



QUALITY OF MILK AND OTHER DAIRY PRODUCTS

(PRJ-0049-2014)

DAIRY STANDARD AGENCY

Quarter 2 2014 (April 2014 till June 2014)

Project goals

Goal 1 - National milk monitoring in collaboration with health authorities

Achievements

The quarterly sample run for cycle 49 was successfully completed as per predetermined schedule. 441 milk samples, 64 Cream samples and 36 Butter samples were analysed in order to determine compliance to regulatory specifications. 7 Metropolitan Municipalities, 12 District Municipalities and 52 Local Municipalities participated in the sampling runs representing all provinces. Samples were submitted to Lactolab, whose analysts are authorised in terms of the Foodstuffs, Cosmetics and Disinfectants Act, 1972 (Act 54 of 1972).

As per procedure results of fresh milk, cream and butter samples 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).

Sample results were e-mailed and faxed to the respective participating authorities and contact details of participating authorities as well as processors were updated. As per request by processors, results were communicated via post or e-mail as preferred methods of communication.

The collection of contact information of processing facilities is an on-going process. Letters and request of updating contact details have been communicated to all processors. Non-conforming results obtained were assessed and communicated via post to the processors. Non-conformance reports regarding Cycle 49: >2% Added Water, Inhibitory Substance Positive, Phosphatase positive & E.coli Positive were forwarded to the relevant authorities for further action.

No Non-achievements / underperformance has been reported

Goal 2 - Investigations of complaints i.r.o. product compliance with legal standards

Achievements

2nd Quarter of 2014

Investigations regarding complaints were initiated on:

- Foreign objects in Custard
- Organoleptic –Taste of Milk Shake
- Organoleptic –Taste of UHT milk

All complaints were documented. The investigation on the taste of milk shake was put on hold due to a lack of information and evidence.

No Non-achievements / underperformance has been reported

Goal 3 - Special investigations

Achievements

Investigation into the flocculation of UHT milk after heat treatment. (Ongoing)

Investigation was initiated by the Dairy Standard Agency on a selection of UHT milk samples suspected of flocculation, foul taste and extreme foaming reaction when heated. This investigation follows on the complaint received under goal 2 of which the outcome revealed significantly increased values of protease activity in some of the samples.

In view of the complexity of the problem work done was also brought to the attention of the Milk SA: Research and Development Advisory Committee.

Subsequent analytical work is currently undertaken (on request of DSA) by the University of the Free State, Department Microbial Biochemical and Food Biotechnology on the samples submitted to determine the possible presence of other contributors to phenomenon of flocculation.

Further investigations as per the DSA project plan include heavy metals in final dairy products which are scheduled during the last two quarters of the year.

No Non-achievements / underperformance has been reported

Goal 4 - Milk and other dairy product risk identification

Achievements

The DSA national milk and other dairy product monitoring activities provide for the sampling of the categories namely packed pasteurised and unpasteurised milk and retail bulk pasteurised and unpasteurised milk

As a result of the interaction with the municipal health authorities (as per the DSA National Monitoring Program) an increase in retail bulk samples is noted. This is mainly due to continuous difficulties experienced with the level of non-compliance (food safety and product composition) of retail bulk milk and follow up samples taken according to the risk based approach implemented. As these non-compliances are communicated to the owners of the relevant businesses and health authorities DSA procedures are followed to ensure that follow up work is done under the DSA project relating to remedial action with producer/distributors and processors of non-complying product.

National and International food safety (dairy) risk monitoring - The following websites and web feeds (Rich Site Summary) were monitored on a weekly basis for possible food 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/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

International food safety (dairy) risks recorded mainly related to the presence of pathogens such as Listeria in final product manufactured from unpasteurized milk. The DSA is a member of the National Department of Health Food Safety Alert Team. No national and international incidents that may have an effect on the South African industry and consumer were recorded in the first two quarters of 2014.

No Non-achievements / underperformance has been reported

Goal 5 - Remedial action programmes with processors and distributors

Achievements

All non-conforming results obtained through analysis of samples submitted by EHP's were communicated to processors and PD's by post or e-mail as well as via EHP's in the case where contact details were not available on the system. The scheduled visits of the DSA to non complying outlets are considered to be very successful as the interaction on a one on one basis have proven to produce positive outcomes in terms of compliance. This statement is made against the background that DSA guideline documentation is extensively used during visits and consultative sessions relating to trouble shooting. It is the experience since the implementation of this project that a significant number of small to medium enterprises not linked to the normal communication network of the organized dairy industry are now starting to network. The relationship between the DSA and the respective authorities is of great significance in terms of this project as in certain cases statutory measures to facilitate immediate remedial action are required. Expansion of the activities of this project is considered a priority in the DSA 2015 strategic approach as the role of the DSA as self-regulatory initiative (of the organized dairy industry) is increasingly acknowledged by the government departments and other stakeholders.

No Non-achievements / underperformance has been reported

Goal 6 - Communication with authorities and other organizations

Achievements

a. Department of Health: Directorate Food Control

The DSA actively participates in the joint industry – government initiatives to reduce the prevalence of non-communicable diseases in South Africa. DSA participation is a result of these initiatives impact on formulation of government policies and legislative matters e.g. the use of sweeteners and salt as well as other additives in foodstuffs (dairy).

b. Municipal Health Authorities

Communication with the municipal health authorities based on information obtained from the National Milk and Other Dairy Product Monitoring Programme is on-going with specific reference to infringements relating inhibitory substances, E.coli, phosphatase positive results. Facilitation of remedial action regarding the sale of substandard milk and other dairy products are followed up with strategic meetings at district municipality level. Specific attention was given to adulteration of milk with chemicals by a dairy processing facility in North West province, resulting into a ministerial enquiry. In this respect DSA in terms of its relationship with the Directorate Food Control successfully participated in the investigative work done and by providing guidance to the directorate in terms of technical information.

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

i) Directorate: Inspection Services (IS)

DSA relationship with the DAFF lead to the Managing Director serving as chairman of an appeal board of DAFF during a hearing regarding R2581 related matters. Cycle results regarding infringements in terms of the Regulations relating to dairy and imitation dairy products (relating to the DSA national monitoring program) were communicated to the Guardian Manager for the APS Task Team of the Directorate. Misleading claims and 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 discussions regarding geographical names of cheese products, the draft regulations relating to dairy and imitation dairy products and formalising an amended standard operating procedure for the export of dairy products in conjunction with PPECB and Sampro.

iii) Directorate Animal Health

DSA participated in the process of review of the Veterinary Procedural Notice 20 due to changes in legislation. Inputs to the reviewed VPN were forwarded to the Directorate Animal Health. This work is not yet completed as final feedback from DAFF is awaited. Positive results relating to inhibitory substances detected during the quarterly monitoring cycle were communicated to the department as part of collaboration on chemical residue control.

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

The DSA is in regular liaison with the Senior Manager, inspections: Legal Metrology. A quarterly report regarding metrology infringements was forwarded to the NRCS ending cycle 48 as per standard agreement.

e. Perishable Product Export Control Board (PPECB)

DSA contributed to the facilitation process between PPECB and stakeholders in the dairy industry with the purpose to review existing standard operating procedures for the export of dairy products. These procedures are to be reconsidered with the latest draft regulations relating to the export of dairy products.

f. SABS (South African Bureau of Standards)

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.

g. Department of Trade and Industry

DSA participated in the in-depth study on the dairy value chain and subsequently commented on the draft report.

Communication with other organisations

Milk SA - 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. DSA was appointed by the MILK SA Transformation Manager to conduct milk shed assessments at 8 milking sheds as part of the Commercialisation of black farmers project. Regular assistance to SAMPRO and MPO members regarding food safety and product compositional standards is continuous.

CGCSA - Food Safety Initiative: scheduled meetings with the newly appointed manager of the Food Safety Initiative regarding the proposed retail food safety audit (Global Market System) and the position and role of the DSA in the context of the proposed system continued. DSA personnel attended the training sessions of the CGCSA: FSI Global Market Capacity Building Programme and will be delivering a presentation at the CGCSA: National Symposium in July 2014 in this regard.

IDF – DSA regularly communicates with the IDF members of the Standing Committee: Food labelling and Terminology and provided inputs where appropriate to the SANCIDF.

LHPG – DSA conducted a presentation at the Livestock Health Advisory Group to rural veterinary surgeons regarding the role and function of the DSA in terms of food safety management at milk production level as well as possible avenues to collaborate on the promoting the improvement of raw milk and herd health.

SASDT - DSA as elected member of the management of SASDT Northern division presented a paper on “Technology support through voluntary code of conduct” at the 2014 SASDT Symposium.

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

SAAFoST – DSA attends the general meetings of SAAFOST on an ad hoc basis subject to agenda discussions

No Non-achievements / underperformance has been reported

Goal 7 - Liaison with authorities and legislation

Achievements

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

i. Food Control Legislation

Information regarding regulations:

New regulation R733 of 2013: Sweetener Regulation, linked to the Global Standard for Food Additives

(GFSA)

Food for Infants: R991/2012 replaces R1330/1994 – Final published regulation takes effect in December 2013

Reduction of Salt in Foodstuffs: R214/2012 – First effective date – 2016.

New regulations to be drafted or amended

New: Hygiene Regulations (R962) Draft to be published in 2014.

New: Microbiological Standards for foodstuffs (with micro criteria)

Amendment of R908: HACCP listing (Milk)

Amendment: Regulations relating to milk and milk products (review of test methods, microbiological

standards and inclusion of alternative methods of treatment)

New: Draft labelling regulations

Amendment: Veterinary Residues
Amendment: Pesticide Residues
Amendment: Preservatives and Antioxidants
Amendment: Contaminants

ii. DAFF legislation

Product composition

- Amendment of R2581 relating to dairy and imitation dairy products
- Draft regulations relating to the export of animal products

iii. Department of Trade and Industry

Liaison on the proposed prohibition of the use of names of products (geographical indicators) in terms of: SADC – EU Economic Partnership Agreement.

No Non-achievements / underperformance has been reported

Goal 8 - Information and Education

Achievements

Successful EHP information sessions were held on 9 April 2014 at the Ekurhuleni Food Safety Forum and 8 May 2014 in Moorreesburg with 30 professional EHP of the West Coast District Municipality. DSA presented at the Ethekewini Stakeholder workshop attended by the retail sector and health officials regarding dairy technical information and regulatory matters. DSA information sessions based on DSA guideline documentation to student EHP's at 6 tertiary institutions continued with the remainder of two sessions at two institutions to be completed in the 3rd quarter.

No Non-achievements / underperformance has been reported

Goal 9 - Media communication

Achievements

DSA continued with the placement of dairy technological articles, advertorials and advertisements in the Dairy Mail, Veeplaas and Stock Farm magazines in the second quarter of 2014. DSA also presented on a national radio station during on the topic of labelling requirements.

No Non-achievements / underperformance has been reported

Goal 10 - Development of Guideline documentation

Achievements

The New DSA's Guide to dairy product labelling in South Africa was completed and launched at the SASDT symposium in Cape Town. The new guideline is well accepted by industry and serves as a valuable tool to assist dairy processors and manufacturers with compliance to current labelling legislation. The guideline together with other guideline documentation is also

available on the DSA website.

No Non-achievements / underperformance has been reported

Income and expenditure statement

Income and expenditure statement	Bestuurstate Junie 2014.pdf
Unnecessary spending during period	No

Popular Report

No file has been uploaded

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