectants Act, 1972 (Act 54 of 1972)
 New Regulations on Hygiene Requirements for Food Premises and the Transport of Food
 Draft regulations relating to preservatives and antioxidants – (alignment of standards with international General Standards for Food Additives)
 Regulations relating to milk and dairy products

2. Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries

Agricultural Product Standards Act, 1990 (Act 119 of 1990)
 Regulations relating to the classification, packing and marking of dairy products and imitation dairy products intended for sale in RSA (R260/2015) and dispensations. A scheduled meeting between DAFF and industry members regarding R260/2015 took place in 10 May 2018. DAFF appointed assignee i.t.o. the APS Act. PPECB, R422 of 22 May 2015 and the Draft SOP.

3. Non-compulsory South African National Standards – SABS

SANS 10049: 2012 – Edition 4, Food safety management - Requirements for prerequisite programs (PRPS).
 SANS 10330: Food safety - Requirements for a Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) system.
 SANS 1678 and 1679 Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk

4. Codex Alimentarius and ISO

ISO 22000 Food safety management systems — Requirements for any organization in the food chain

5. DSA Technical Committee

DSA facilitated a technical meeting relating to South African National Standards (SANS 1678 and 1679) for pasteurised and sterilised milk. The meeting took place 11 May 2018.

No Non-achievements / underperformance has been reported

Goal 8 - Information and education

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, as well as students in the veterinary and food science disciplines. These information sessions are also available to other professions and government/municipal officials, milk producers, processors and distributors that require information regarding food safety and quality standards on a national level. The first workshop with professional EHP's took place on 15 May 2018 at Thabo Mofutsanyane DM. Project work with student EHP's was initiated in the second quarter of 2018 as per table 4 below.

Table 4

Date	Institution	Amount of students
16 May 2018	NMU	11
1 June and 8 June	UJ	42
14 June 2018	DUT	12
15 June 2018	MUT	33

No Non-achievements / underperformance has been reported

Goal 9 - Media communication

Achievements

DSA signed contracts with AgriConnect and Plaas Media for the regular publication of advertisements and advertorials. 2 Articles and 2 advertisements as well as 1 live television broadcast and 1 national radio station interview were placed in the second quarter of 2018.

No Non-achievements / underperformance has been reported

Goal 10 - Development of guideline documentation

Achievements

The DSA Code of Practice of the Secondary Industry was completed in the first quarter but due to further amendment in legislation and voluntary standards the document was withdrawn during the second quarter, to be released again in September 2108.

No Non-achievements / underperformance has been reported

Goal 11 - Milk SA Regulations and Standards Project of Milk SA

Achievements

The management committee of the project continuously interacted via electronic correspondence with the members of the Advisory Committee and where applicable to the organised dairy industry requesting comments on regulations and standards. Priority was given during the second quarter to matters pertaining to the appointment of the DAFF Assignee, publication of inspection tariffs, revised standard operating procedures.

Regular interaction between the Management Committees of the Regulations and Standards and Customs Duty and Market Access Advisory Committees and Research and Development took place regarding industry matters of mutual concern. A scheduled meeting took place on 16 May 2018. The next Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled to take place on 28 August 2018.

No Non-achievements / underperformance has been reported

Income and expenditure statement

Income and expenditure statement	CORFIN090 Std Quaterly report - Project Advances - PRJ 0188 - June 2018.xlsx Junie Maandstate - Voorblad.pdf Junie Maandstate 2018 - BI 1-4.pdf Junie Maandstate 2018 - BI 5.pdf
Unnecessary spending during period	No

Popular Report

[DSA Popular report April to June 2018 .pdf](#)

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