



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

(PRJ-0144-2017)

Dairy Standard Agency

Quarter 2 2017/2017 (April 2017 till June 2017)

Project goals

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

Achievements

The quarterly sample runs for cycle 61 were completed as per the predetermined schedule and the amount of samples per product are indicated in Table 1 below.

7 Metropolitan municipalities, 12 district municipalities and 56 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 61: >2% added water, inhibitory substance positive, phosphatase positive and E.coli positive were also forwarded to the relevant authorities for further action. The categories packed unpasteurised, retail bulk pasteurised and unpasteurised milk continuously indicated a negative compliance rate during the second quarter of 2017 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.

Table 1.

Dairy Product	Total
Fresh milk in the categories named packed pasteurised and unpasteurised, pasteurised and unpasteurised retail bulk milk	319
Cream samples	85

Butter samples	47
Total	506

No Non-achievements / underperformance has been reported

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

Achievements

2st Quarter of 2017

Investigations regarding complaints related to:

- Underweight sachets of milk sold in Western Cape completed – Follow-up to continue during Cycle 62
- % Butterfat of milk continuously lower than standards stipulated in the class designation, Table 1, R260 (Complaint was forwarded to project 2.1 – official complaint to DAFF)
- Sale of milk containing inhibitory substances completed. Follow-up to continue during Cycle 62
- Sale of milk containing added water. Project complaint closed out. Routine follow-up to continue during Cycle 62
- Shelf life of cultured milk – investigation resulted into a special investigation (See Project 3.)
- Addition of starch to cultured milk – investigation completed.
- Product claim - grade of cheese questionable cheese (Complaint received 28 June - investigation not completed as yet)

All complaints were documented and investigated. Follow-up verification where applicable will be conducted during Cycle 62.

No Non-achievements / underperformance has been reported

Goal 3 - Special investigations

Achievements

2st Quarter of 2017

Special investigation regarding the addition of milk powder and milk protein concentrates to fresh milk and UHT milk – this investigation was initiated in 2016 and is currently dealt with under a separate project approved by Milk SA relating to food (dairy fraud) in the retail industry.

An initial investigation regarding extended shelf life of cultured milk products was completed during the second quarter of 2017. The work is currently followed up with a more extensive sampling and test regime relating to the use of products such as Natamycin and other preservatives not permitted by regulation in cultured milk.

No Non-achievements / underperformance has been reported

Goal 4 - Milk and other dairy products: Risk identification

Achievements

Reports on non-conforming results were forwarded to the respective government departments at the end of Cycle 61. 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	24
LP	22
WC	20
NW	35
GA	38
FS	27
NC	4
EC	18
KZN	22

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.

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/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

8 cases were recorded of which all 8 related to incidents in the USA.

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 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 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.

A total of 44 facilities were visited for the period April to June 2017.

* 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.

Province	Areas visited	Companies visited	Telephone calls	E-mails	DSA further assistance provided
Gauteng	7	21	7	20	2
Mpumalanga	1	3	12	21	3
Free State	0	0	7	22	4
North West	1	1	3	15	6
Northern Cape	0	0	1	1	0
Western Cape	1	5	1	19	2
Eastern Cape	0	0	0	2	0
Limpopo	2	3	2	7	2
KwaZulu Natal	7	11	0	59	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 requirements as well as dairy technical matters, which in several cases resulted in facilitation processes with the Directorate Food Control.

b. Municipal Health Authorities

Communication with the municipal health authorities based on information obtained from project 1 was primarily focused on the implementation of remedial action on non-conforming/substandard milk and other dairy products. Interactions with Environmental Health

Practitioners are also used to encourage information and education sessions as an industry initiative to promote the improvement of milk and other dairy product safety and quality.

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

i) Directorate: Inspection Services (IS)

Cycle 61 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 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. Follow up facilitation process

regarding industry dispensations relating product compositional standards and labelling requirements and formal communication with industry via the Regulations and Standards Project of Milk SA continued. A significant amount of communication with DAFF was done as

a result of the appointment of the new assignee by DAFF, publication of proposed inspection fees and the development of a standard operating procedure.

iii) Directorate Animal Health

DSA liaison with the directorate continued with regards to the National chemical residue milk monitoring. A formal meeting took place on 5 May 2017 during which options were discussed to review the current dormant residue milk monitoring programme of DAFF with the assistance of the organised dairy industry.

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 lodged with the NRCS during the second quarter.

e. Perishable Product Export Control Board (PPECB)

Following the facilitation processes that took place during the first quarter final industry and PPECB comments were collated and forwarded to DAFF for finalisation. Signature of the final SOP is awaited.

f. South African Bureau of Standards (SABS).

DSA continued to serve on 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, Livestock welfare,

developing SANS 1694, Standards relating to the welfare of dairy cattle which is in the final stages of editing and publication of the draft for public comment. 1 SABS meeting was attended during the second quarter. Outcomes of meeting where 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 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 continued to meet regularly with the Consumer Education Project Manager to discuss relevant issues. During the second quarter DSA consulted regularly with the organised dairy industry via the Regulations and Standards Project of Milk SA regarding regulatory matters and the Transformation Project of Milk SA on facility assessment conducted on 13 April 2017 of a community based dairy in Limpopo. DSA exhibited and attended the MPO Large Herds Conference 5-7 June 2017.

Additional work identified by the DSA has been formalised as Milk SA projects after approval for the request of additional funding. The registered projects are:

Investigation into the establishment of infrastructure regarding supply of standardised standards

used for the calibration of laboratory equipment in the local dairy industry.

Special investigation into food fraud: adulteration of local and imported milk and other dairy products.

Additional print of the DSA current Code of Practice for Milk Producers - 300 copies with 300 Milk shed hygiene checklist inserts.

Investigation into the dairy industry's participation the continuation and maintenance of the National Chemical Residue Monitor Programme (NCRCP)

CGCSA: FSI – DSA as member of the Food Safety Initiative (FSI) interacted on a regular basis with management regarding share of regulatory information. Matters related to sugar tax legislation, the inspection fees of the DAFF appointed assignee received priority attention.

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. The following IDF inputs towards Codex matters received specific attention:

- Standard of dairy permeate powder
- General Standard for processed cheese
- Standard for mozzarella

SANCU - DSA communicates with the SA National Consumer Union regarding dairy food safety and quality related issues as and when required. Following the retirement of Mrs Moolman as director and member representative of SANCU Mrs Ina Wilken as CEO of SANCU has now also been appointed as director of the DSA.

SASDT - DSA attended presented at the SASDT Western Cape regional meeting on 20 April 2017 as well as the SASDT National Symposium 9-11 May 2017.

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

TERTIARY INSTITUTIONS – DSA serves as a member of the Advisory Boards of the Departments of Environmental Health of the Tshwane University of Technology 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. Two meetings were attended on 15 and 25 May 2017.

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)

- Regulations relating to the labelling and advertising of foods: Amendment (R429 of 29 May 2014).

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.

- DAFF appointed assignee i.t.o. the APS Act.
- PPECB as assignee in terms of the Regulations regarding control of the export of animal products, R422 of 22 May 2015.
- Draft regulations to the protection of geographical indicators used on agricultural products intended for sale in the Republic of South Africa.
- DAFF guidelines on Pictorial depictions allowed on packaging.
- Revised standards for fresh (unripened cheese) and kefir in terms of R260 of 15 March 2015 based on Codex standards.

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. Compulsory South African National Standards – SABS

- Adoption of ISO standards referred to in the R260/2015 Regulations relating to the classification, packing and marking of dairy products and imitation dairy products intended for sale in the Republic of South Africa, R260 of 2015 under the Agricultural Product Standards Act, 1990 (Act 119 of 1990) as SA National Standards by the SABS.

5. Codex Alimentarius and ISO

ISO/TS 22002-3:2011 - Prerequisite programmes on food safety - Part 3: Farming

ISO/TS 22002-6:2016 - Prerequisite programmes on food safety - Part 6: Feed and animal food production.

6. Treasury Department

A formal response regarding the matter of taxation of sugar sweetened beverages with specific reference to affected dairy products was submitted via the Regulations and Standards Project of Milk SA to the Standing Committee on Finance and Portfolio Committee on Health.

A further response was forwarded following a request for comments on the Draft Response Document of June 2017, Draft Rates and Monetary Amounts and Amendment of Revenue Laws Bill - Health Promotion Levy.

7. DSA Technical Committee

The following work identified for the attention of the DSA Technical Committee has been formalised as Milk SA projects and include:

- Investigation into the establishment of infrastructure regarding supply of standardised standards used for the calibration of laboratory equipment in the local dairy industry.
- Special investigation into food fraud: adulteration of local and imported milk and other dairy products.
- New work identified in the second quarter relates to the revision of the technical SABS National Standards (SANS 1678 and 1679) for pasteurised and sterilised 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, 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:

Table 4

Date	University	Amount of students
24 May 2017	DUT	24
25 May 2017	MUT	31
2 and 9 June	UJ	45

No Non-achievements / underperformance has been reported

Goal 9 - Media communication

Achievements

Three advertorials relating to food safety and product composition were published in the Dairy Mail and Veeplaas as well as one live TV interview.

No Non-achievements / underperformance has been reported

Goal 10 - Development of guideline documentation

Achievements

The completed draft was re-edited and submitted to the graphic designer during the second quarter 2017.

No Non-achievements / underperformance has been reported

Goal 11 - Milk SA Regulations and Standards Project

Achievements

The management committee of the project continuously interacted with electronic correspondence to the members of the Advisory Committee on a regular basis. Where applicable outcomes of correspondence were forwarded to the organised dairy industry on an informative basis or requesting comments on regulations and standards. Priority was given during the second quarter to the facilitation of the process regarding the appointment of the DAFF assignee and subsequent publication of proposed inspection fees, standard operating procedure relating to inspection and sampling. Matters communicated to the advisory committee included:

Direction from DAFF – Prohibition on the use of the “A2” and Negative “A1” claims on dairy products

Adoption of ISO standards referred to in the R260/2015 as SA National Standards by the SABS;

Request for comments regarding standards for cultured milk namely Kefir;

Clarification on the additional standards for milk Table 1A of R260/2015;

Restrictions on the use of certain cheese names in terms of the recently signed SADC Economic Partnership Agreement;

R260 draft standard relating to standards for fresh soft cheeses

R260 dispensation regarding the marking requirements in; respect of cheese wedges, mini milk pods and mini butter tubs.

Regular interaction and meeting between the Management Committees of the Regulations and Standards and Customs Duty and Market Access Advisory Committees took place with the following agenda items shared:

DAFF assignee APS Act R260/2015

DAFF assignee PPECB SOP

DAFF/DTI Regulations relating to the protection of geographical indications used in agricultural products in South Africa

DAFF VPN 20 Certification dairy export facilities

Dairy import requirements - SADC countries

No Non-achievements / underperformance has been reported

Income and expenditure statement

Income and expenditure statement	Mei 2017 - bl 1-4.pdf Mei 2017 - bl8.pdf Mei 2017 - Voorblad.pdf
Unnecessary spending during period	No

Popular Report

[DSA Quarterly summary report April to June 2017.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