



Milk SA - Dairy Regulations & Standards 2024

(PRJ-0365-2024)

Dairy Standard Agency

Quarter 4 2024 (October 2024 till December 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

Activities during the fourth quarter of the Milk SA Regulation and Standards Project:

1. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH – FOODSTUFFS, COSMETICS AND DISINFECTANTS ACT1

1.1 Draft regulations relating to the labelling and advertising of foodstuffs

Information regarding the review process from the Department of Health: Directorate Food Control is that the publication of R3337, Regulations relating to the labelling and advertising of foodstuffs of 21 July 2023, will continue into the first quarter of 2025. It was noted that the directorate had maximised resources to collate the vast number of comments received to expedite the process.

1.2 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) staff member 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. Review of the current standards for milk somatic cell counts as well as analytical methods are also assessed and aligned with scientific evidence. Work on the proposed draft will continue in the first quarter of 2025.

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

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

Feedback from the DALRRD indicated that the industry comments collated are still under review until further notice. The categorisation of dairy in the draft between “real dairy”, imitation or modified dairy and dairy alternatives brought along several technical challenges, especially with attempts to align the said proposed draft with the Codex general standards for the use of dairy terms. Work will continue during the first quarter of 2025.

2.2 Matters relating to the Border Management Authority (BMA) Act, 2020

No significant occurrences were reported regarding the dairy industry that required actions from the Milk SA Regulation and Standards Project.

3. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, LAND REFORM AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DALRRD): DIRECTORATE FOOD SAFETY AND QUALITY ASSURANCE (FSQA) AND VETERINARY PUBLIC HEALTH

3.1 Directorate Animal Health/Veterinary Public Health (VPH)

The establishment of a chemical residue monitoring programme for export to the European Union and China is still under review in conjunction with DALRRD. The dairy and red meat industries 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). The project manager in conjunction with the State Veterinarian Import/Export Policy Unit Directorate: Animal Health and other officials are still working on the completion of the finalisation of comments on the proposed protocols. The last formal meeting with officials took place on 13 December 2024 and the work will continue in 2025. The VPN 20 related to the Standards for the registration of a veterinary-approved dairy facility for export was completed and circulated to industry members.

In respect of the outbreak the foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) in the Eastern Cape, the project manager collaborated with Drs Mark Chimes and Anthony Davis as well as other role players by attending the FMD Technical and Trade meetings to assist in finding solutions for management control in the FMD area.

4. AGRICULTURAL PRODUCT STANDARDS (APS) AMENDMENT ACT

Since the publication of the act, limited activity was noted by DALRRD regarding the enforcement of the act and publication of the draft regulation regarding agricultural products. Inputs, however, were provided on the draft management control system. The project manager participated in Several industry meetings via the Consumer Goods Council of South Africa (CGCSA). The final stage has been reached for the publication of the regulation in the Government Gazette.

5. CONSUMER GOODS COUNCIL OF SOUTH AFRICA (CGCSA):

The Dairy Standard Agency (DSA) as a member of the Consumer Goods Council of South Africa (CGCSA) attended several meetings to assist in formulating industry views on:

- Food loss and waste
- Sustainability
- Terms of reference for DALRRD assignees
- Management control system regulations.

SOUTH AFRICAN BUREAU OF STANDARDS (SABS)

Dr Mark Chimes as the project manager of the Milk SA Sustainability Project: Animal Health and Welfare has joined the working group 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 to liaise with the Livestock Welfare Coordinating Committee as well as with the SABS Standards Writer: Natural Sciences. SABS experienced major cyber security breaches during the fourth quarter which contributed to brake in communication.

In respect of SABS/TC 0034/SC 05 – documents made available for balloting were voted upon. No formal meetings took place during the fourth quarter.

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 well established 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.

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. SOUTH AFRICAN BUREAU OF STANDARDS (SABS)

Dr Mark Chimes as the project manager of the Milk SA Sustainability Project: Animal Health and Welfare has joined the working group 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 to liaise with the Livestock Welfare Coordinating Committee as well as with the SABS Standards Writer: Natural Sciences. SABS experienced major cyber security breaches during the fourth quarter which contributed to brake in communication.

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2. African Organisation for Standardisation (ARSO)

The work of ARSO TC34/04 is progressing and entering the final stage of completion of actions.

Monthly meetings and plenary sessions for purposes of generating national comments and positions were attended during the last quarter of 2024.

Mrs Anneke van Niekerk, on behalf of Milk SA, has been contracted on behalf of the project manager to participate in the ARSO activities.

The leadership team, of which the DSA is a part, will continue with the editing work moving the standards from CDs to DARS to FDARS and finally proposing publishing. This is estimated to be for the remainder of 2025 with monthly feedback sessions discussing technical comments

received.

- 9 (FDARS) Final Draft African Standard sent out for (30 days)
- 19 (DARS) Draft African Standard to be sent out for inquiry stage (60 Days)
- (DARS) stage 60 days (deadline for comments 21th March 25)
- 24 CDs to be circulated sent out to NC for 30 days.
- 60 standards iare in discussion in total.

WG1	WG2	WG3	ALL WGs	Total
Raw, Fresh and UHT Milk + Code of practice	Cheese + Fermented dairy products	Recombined, Milk + Cream powders		
1 FDARS	5 FDARS	3 FDARS	-	9 FDARS
1 DARS	7 DARS	10 DARS	1DARS	19 DARS
4 CDs	8 CDs	-	-	12 Cds & 20 CDs= 32 CDs
	20 CDs	-	-	
Total: 6	40	13	1	60 standards under discussion in TC

In respect of SABS/TC 0034/SC 05 – documents made available for balloting were voted upon.

3. INTERNATIONAL DAIRY FEDERATION (IDF) AND CODEX ALIMENTARIUS

The work by action teams continued during the fourth quarter at the IDF World Dairy Summit in France during the business meetings. Meetings were well attended by South African delegates and the following matters relating to Codex Alimentarius received the necessary attention:

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 with specific reference to lab-produced foods.

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.

4. International Standards Organisation (ISO)

The following standards were under review during the last quarter of 2024:

ISO/FDIS 29981 Milk products — Enumeration of bifidobacteria — Colony-count technique 2024-10-28.

ISO 16756:2024 Milk and milk products — Guidance for the application of Carr-Purcell-Meiboom-Gill (CPMG) pulsed time-domain nuclear magnetic resonance (TD-NMR) spectroscopy for fat determination.

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 during the fourth quarter with all relevant stakeholders as well as interaction with roleplayers which were communicated via 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 continued during to ensure appropriate action by industry members. These actions also included sharing of relevant matters at the Milk SA Coordinating Committee allowing for other Milk SA projects interaction and engagement.

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	December 2024 - CORFIN151 - PRJ-0365.pdf December 2024 - CORFIN173 - PRJ-0365.pdf
Unnecessary spending during period	No

Popular Report

[RS popular report Q4 2024.docx](#)

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	No
The information provided in the report is correct	No