



## **Milk SA - Dairy Regulations & Standards 2024**

(PRJ-0365-2024)

### **Dairy Standard Agency**

**Quarter 2 2024/2024** (April 2024 till June 2024)

#### **Project goals**

**Goal 1 - Deliberation of industry regulations relating to food safety, product composition, metrological and related standards as well as voluntary industry related standards e.g., animal welfare and related matters.**

#### **Achievements**

##### 1. Department of Health

Draft regulations relating to the labelling and advertising of foodstuffs

- The review of R3337, regulations relating to the labelling and advertising of foodstuffs on 21 July 2023, has commenced by the Department of Health (DoH) after the collation process. Information received from DoH is that the review process will continue for the remainder of 2024 during which consultations with stakeholders (where necessary) will be scheduled prior to submission of the draft to the Minister of Health during the first quarter of 2025.

- Review of R1555 of 1997: Regulations relating to milk and milk products

The work of this project has been ongoing in respect of research (Milk SA Project) by the Dairy Standard Agency (DSA) on risk assessment to determine the significance of E. coli and coliforms as indicator organisms of hygiene and food safety in milk in South Africa with the intention of updating specifications as set out in Regulation 1555. Amendment of the current standards for milk somatic cell counts as well as analytical methods are also under review and aligned with scientific evidence.

- Clarity on the use of the Lactose Peroxidase System (LPS) under controlled conditions

Following correspondence received from the Department of Health (DoH) regarding the use of the Lactose Peroxidase System (LPS) under controlled conditions, a study has been initiated for the use of the LPS by the organised dairy industry under abnormal conditions to maintain quality of unprocessed milk during storage and transportation. By the end of the second quarter the study was extended to determine the effectiveness of the LPS on deactivating the presence of the Foot-and-Mouth Disease Virus in raw/unpasteurised milk from infected herds. The study will be completed during the third quarter of 2024.

##### 2. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, LAND REFORM AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DALRRD) - AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS STANDARD ACT

- Review of R1510 of 2019: Regulations relating to dairy and imitation dairy products

Feedback from the DALRRD indicated that the comments collated are still under review until further notice.

##### 3. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, LAND REFORM AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DALRRD):

## DIRECTORATE FOOD SAFETY AND QUALITY ASSURANCE (FSQA) AND VETERINARY PUBLIC HEALTH

### 3.1 Food Safety and Quality Assurance (FSQA): rBST claims

A formal letter was addressed to the management of the FSQA explaining the position of Milk SA regarding the use of “rBST free” (recombinant bovine somatotropin) claims on dairy product containers. The response from FSQA was received, which contained a legal opinion of the retailer and that the matter will be further pursued under the new Agricultural Product Standards Amendment Act once the draft regulations relating to the management control system in respect of the sale and export of a certain agricultural product has become effective. The draft is currently circulated for comment.

### 3.2 Veterinary Public Health (VPH)

The principle of establishing a chemical residue monitoring programme for export to the European Union and China was discussed and the view of DALRRD is that the residue programme should encompass a single programme for national monitoring. The dairy and red meat industry were prompted to collaborate in compiling a sampling control plan, as both are dealing with bovine species. Information was obtained from the organised dairy industry in terms of all dairy facilities to assist with the work and to compile a risk analysis on the combined list of active substances (beef and dairy cattle). In respect of export to China, the general administration of customs of the People’s Republic of China (GACC) has responded to DALRRD with providing the necessary protocols and standard operating procedures for dairy and the next meetings are scheduled for July and August 2024 between the DDG and officials of DALRRD and the GACC. The project manager in conjunction with the State Veterinarian Import/Export Policy Unit Directorate: Animal Health is still working on the completion of the finalisation of comments on the proposed protocols.

## 4. AGRICULTURAL PRODUCT STANDARDS (APS) AMENDMENT ACT

The publication of the APS Amendment Act was finalised, published, and circulated to industry members followed by the draft regulations relating to the management control system in respect of the sale and export of a certain agricultural product, which is intends to regulate management systems of products such as Karoo Lamb, rBST claims, free range and organic.

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

### **Goal 2 - Liaison with industry and statutory bodies in terms of draft, promulgated and repealed legislation and effective communication through the Milk SA organisational structures.**

#### ***Achievements***

A robust communication system is used to inform industry members regarding draft, promulgated and repealed legislation. All relevant was communicated to stakeholders and where applicable request for comments were requested and collated for the attention of the relevant authorities. The most recent was the publication of the APS Amendment Act followed by the draft regulations relating to the management control system in respect of the sale and export of a certain agricultural product.

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

### **Goal 3 - Liaison with international bodies e.g., African Organisation for Standardisation, Codex Alimentarius and International Dairy Federation.**

## **Achievements**

### **1. AFRICAN ORGANISATION FOR STANDARDISATION (ARSO) AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATION FOR STANDARDISATION (ISO)**

#### **1.1 African Organisation for Standardisation (ARSO)**

The work of ARSO is progressing and the below list of drafts are due for Draft African Standard and Committee Draft Standards (CD) under ARSO TC 04, Milk and Milk Products. The Draft African Standard (DARS) under the Enquiry stage are currently dealt with and the heads of delegation in liaison with the various offices, were called to make arrangements to notify the WTO through the member states notification desks.

A list of nine drafts were compiled for completion over scheduled periods of 30 and 60 days.

ARSO Central Secretariat on behalf of the ARSO TC 04 Secretariat notified the member states, to undertake consultations at national level, engaging National Mirror Committee members. Subsequent meetings for purposes of generating national comments and positions were planned within the next two months (12<sup>th</sup> of July to 12<sup>th</sup> of September 2024) and 30 days for the Committee Draft Standards (12<sup>th</sup> of July to 12<sup>th</sup> of August 2024).

Mrs Anneke van Niekerk on behalf of Milk SA Regulations and Standards Project has been contracted on behalf of Mr Burger to participate in the ARSO activities.

#### **1.2 International Standards Organisation (ISO)**

ISO permission for the full participation in the balloting processes with specific reference to ISO/TC 034/SC 5 - Milk and milk products and ISO/TC 034/SC 17 – Management system for food safety was granted by ISO. Seven ISO standards relating to prerequisite programmes in terms of ISO 22002 are currently under review. The following work items received attention during the second quarter and voting commenced on the following:

- ISO/DIS 22002-4 : Prerequisite programmes on food safety — Part 4: Food packaging manufacturing
- ISO/DIS 22002-100 : Prerequisite programmes on food safety — Part 100: PRP requirements common for food, feed, and packaging supply chain
- ISO/DIS 22002-7 : Prerequisite programmes on food safety — Part 7: Retail
- ISO/DIS 22002-5 : Prerequisite programmes on food safety — Part 5: Transport and storage
- ISO/DIS 22002-1 : Prerequisite programmes on food safety — Part 1: Food manufacturing
- ISO/DIS 22002-2 : Prerequisite programmes on food safety — Part 2: Catering
- ISO/DIS 22002-6 : Prerequisite programmes on food safety — Part 6: Feed and animal food production

#### **SOUTH AFRICAN BUREAU OF STANDARDS (SABS)**

The project manager of the TC 034/SC 05 - Dairy products chaired the annual meeting on 14 May 2024.

Dr Mark Chimes as the project manager of the Milk SA Sustainability Project: Animal Health and Welfare has joined the working groups on “The welfare of dairy cattle and transportation of livestock”. The work on SANS 1694 and 1488 relating to the welfare of dairy cattle and the transport of livestock continued liaison with the Livestock Welfare Coordinating Committee as well as with the SABS Standards Writer: Natural Sciences. No date has been set for the next meeting of the SABS workgroup.

The annual meeting of the SABS TC 034/SC10 - Hygiene practices in animal feed manufacturing was scheduled in May 2024 but was postponed due to no quorum.

### **3. INTERNATIONAL DAIRY FEDERATION (IDF) AND CODEX ALIMENTARIUS**

The work by action teams continued during the second quarter in respect of Codex standards activities, which included:

Proposed draft guidance on the provision of food information for prepackaged foods to be offered via e-commerce.

Codex Committee on Food Labelling - Allergen Labelling.

Comments to Codex Committee on Food Import and Export Inspection and Certification Systems (CCFICS) regarding food fraud.

Discussion paper on harmonised probiotic guidelines for use in foods, beverages and food supplements.

Food additives and food hygiene.

Codex general standards for the use of dairy terms, following the success of the first deep dive webinars on the General Standard for the Use of Dairy Terms (GSUDT) covering France (including EU law), Australia, United States, India and Mexico, a third webinar was scheduled to explore additional countries namely product labelling in Norway, South Africa and Japan. Mr Burger presented the South African dispensation during the webinar held on 30 April 2024.

Where applicable, reports were submitted on behalf of the South African National Committee of the IDF to the IDF as well as the South African Codex Contact point.

The IDF/ISO Analytical Week is an annual event, organised under the aegis of the IDF and ISO TC 034/SC 05 - Milk and milk products. The week provides the facility for dairy laboratory managers, dairy scientists and analytical professionals to network and exchange ideas on the latest developments in analytical solutions and the launching of new initiatives. This year the event took place from 24 to 27 June 2024 and was hosted by Zimbabwe. Mr Burger attended the following meetings:

SCAMC Standing Committee on Analytical Methods for Composition.

SCMDM Standing Committee on Methods for Dairy Microbiology.

SCLSQA Standing Committee on Laboratory Statistics and Quality Assurance.

As per the Milk SA contractual agreement all relevant correspondence and comments, where applicable, were shared with Milk SA and industry stakeholders as well as reporting to the South African National Committee of the IDF.

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

### **Goal 4 - Liaison and consultation on an internal and external basis and comment within specified time frames via Milk SA organisational structures.**

#### ***Achievements***

Liaison continued through the second quarter with all stakeholders and interaction with roleplayers were recorded and communicated through the Milk SA organisational structures.

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

### **Goal 5 - Report to industry via Milk SA structures.**

#### ***Achievements***

Regular reporting via Milk SA structures is continuous to ensure appropriate action by industry members. No non-conformities occurred.

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

**Goal 6 - Liaison with government, departments regarding legislation and policies within the scope of the project, that may affect the Milk SA strategic goals.**

### ***Achievements***

Sound relationships with the respective parastatals are paramount to ensure contribution to the overarching, strategic goals of Milk SA and to mitigate possible risks to the project. The level of commitment by the project team ensures ongoing recognition from government structures as well as industry associations outside the Milk SA organisation, allowing for value addition to the Milk SA strategic goals in a direct and indirect way as well as the respective government bodies.

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

## **Income and expenditure statement**

Income and expenditure statement	<a href="#">PRJ-0365.pdf</a>
Unnecessary spending during period	No

## **Popular Report**

[RS Popular report Apr to June 2024 Final.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