



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

(PRJ-0188-2018)

DAIRY STANDARD AGENCY

Quarter 3 2018 (July 2018 till September 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 66 were completed as per the predetermined schedule and the amount of samples per product are indicated in Table 1 below.

Dairy Product	Total
Fresh milk in the categories named packed pasteurised and unpasteurised, pasteurised and unpasteurised retail bulk milk	290
Hard Cheese	34
Semi Hard Cheese	49
Semi Soft Cheese	7
Soft Cheese	2
Cream Cheese	20
Cottage Cheese	25
Processed Cheese and Spreads	23
Unknown	7
Total	136

7 Metropolitan municipalities, 13 district municipalities and 50 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 Legal Metrology Act, 2014, (Act 9 of 2014).

Food safety non-conforming results obtained were assessed and communicated to the municipal health authorities processors (project 5) for further action. Contact details of participating authorities as well as processors were updated as per standard procedure.

In respect of product compositional non-compliance, results were not forwarded to the DAFF 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 third 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

5 New complaints were received and investigated by the DSA office.

1 Complaint was carried over from previous cycle.

Complaints under investigation were:

Incorrect labeling of butter sold in Western Cape

Milk delivered without any labeling in the Johannesburg Metro

Foreign objects present in UHT milk sold in Western Cape

Food fraud – product sold in retail stores as butter but the physical characteristics of the product does not fit that of butter

Incorrect labeling of milk sold in Gauteng

Incorrect labeling of cheese sold throughout SA

All complaints were documented and investigated. Follow-up verification, where applicable will be conducted during Cycle 67.

No Non-achievements / underperformance has been reported

Goal 3 - Special investigations

Achievements

Aflatoxin M1

The second leg of the Aflatoxin M1 started during the second quarter (Cycle 65) and continued during third quarter (Cycle 66). The project will be completed at the end of October 2018.

Pathogen risk

Special investigations conducted in collaboration with retail stores under non-statutory projects indicated that contamination of packed dairy products with pathogenic organisms other than *Listeria monocytogenes* remain a concern in terms food safety risks and that attention should also be given to the presence of amongst other *Staphylococcus aureus* and *Clostridium perfringens* in facility pathogen control programmes. The above matter is to be dealt with through the communication programme of the DSA to industry and other stakeholders during Cycle 67.

No Non-achievements / underperformance has been reported

Goal 4 - Milk and other dairy product risk identification

Achievements

Reports on non-conforming results from the DSA national monitoring programme were forwarded to the respective government departments at the end of Cycle 66. 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. Quarterly reports forwarded to Health Authorities are indicated in Table 2.

Province	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 milk 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.

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

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

A comprehensive report was compiled and data analysed. Nationally 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.

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 were 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 was 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 37 facilities were visited.

Province	Areas visited	Companies visited	Communication of results	DSA further assistance provided
Gauteng	1	1	1	5
Mpumalanga	17	36	8	6
Free State	0	0	0	4
North West	1	1	15	1
Northern Cape	0	0	0	0
Western Cape	0	0	8	0
Eastern Cape	0	0	0	0
Limpopo	0	0	0	0
Kwa Zulu 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 relating to national standards and Codex. DSA participated in the scheduled Food Legislative Advisory Group (FLAG) of DOH meeting held on 13 September 2018.

b. Municipal Health Authorities

Communication with the municipal health authorities were focussed on effective pathogen control, the new R638 of 2018, Regulations governing general hygiene requirements of food premises, the transport of food and related matters.

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 66 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 (PPECB SOP) continued. A formal meeting with DAFF: FSQA was held on 14 August 2018 regarding the industry challenges with specific reference to R260/2015 including the use of dairy terms. Formal communication with industry via the Regulations and Standards Project of Milk SA continued. Extensive liaison with DAFF regarding the appointed of the assignee and subsequent legal time consuming consultation processes took place in the third quarter.

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 third quarter. Consultation with regard to the revision of the SANS 289 Labelling requirements for pre-packaged products (pre-packages) and general requirements for the sale of goods subject to legal metrology control took place.

e. Perishable Product Export Control Board (PPECB)

The implementation process of the latest PPECB SOP was halted by the DAFF Executive Officer due to concerns considered unjustified by the Regulations and Standards Project of Milk SA. Further discussions with DAFF took place in an attempt to provide for the SOP in the Export: Standards and requirements regarding the export of dairy products No A-1.

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. 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 as well as the Coordinating Committee of the DSA, CEP and Research and Development Project of Milk SA. DSA managing director as project manager of the Regulations and Standards Project of Milk SA consulted regularly with the organised dairy industry via the Regulations and Standards Project with specific reference to the appointment of the DAFF Assignee and regulatory matters.

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.

IDF – DSA MD is a member of SANCIDF and of the IDF Standing Committee: Standards of Identity and Labelling and nominated to the IDF Standing Committee for food additives.

PPECB – DSA consulted with DAFF and PPECB following 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 and provisions of the SOP in the Export: Standards and requirements regarding the export of dairy products No A-1. The matter has not yet been finalised.

SANCU - DSA as member of SANC communicates with the SA National Consumer Union regarding dairy food safety and quality related and attend general meeting where applicable. No meetings were attended during the third quarter.

SASDT - DSA MD as member of the management committee of the Northern region participated in the SASDT meetings held on 30 August 2018.

SAIEH – DSA presented at the Institute for Environmental Health Summit in Port Elizabeth on the subject “The dairy industry and the regulatory environment” on 18 September 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. Participation in meetings were limited to electronic communication due to time constraints.

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:

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 R638/2018

Regulations relating to milk and dairy products R1555/1997, followed by a Dairy industry technical workshop on 7 August 2018.

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 DSA regarding R260/2015 and the use of dairy terms to describe imitation dairy products took place in August 2018 with a request from DAFF for an industry technical workshop meeting in October 2018.

DAFF appointed assignee i.t.o. the APS Act.

PPECB, R422 of 22 May 2015 and the Draft SOP.

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.

Codex Alimentarius and ISO

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

DSA Technical Committee

No technical committee meetings were scheduled for the third quarter.

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 project work completed is as per Table 4 below:

Date	University	Amount of students
3 September 2018	TUT	59
25 September 2018	CUT	42
27 September 2017	CPUT	23

No Non-achievements / underperformance has been reported

Goal 9 - Media communication

Achievements

Two advertorials relating to food safety and product composition were published in the Dairy Mail as well as one radio talk on a national radio station was conducted.

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. Due to further amendments in legislation and voluntary standards the document was withdrawn during the second quarter. The date of final publication has been postponed to the final quarter of 2018.

No Non-achievements / underperformance has been reported

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

Achievements

DSA managing director as project manager of the Regulations and Standards Project of Milk SA consulted regularly with the organised dairy industry via the Regulations and Standards Project 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.

The management committee of the project continuously interacted via electronic correspondence with the members of the Regulations and Standards Advisory Committee and where applicable to the organised dairy industry requesting comments on regulations and standards. Priority was given during the third quarter to matters pertaining to the appointment of the DAFF Assignee, legal consultation and preparation of court application.

No Non-achievements / underperformance has been reported

Income and expenditure statement

Income and expenditure statement	September maandstate.pdf
Unnecessary spending during period	No

Popular Report

[DSA Statutory summary report July - September 2018.pdf](#)
[DSA Quarterly fin statements July tot September 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