



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

(PRJ-0188-2018)

DAIRY STANDARD AGENCY

Quarter 4 2018 (October 2018 till December 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 67 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	293
UHT milk	54
Flavoured / Sterilised milk	39
Dairy liquid blends	4
Condensed Milk	9
Evaporated Milk	2
Milk powder	4
Milk Powder Blend	1
Custard	9
Total	415

7 Metropolitan municipalities, 8 district municipalities and 84 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 as in the case of the previous

quarter, 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 fourth quarter of 2018 in terms of food safety standards and compositional standards. The figures relating to this substandard products are significant low in relation to the total of fresh milk sold in South Africa. DSA however has initiated the process of renewal of Memorandums of Agreement with all municipal health authorities to assist the process of monitoring and implementation of remedial action plans regarding the continuous problem mainly due to poor control measures (law enforcement).

DSA in terms of its project protocol and relationships with the relevant authorities (see project goals 5 and 6) also 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

The following complaints were received and investigated by the DSA:

Foreign material present in UHT milk sold in GA.

Watery UHT milk sold in GA

Foreign material present in fresh milk sold in LP

Microbiological non-conformance - raw milk sold in EC

All complaints were documented and investigated. Follow-up verification, where applicable will be conducted during Cycle 68.

No Non-achievements / underperformance has been reported

Goal 3 - Special investigations

Achievements

Aflatoxin M1

The Aflatoxin M1 project was started during the second quarter (Cycle 65) and has been completed in the final quarter with the final report end January 2019.

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 67. 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.

Table 2

Province	Reports to Health Authorities
MP	13
LP	18
WC	16
NW	19
GA	15
FS	19
NC	2
EC	9
KZN	13

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 were monitored on a weekly basis for possible food safety scares that might affect the local dairy industry:

References:

1. Bill Marler marler@marlerclark.com - Food Poison Journal
2. Centre for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) cdc@service.govdelivery.com
3. Dairy Reporter.com
4. FACTSSA marketing@factssa.com
5. Food Focus
6. Food Focus News
7. Food Safety Magazine info@foodsafetymagazine.com
8. Food Standards Agency food.standards.agency@notifications.service.gov.uk
9. FoodStuffSA -DrinkStuffSA
10. Health & Safety Laboratory HSL@public.govdelivery.com
11. News 24
12. Medical Research Council MRC@public.govdelivery.com
13. National Institute of Allergy & Infectious Diseases (NIAID) niaid@service.govdelivery.com
14. National Institute for Communicable Diseases www.nicd.ac.za
15. Product Safety Australia
16. SAAFFI South African Association of the Flavour & Fragrance Industry
17. United States Food & Drug Administration fda@go.fda.gov
18. USDA Food Safety & Inspection Service usfsis@public.govdelivery.com

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 and other dairy 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 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 50 facilities were visited.

* 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.

Table 3 - Facilities visited for the period October 2018 – December 2018

Province	Areas visited	Companies visited	E-mails	DSA further assistance provided
Gauteng	4	6	19	2
Mpumalanga	0	0	35	7
Free State	16	26	13	2
North West	7	18	9	1
Northern Cape	0	0	1	0
Western Cape	1	2	26	0
Eastern Cape	0	0	5	0
Limpopo	0	0	0	0
KwaZulu Natal	0	0	0	0

No Non-achievements / underperformance has been reported

Goal 6 - Communication with the authorities and other organisations

Achievements

Communication with authorities and other organisations
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. The complexity of some of the queries led to facilitation processes with the Directorate Food Control e.g. labelling and nutrition.

a. Municipal Health Authorities

Communication with the municipal health authorities mainly focussed on interpretation of food safety legislation and elements of law enforcement as per the health regulations under the Foodstuffs, cosmetics and disinfectants Act.

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

a. 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. Following a directive by the executive officer of DAFF whereby all functions relating to the enforcement of R260/2015 and R78/2013 were delegated to the assignee, communications with inspectorate were disrupted. Cycle 67 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 only to DAFF:FSQA.

b. 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 continued. Formal communication with DAFF: FSQA continued regarding the industry challenges with specific reference to R260/2015, as well as the use of dairy terms. Formal communication with industry via the Regulations and Standards Project of Milk SA to this effect continued resulting in final comments presented to DAFF: FSQA for consideration.

c. 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 fourth quarter.

d. 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. Since the filing of papers in the High Court by the Woodlands/Milk SA joint application against matters relating to the latest appointment of an assignee, no further developments regarding the PPECB as assignee over dairy export took place in the fourth quarter.

e. 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. Extensive work was completed with regards to the completion of the SANS 10330 (HACCP). Outcomes where applicable were communicated to the Regulations and Standards Project of Milk SA.

2. Communication with other organisations

a. 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 also upon request assisted the Project Manager of the Milk SA Transformation project with the assessment of a milk shop and dairy farm in Dewetsdorp in the Free State on 13 November 2018. DSA managing director as project manager of the Regulations and Standards Project of Milk SA consulted regularly with the organised dairy industry via the with specific reference to the appointment of the DAFF Assignee and regulatory matters.

DSA additional project: Standardisation of standards for calibration of laboratory equipment

Liaison with industry members continued regarding the Milk SA project relating to the standardisation of standards for calibration of laboratory equipment resulting in the following progress made:

- Initial start-up capital was received from Milk SA end September 2018 which allowed DSA to continue with the development of the independent laboratory facility.
- Since end September 2018 extensive work has been done with the establishment of the laboratory facility, equipment as well appointment of a competent laboratory manager to produce national standards (initially for fat, protein, lactose and total solids of raw milk), also to take control of the import of standards for MUN and SSC's and to facilitate the order and distribution of standards.
- From surveys conducted and individual information obtained, consensus on the import of MUN has been reached. The remaining concern is the standardisation on the use of one SSC standard, and the impact of such standard once decided amongst other on statistical data used in herd health management.
- It is of key importance that any decision regarding the import of SSC standards should be based on a scientific approach, considering what is collectively in the best interest of the organised dairy industry. To this effect discussions have been furthered with expertise to assist

regarding the way forward and a scheduled meeting is to take place in the first quarter of 2019 to finalise matters for final industry comment.

b. CGCSA: FSI – DSA as member of the Food Safety Initiative (FSI) interacted on a regular basis with the management of FSI regarding matters relating to regulations under the Foodstuffs, Cosmetics and Disinfectants Act, Agricultural product Standards Act and the DAFF appointed Assignee.

c. 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.

d. SANCU - DSA as member of SANCU communicates with the SA National Consumer Union regarding dairy food safety and quality related and attend general meetings where applicable.

e. SASDT - DSA MD as member of the management committee of the Northern region participated in the SASDT management and general meetings held on 31 October 2019.

f. SAIEH – DSA presented at the Institute for Environmental Health National Health Conference in Cape Town on 17 November 2108.

g. 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

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)

Regulations relating to milk and dairy products R1555/1997, following the Dairy industry technical workshop held on 7 August 2018.

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 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.

3. Non-compulsory South African National Standards – SABS

SANS 10330: Food safety - Requirements for a Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) system.

4. Codex Alimentarius and ISO

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

5. DSA Technical Committee

One technical committee meeting regarding food fraud took place during the first week in November 2019. Consultation with the FACS (Food advisory consulting services) laboratory in Stellenbosch continued with regard to the establishment of analytical methods for the detection of milk powder addition in UHT milk.

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. These scheduled sessions were completed end September 2019. 2 Sessions with students in the veterinary and agricultural science disciplines were completed in the fourth quarter. 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.

No Non-achievements / underperformance has been reported

Goal 9 - Media communication

Achievements

Four advertorials/advertisements relating to food safety and product composition were published in the Dairy Mail and Veeplaas.

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 final quarter of 2018. The date of final publication of the updated version has been postponed to the first quarter of 2019 so as to include advertisements of input suppliers. The development of a DSA Information brochure for 2019 was initiated as well as the new development work scheduled on the current DSA Labelling Guide for 2019.

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 with specific reference to the appointment of the DAFF Assignee and regulatory matters.

Regulations and Standards Project of Milk SA on 12 November 2018 also participated in discussions with representatives assisting the European Union Delegation to design a programme of activities to support the implementation of the Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) in South Africa. The purpose of the participation was to place emphasis on the re-establishment of an effective national chemical residue monitoring programme by DAFF,

supported by the organised dairy industry.

The management committee of the Regulations and Standards 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 fourth 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	CORFIN090 Std Quaterly report - Project Advances - Additional Project - December 2018.xlsx CORFIN090 Std Quaterly report - Project Advances - Independent Laboratory - December 2018.xlsx CORFIN090 Std Quaterly report - Project Advances - PRJ 0188 - December 2018.xlsx CORFIN090 Std Quaterly report - Project Advances - R & S Legal cost - December 2018.xlsx Maandstate - Desember 2018.pdf
Unnecessary spending during period	No

Popular Report

[DSA Milk SA Popular style Quarterly report Oct to Dec 2019.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