



## **Manager - Animal Health and Welfare Program of the DRDC**

(PRJ-0390-2024)

**Dr Mark Chimes**

**Quarter 3 2024/2024** (July 2024 till September 2024)

### **Project goals**

**Goal 1 - To attend 4 x DRDC quarterly meetings and give inputs as required**

#### ***Achievements***

Attended the Teams meeting on 23 August 2024.

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

**Goal 2 - To attend 4 x NAHF quarterly meetings and give inputs as required**

#### ***Achievements***

Attended the Teams meeting on 14 August 2024 where I gave feedback on the effect of the FMD outbreak on the dairy industry. The shortage of FMD approved abattoirs and the effect it is having on cull animals accumulating on dairy farms. The fact that neighbouring countries were no longer willing to accept even UHT milk from the Eastern Cape had to be addressed by the Dept of Trade and Industry. What to do with the excess dairy calves. Concern was expressed that all the attention was being focused on the dairy industry and that we should not neglect attending to FMD in the rest of the country.

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

**Goal 3 - To attend 4 x LWCC quarterly meetings and give inputs as required**

#### ***Achievements***

Attended the Teams meeting on 16 August 2024. I reported on the challenges that FMD presented on the welfare of dairy cows in the affected area. It was decided that guidelines for the humane killing of cattle be compiled and published. This was to be set up as a collaborative effort between the animal welfare organisations and the various role-players in the cattle industry.

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

**Goal 4 - To represent South Africa on the IDF-subcommittees for Animal Health & Welfare as well for Antimicrobial Resistance**

***Achievements***

Compiled a report called "Efforts to promote the responsible use of antibiotics on dairy farms in South Africa" which was published in the IDF Animal Health Report 2024. (see report attached)

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

**Goal 5 - To attend 2 x IDF-subcommittee on Animal Health & Welfare annual meetings and give inputs as required**

***Achievements***

The next meetings are due to be held on 13 & 14 October at the IDF World Conference in Paris.

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

**Goal 6 - To attend 2 x IDF Farmer's meetings and give inputs as required**

***Achievements***

Attended the 2nd IDF Farmers' meeting on teams - 21 August 2024. Meeting was dominated by concerns over the control measures to curb methane production by dairy cows and the effect on the European dairy industry. The next meeting is due to be held on 14 Oct 2024 at the IDF World Conference.

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

**Goal 7 - To be appointed to the SABS Technical Committees that are tasked with revising SANS 1694 & SANS 1488 and to make recommendations regarding the standards for the benefit of the dairy industry**

***Achievements***

Contacted the SABS on a monthly basis to request a date to be set to review the standards. Still no date has been set. Dr Anndrea Yelia (Deputy director of Animal Health DALRRD) and Dr Kevasha Govendor (Head - Primary animal health care - DALRRD) requested to join the technical committees to review the standards.

***Non-achievements / underperformance***

Still no date set to review the standards

***Reasons for non-achievements / underperformance***

Apparently the reviews of other

committees took longer than anticipated and I was informed "...that the delays have been delayed...".

***Planned remedies for non-achievements / underperformance***

The reviews of the standards are the list to be done. I will continue to pester the SABS to set a date.

**Goal 8 - To represent Milk SA by securing appointment to the Ministerial Advisory Committee on Antimicrobial Resistance and present inputs**

***Achievements***

On 13 Sep 2024 I received an e-mail from Ruth Lancaster stating that the Dept of Health are updating the AMR governance structure and that the applications are being dropped for the time being. I will be informed once the applications open again.

***Non-achievements / underperformance***

Application has been withdrawn for the time being.

***Reasons for non-achievements / underperformance***

The Dept of Health are updating the AMR governance structure.

***Planned remedies for non-achievements / underperformance***

I will wait to hear from when the applications are re-opened.

**Goal 9 - To represent Milk SA as a guest lecturer on dairy animal welfare and health at at least 2 universities**

***Achievements***

Presented a lecture on Brucellosis, Tuberculosis and FMD for the final year agriculture students at the Faculty of Agriculture of the University of Stellenbosch on 26 September 2024.

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

**Goal 10 - To present 2 webinars for the DSA**

***Achievements***

Presented my 2nd webinar "Calf welfare - Trends, suggestions and solutions" for the DSA on 17

July 2024.

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

**Goal 11 - To represent Milk SA at the RUVASA congress**

***Achievements***

Reported on my attendance in the 2nd Qtr.

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

**Goal 12 - To represent Milk SA at the Large Herds Congress**

***Achievements***

Reported on my attendance in the 2nd Qtr.

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

**Goal 13 - To represent Milk SA and South Africa at the IDF World Congress in Paris**

***Achievements***

Will only take place in October 2024. Arrangements have been made.

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

**Goal 14 - To initiate the project to collect data on the status of calf welfare in South Africa**

***Achievements***

Data is continuing to be collected.

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

**Goal 15 - To assist the Red Meat Industry on how to set up a Biosecurity and Traceability system through the Veterinary Network based on my experiences in dairy farm audits**

***Achievements***

I attended several Teams meetings with BIOSEC. They are working hard on getting their system live and have done a few trial runs with success.

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

### **Goal 16 - To assist in establishing a disease monitoring system through the abattoirs**

#### ***Achievements***

This project is being run by the Food Safety Agency.

#### ***Non-achievements / underperformance***

Due to all the focus shifting to establish FMD approved abattoirs in the Eastern Cape, this project was placed on the back burner.

#### ***Reasons for non-achievements / underperformance***

FMD moved the focus to establish FMD approved abattoirs in the Eastern Cape.

#### ***Planned remedies for non-achievements / underperformance***

The poroject will proceed since the Food Safety Agency already have a data system that operates. The next step would be to get the dairy farmers on the system.

### **Goal 17 - To support Milk SA by: a. Advising on matters pertaining to animal health and welfare b. Attending farmer days and presenting talks as required c. Compiling advisory documents for farmers on matters relating to animal health and welfare**

#### ***Achievements***

1. Compiled several advisory documents on FMD biosecurity and the effect FMD will have on the dairy industry
2. Gave FMD talks at farmers' days in Riversdal 31 July, Bonnievale 28 August, Stellenbosch 22 August as well as at the SASDT WC meeting 26 September.
3. Attended several DALRRD meetings with regards to FMD.
4. Was officially appointed as chairman of the Brucellosis Steering Committee and arranged the 1st meeting on 3 September 2024.
5. Attended to a query from the SPCA regarding the treatment of buffalo dairy calves in Wellington. Compiled an expert witness report for the SPCA on the calf mistreatment case in Riversdal. Acted as external examiner for the SPCA Animal Welfare Assistants' oral examinations.
6. Did interviews on calf welfare for Landbou Radio and Plaasmedia on 21 August 2024.

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

## Income and expenditure statement

Income and expenditure statement	<a href="#">Expenditure 3rd Quarter 2024 - Dr Mark Chimes (2).xlsx</a>
Unnecessary spending during period	No

## Popular Report

[MIS POPULAR REPORT - 3rd QTR 2024.pdf](#)

## Additional documentation

[8 Julie 2024 - Implikasies vir boere wat vrywillig hul klinies gesonde melkkuddes vir Bek-en-Klouseer inent.pdf](#)

[8 July 2024 - Implications of vaccinating naive herds for FMD.pdf](#)

[2024-07-31-FMD-Outbreak-Follow-up-Report.pdf](#)

[2024-09-03 - Minutes Brucellosis Steering Committee.pdf](#)

[2024-09-05 - Minutes - FPA meeting.pdf](#)

[AFFIDAVIT - M Chimes - Albertinia Calves - 15 July 2024.pdf](#)

[Calf welfare - Trends^J suggestions and solutions.pdf](#)

[Effect of FMD on dairy industry - SASDT - Stellenbosch - Sep 2024.pdf](#)

[FMD outbreak in a dairy production area - Bonnievale - SAMELKO - Riversdal.pdf](#)

[IDF Animal Health report 2024.pdf](#)

[Plea to DALRRD - 12 July 2024.pdf](#)

[Report on Foot and Mouth Vaccine Production outlook for OVR.pdf](#)

[Stellenbosch Sep 2024 - TB - CA - FMD.pdf](#)

## 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