



## **MilkSA - Dairy Standard Agency Programme, 2022**

(PRJ-0317-2022)

### **Dairy Standard Agency**

**Quarter 1 2022/2022** (January 2022 till March 2022)

## **Project goals**

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

#### **Achievements**

Operational activities due to the Covid-19 restraints experienced during 2021 did not carry over to 2022. Health authorities were eager to participate in the first Cycle of 2022 and a record number of samples were submitted for analyses.

The sample run activities (cycle 79) were completed as per schedule and the number of samples per product are indicated in Table 1 below. The product scope for cycle 79 was milk (raw and pasteurised), fermented products: cultured milk/Amasi, cultured buttermilk, yoghurt (plain & with added foodstuffs), drinking yoghurt and dairy snacks.

**Table 1** Number of samples per product collected

Fresh Milk (A-D)	199	<b>TOTAL</b>
Products total (E - M)	359	<b>558</b>
A	Milk (Packed Pasteurised)	93
B	Milk (Packed Unpasteurised)	6
C	Milk (Bulk Pasteurised)	44
D	Milk (Bulk Unpasteurised)	56
E	Cultured Milk	109
F	Cultured Buttermilk	37
G	Drinking Yoghurt w/added Foodstuffs	73
H	Yoghurt w/added Foodstuffs	64
I	Dairy Snacks	44
J	Yoghurt (Plain)	25
K	Strained Yoghurt (Plain)	3
L	Drinking Yoghurt (Plain)	2
M	Strained Yoghurt w/ foodstuffs	2
		<b>558</b>

During cycle 79, 7 metropolitan municipalities, 12 district municipalities and 44 local municipalities participated in the sampling runs, representing all provinces.

Samples were submitted to DSA Laboratory Services per standard procedure and the 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 participating municipal health authorities for further action. Contact details of participating authorities as well as processors were updated as per standard procedure.

DSA, in terms of its project protocol and relationships with the relevant authorities (see project goal 6), continued to liaise with the relevant law enforcement bodies, providing support through dairy technical information and guideline documents to limit the sale of non-conforming products.

## ***No Non-achievements / underperformance has been reported***

### **Goal 2 - Handling of quality problems in respect of product compliance with legal standards**

#### ***Achievements***

The following matters were attended to:

1. UHT samples were sent for analyses to determine possible adulteration by means of possible addition of reconstituted milk (addition of milk powder). Confirmation tests are in process.
2. Labelling and composition of dairy products sold in Northwest.
3. Off taste in fresh milk and ESL milk sold nationally. Testing for the possible addition of preservatives to milk were done however root cause analyses and confirmation tests will continue into the second quarter.

## ***No Non-achievements / underperformance has been reported***

### **Goal 3 - Special investigations**

#### ***Achievements***

Aflatoxin M<sub>1</sub>

National screening for the presence of Aflatoxin M<sub>1</sub> in fresh milk sold in South Africa during the first quarter of 2022 (C79) was completed. A total number of 199 milk samples were tested of which 7% samples exceeded the maximum residue limit of >50 ppm and 1% tested positive for the presence of Aflatoxin M<sub>1</sub> but <50ppm. The samples that tested positive for Aflatoxin M<sub>1</sub>, exceeding 50ppm were 2.6% more than the average detected during 2021.

## ***No Non-achievements / underperformance has been reported***

## Goal 4 - Milk and other dairy product risk identification

### ***Achievements***

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 relevant dairy industry members as tests were completed.

### **Reporting**

Reports on non-conforming results were forwarded to the respective government departments at the end of each cycle. 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. The total cycle reports forwarded to health authorities for cycle 79 are indicated in Table 2.

**Table 2 Total cycle reports**

<b>Province</b>	<b>Health Authority offices</b>
MP	11
LP	11
WC	8
NW	17
GA	13
FS	9
NC	2
EC	5
KZN	12
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>88</b>

### **Management information system (MIS) upgrading**

The integration of the DSA current MIS platform with the Microsoft latest platform was initiated.

Improvements on product made were as follow:

MIS was brought in line with Laboratory System to process product results with minimum manual inserts.

Updating of parameters on fermented products were aligned with R1510.

### **National and international food safety and recall monitoring**

National and international food safety alerts during 2022 were monitored. An average of 19 national and international websites were monitored on a weekly basis for possible food safety risks relating to dairy during this year, that could have a public health impact on South African consumers. No further actions were required based on the activities monitored.

Relevant information regarding food safety and compositional standards for milk and other dairy products were communicated to the dairy industry and other organisations.

## ***No Non-achievements / underperformance has been reported***

### **Goal 5 - Remedial programs with producers, processors and distributors**

#### ***Achievements***

Due to the limited shelf life of most dairy products, the follow-up of non-conforming products as to ensure appropriate action by the parties involved, requires prompt action. The data obtained from project 1, were used and effectively communicated to industry members. Environmental health practitioners (EHPs) were also requested to communicate all test results to relevant stakeholders in a confidential manner.

DSA technical personnel visited the respective processors, producer/distributors and retailers (milk shops) to discuss the test results (already received) and to assist with possible causes of the non-conformances and give recommendations to rectify the non-conformances.

In case of non-conformances, visits were made to the respective non-compliant facilities during which dairy technical support was rendered.

During the first quarter of 2022 (cycle 79) 27 visits were paid to processors, PDs and milk shops in 6 provinces (Table 3).

DSA technical personnel also visited the associated EHPs from the respective health authorities of the processors, producers/distributors and retailers (milk shops) visited by DSA to give support and guidance in the execution of project 1.

As part of the remedial action program, assistance was given to processors on the verification of compliance of product labels against national standards. Eighteen (18) company's dairy product labels were reviewed and comprehensive feedback reports on each label were communicated to processors. The updated labelling website was promoted during the visits.

**Table 3 Visits were paid to processors, PDs and milk shops**

<b>Province</b>	<b>Companies visited</b>	<b>DSA further assistance provided</b>
Gauteng	1	8
Mpumalanga	6	0
Free State	5	2
Northwest	8	1
Northern Cape	0	0
Western Cape	0	2
Eastern Cape	0	4
Limpopo	3	3
KwaZulu-Natal	4	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>20</b>

## ***No Non-achievements / underperformance has been reported***

### **Goal 6 - Communication with the authorities and other organisations**

#### ***Achievements***

##### **Department of Health: Directorate Food Control**

DSA in a supportive role, assisted the industry members with queries relating to food labelling and, dairy food safety requirements, as well as dairy technical matters.

Technical consultation with the directorate in respect of probiotic claims on dairy products as well as in-process additives took place.

##### **Municipal health authorities**

Communication with the municipal health authorities mainly focused on interpretation of food safety legislation and elements of law enforcement as per the health regulations under the Foodstuffs, Cosmetics and Disinfectants Act, with specific reference to certificates of acceptability.

##### **Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development (DALRRD)**

###### **i) Directorate: Inspection Services (IS)**

Cycle results of the DSA monitoring programmes regarding infringements in terms of the regulations relating to dairy and imitation dairy products (because of the DSA mandate) were restricted to communication with the Directorate: Food Safety and Quality Assurance considering the dysfunctional status of the assignee and judgement by the High Court in the case between Woodlands Dairy and Milk SA and the DALRRD respondents.

Progress regarding the appointed assignee was reported on under the Regulations and Standards Project of Milk SA.

###### **ii) Directorate: Food Safety and Quality Assurance (FSQA policy making)**

Communication with FSQA regarding dairy product compositional matters and the interpretation of the regulations relating to dairy and imitation dairy products continued. Formal communication with the FSQA also continued regarding possible revisions of the latest R1510 of 2019 - Regulations relating to dairy and imitation dairy products, which initiated the industry process to review R1510/2019.

##### **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 of NRCS. No formal complaints were lodged with NRCS during the first quarter.

Interaction took place by means of a webinar regarding fraudulent activities (SANS 289 – under filling and misleading practises by means of oversized packaging materials).

##### **South African Bureau of Standards (SABS)**

DSA continued participation in the review and development of a draft SANS 10156: Handling of chilled and frozen foods. Liaison for the supply of discounted copies of SANS standards on behalf of the industry was successful with the first consignment of 70 SANS 1694 delivered to a milk buyers farmers organisation in the Eastern Cape.

#### **COMMUNICATION WITH OTHER ORGANISATIONS**

##### **Milk SA, MPO and SAMPRO**

DSA interacted on a regular basis with the project managers of the Milk SA's Consumer Education

Project, SAMPRO, MPO as well as the Project Coordinating Committee of Milk SA (DSA, CEP and R&D project of Milk SA) of which the first meeting took place on 17 March 2022. The Dairy R&D Committee (DRDC) and management committee meeting were attended, and subsequent contributions were made towards the sub-committee: Sustainability in respect of the role of the DSA audits towards environmental management and animal welfare.

### **Consumer Goods Council of South Africa: Food Safety Initiative (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:

- Agricultural Product Standards Act and the assignees.
- The latest developments regarding the Front of Pack Labelling.
- Health Promotion Levies
- Food loss and waste program

### **European Hygienic Engineering & Design Group (EHEDG)**

DSA is a member of the South African steering committee. The scheduled meeting for the first quarter has been postponed to the second quarter of 2022.

### **International Dairy Federation (IDF)**

DSA managing director is a member of the South African National Committee of the International Dairy Federation (SANCIDF) and of the IDF Standing Committee: Standards of Identity and Labelling and nominated to the IDF Standing Committee for food additives. DSA managing director was also nominated as the technical secretary of SANCIDF as replacement for Dr Jan Floor who retired.

Electronic webinars of the IDF were attended where possible, as well as commenting on documents relating various standing committees and Codex related documents.

### **South African Society of Dairy Technology (SASDT)**

DSA managing director as member of the management committee of the Northern region participated in the SASDT management meetings during the first quarter and attended the SASDT National Symposium on 23 and 24 March 2022. Mrs Jodie True contributed significantly to the symposium in her capacity as member of the management committee of the Western Cape.

### **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 (EHPs). The first meeting of TUT was attended by the project manager, Mrs J Odendaal.

## ***No Non-achievements / underperformance has been reported***

### **Goal 7 - Liaison on legislation with authorities**

#### ***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)***

Revision of the Regulations relating to milk and dairy products (R1555/1997). Milk SA's approval of funding for the appointment of a consultant was finalised.

It is envisaged that the next draft will be circulated by the end of the second quarter of 2022.

## **Department of Agriculture Land Reform and Rural Development (DALRRD)**

### ***Agricultural Product Standards Act, 1990 (Act 119 of 1990)***

Revision of the Regulations relating to the classification, packing and marking of dairy products and imitation dairy products intended for sale in the Republic of South Africa (R1510/2019). The final draft to industry will be forwarded during April 2022.

### **South African National Standards (SABS)**

#### ***SABS TC 034/SC 17, Hygiene practices in the food industry: SANS 10156: 202X-Ed2 Handling of chilled and frozen foods***

The managing director of DSA was re-elected as chairperson of the SABS TC 034/SC 05 regarding Milk and milk products. As chairperson of the TC 034/SC 05, DSA managing director was appointed on behalf of the SABS and industry on the African Organisation for Standardisation (ARSO), TC 04, Milk and milk products and attended the ARSO workgroups 1,2 and 3 as well plenary meetings with the assistance of the DSA appointed contractor.

### **Codex Alimentarius and International Organization for Standardization (ISO)**

As representative of the SANCIDF, the managing director of DSA participated in the IDF communication and commented where applicable.

The first Codex requests in preparation for 2022 meetings have been received and comments will be shared in the Regulations and Standards Project of Milk SA as well the SA Codex Contact Point.

### **DSA Technical Committee**

Assistance by the DSA TC in respect of R1510/2019 as well as R1555 of 1997 continued during the first quarter. The work of this committee project also supports the Research and Development Project of Milk SA.

## ***No Non-achievements / underperformance has been reported***

## **Goal 8 - Information and education**

### ***Achievements***

DSA presents information sessions based on the DSA Codes of Practice and related guideline materials to professional environmental health practitioners (EHPs) as well as student EHPs, and other professions such as veterinary and B.Sc. Agric students. In 2021 the project operations have been amended to engage with the institutions more through electronic communication however upon request the information sessions in 2022 will again be presented at the tertiary institutions as interactive classroom sessions.

Dairy Information sessions for student EHPs, veterinary and B.Sc. Agric students were scheduled with the respective tertiary institutions with the first session to already been conducted at:

University of Johannesburg (11 March 2022) - 62 student EHPs attended

With the presented webinars in 2021 the scope of the audiences was widened to cover other interest parties and due to the positive rating of the webinars and on popular demand another 10 webinars were lined up for 2022.

The first webinar, on 1 March 2022 was attended by 48 people and the topic was "Get to know Dairy Standard Agency better while exploring what's new on the dairy regulatory front".



The next webinar is scheduled for 19 April 2022 and will address “Biosecurity on dairy farms”, a critical important topic in the light of the spread of foot and mouth disease.

Other interesting topics that will be presented during the remaining of the year include prudent use of antibiotics in dairy, value of mycotoxin testing in dairy, retail bulk milk, biofilms in the dairy industry, harmful E.coli, pasteurisation, alternative laboratory tests and a student topic.

To address the requirement of food safety management training on farm level, additional webinars are planned for the second half of 2022.

Workshops for municipal EHPs will commence in May 2022 and the focus will be to empower them for inspections and issuing of Certificates of Acceptability on dairy farms, based on the Code of Practice for Milk Producers.

## ***No Non-achievements / underperformance has been reported***

### **Goal 9 - Media communication**

#### ***Achievements***

DSA signed contractual agreements with Agri Connect and Plaas Media as well as Food and Beverage Reporter. Two advertorials/advertisements relating to animal welfare and DSA Lab Services were published in the Dairy Mail and Plaas Media. One radio interview and one TV recording on two national broadcasting station were conducted.

## ***No Non-achievements / underperformance has been reported***

### **Goal 10 - Development of guideline documentation**

#### ***Achievements***

The latest version of the Code of Practice for Milk Producers (COP) was published in March 2022 and the circulation of the guide (hard copies and via electronic media) are continuing also with the support of the secondary industry.

In support of the COP, work on the development of a documentation system for milk producer, required for the successful implementation of a GAP system on farm that focus on food safety, animal welfare, environmental sustainability and biosecurity was initiated and to be finalised end May 2022.

## ***No Non-achievements / underperformance has been reported***

### **Goal 11 - To successfully manage the Regulations and Standards Project of Milk SA which is registered as an additional project with Milk SA**

#### ***Achievements***

See project PRJ-0316

## ***No Non-achievements / underperformance has been reported***



# Income and expenditure statement

Income and expenditure statement	<a href="#">PRJ-0317 Mar 2022.pdf</a>
Unnecessary spending during period	No

## Popular Report

[DSA Popular Report January to March 2022.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