



MilkSA - Dairy Standard Agency Programme, 2022

(PRJ-0317-2022)

Dairy Standard Agency

Quarter 2 2022/2022 (April 2022 till June 2022)

Project goals

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

Achievements

The sample run activities (cycle 80) were completed as per schedule and the number of samples per product are indicated in Table 1 below. The product scope for C80 was Milk (raw and pasteurised), butter and cream. **Note:** Ekurhuleni Metro Municipality did not partake in the C80 sample run, due to financial constraints. DSA assisted with the sampling according to protocol, however in this particular case the work could not be completed at the time of reporting.

Table 1 Number of samples per product collected

		Total
Fresh Milk (A-D)	214	
Products total (E - M)	152	366
A	Milk (Packed Pasteurised)	110
B	Milk (Packed Unpasteurised)	6
C	Milk (Bulk Pasteurised)	29
D	Milk (Bulk Unpasteurised)	69
E	Cream	73
F	Cultured/Sour Cream	26
H	Butter	31
I	Cultured Butter	5
J	Modified Butter	16
K	Modified Cultured Butter	1
		366

During Cycle 80, six (6) 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 addressed by the DSA office:

UHT samples were sent for analyses to determine possible adulteration, however at the time of reporting, the test for the possible addition of reconstituted milk (addition of milk powder) was not completed. DSA still await feedback from FACTS.

Possible adulteration of UHT milk sold in the Eastern Cape. Sampling and analyses were completed, and the processor was informed of non-conformances. Corrective action feedback was received by DSA and follow-up sampling has been planned.

Labelling of non-dairy products were assessed in terms of current agricultural and health legislation.

No Non-achievements / underperformance has been reported

Goal 3 - Special investigations

Achievements

Aflatoxin M1

A national survey was conducted on the presence of Aflatoxin M1 in fresh milk sold in South Africa during the second quarter of 2022 (C80). A total number of 214 milk samples were tested of which 4% of samples exceeded the maximum residue limit of >50 ppm and 2% tested positive for the presence of Aflatoxin M1 but <50 ppm. Processors of non-conforming products were informed to implement remedial actions.

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 the 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 C80 are indicated in Table 2.

Table 2 Total cycle reports

Province	Health Authority offices
Mpumalanga	11
Limpopo	11
Western Cape	8
Northwest	17
Gauteng	13
Free State	9
Northern Cape	2
Eastern Cape	5
KwaZulu-Natal	12
TOTAL	88

Management information system (MIS) upgrading

The compatibility of the DSA current MIS platform with the Microsoft latest platform was initiated. Improvements on the DSA product made, were as follow:

Extending DSA Lab system to import results directly from equipment software.

Bug fixing.

Changes were made to Lab system to fast track capturing of data of samples submitted.

Integration of DSA MIS system with the laboratory system.

Finalising of the DSA Lab website.

Upgrading of the MIS – to allow for the capturing of other dairy products reporting.

Register Apps developed on Apple Store.

The report server to be extended to include all DSA reporting requirements:

- Internal reports currently done through the MIS system.
- External reports such as auditing, consulting, etc.
- CSV export file amendments.

National and international food safety and recall monitoring

National and international food safety alerts during 2022 were monitored. Approximately 19 national and international websites were monitored on a weekly basis for possible food safety risks relating to dairy during this year, which could have a public health impact on South African consumers. On average 50 international alerts were detected, of which 4 was dairy related. No further actions were required based

on the monitoring activities.

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

FOOD SAFETY ALERTS - 2022 - SECOND QUARTER			
Total # of Reported Cases	L. mono	Cronobacter	Allergens
4	1	1	2

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 Officers (EHP's) 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 (including milk shops) according to priority to discuss the test results (already received), assisted with possible causes of the non-conformances and made recommendations to rectify the non-conformances.

In case of no non-conformances courtesy visits were paid to establish and promote the role of DSA in terms of its supporting mandate to industry.

During the second quarter of 2022 (cycle 80) sample runs, thirty-seven (37) visits were made to processors, PD's and milk shops in 6 provinces (Table 3).

DSA technical personnel also visited the participating EHP's from the respective health authorities in whose jurisdiction the processors, producers/distributors and retailers (milk shops) are situated and rendered support and guidance in the execution of project 1.

As part of the DSA remedial action program, assistance was given to processors on the verification of compliance of product labels against national standards. Twelve 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, PD's and milk shops

Province	Companies visited	DSA further assistance provided
Gauteng	10	11
Mpumalanga	11	0
Free State	1	2
Northwest	1	3
Northern Cape	0	0
Western Cape	3	2
Eastern Cape	0	1
Limpopo	8	1
KwaZulu-Natal	3	0
Total	37	20

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 Codex Alimentarius matters as well as food additives, processing aids and front of pack labelling on dairy products as well incorrect health certification (which again occurred in KZN), were addressed.

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.

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

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.

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

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, requirements for the marketing of A2 milk, geographical indicators and export regulations.

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 second quarter.

South African Bureau of Standards (SABS)

DSA continued participation in the review and development of a draft SANS standards regarding the handling of chilled and frozen foods as well as SABS TC034/SC017 annual meeting. Liaison for the supply of discounted copies of SANS standards on behalf of the industry was successful with the second order of 110 copies delivered to a milk buyer in the Western 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 (attended and presented at the SAMPRO General Management held on 7 April), MPO (Large Herds Conference attended on 6 to 8 June 2022) as well as the Coordinating Committee of Milk SA (DSA, CEP and R&D project of Milk SA) and the second meeting will take place on 26 July 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 (3 meetings were attended during the second quarter).

European Hygienic Engineering & Design Group (EHEDG)

DSA is a member of the South African steering committee. No formal meeting was attended in 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 and of the IDF Standing Committee: Standards of Identity and Labelling and nominated to the IDF Standing Committee for food additives and the technical secretary of SANCIDF. Electronic meetings and engagements included:

- SCSIL (Standards for identity and labelling) mid-year meeting, 2 June 2022
- SCAW (Animal Welfare), 10 May 2022
- SCMAC (Standing Committee on Analytical Methods for Composition)

Related electronic webinars of the IDF were attended where possible, as well as commenting on documents relating to Codex Alimentarius such as CCFA (Food Additives) and CCFH (Food Hygiene).

South African Society of Dairy Technology (SASDT)

DSA managing director and staff members serve on the management committees of the Northern and Western region and participated in the SASDT management meetings during the second quarter.

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 project manager attended the necessary meetings to discuss and implement the changeover from electronic meetings to physical meetings on request in the first meeting of the 6 institutions involved.

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). The revision work is still in progress as a result of the priority work of the Milk SA workgroup finalising the regulations relating to product composition of DALRRD.

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 was forwarded to the industry in April 2022 and the period for comments extended until July 2022, following which the Milk SA working group will collate the final work prior to further circulation to industry and DALRRD.

DSA participated in the review of the draft regulations relating to the protection of geographical indications and designations of origin used on agricultural products intended for sale in the Republic of South Africa.

South African National Standards (SABS)

The committee meeting of SABS TC 034/SC 17, Hygiene practices in the food industry: SANS 10156: 202X-Ed2 Handling of chilled and frozen foods was attended on 25 May 2022.

ARSO workgroups 1, 2 and 3 as well as plenary meetings, with the assistance of the DSA appointed contractor, were attended.

International Dairy Federation (IDF), Codex Alimentarius and International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and European Union (EU)

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

IDF comments on 2022 Codex preparatory meetings were shared with the Codex Contact Point office for South Africa, situated at the office of the Department of Health.

DSA attended the EU Seminar on standards for agri-food products in Johannesburg on 18 - 19 May 2022. Sessions attended mainly dealt with geographical indicators.

Dairy Standard Agency Technical Committee (DSA TC)

Assistance by the DSA TC in respect of R1510/2019 as well as R1555 of 1997 continued during the second 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 but this year the information sessions will again on request be presented at the tertiary institutions as interactive classroom sessions.

Ten (10) webinars were lined up for 2022 and three were held in the second quarter namely:

19 April 2022 - attended by 96 people and the topic was "Biosecurity on dairy farms - it's easier than you think".

17 May 2022 with topic "The prudent use of antibiotics in dairy" attended by 56 people.

14 June 2022 with the topic "Mycotoxins in dairy-know your risk" attended by 88 people.

Recordings of all the webinars were placed on the Dairy Standard Agency's website for attendees to re-cap and for interested parties who were not able to attend the webinars.

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

A workshop for municipal EHPs was held, in the Matjhabeng Municipality (Welkom) - on 5 and 6 May 2022 with the focus to empower them for inspections and the issuing of Certificates of Acceptability on dairy farms, based on the Code of Practice for Milk Producers. Nineteen (19) officials attended the workshop.

No Non-achievements / underperformance has been reported

Goal 9 - Media communication

Achievements

DSA signed contractual agreements with Agri Connect and Plaas Media. Four (4) advertorials/advertisements relating to food safety/hygiene, animal welfare, DSA Lab Services and DSA Code of Practice for Milk Producers were published in the Dairy Mail and Plaas Media during the second quarter. One radio interview on a national radio station was conducted. DSA advertising is also done through the 10 annual scheduled webinars and website.

No Non-achievements / underperformance has been reported

Goal 10 - Development of guideline documentation

Achievements

Following the successful implementation of the Code of Practice for Milk Producers (COP), the work on the development of a generic documentation system for milk producers, required for the successful implementation of a Good Agricultural Practice (GAP) system on farms and aligned with the COP (focussing on food safety, animal welfare, environmental sustainability and biosecurity) was initiated and the target date for completion is scheduled for the end of the third quarter.

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

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 structures in the interest of the dairy industry and other stakeholders.

A separate 2022 report on the activities of the Milk SA Regulations and Standards Project is prepared for Milk SA.

No Non-achievements / underperformance has been reported

Income and expenditure statement

Income and expenditure statement	PRJ-0317.pdf
Unnecessary spending during period	No

Popular Report

[DSA quarterly popular report April to June 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