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

(PRJ-0172-2017)

DAIRY STANDARD AGENCY

Quarter 3 2017/2017 (July 2017 till September 2017)

Project goals

Goal 1 - To identify specific possible fraudulent practices in milk and other dairy products of food safety and product compositional concern, determine the availability of specific analytical methods (where applicable have the analytical methods developed by independent non-commercial laboratories) and testing of products. The outcome of the investigation is to serve as part of a Milk SA report on the status of food fraud of locally processed milk and other manufactured dairy products as well as imported dairy products over a predetermined period.

Achievements

Several test methods to identify fraudulent practises in milk and dairy products have been identified. Some of the test methods are already implemented as part of Project 1.1 (National Milk and Dairy Monitoring Program) for example determination of added water. However the current challenge in the DSA test profile is an affordable method to screen milk and dairy products for any abnormalities which shall indicating also other fraudulent activities.

During the second and third quarter several experts and expert companies (national as well as international) specialising on the subject of food fraud have been consulted and from all information and research conducted it is gathered that Spectrophotometry is the general basis to work from.

In the absence of general commercial analytical tests available that will suit the needs of the DSA three companies were identified as suppliers of equipment and developers suitable software systems based on Spectrophotometry technology in order to identify adulteration in milk and other dairy products.

As part of the research phase it was decided to partake in a serious of test runs in collaboration with an international well known supplier of technology and national analytical laboratory during Cycle 63 (October – December 2017) at no cost in order to:

Determine if the technology can be effectively applied in order to identify adulteration;

Be able to develop an extended software programme suitable for the South African dairy industry to effectively screen for abnormalities in dairy products with the assistance of a qualified Chemometrician (person who generate NIR calibrations.).

Due to the complex nature of the work further development is to continue into the fourth quarter of 2017.

As the project is still in the preliminary phase no funds from the project were used at this stage. A business plan is however to be submitted in terms of the allocated funding in the fourth quarter.

No Non-achievements / underperformance has been reported

Income and expenditure statement

Income and expenditure statement	No file has been uploaded
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	No
Levy funds were applied in an appropriate and accountable manner	No
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