



SA Dairyfarmers' Association Inc
Unit 5, 780 South Road, Glandore SA 5037

P: 8293 2399 E: sada@sada.asn.au

www.sada.asn.au

Or find us on Facebook

SADA NEWSLETTERS 2021





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SADA NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2021

SA DAIRY INDUSTRY SUMMIT 2020

Reboot following Covid hiccup!

The SA Dairy Summit 2020 will take place in Adelaide on **Monday 1 March 2021**. This event is being driven by SADA, the Dairy Industry Association of Australia, (DIAA) and the SA Government.

In March 2019 the South Australian Dairy Industry Action Plan 2019 - 2024 was launched and in November 2019 the first SA Dairy Summit took place with **The Dairy Industry Action Plan as the base document for the summit**. Since then the SA Government has recognised the aspirations of the Action Plan and committed itself to increasing overall Gross State Product by 3%.

The purpose of this second summit is to examine the outcomes from

the first summit on all elements of the dairy value chain to improve the performance of the dairy industry in South Australia. This includes regulatory arrangements which may improve the SA dairy product.

The summit will bring all players in the dairy industry in South Australia together to identify pathways to achieve the aims of the Dairy Industry Action Plan and highlight industry's contribution to the Government's ambition for a 3% increase in Gross State Product.

The summit will operate under the provision of the Chattem House Rules and all topics are open for discussion with the aim of improving the SA dairy industry and its products.

Please turn your mind to what can be done on your farm, by a processor or by Government which can improve your productivity and bring those ideas to the Summit.

Discussion points for consideration include, but are not limited to;

- Policies and Economic
- Science and Technology
- Marketing and messaging
- Nutrition and Health
- Animal Health and Welfare
- Providence and Geographic indicators
- Food Safety / Risk Management
- Environment / Climate Change
- Farm Management / drought



To secure your seat, please ring the SADA office on 8293 2399 prior to the 22 February 2021.

**South Australian Dairy Industry Summit 2021
 The Arkaba Hotel, 150 Glen Osmond Rd, Fullarton.
 Monday 1 March 2021 — 10am to 3pm**

We are inviting you to provide feedback on the design of the Murray-Darling Healthy Rivers Program.

The Australian Government is putting communities and jobs at the heart of the Basin Plan by investing \$270 million through the Murray-Darling Communities Investment Package. This investment in communities, infrastructure, and river health will benefit the Murray-Darling Basin, its people, industries and the environment.

As part of this package, the government is establishing the \$20 million Murray-Darling Healthy Rivers Program to fund community-led grants for practical, on-ground projects that will improve the health of rivers and wetlands across the Basin. The program is expected to open in early 2021.

We would be grateful if you could complete the survey or provide a written submission on the program's design. Any input you have to offer, especially regarding program design, scope and eligibility is appreciated.

We would also be grateful if you could please circulate the details of the survey with your networks so that they can also participate.

Running the consultation over the Christmas–New Year period is not ideal; however, we want to ensure that funding can go into communities as soon as possible. This is to help with communities recovering from drought as well as responding to the economic impacts of COVID-19.

Please contact the Healthy Rivers Program team at mdhealthyivers@awe.gov.au if you have any problems meeting the consultation timeframe or any further enquiries.

Have your say

Consultations close on
22 January 2021.

COVID-19 Industry Update

For the most recent information on SA's response to the Coronavirus pandemic visit www.covid-19.sa.gov.au.

Always check before travelling

Domestic travel restrictions

Since last week, most states have announced increased travel restrictions on people departing from Queensland, in addition to existing restrictions and quarantine requirements on people travelling from NSW already in place. Whilst state and territory leaders continue to shift travel advice and border restrictions as circumstances change, all border control processes continue to have regard to the National Ag Code and National Freight Code acknowledging the primary importance of freedom of movement for commercial goods and essential activities involved in agriculture and food production. Please get in touch if you are experiencing or observing operational difficulties as a result of COVID border controls.

VIC - Victoria is establishing a permit system for all domestic travel into Victoria. In place since 5:59pm on 11 January, everyone will need to [apply for a permit](#) to enter Victoria from anywhere in Australia. The permit system is based on a traffic light system which allows for areas across Australia to be designated as green, orange or red according to their risk. The permit system is for both travellers to Victoria and residents of Victoria returning home from interstate travel. Find out more [here](#).

SA – As has been the case for some time, everyone travelling to South Australia are required to complete a Cross Border Travel Registration. Access the [Cross-Border Travel Registration](#) via the SAPOL website.

The new Direction also made changes to commercial freight workers entering Victoria under a border permit and they are no longer required to self-quarantine while in Victoria. The online exemptions portal is open – it is accessed in the same way as starting a permit application. Visit <https://service.vic.gov.au/services/border-permit/home>. Agricultural stakeholders seeking further information can contact Agriculture Victoria on 136 186.



ROADWORTHY HEAVY VEHICLES... *Made Easy!*

ROADWORTHY HEAVY VEHICLES... *Made Easy!* This program has been funded by the National Heavy Vehicle Regulator's Heavy Vehicle Safety Initiative Program, with the support of the Federal Government.  **GRAIN PRODUCERS SA**

Registration now open for 2021!

Grain Producers SA, on behalf of Primary Producers SA are proud to deliver FREE Roadworthy Heavy Vehicles ... Made Easy! workshops again in 2021. These workshops are designed specifically to help SA primary producers understand heavy vehicle roadworthiness requirements.

GPSA will be holding Roadworthy workshops in your area, let the SADA office know if you interested and we'll do our best to accommodate everyone.

Since the project began in February 2020, GPSA Regional Field Officer Shane Gale has delivered heavy vehicle workshops in 15 rural and regional locations across SA. The workshops have been a huge success with overwhelming engagement from growers across the State. We look forward to delivering another round of workshops beginning in January 2021!

2021
DairySA
Central Conference

VICTOR HARBOR, SA

THURSDAY 18 MARCH 2021
McCRACKEN COUNTRY CLUB, VICTOR HARBOR

Book at <https://2021dsacentral.eventbrite.com.au/>

‘SHORT AND SWEET SESSIONS’ FOR THE DAIRYSA CENTRAL CONFERENCE

Places limited: [BOOK NOW](#)

Dairyfarmers and Service Providers from across South Australia are invited to the 2021 DairySA Central Conference to be held this year at Victor Harbor. Delegates will hear from a range of speakers across the spectrum of the dairy industry, from an investment banker and technology expert through to milk processors and proponents of re-generative agriculture – with farmer success stories thrown into the mix.

DairySA Extension Officer and Conference Coordinator Beck Burgess said the 2021 DairySA Central Conference program has been adapted to accommodate shorter sessions in a variety of topics in response to farmers’

feedback last year.

“Feedback on our previous Conferences showed that farmers were keen to get across as many different topics as possible within the day, rather than

delving deeply into one singular theme,” Beck said.

The Committee has sourced speakers including business management consultant Nigel Pannell, Compass Agribusiness, who will explore alternative financing options for the sustainability of the industry. This is an opportunity for all farmers – regardless of their dairy cycle, be it new entry or looking to retire – to gain insights into not only how to make their business appealing to investors, but how to leverage that investment to help their business thrive into the future.

A joint discussion panel with processors, industry and farmers will ask the tough questions around industry confidence and examine the parameters required for a sustainable dairy industry in SA.

A leading proponent of Regenerative Ag in Australia, Lorraine Gordon,

Director of Strategic Project and Regenerative Agriculture Alliance from Southern Cross University, Queensland will discuss regenerative ag, current practices and its place within the dairy sector.

Up to 150 dairyfarmers and service providers from across SA’s Fleurieu, Barossa Mid-North, and River & Lakes - and even from the South East - are expected to attend the popular one day conference, to be held at McCracken Country Club, Victor Harbor.

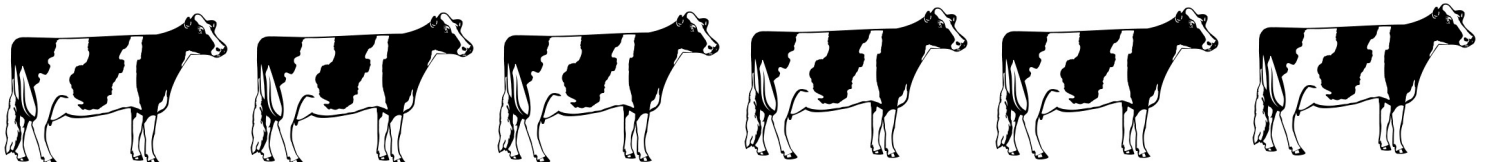
Tickets available through [Eventbrite](#)

Places will be limited due to COVID-19 restrictions so it’s advised to book early.

For more information contact

DairySA’s Beck Burgess

on 0438 262 966.





Integrity Systems

National Vendor Declaration (NVD)

Changes to the LPA NVD in 2020 provided an easier, more efficient and cost-effective way for producers and supply chain stakeholders to interact with the integrity system.

The changes included:

- updated NVD versions (0720)
- release of a new electronic National Vendor Declaration (eNVD) system
- decommissioning of the eDEC system.

The LPA NVD communicates the food safety and treatment status of every animal every time it moves along the value chain – between properties, to saleyards, or to processors. The NVD also acts as movement documentation throughout the value chain.

NVDs are a **legal document** that are key to Australian red meat's traceability and market access. It is **crucial that you fill out the NVD accurately**, including questions about whether animals have been treated with [hormonal growth promotants \(HGPs\)](#).

You must be [LPA accredited](#) to access to LPA NVDs. When you tick the box on your LPA NVD, you are declaring your on-farm practices meet LPA requirements, and ultimately customer expectations.

Your tick must be backed up by accurate farm records. This is your pledge that the meat from your farm has been produced safely, ethically and meets biosecurity requirements– it means you ***stand by what you sell.***

eNVD 'how-to' guide

A simple step-by-step guide to using the faster, easier eNVD system.

Around the grounds

- The SADA team returned to the office to begin the New Year and have discussed priorities and actions for the year.
- On behalf of PPSA, Andrew attended a PIRSA participating agencies bushfire season update where PIRSA provided an overview of key changes to the Participating Agencies Plan. In line with the plan a liaison officer role was established for the Blackford fire. Feedback will be provided on the new PIRSA Participating Agencies Plan in the coming weeks.
- John, Andrew and Elf attended a PPSA Council Meeting. The meeting was chaired by Don Plowman as the interim chair of PPSA for the next three months while Rob Kerin is on leave from this position. There was a discussion on a wide range of issues that Don has identified as priorities and would like to be addressed while he is involved.
- Andrew met with the Agriculture Advisory to Minister Basham to discuss the coming year. Topics of Discussion included the 2021 Dairy Summit, dairy contribution to the Growth State Plan as well as Fruit Fly Outbreaks in Adelaide and the Riverland, and the Blackford Bushfire.

Good people to know.



BushFire: Risking underinsurance

CHECK YOUR INSURANCE POLICY

What hazards is your home exposed to? Does your insurance policy cover those risks? Talk to an insurance professional to ensure you understand exactly what your insurance covers. If you would like to review your insurance policies or you would like further information about the risks of underinsurance, contact your WFI local area manager.

1300 934 934 or visit wfi.com.au



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SADA NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2021

Situation and Outlook for SA

The dairy industry is the fourth largest rural industry in Australia and is a key sector of the agricultural economy.

Dairy generated **\$4.8 billion** in farmgate value in the 2019/20 financial year.

Australia is a significant exporter of dairy products. It ranks fourth in terms of world dairy trade, with a

5% market share behind

New Zealand, the European Union and the United States.

The first half of the 2019/20 season proved challenging for many dairy farmers in Australia, with ongoing dry seasonal conditions increasing the cost of feed and water. However, following a return to more favourable farming conditions in December 2019, Australia's national milk pool started to recover.

Higher rainfall combined with easing input costs and a relatively strong farmgate milk price improved farmer confidence in most regions. This recovery was overshadowed by the COVID-19 pandemic, creating

uncertainty in global and domestic markets.

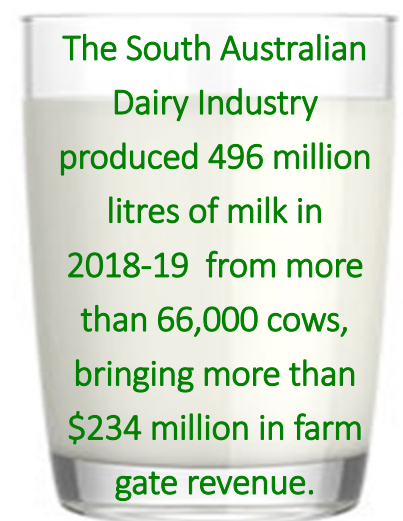
Despite the pandemic, the global dairy market was relatively balanced over the past year and commodity prices proved resilient. Demand for dairy products remained strong in the face of lockdowns in Australia and abroad, however the pandemic did cause some change in domestic consumer behaviour.

The SA dairy industry represents approximately **5.6%, or 488 million litres**, of national milk

output in Australia. State milk production for 2019/20 was slightly down on the 496 million litres produced in 2018/19. The State's industry has a long history of high productivity and quality dairy produce. South Australia's milk has a record of high component values in terms of butterfat and protein which adds to its value in terms of product shelf-life and versatility to a processor.

Since 1979/80 the number of dairy farms in Australia has fallen by almost

three quarters, to **5,055 in 2019/20**. The trend in farm numbers has previously followed changes in farmgate milk prices from season to season. Strong prices tend to either slow the rate of attrition or even reverse the long-term trend. Periods of weaker farmgate prices and/or adverse seasonal conditions can accelerate the trend, as more farmers choose to sell their properties, or transition to other farming activities such as beef cattle production.



REGISTER TODAY

South Australian Dairy Industry Summit 2021

Monday 1 March 2021 — 10am to 3pm



Dairy Milk and Harvesting Project

Australia's dairy and milk industry has developed from manual milking methods, to using machinery in herringbone and rotary sheds, to more recently introducing new robotic technology and automatic milking systems. These new technologies and evolving methods are broadening the range of skills needed in the industry. At the same time, traditional work practices are still preferred in certain farm settings, with some of these businesses adding value to their milk harvesting operations by producing milk products onsite. Some foundational skills, such as those to support biosecurity and animal welfare, remain important regardless of milking methods. A relaxed animal, correct cooling and storage of milk and plant hygiene practices contribute to greater quality and quantities of milk.

Consultation will take place throughout this project to review and update a national qualification, skill sets and units of competency for dairy and milk harvesting. They will be revised to reflect the skills and knowledge required to operate the vast array of technologies across milk harvesting operations of various sizes and contexts.

[The draft qualification, skill sets and units of competency are now available for your review and feedback.](#)

The qualification and units have been reviewed and updated to reflect the most up to date industry practices and to include all livestock used for milking purposes. Two skill sets have been de-

veloped to support dairy workers to perform maintenance of milking equipment and for milking equipment technicians who travel to worksites to maintain the machinery used to milk livestock. They aim to support the skills of technicians that work specifically with milking equipment and to support farm workers to better maintain and repair milking equipment between technician visits.

Please find the drafts listed below, divided into groups for ease of consultation. We are seeking your feedback on whether the draft qualification, skill sets and units reflect the current skills standards and practices of industry, and whether job functions are accurately described. We are particularly eager to



Good people to know.

1300 934 934

WFI, proud alliance partner of the South Australian Dairyfarmers' Association



Join RuralBiz Training & Melissa Rebbeck for a FREE three part webinar series on climate risk and management for farmers.

WED 24TH FEB - Climate Risk Management - understand climate and weather risks for your farm, climate drivers and interpreting outlook information, prepare for climate risks on your farm

WED 10TH MARCH - Climate Change - a look at climate change trends and projections, how farmers have adapted to change and opportunities to plan for climate change over the short, medium and longer term

WEDNESDAY 24TH MARCH - Adaptation and mitigation of climate change (drought preparation and management). Understanding the carbon cycle, carbon sequestration and soil health management, water infiltration and water use efficiency, regenerative agriculture, other options to adapt and mitigate climate change in agriculture.

CHECK YOUR TIME ZONE
10.30am WA
12.30pm QLD
1.00pm SA
1.30pm NSW

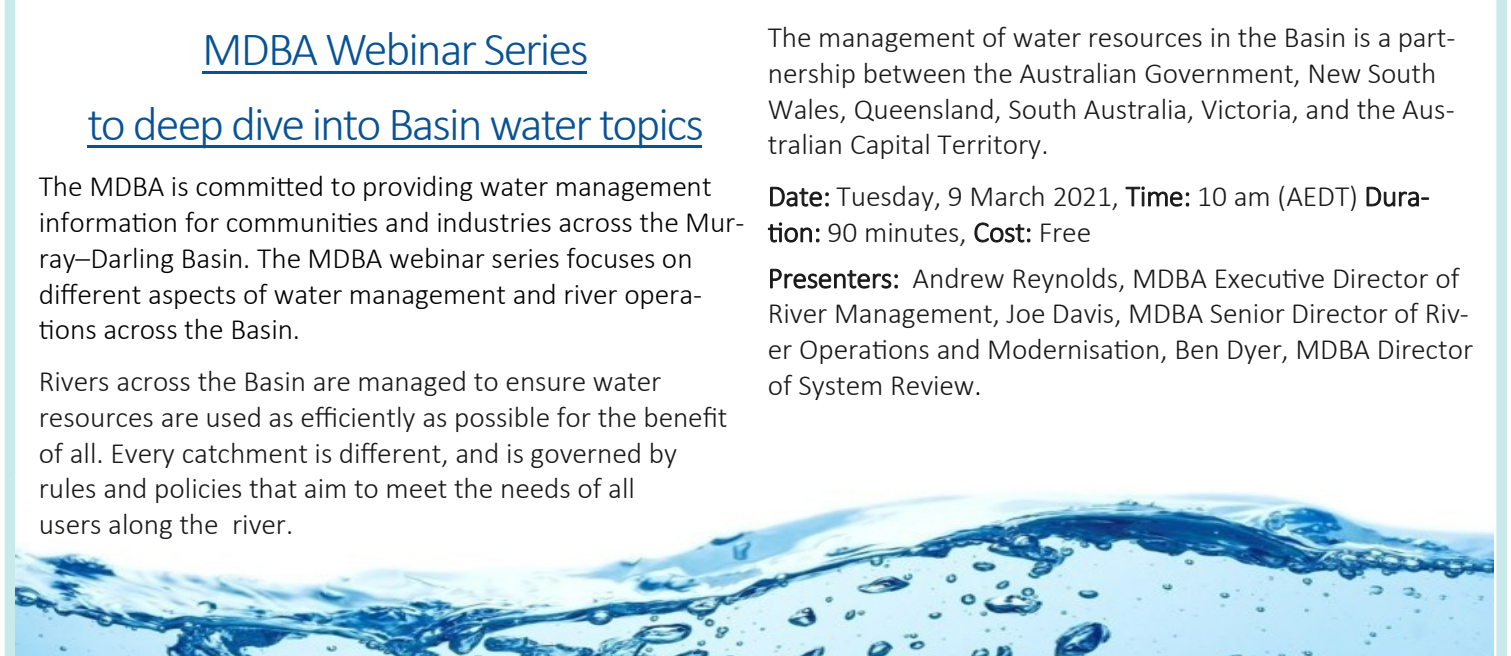
REGISTER TODAY
www.climate-risk-and-farming.eventbrite.com.au
Contact us on 02 6884 8812 or support@ruralbiztraining.com.au for more info.



Murray–Darling Basin Authority Communique

Members discussed the Basin's climate vulnerabilities identified in the [CSIRO scenarios](#) released last year and the **MDBA's upcoming Climate Resilience Summit in March**. Climate change will permanently shift the fundamental characteristics and connectivity of the Basin. Adapting to

the changing climate is increasingly a focus of the diverse stakeholders of the Basin with many already beginning this process. Members highlighted the important role the summit will play in bringing together key leaders who are taking action so the knowledge, tools and innovations could be shared across sectors and industries for the benefit of all Basin stakeholders.



MDBA Webinar Series to deep dive into Basin water topics

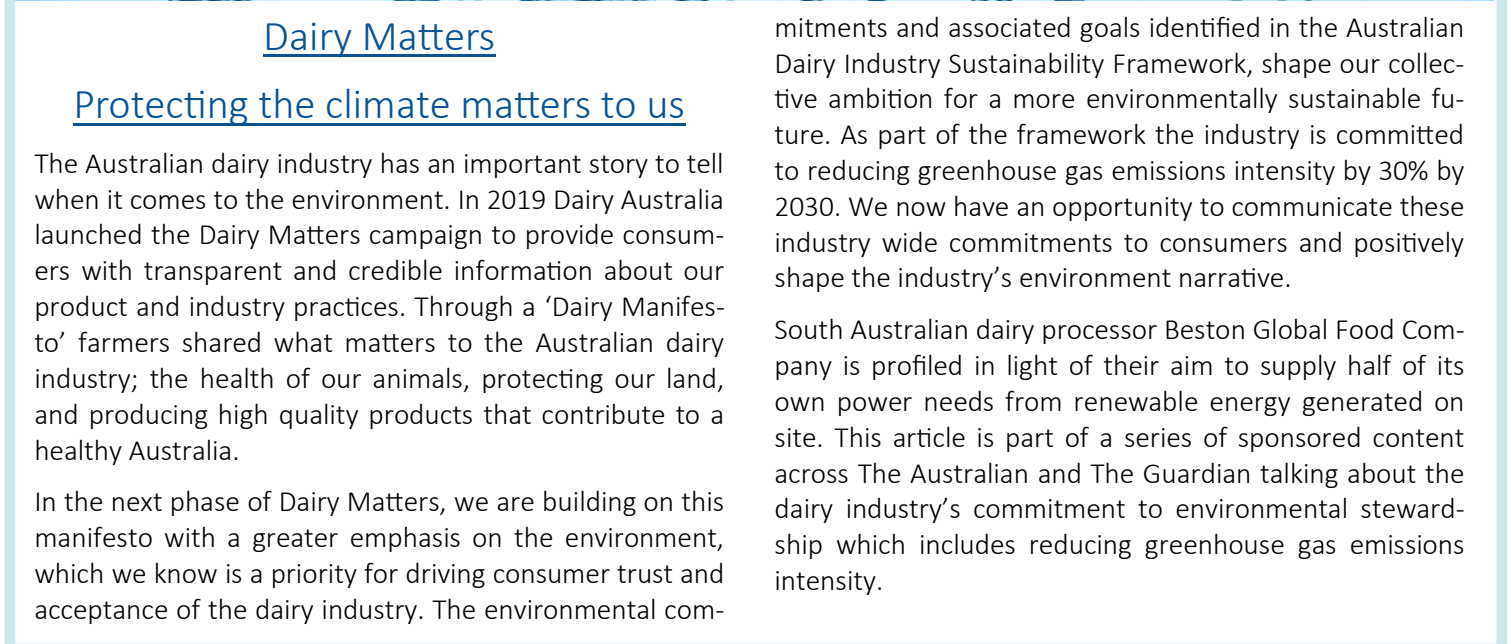
The MDBA is committed to providing water management information for communities and industries across the Murray–Darling Basin. The MDBA webinar series focuses on different aspects of water management and river operations across the Basin.

Rivers across the Basin are managed to ensure water resources are used as efficiently as possible for the benefit of all. Every catchment is different, and is governed by rules and policies that aim to meet the needs of all users along the river.

The management of water resources in the Basin is a partnership between the Australian Government, New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia, Victoria, and the Australian Capital Territory.

Date: Tuesday, 9 March 2021, **Time:** 10 am (AEDT) **Duration:** 90 minutes, **Cost:** Free

Presenters: Andrew Reynolds, MDBA Executive Director of River Management, Joe Davis, MDBA Senior Director of River Operations and Modernisation, Ben Dyer, MDBA Director of System Review.



Dairy Matters Protecting the climate matters to us

The Australian dairy industry has an important story to tell when it comes to the environment. In 2019 Dairy Australia launched the Dairy Matters campaign to provide consumers with transparent and credible information about our product and industry practices. Through a 'Dairy Manifesto' farmers shared what matters to the Australian dairy industry; the health of our animals, protecting our land, and producing high quality products that contribute to a healthy Australia.

In the next phase of Dairy Matters, we are building on this manifesto with a greater emphasis on the environment, which we know is a priority for driving consumer trust and acceptance of the dairy industry. The environmental com-

mitments and associated goals identified in the Australian Dairy Industry Sustainability Framework, shape our collective ambition for a more environmentally sustainable future. As part of the framework the industry is committed to reducing greenhouse gas emissions intensity by 30% by 2030. We now have an opportunity to communicate these industry wide commitments to consumers and positively shape the industry's environment narrative.

South Australian dairy processor Beston Global Food Company is profiled in light of their aim to supply half of its own power needs from renewable energy generated on site. This article is part of a series of sponsored content across The Australian and The Guardian talking about the dairy industry's commitment to environmental stewardship which includes reducing greenhouse gas emissions intensity.

Calling Expression of Interest for Workforce Committee Members of SADA.

The primary role of the Workforce Committee is the responsible, prudent management and coordination for education and training for the SA Dairy Industry.

- Consider workforce development and strategy relating to the workforce;
- Observe the concept of Attract, Develop and Retain to ensure the industry has the right people with the right skills in the right place at the right time.
- Set the strategic direction and monitor implementation programs for all workforce issues and service delivery in line with the wider strategic objectives;
- Assess and identify risk within the workforce portfolio, ensuring appropriate mitigation and escalation;
- Provide a focus on workforce activity, role design, development and education, employee relations, health and well-being and people engagement across the supply chain.
- Oversee the benefits realisation of workforce initiatives and processes including technology based solutions;
- Approve appropriate policies in line with the Action Plan.


If this is something that you're keen to find out more about, please email Ashleigh@sada.asn.au

Around the grounds


- Held discussions with DIS (Dept of Industry and Skills) around skill needs for the dairy manufacturing industry in SA
- Met with South Australian parliament's Economic and Finance Committee regarding the inquiry into essential production and supply chain security in the context of emergency circumstances in South Australia.
- SADA has a stall at the Food SA and Gap Solutions around the SA Food, Bev, Tech Trade Show.
- Supported the Educating Kids About Ag program which is a PPSA initiative with a dairy component included.
- Participated in a Carbon Farming workshop which highlighted a number of opportunities and challenges for pasture based carbon farming systems.
- Attended the first GS1 NGTAG Traceability Advisory Group General Meeting for the year. Notable guest speakers were David McNeil from the Australian Logistics Council who spoke about traceability in the freight and logistics sector, and Jayne Gallagher from Honey and Fox who spoke about the importance on selecting an appropriate and fitting traceability service provider for each supply chain.
- Attended the first Young Dairy Network Forum at The Bend. This was a great opportunity to see the next generation of people wanting to enter the dairy industry. It also provided insight as to which areas of training young people in particular would like to utilise as well as what opportunities can be created to upskill.
- Met with DCAT, a space/farm monitoring company who have substantially advanced their technology over SA. They are undertaking a number of verification trials. These trials require some support from dairy farmers and contacts were made available with the permission of the farmers.

National News:

- Larpent, Victoria dairy farmer, Sam Simpson has been elected to the [board of DataGene](#), the dairy industry's organisation to drive herd improvement.




ROADWORTHY HEAVY VEHICLES... *Made Easy!*

ROADWORTHY HEAVY VEHICLES... *Made Easy!* This program has been funded by the National Heavy Vehicle Regulator's Heavy Vehicle Safety Initiative Program, with the support of the Federal Government. 

Registration open for March

Grain Producers SA, on behalf of Primary Producers SA, are pleased to deliver FREE Roadworthy Heavy Vehicles ... Made Easy! workshops again in 2021, designed specifically to help SA primary producers understand heavy vehicle roadworthiness requirements. CLICK on a LOCATION to register for March workshops!

Wirrulla, March 2	Jamestown, March 11
Cummins, March 3	Murray Bridge, March 16
Cleve, March 4	Keith, March 17
Walleroo, March 10	Bordertown, March 18



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Book at <https://2021dsacentral.eventbrite.com.au/>



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SADA NEWSLETTER MARCH 2021

2021 State Dairy Summit Recap

In March 2021, a second Dairy Industry Summit was held, initiated by the South Australian Dairyfarmers' Association in collaboration with government departments and industry partners to report on the actions of the previous summit as well as to reassess the industry and deliver the above outcomes in alignment with the SA Dairy Industry Action Plan.

This report presents the information collected at the Summit and identifies the actions and opportunities to address relevant to the success of the Action Plan.

Opportunities 2021 Summit

- Need visual representation that highlights we are compliant with industry standards – consumer dashboard as part of the traceability project.
- Underpasses – expansion of land and herd sizes.
- We need to “tell” the dairy story
 - ⇒ Information is power
 - ⇒ Carbon Neutral Milk? Is this something that DA can drive and we as an industry aim to achieve and exceed.
 - ⇒ Workforce upskilling and training – implementation of the SA Dairy Workforce Committee

Understanding the motivations behind why they are in dairy, why they want to

stay in dairy and how they can promote the industry so that others become involved in dairy.

Consumer expectations

- Animal Welfare in dairy in Australia is world leading, we need to highlight this and constantly prove this to the consumer. A consumer is more likely to buy a product if we can demonstrate this.
- We are doing our bit for climate change both on farm and off farm. Need to make consumers aware of the goals and outcomes of the Australian Dairy Sustainability Framework and the work that the industry is doing.
- Manage EPA situations well. Show the consumer the collaboration and work that SADA does with the EPA as well as highlighting the standards that industry must meet.
- Food Security (COVID).
- What does “healthier” mean to a consumer?
- Plant or Animal
- Carbon Neutral Milk?
- Milk is something that has to be wholesome and good for you, how can we show that to consumers? (Dairy Good Campaign)
- Clean, safe, reliable

Actions 2021 Summit

- Telling the story – Dairy Good Campaign, Social Media (DIAA + SADA + key industry bodies)
 - ⇒ Who pays? Seek funding
 - ⇒ Changing the attitudes/ educating of people who are
 - ⇒ Do we need an ambassador to promote this? Each groups to identify an ambassador to promote their section
 - ⇒ Dairy Week – promoting the industry from grass to glass (have a look at previous campaigns)
 - ⇒ Separate logo on dairy products symbolising standards –
 - ⇒ Assess where we are and where we want to be
 - ⇒ Consumer survey (what do they want to see?)
- Workforce
 - ⇒ Simplifying the process
 - ⇒ Promote the pathways to enter the dairy industry
 - ⇒ Succession farming (Dairy SA, DA, SADA, Rural Business Support)
 - ⇒ What are the gaps/needs to create the opportunities?
 - ⇒ Share farming? Opportunity for investment? Investment in young farmers
 - ⇒ Family farming, unease of outsiders taking over the family farm
 - ⇒ SADA to update industry of all progress around traceability
 - ⇒ Industry to create standards to demonstrate premium.

Calling Expression of Interest for Workforce Committee Members

The primary role of the Workforce Committee is the responsible, prudent management and coordination for education and training for the SA Dairy Industry.

Performance of Australia's dairy industry and the profitability of Australian dairy farmers since deregulation in 2000

As you maybe aware the Senate's Rural and Regional Affairs Committee handed down its long anticipated report into the dairy industry.

This inquiry has been going since 17 October 2019 after the Senate requested the committee analyse industry's performance since deregulation, effectiveness of Dairy Australia and mandatory code, and whether to pursue the floor price proposed by One Nation, Katter, ALP and Greens' parties.

Key highlights from the report include:

The report is factual, evidenced based and apolitical. This is a contrast to many of the hearings conducted over the inquiry period.

Allegations/claims made by Farmerpower against ADF and DA have been disregarded and omitted from the report.

This followed ADF and DA making submissions to the committee last week discrediting their submission and testimony.

1. The report adopts key points and recommendations from our submission e.g. imposition of a statutory levy on processors to fund post farm gate DA programs.

2. Despite a recommendation to improve DA's statistics (a recommendation adopted from our submission), the report relies on this source for most of its industry context and analysis.

3. The report recognises industry performance issues e.g. reduction in milk production and farms, but it does not form a view that deregulation has caused industry decline. In fact generally there is a lack of analytical rigor of industry performance e.g. equity growth.

4. The committee recognised the different views of DA from the various submissions received. It accepted the independent review outcomes and left any structural change to the Australian Dairy Plan, which it commended the industry's agencies for undertaking. The committee did emphasise that any change to DA must protect and strengthen RD&E.

5. The committee found the introduction of the mandatory code to be a very positive step for industry. Some minor changes are proposed to improve it but the work done on this has been recognised.

6. The committee did not determine whether a floor price or retail levy should be imposed. It kept this policy debate alive by making recommendations for these to be determined by the ACCC and an independent expert review. This is consistent with our National Council motion on 5 June 2020 that 'ADF seeks to work with the Federal Government to explore mechanisms that would deliver a meaningful increase in returns to all farmers, across all milk produced in Australia, that may include but not be limited to a retail levy.'

A Royal Commission into the industry (proposed by Farmerpower and Dairy Connect) is not supported by the committee.

The next step in this process is for the government to table a response. This is supposed to occur within three months of a report being tabled in the Senate (based on a Senate resolution on 14 March 1973).

Our next task is to come up with a plan on how the government can implement the report's recommendations.

This provides ADF with an opportunity to obtain more funding and projects.

[A copy of the report can be accessed here](#)



Diversity in Agriculture Leadership Program

The **Diversity in Agriculture Leadership Program** (DiALP) mentoring opportunity is designed for aspiring female leaders, 25 years and over, with a passion for agriculture.

Applications close April 5.

The Program matches successful applicants with a mentor and the mentorship runs from May 2021 to October 2021. With their mentor, each mentee establishes leadership goals, outlines steps to achieving these goals and puts, in place steps to measure progress towards these goals.



National Farm Safety

EDUCATION FUND STRATEGY 2020-2021

Farmsafe Australia is committed to making Australian farms safer places to live and work. Farms are dangerous workplaces with geographically hard-to-reach audiences, who can be resistant to traditional safety messages. However, farmers are equally innovative and resilient. To cut-through and change behavior requires a deep understanding of the audiences we are trying to reach and engage with.



AgriStarter Loan

Loans to assist first time farmers and loans to support farm succession arrangements.

Who can apply: Eligible first time farmers wanting to buy, establish or develop their first farm or Eligible farmers and farm businesses who are planning for and implementing succession arrangements.

Dairy farming contribution towards emissions reduction

The Australian dairy industry has made a commitment to reduce emissions by 30% by the year 2030. As an industry we want to always be on the front foot with global expectations and is becoming increasingly topical as some jurisdictions are looking at imposing a tariff on other countries who are not making enough of an effort on global reductions. A free trade agreement with the EU is one such example where the EU has flagged Australia's emissions as a relevant matter in the negotiations.

Agriculture contributes 13% of Australia's total emissions. Of that fraction, dairy contributes 12.5%. Consequently, dairy produces an overall total of 1.625% of Australia's emissions. SA being 6% of the milk pool contributes 0.0975% of Australia total emissions.

SADA endorses the idea that we all have a role to play in reducing our emissions as part of the global effort.

The upside for farmers is that reduction schemes need not be an expense, they are actually good business as they reduce costs overall. To

save money by implementing carbon reduction schemes on your farm it is useful to visit the [Dairy Australia website](#)

www.dairyaustralia.com.au/land-water-and-climate/climate-change-and-dairy/preserve#.YG0dtugzaUI

This link demonstrates how there are substantial farm savings to be made by engaging in emission mitigation strategies for farmers.

Knowing how many emissions your farm produces is also a useful exercise. There is an excellent tool for farmers to assess their carbon emissions by way of a self-test. This test can be found [here](#).

www.dairyingfortomorrow.com.au/tools-and-guidelines/dairy-greenhouse-gas-abatement-calculator/

By using this test many farmers will be surprised how much emission mitigation already occurs on farm.

By combining the outcome of the emissions calculator with some of the projects suggested by Dairy Australia some farmers have reduced their

farm's costs.

Cow burps (methane) contribute over half of a farm's methane production and represent a 6% energy loss (that is milk production loss) from the food eaten by a cow. That is energy that is not available for milk production or growth in the beast.

Changes in diet will result in the lowering of emissions as a single example on what can be done to save money and reduce emissions.

SADA urges all members to visit the links provided and for members to consider practical responses to emissions reduction.



Cattle Industry Fund Apply for Funding

Open Call for SA Cattle Industry Projects 2021-22

The South Australian Cattle Industry Fund Board (CIFB) invites expressions of interest for project funding which will benefit the state's cattle (beef and dairy) industries.

Projects are to be delivered within the 2021-22 financial year with project funding to be drawn from the SA Cattle Industry Fund.

This funding is suitable for industry development and extension activities, research projects and farmer groups. Projects demonstrating funding co-contributions and collaborations with other programs or initiatives are encouraged.

Projects addressing any of the Fund investment priorities will be considered. Investment priorities and funding guidelines are outlined in further detail in the [Cattle Industry Fund Management Plan](#).

Applications are due by **COB 30 April 2021**: [Apply here](#)

May be submitted to Tom Cosentino - Cattle Industry Fund Board Executive Officer Email: EO@livestocksa.org.au Phone: (08) 8297 2299



Productivity and profits underpin sustained confidence in Australia's farm sector

Australian farmers are forecasting another productive and profitable year ahead, with rural sentiment still at historically-high levels thanks to “perfect” summer conditions in much of the nation’s east and exceptionally strong commodity prices. The latest quarterly Rabobank Rural Confidence Survey, reveals ongoing optimism among Australian farmers who have not only rebounded from significant drought conditions a year ago, but also stared down immense uncertainty and, in some sectors, market volatility as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

“New dairy barns, new wool sheds and modernising water infrastructure remain popular business investments for our farmers at the moment as they look to create efficiencies within their operations. Farmers are making the most of the good seasonal conditions, commodity price strength and favourable business incentives to help strengthen and grow their businesses. It’s an exciting period for many farmers who are very much looking forward to the year ahead.”



Good people to know.

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Around the grounds

- Attended the National GS1 Traceability Advisory Group meeting where the new traceability accords and industry standards were discussed. Guest speakers from the Melon Industry as well as a Guest Speaker from the United States Seafood Industry spoke about and ROI calculator for enhanced traceability and Supply Chain Traceability in the Melon Industry.
- SADA staff and Board attended a face-to-face board meeting at the McCracken Country Club in Victor Harbour.
- SADA Staff attended the 2021 Dairy SA Central Conference at the McCracken Country Club in Victor Harbour. This was a great opportunity the speak to famers from across the state about the future of the dairy industry as well as listen to some excellent guest speakers who shared insights and experiences from Sustainability to Regenerative Farming to Corporate Leasing.
- Ash attended the Department of Trade and Investments Resilience through Supply Chains Workshop held at Adelaide Oval. This was a great event, with many cross-industry representatives to talk about the challenges of supply chain logistics presented by Covid-19 and how to better prepare for further supply chain pressures in the future. Guest speakers from Deakin University’s Centre for Supply Chain Logistics and Aus-trade talked about the importance of track and trace technology in supply chains which further complements why a traceability trial such as our is the way the future is heading.
- Elf and Maralina progressed the remediation plan for SADA Fresh cheese. This included communication with Coles as well as label redesign processing an existing order (while negotiating a MLOR with Coles).
- Hunt signed a letter to the Minister regarding the SA Government’s position on underpasses calling upon the Minister to bring forward the underpass proposal as Government policy.
- Elf negotiated a full subsidy for a partnership with Export Connect (\$5,000 worth), for access to MENA countries. Elf will meet the Najib Lawand next week to formulate the MENA policy/contacts.
- Elf/Curtis to meet with Foodland next week with regard to SADA Fresh cheese.
- Drakes contacted SADA re cheese and the matter has been removed to their dairy case manager for follow up.
- Ash and John attended the Food SA Food & Beverage Trade Show where they established a SADA Fresh stall and had a number of useful discussions with potential buyers and collaborators.
- This year’s ABARES Outlook conference was delivered via Zoom. Various staff attended parts of the conference with sessions including topics on deglobalisation and trade, Milk or Milk© – how are attributes driving value creation along the supply chain, adapting to climate change, and Creating value, managing risk and developing partnerships: the way forward for Australia’s biosecurity system. Many presentations are available at the conference website <https://www.agriculture.gov.au/abares/outlook/program>
- Together with GPSA, Andrew attended an online meeting with Telstra to discuss opportunities for the establishment of weather stations integrated with the Telstra Communications infrastructure and network.



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SADA NEWSLETTER APRIL 2021

What are we talking about ... next?



The past few years have been positive in getting dairy in South Australia on a even keel. The collaboration and willingness to partner that has underpinned our South Australian Dairy Industry Action Plan is the envy of the nation. This attitude has enabled the South Australian dairy industry to assertively engage with the current state government and to participate in the national debate, not least of which was the development of the national Dairy Code of Practice.

While there have been some positive outcomes in recent times, there is no suggestion that all the work has been done. There are still issues that SADA needs to attend to on behalf of its members such as proper funding of underpasses by government, clear signals regarding the management of water resources and addressing the workforce issues impacting on the industry and its development.

SADA is conducting a survey of South Australian Dairy producers to gauge their views on issues in the industry. The survey is confidential and can be anonymous. It only takes 5 minutes to complete and it will help SADA to better advocate for producers and develop policy and submissions on your behalf.

Hot topics identified from the SADA planning day and the Industry Summit for this survey will help shape the direction for industry over the next three years and to assist SADA in forming its election priorities going into next year's State and Federal Elections.

Do the survey and help us clarify the key issues that we will be talking about for the next year.

- Need for industry planning
- Price of commodities
- Infrastructure
- Workforce
- Farmer Health and Wellbeing
- Water
- Climate change
- Energy
- Animal Welfare
- Outlook and Traceability.



START HERE



5 common connectivity issues faced by farmers

SADA is linked with the National Farmers Federation through its membership of both Primary Producers SA and Australian Dairy Farmers. This article has been prepared by Helpdesk staff from the Regional Tech Hub - a Commonwealth Government initiative delivered by the NFF.

Since launching in December 2020, the Regional Tech Hub (RTH) has assisted over 330 regional Australians and farming families with phone/internet connection concerns.

Some of the common connectivity issues faced by farmers include:

1. My landline phone or mobile phone service is not working properly or could work better, I can't seem to find a solution to the issue with my service provider.

If you are not getting anywhere with your provider to fix a broken phone line or issues with mobile reception, both SADA, through its partnership with Telstra and the Regional Tech Hub can assist by entering in discussions with your service provider to find solutions for a number of faults with landlines.

Some of the most common mobile phone issues stem from users being located around edges of the mobile coverage area, benefiting from "boosting" devices and external antennas when using devices inside the house or vehicle.

2. My neighbours can get Fixed Wireless and I can see a tower but my provider tells me I am Satellite only and won't help me.

Once information is collected about your address in a Connectivity Report, RTH can produce a report with the help of nbn to see if you have line of sight to a tower and the equipment required to allow for the connection, along with updating your address details, allowing nbn to make your property fixed wireless ready.

3. My internet is slow, I don't know why this is the case

RTH find that often Internet speeds can be impacted by plan/provider choices or equipment that is used to access the Internet. By assessing information about the connection type, the plan/who you are with and can make some recommendations on adjustments to your service to improve your life online.

If equipment is not working as it should, there are tips and tricks to try to test out and recommend options if you need some repairs or upgrades.

4. I seem to keep going over my limit and I am not quite sure why

RTH can provide some suggestions on changes to computers and devices to reduce data usage if you are on a service with a limited data allow-

ance as there are many applications that consume vast amounts of data as they update and sync with online services.

Looking at the plan that you are on and considering some alternative ideas on options which would better suit your needs, as often plans change price and allowances as time progresses and the old one just doesn't suit your requirements as well as it used to.

5. I would like to be able to use my Internet connection in the shed/ across the property, what can I do?

Depending upon the area that you need to cover and the connection type that you already have at your property, RTH can make suggestions about equipment that you can purchase to link sheds and cover yards with wireless connectivity.

If you have another living quarters, dairy or working space some distance away from the home, we can also discuss with nbn about getting an additional service added to your address so all your buildings are connected online where you need them.

If you are experiencing any phone or internet connectivity issues, be sure you reach out to SADA and we can raise this with Telstra or provide contacts for the Regional Tech Hub to see how they can assist.

Regional Development Strategy launched



The Regional Development Strategy has been launched by the SA Government to help shape the long-term direction of regional South Australia.

The Strategy outlines how the government will work with communities to encourage regional development across the state, support communities to be resilient to challenges and help them thrive.

Like the; [Mount Gambier and District Saleyards Transformation Project - Local Government Infrastructure Partnership Program](#).

IR UPDATE

CHANGES TO CASUAL EMPLOYMENT

We recently provided Member Updates regarding two cases when casual employees were found to be eligible for annual leave as well as their 25% casual loading. There is an appeal to the High Court which is expected to hand down its decision later this year.

In the meantime, on 26 March 2021, the Federal Parliament amended the Fair Work Act 2009 ("FW Act") resulting in some changes for casual employment.

These changes came into effect on Saturday 27 March 2021. These changes include;

- a. Introduction of the [Casual Employment Information Statement](#)
- b. definition of casual employment
- c. conversion of casual employment to full-time or part-time employment.

Casual Employment Information Statement. Can be accessed at [here](#).

Impact of the FWA amendments

Employers have to give every new casual employee a Casual Employment Information Statement (the CEIS) before, or as soon as possible after, they start their new job.

[Small business employers](#) (less than 15 employees) are required to provide their existing casual employees a copy of the CEIS as soon as possible after 27 March 2021.

Larger employers are required to give their existing casual employees a copy of the CEIS as soon as possible after 27 September 2021.

Pay rates and leave accrual when a casual employee converts to part-time or full-time employment.

Employers in discussing with the employee the impact of casual conversion, that the 25% casual loading will

- a. be replaced by 4 weeks paid annual leave,
- b. leave loading (if covered by an Award such as the Pastoral Award 2020 which makes this provision),
- c. 2 weeks Personal Carers Leave,
- d. Public Holidays not worked, and
- e. if the position were to become redundant severance payments would be made.

All these provisions will replace the compensation of the 25% casual loading.

The employer must also put in writing that accrual for Annual and Personal Carers Leave commences on the day that conversion to full-time or part-time employment commences. Long Service Leaves accrues from the first day (including casual employment) commenced.

Read
the full
IR Update
here

[Climate Change Resilience Strategy](#)

Climate change will have a profound impact on South Australian ecosystems and species, and on the communities we work with. It will also affect almost all of Trees For Life operations and mission. The current impacts are already making conservation and revegetation harder and all aspects of landscape restoration will continue to be impacted as the warming and drying trends escalate. Climate change is also exacerbating existing threats such as habitat loss, altered fire regimes and invasive plants and animals. These impacts will accelerate throughout this century, and with the climate system highly sensitive to feedback loops, it is likely additional impacts will emerge. Many species will be unable to adapt as the location of climatic envelopes shift

[River Murray Water Allocation Statement](#)

The South Australian Government had an election commitment to provide more timely information to River Murray irrigators in South Australia. This commitment was designed to give greater support to South Australian River Murray irrigators and help in their forward planning. In late 2018 the Department for Environment and Water (DEW) worked with the South Australian irrigation community to identify what water allocation information they need and when they need it. Based on this feedback, DEW updated its approach to allocation statements for the 2019-20 and 2020-21 water years.

[On-farm Emergency Water Infrastructure Rebate Scheme](#)

South Australian primary producers in drought affected areas can now apply to the On-farm Emergency Water Infrastructure Rebate Scheme under a new round of funding. You may be eligible to receive a rebate of up to 25% (max \$25,000) for the cost of purchasing, installing and repairing on-farm water infrastructure for livestock and permanent horticulture.



Australian Dairy Farmers UPDATE

Recent news from ADF

\$22 million dairy support package

ADF is continuing to deliver or facilitate \$450,000 in projects. We developed a milk supply agreement template, which is being used by processors and is available on our [website](#). It will be updated after the code of conduct is reviewed. We are working on a real-time payment system utilising blockchain technology. The first phase of this project is complete: a traceability video is available [here](#), and an industry standard and guideline has been drafted. A field trial is about to be launched.

Workforce shortage

ADF has made a significant effort to address the workforce shortage in our industry, including writing to the Federal Government regarding visa prioritisation, advocating for changes to the Dairy Industry Labour Agreement, and instigating a COVID-19 response team to ensure that any border closures have minimal impact on the dairy workforce.

Australian Milk Price Initiative

The AMPI project developed from a \$500,000 commitment made by the Federal Government to deliver a new marketing and trade platform to give dairy farmers more say over how and when they sell their milk.

Plant-based milk labelling taskforce

ADF has been actively involved in activities to prevent plant-based milk alternatives from using the word *milk* on packaging and in marketing material. We conducted a media campaign, including petitions, wrote letters to the Federal Government requesting a review of the Food Standards Code, and have lobbied the Government directly.

Perishable goods inquiry

ADF, in September last year, made a submission to the ACCC inquiry into perishable agricultural products and the dairy industry code. The inquiry examined trading practices throughout supply chains, including the relationships between farmers, processors, and retailers, and the extent to which any potential bargaining power imbalances in these relationships adversely impacted the efficient operation of these markets. It also examined the ability of current laws and regulations to address the harmful effects of bargaining power imbalances.

Inquiry into the performance of Australia's dairy industry. [Full submission here](#)

Around the grounds

- The SADA Board met virtually to discuss the establishment of an industry workforce committee and recent engagements regarding national industry structures.
- Elf assisted members with contract reviews entering into the new milk supply year.
- Ash completed the draft Terms of Reference (TOR) for the SA Dairy Workforce Committee. Following feedback and SADA Board approval it is expected committee will commence within a month.
- Andrew and Don Plowman met with the Productivity Commission to discuss the Register of Foreign Water Entitlements and its impact on South Australian agriculture.
- Elf met with Najib Lawand, Export Connect regarding a proposal to supply SA-DA Fresh Cheeses to the Middle East. The project will be developed over the next few weeks and presentations to UAE based supermarkets will commence prior to June.
- A public meeting was held on 1 April 2021 to present the revised management plans for the Sheep Industry Fund and Cattle Industry Fund. The revised plans include estimates of the likely contributions to the fund over the next five-year period, along with details on the purpose of the fund and how the fund will be applied to benefit contributors.
- Marilena and Elf met with Coles regarding the SADA Fresh range of cheeses. Coles indicated support for SADA Fresh's planning strategies into the future and endorse label redesign. New labels have been designed and will be finalised on Monday.
- Elf and Ash met with Peter Adamo and Katherine Elia (DIAA) to receive an update on the DIAA Dairy Campaign
- Elf met with Winetrust and Department for Trade and Investment regarding the SADA traceability project. The meeting was organised at the behest of the Department.
- The Traceability Contract with Entrust has been finalised and meetings are to be organised with both La Casa Del Formaggio and Fleurieu Milk Company within the coming weeks.

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Good people to know.



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SADA NEWSLETTER MAY 2021

Why SA has a Dairy Industry Action Plan

There is a stark contrast between events in South Australia in the dairy industry and in NSW which confirms in the mind of SADA that the approach taken in South Australia by adopting the South Australian Dairy Industry Action Plan (2019-2024) is the correct way to manage the industry in this state.

A parliamentary report into the NSW dairy industry has found no significant progress has been made since the last inquiry three years ago, prompting calls for an independent advocate for the dairy industry in that state. A NSW parliamentary committee reviewed the sustainability of the NSW dairy industry which was tabled in the upper house.

The report concluded that recent events such as bushfires, super-market price setting and drought were edging the industry in NSW to unsustainability.

Mark Banasiak MLC said in the re-

port "...we are still losing our local, family run dairy farms at a concerning rate and it is difficult for new dairy farmers to enter the industry..."

Amongst its recommendations were:

- The report supported the notion of an investigation into a floor price by the Department of Primary Industries.
- The committee also recommended the Department and the Fresh Milk Advocate, consider investigate whether a similar mechanism to a milk floor price could be extended to fluctuating production costs, nominally a milk to feed price ratio, suggesting such a policy could assist farmers remain solvent.

These are not policies SADA would support as they would be very damaging to SA's dairy exports and speak to increased regulation and government interference.

In the political slanging match that followed politicians became more interested in their agendas than outcomes for dairy farmers.

The South Australian Dairy Industry Action Plan 2019-2024 has been designed to avoid these sorts of fights as they harm the dairy industry in other jurisdictions and hurt the industry's reputation as a place to work and invest generally.

SADA has been very careful to work with processors and government and the result has been a settled and sober dairy industry in this state which is leading to increased milk prices and increased production in South Australia.

South Australia is more optimistic and has good grounds for that optimism and the events in NSW reassure us that the approach which is being taken in SA not only is easier but produces much better results for all who participate.



SA Dairy Producers Survey REMINDER: Thank you to all those that have already shared their views. Grab a glass of milk and by the time you finish your drink your views will be counted in our election priorities.

**START
HERE**

A big spend to ramp up Australia's biosecurity system remained the standout for agriculture in tonight's federal budget.

Farmers' pleas for more investment to build the nation's agricultural workforce long-term were answered, as was more funding for on-farm biodiversity, while the ever-popular instant asset write-off was extended yet again.

BIOSECURITY

The bulk of the biosecurity spend was announced prior to the budget announcement, and includes another \$58.6 million toward the prevention of an African swine fever outbreak, \$67.4 million to boost Australia's biosecurity preparedness, and \$34.6 to improve research and field tools.

An extra \$29.1 million to help combat established pests and weeds takes the total biosecurity spend to \$400 million.

The budget papers also reveal that industry will pay for about a third of the \$96.9 million set aside to manage risks from hitchhiker pests in imported cargo. The department will cover \$60.5 million of the program over four years.

AGRICULTURAL WORKFORCE

Almost \$30 million will go toward new measures aimed at growing agriculture's workforce long-term, including \$10 million to create a new pathway into the sector for young people.

There's little that will help the current workforce shortages however, with no moves to allow backpackers back in to Australia, or increase the number of seasonal workers coming into the country.

INSTANT ASSET WRITE-OFF

Welcome news to farmers and machinery dealers alike is news the Government will extend full expensing for depreciable assets until June 2023.

The popular scheme was introduced last budget and was meant to finish in June 2022. It allows businesses with a turnover of less than \$5 billion to fully deduct the costs of depreciable purchases.

"This has seen spending on machinery and equipment increase at the fastest rate in nearly seven years," Treasurer Josh Frydenberg said in his budget speech.

"A tradie can buy a new ute, a farmer a new harvester and a manufacturer expand their production line."

ON-FARM BIODIVERSITY AND LAND MANAGEMENT

The Government's new biodiversity stewardship program — which rewards farmers for increasing biodiversity on their land, such as by planting trees — will move from the pilot phase to wider implementation, with \$22.3 million to expand the scheme.

Work will continue on a biodiversity certification scheme — which will give farmers a tick of approval for their biodiversity credentials, and is being developed by the National Farmers' Federation — with \$5.4 million, and \$4.4 million to develop a biodiversity trading scheme.

There's also \$129.8 million to deliver the National Soils Strategy, which should be finalised next month.

Of that, \$102 million will go toward incentivising farmers to increase soil testing, and \$20.9 million to improve understanding of our soils.

Industry can also take advantage of \$59.6 million, out of the \$1.2 billion low-emissions technology fund. The cash will be used to trial new agricultural feed technologies that could reduce emissions from livestock, as well as innovations in soil carbon.

FREIGHT AND SUPPLY CHAINS

The Government is increasing the Heavy Vehicle Road User Charge from July this year, offsetting a \$73 million decrease in expenditure from the fuel tax credit.

The heavy vehicle charge will go from 25.8 cents per litre to 26.4 cents per litre. Budget papers state the change was agreed by federal and state transport ministers.

There is more funding for the National Freight and Supply Chain Strategy, including \$16.5 million for a national freight data hub.

TRADE

Agricultural exporters will be disappointed to see there was no commitment to extend the International Freight Air Mechanism beyond September this year. The popular program has been extended three times already, and has proved vital in getting agricultural exports overseas during the COVID-19 pandemic. With high freight costs and delays likely to continue

well into next year, industry has already warned this program could be crucial for some time yet.

While the NFF was looking for a decent trade spend that would build a long-term trade strategy for agriculture — particularly in the wake of ongoing tensions with our biggest customer, China — the Government has instead set its sights on boosting Australia's participation in international forums such as the World Trade Organisation.

There is \$15 million to "enhance our reputation and promotion of Australia's interests" in standard-setting bodies.

"The Government will work with partners to drive WTO reform to ensure the system continues to serve Australian interests," Foreign Minister Marise Payne and Trade Minister Dan Tehan said in a statement.

"We will use the WTO's dispute settlement system so that Australian businesses and producers can compete fairly in markets around the world."

Australia has already taken China to the WTO over its barley tariffs, and could follow suite over tariffs imposed on the wine industry.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

The Government is committing \$14.7 million over three years to waive farm business income reconciliation debts up to the 2019-20 financial year. That's in line with the recommendations of a recent review into FHA.

The rural financial counselling service will also receive another \$8.5 million to continue running in 2021-22, including to provide support to rural and regional small businesses affected by drought, COVID-19 or bushfire.

WATER

Another \$25 million will extend the On-farm Emergency Water Infrastructure Rebate Scheme until June 2022.

There is \$3.5 million to establish a panel to look at how transparency the water market in the Murray Darling Basin can be improved, as per the recommendations of the ACCC's water markets inquiry.

Nut Juice is not Milk.

Representatives from dairy farming organisations across Australia came together in Melbourne on 4 May. A number of matters of import were discussed and there were a couple worth bringing to the attention of SA-DA members.

SADA, with the supports of the other states and the ADF continued to maintain an “engage with the Minister for Agriculture” policy to progress a decision and action on the plant-based product labelling report. SADA has been a strident critic of nut juice being called “milk” and will continue to wage its fight on this issue.

Blockchain / traceability project

SADA was also able to report to the group progress on the SADA traceability trial. GS1, which supported the SADA trial has also been working with Beston Global Food Group to assist the field trial of their proposed technology. GS1 is the international body that issues barcodes to everyday products that we all see on shop shelves and is vitally interested in bringing this exciting technology into being in a consistent way for the Dairy industry in Australia as well as overseas.

The Beston trial like the SADA trial will ‘road test’ the industry’s draft traceability guideline (output two from the national project) and deliver a report for industry on the technologies and process reforms. The field trial builds on the education video released in 2020 (output one from the project) released by ADF. This provided industry and stakeholders with an understanding of the dairy industry issues and how technology can assist in im-

proving supply chain transparency and efficiency. Woolworths are being consulted to determine potential collaboration in the trial. They are the most advanced retailer in 2D bar coding rollout which will become an important component of blockchain traceability.

A comprehensive report on the project was provided to the Department of Agriculture on 30 April as required by the grant agreement by ADF.

Milk Hedge funds

The Australian Milk Pricing Initiative (AMPI) made a presentation to the PAG meeting held at the Quest Hotel near Melbourne Airport on 4 May 2021 regarding the futures trading project that AMPI has been developing.

During the meeting it became evident that AMPI’s ambition anticipates that the proposed initiative, effectively a futures market for milk prices, should be built into the Consumer Commission (Dairy Industry Code), the Dairy Code.

SADA is fully supportive of an operational futures market in the Australian Dairy Industry. SADA believes that dairying businesses should be

able to enjoy all commercial arrangements, particularly those which have the result of diminishing risk for SADA members.

However, SADA does remain cautious about suggestions by AMPI that this system should be built into the Mandatory Dairy Industry Code. SADA has written to the ADF signalling that we will want more information regarding this suggestion and will be making the same request of AMPI when they visit SA as part of their national consultation.

Are you an ADF Member?

At a national level it is important that SA has strong representation. For this to occur we urge all SADA Members to sign us as a member of ADF. Membership is free and will ensure you have a say in who represents you at a national level.

Processors will be posting prices by 1 June and a reminder of the milk price portal

With the contracting season fast approaching farmers whose contracts are up for renewal will have an opportunity to look out across the field for the best price moving forward.

As part of the operation of the SA-DA supported Dairy Code, all medium and larger processors will have to post their milk price by 1 June 2021 on their websites.

Some processors like Fontera have already announced their opening price for the 2021-2022 year.

Members are reminded that the Milk Value Portal from the Australian Dairy Producers Federation is available. Follow the line to <https://milkvalue.com.au/>

This site provides a clear picture not only of what is happening to the milk price in your local area, but also nationally and internationally.

Members are encouraged to visit the site as a useful tool to help them determine the best prices they can get for their milk.

Any farmer requiring further information is urged to contact the SA-DA office on 08 8293 2399 or John Elferink at SADA on 0418406400.

ACCC MDB Markets Inquiry Final Report NFF summary;

- There is no discussion about whether the Government will support any or all of the recommendations yet. The Minister has said that the Government “will now engage with Basin jurisdictions and key stakeholders to ensure that the response supports water users and communities and that the reforms are feasible, cost-effective and achieve greater harmonisation across state borders.”
- Many of the recommendations require new/changed legislation and close cooperation between states and commonwealth. This means that the timeframes for implementation of any recommendations will be extensive (This is especially considering that the legislation to enact the Office of the Inspector General Compliance MDB is yet to pass, and we are already onto our second Interim Inspector General in the role).
- The ACCC found no evidence of market manipulation or insider trading. However, the ACCC does note a lack of long-term and detailed data in this space, which would make tracking this issue much easier.
- The key recommendation is the establishment of a new independent Basin-wide Water Markets Agency to oversee trading, market integrity, and ensure water markets are efficient and fit-for-purpose. This will require not only new legislation, but will cost a significant amount to establish and operate. The NIC has raised a question as to whether a new stand-alone body is the best option, given the cost as well as the constellation of agencies already operating within the Basin.
- I agree with NFF that the other key recommendation is to introduce basin-wide legislation to address harmful conduct and practices, including an enforceable mandatory code for water market intermediaries. This is something we called for in the ADIC Submission last year and should hold water brokers to the same standards as other brokerage services, in particular that water brokers must work in their clients’ best interests.

A key issue for irrigators though is going to be WHO PAYS ongoing costs for the new agency, data, regulation, mandatory code and transparency measures that the report also recommends. If a cost-recovery/user-pays model is used, this could be a significant impost.

Around the grounds

- Ash and Elf held a meeting at Fleurieu Milk Co to introduce Entrust to the Fleurieu Staff and to discuss the traceability trial. A small tour of the lab was also done so that the Entrust staff could better understand the testing process. Subsequent meetings are now being arranged with farmers.
- Ash attended the Dairy SA Safety, Employment and Hiring Workshop conducted at Langhorne Creek. This was an excellent event with a decent turnout to help farmers with workforce related challenges and to look at the Dairy Passport. This information will be useful background knowledge for the Workforce Committee to work with.
- Ash and Elf held a meeting at La Casa to introduce Entrust to the La Casa Staff and to discuss the traceability trial. This was an opportunity to see the difference in process compared to Fleurieu and to understand how the trial could provide efficiencies to their supply chain. Subsequent meetings are now being arranged with farmers and the transporters.
- John H and Andrew participated in the first meeting of State SDFO presidents to discuss future organisational structures in dairy policy and advocacy. Meetings will be held weekly during May.
- John H and Andrew met with Minister to discuss dairy matters including the establishment of a Workforce committee, Underpasses, the SADA Traceability project, Primary Producers SA, the Future Drought Fund and the investigation into calf deaths.
- Ash attended the Climate Smart Farming Forum held by the Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Board in Encounter Bay. Panel discussions and sessions about more sustainable farming practices were the main topics as well as reference to the work live-stock producers but in particular dairy farmers have done towards the goals of their industry’s sustainability frameworks.
- Elf attended the Markets Policy Advisory Group (PAG) in Melbourne. Dairy Australia briefed the PAG on a number of emerging issues in the trade sphere internationally. SA’s traceability scheme was noted during the GS1 briefing on traceability. The PAG was also briefed on the proposed milk futures trading scheme being contemplated for the industry (there will be further briefings on a state to state level). SADA also contributed to the debate dealing with proposed minor variations to the Dairy Industry Code. Behind the scene SADA again demonstrated that the co-operation driven by the Dairy Industry Action Plan (SA) 2019-2024 is driving outcomes which are envied by other jurisdictions.
- Elf assisted with the drafting of two contracts in the dairying space for interested parties.
- Elf briefed the RSPCA on the reported calf deaths from the investigation from last week. The RSPCA is still contemplating as to whether an investigation will be commenced and will advise next week.
- Andrew and Caroline Rhodes from GPSA met with Telstra to discuss future Telstra infrastructure investment, the NFF regional forum in June and Growing SA.

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- > Over 100 years' experience
- > Leading farm insurer
- > Deal direct, from enquiry to claim
- > Over 140 Area Managers across Australia



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Unit 5, 780 South Road, Glandore SA 5037
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www.sada.asn.au
Or find us on Facebook

SADA NEWSLETTER JUNE 2021

2021 SA Dairy Awards

The South Australian Dairy Awards provides an opportunity to celebrate the effort and contribution of dairy farmers and processors in SA who showcase their products in our markets, supermarket delis, cafés and restaurants. The Dairy Awards has been a premier event on the dairy industry calendar for 15 years.

First held in 2006, the South Australian Dairy Awards is a result of the amalgamation of the Dairy Industry Association of Australia (DIAA) and Royal Adelaide Show competitions. The DIAA's role in the amalgamation was to arrange and mount the awards event, and its sponsors, with the Royal Adelaide Show to run the competition and manage the prize/competition sponsors.

The DIAA are thrilled to host the Dairy Awards at the Sanctuary at Adelaide Zoo. This location will provide a picturesque backdrop to the gala

dinner on Friday, August 13. Still in partnership with the Royal Adelaide Show, this premier event will showcase South Australia's finest dairy products and provide a platform for the winners to lead the way for the future industry in this country.

SADA is pleased to announce that it will again be the Premier Partner of the South Australian Dairy Awards for 2021. This is a tradition that SADA has maintained for many years and would be proud to continue into the future.

This year SADA will present 3 awards

Best Innovation

Young Farmer of the Year

Best Relationship with a Processor

This is an important event for the South Australian Dairy Industry and

continues to strengthen our relationship across the supply chain, recognising the work and products of both farmers and processors in SA. Collaboration and communication is highly important for the future of the industry and events such as this demonstrate this.

SADA will be sending out nomination forms in the next couple of weeks and we ask all farmers to participate.

SADA looks forward to working with the DIAA and seeing the dairy industries progression into the future.

If you have any questions or would like to make a comment, please feel free to contact Ashleigh at ashleigh@sada.asn.au or alternatively contact reception at sada@sada.asn.au or via telephone 08 8293 2399.

Innovative
Farmer
of the Year

Young
Farmer
of the Year

Best
Relationship
with a
Processor

2021 SA DAIRY AWARDS

OPENING PRICES

Since the release of the dairy contracts by Dairy processors nationally on 1 June 2021, a number of farmers have contacted SADA offices (John Elf) seeking advice on the operation of the Dairy Industry Code. While SADA will not give financial advice to members we will assist members by discussing contractual issues with members as well as assisting members regarding their rights and obligations under the code.

SADA was at the front and centre of lobbying for the Mandatory Code and much of what went into it. While not all of SADA's recommendations were adopted the essential elements of the Code did reflect SADA's expectations. Core to SADA's position was an expectation that dairy contracts were made public at least a month before the beginning of the financial year. This has now enabled farmers to take the time to visit the various websites and consider their options.

SADA has also provided advice to numerous processors

to assist the industry being as successful as possible. While comparing contracts can be challenging as many processors present their contracts in ways that are difficult to compare or with different incentive schemes. Time needs to be taken looking at the offers through the lens of your own farm. Many processors certainly load a premium to a flat milk supply and it is clear that expectations around this are going to increase into the future.

What has been certain so far, now that the Code has been operational for 18 months, is that the position of farmers has improved substantially in relation to the contracting environment. The Code will not set prices but what it does do is create a much fairer environment for the farmers which has been achieved.

If you have any questions call John Elf on 0418406400 and he'll be happy to have a chat.

Did you miss any of our updates? [Register here](#)

[Dairy farmers' contracting season starts today.](#)

[Processor's Year 2021 – 2022 Price Updates](#)

DairySafe Strategic Plan Results

We're pleased to report that Dairysafe operations and results are on track with our 2017-2020 Strategic Plan. The [following article](#) details key results from 2019, based on the goals of our Strategic Plan.

Dairyfarmers look to future with confidence as opening prices jump - Stock Journal

DAIRYFARMERS are able to have more confidence for the year ahead, as processors come out strong with opening prices for the 2021-22 season.

With more competition for milk, processors have come out with prices said to be at near-record levels, while the new requirement for mandatory contracts has led to something of a bidding war.

SA Dairyfarmers' Association president John Hunt said this was positive news as farmers prepared for the new season.

"The opening prices for the new season have set farmers mind at ease that things are looking good for another year," he said.

"(Prices) are where we expected them to be and it also shows (processors) are abiding by the code of conduct in getting prices out there."

A number of companies have already revised and increased their averaged weighted price ahead of opening, in order to maintain a "competitive" price.

Saputo Dairy Australia, Bega Cheese and Fonterra have each revised their prices upwards, just days after announcing their initial price earlier this month.

After initially offering an opening weighted average milk price for the southern region of \$6.55 a kilogram milk solids on June 1, Saputo increased its offering to \$6.85/kgMS, saying it was "committed to paying our suppliers competitive milk prices".

Bega Cheese, which in November acquired the former Lion Dairy & Drinks plant at Salisbury, also lifted its opening southern dairy price late last week, by 14 cents to \$6.94/kgMS. It is offering Central SA producers a butterfat price of \$5.83/kg and protein price of \$8.15/kg.

Fonterra has gone from \$6.55/kgMS in May to \$6.85/kgMS on June 4.

In SA, Beston Global Food Company and Union Dairy Company are each offering \$6.80/kgMS, while Coles, which has begun dealing direct with farmers, is offering a \$7.03/kg butterfat and \$8.73/kg protein price in the South East and \$7.20/kg butterfat and \$9/kg protein in Central SA.

It means milk is being treated as having different standards of quality, which is helping us get over that \$1 a litre period - an attitude that smashed the industry. - LYNDON CLEGGETT

Mr Hunt said dairyfarmers should still take the time to explore the contracts and see what options suited their farms.

But he said there were other good signs with a relatively "kind" season, and feed prices down on the highs of the past few years.

He said other reasons for optimism were the new free trade agreement with the United Kingdom and the next step of the Australian Dairy Plan, which is expected to be "on the table" within the next month, with a goal to "put money in farmer's pockets".

The latest global quarterly dairy report from Rabobank is also showing good prices on the global and farmgate level.

Rabobank senior dairy analyst Michael Harvey said signals suggested another season of "sustained profitability" and high prices.

He said Rabobank had also revised its prices and was forecasting a full-year milk price of \$6.90/kgMS in the southern export sector.

SafeWork SA will begin a compliance campaign in South Australia this month, focusing on the risks associated with livestock handling and transport.

It defines livestock handling as working with livestock in paddocks, laneways, yards, cattle transportation, feedlots, abattoirs, saleyards and activities relating to on-farm sales.

SafeWork SA highlights some of the common injuries faced by workers and other people involved in livestock handling. These include bone fractures, bruising, dislocations, crush injuries, lacerations and in some cases injuries may be fatal.

Data from Safe Work Australia reveals that animals are involved in around 20 per cent of serious injuries in the agriculture sector.

SafeWork SA inspectors will be auditing feedlots, saleyards, abattoirs and livestock exchange facilities to determine if adequate safety control measures are in place to protect workers from injury, including training, manual handling techniques and the provision of appropriate plant and systems of work to separate workers from animals.

SafeWork SA Acting Executive Director, Glenn Farrell said the livestock transport industry is faced with high risk activities and it is vital they are appropriately managed

“SafeWork SA has recently developed [guidelines on livestock handling](#) providing information on managing risks associated with handling livestock and safe design for loading ramps and yards.

“I encourage anyone involved with livestock handling and transport to understand their responsibility and ways to make their workplace safe.”

Bushfire Resilience Agriculture and Land Management Courses

Aim to create stronger, smarter and more connected communities. Through participation in courses, landholders will become better prepared to respond and recover from the impact of bushfires and other adverse events. Courses are free to attend for landholders impacted by the Cudlee Creek 2019–20 bushfire and will consist of 4 sessions to be delivered by 30 June 2022.

[Register your interest](#)

Changes to Superannuation Guarantee Contributions

Employer Contribution

The current employer contribution will increase to 10% from 1st July 2021.

Removing the \$450 per month threshold for superannuation guarantee eligibility.

The current \$450 per month minimum income threshold before employees are paid the superannuation guarantee by their employer means that many part-time and casual employees, seasonal workers, and shearers will result in these employees becoming eligible for superannuation payments.

Minimum Wage Adjustment 2021

The review into the Minimum Wage Adjustment is nearing completion and an announcement of the amount and effective date is expected to be made within the next week or two.

The ACTU will argue for an increase in the minimum wage and in awards of 3.5 per cent – or \$26.38 per week for a full-time minimum wage worker - in its submission to the National Minimum Wage Review on Friday.

The Ai Group (one of the employer submissions) proposes an increase of 1.1% in the minimum Wage and to award wage rates, arguing the 0.5% Superannuation Guarantee (SG) increase that is operative from 1 July 2021, and extension of the tax offset for low and middle earners should be considered.

Last year the unusual step by the Fair Work Commission approved the increase which usually is effective from the 1 July, but was delayed for industries affected by Covid, resulted in the increase delayed for most Awards. The Pastoral Award 2020 increase did not occur until 1 November 2020, but

it is too early to advise what the date of effect will be this year. The Fair Work Commission this year has signalled it could again defer any increase to low paid workers' incomes for the second year in a row.

Work Health and Safety

The SafeWork SA website has been updated with more safety information for farms. It is worth visiting as there are a number of articles that supplement the Farmers' Guidebook to Work Health and Safety. The link is www.safework.sa.gov.au/industry/agriculture.

Casual Employment

A High Court decision is expected late this year to hand down its decision as to whether long term casuals will be eligible for paid leave as well as the 25% casual loading. An update will be provided at the time.

In the meantime, employers may consider avoiding, when possible, not rostering casual employees for regular hours and days that may lead them to have an expectation of regular and ongoing employment.

The conversion from casual employment to fulltime employment is in any event cheaper than casual employment and should be considered when engaging new employees who are likely to work an average of 38 hours per week.

Unfair dismissal laws do not apply in the first 12 months of employment for small employers (less than 15 employees) and 6 months for other employers.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact the office on 8293 2233 or email sada@sada.asn.au.

NFF FORUM

#towards2030

SA's regional forum was a joint initiative of the National Farmers' Federation and one in a series of national events. With the aim to bring farming and regional leaders to take stock of progress towards NFF's goal of reaching \$100 billion in farmgate output by 2030. Presentations were also made from a broad range of experts, policy makers, politicians and producers. Including Dan Tehan, Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment; Richard Heath, Executive Officer, Australian Farm Institute; Michelle Edge, Chief Executive, Primary Industries and Regions South Australia.

NFF President Fiona Simpson and NFF CEO Tony Maher as well as representatives from the whole primary sector in South Australia.

The one take away from the NFF Forum was the importance of the Sustainability Frameworks, each SDFO should live and breath this document along side their own strategies to ensure that we all reach 2030 with the same goals.

Identify any gaps between the national and state directions to build the advocacy agenda for a proactive approach to state policy and advocacy.

[Australian Sustainable Dairy Framework](#)

[South Australian Dairy Action Plan](#)

Around the grounds

- Ash and Elf met with Peter Adamo and David Travers at Golden North Ice Cream to discuss the involvement of Golden North in the SA Traceability Trial. It was a very promising conversation with a factory tour coming up in the next couple of weeks.
- Ash attended the National GS1 Steering Committee to discuss the traceability accords and some information webinar events coming up in the next possible months explaining the usefulness of traceability and implementation of technology.
- Curtis and Elf attended the NFF dinner on Monday 11 June 2021 to meet with the Minister, the Minister's staff and other people in the South Australian Primary Sector.
- Elferink assisted two farmers with inquires regarding processor dairy contracts and updates were released to farmers comparing differing contracts.
- Elferink met with a farmer regarding a leasing dispute over farm equipment. SADA will assist the farmer in attempting to resolve the leasing issue between the lessor and the lessee.
- Elferink participated in the Australian Government's review committee into the dairy industry Code. The Code obliges the government to review the Code this year. SADA will continue to make a contribution as the committee continues to meet.
- Ash and Elf met with Beston to discuss progress on the two traceability trials. Discussion included the base layer protocols being used by each party and the pros and cons of each. Information sharing was committed to in an effort to enhance SA's position in becoming the national trial site.
- Marilena and Elf met with Coles regarding the progression of the SADA Fresh cheese products and the outline of an MOU for the continued relationship between the parties and to ensure that the relationship was ongoing and understood by both parties. Elf further reviewed the relationship between SADIF and SADA and prepared a briefing note on the matter.
- Elf reviewed the contract prices posted by various processors on their respective websites. Briefing note was prepared as well as member updates and press releases. Hunt spoke on radio regarding the matter.
- Elf attended the Food SA dinner held at Adelaide Oval hosted by Food SA. SADA Fresh is a member of Food SA and is working with Export Connect a partner of Food SA to introduce SADA Fresh cheese into the middle east.
- Ash attended a meeting with Ed from Entrust. Discussion were around a progress update on the technology implementation and to look at the application for the farmers and the tanker drivers.
- Ash and Elf met with Brad Perry to discuss the traceability trial and to update on the progress that the trial is making. Other topics of discussion were the progress on the underpasses project, the State Budget and the PPSA CEO application.

SADA Welcomes

UK/Australia FTA

The overnight announcement by the United Kingdom and Australia of a Free Trade Agreement (FTA) has been welcomed by the South Australian Dairyfarmers' Association (SADA).

WFI, proud alliance partner of the South Australian Dairyfarmers' Association



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- > Leading farm insurer
- > Deal direct, from enquiry to claim
- > Over 140 Area Managers across Australia



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SADA NEWSLETTER JULY 2021

SADA - overjoyed with underpasses

The South Australian Dairyfarmers' Association (SADA) expressed its delight at the announcement by the Hon David Basham, Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, at an underpass subsidy scheme to assist South Australian Dairy Farmers.

The government today announced \$3 million over two years' worth of subsidy. The scheme will extend up to \$70,000 per installation on a dollar-for-dollar basis.

SADA has been lobbying for a number of years in this space and the Government has seen the wisdom of these simple but important items of infrastructure.

Many dairy farms must move their herd across roads on a daily basis. These movements present several issues for farmers and road users alike and road accidents have been a consequence in the past. Moreover, because



of the uric acid dropped by cows the road surfaces are also adversely affected by accelerated deterioration.

The installation of such underpasses will not only make the motoring public safer, but they will also improve the productivity of farms as bisected paddocks will now become single paddocks.

This will have a substantial impact on farm productivity as part of the SA Dairy Industry Action Plan and the Government's growth state plan moving forward.

"We thank Minister Basham and the SA Government for their foresight in this announcement." SADA President John Hunt said.

"SADA is ready with 10 projects in the pipeline to start off with and we expect to have the application in for those projects within the next week."

"The Dairy Industry Action Plan, has set an ambitious target for the future



in developing the dairy industry in this state and this is an excellent example of what can happen when industry and government work together in a common goal."

Those dairy farmers who wish to take advantage of this offer can contact the department directly, or alternatively speak to John Elferink on ohn@sada.asn.au or alternatively call the office on 8293 2399.

"We thank Minister Basham and the SA Government for their foresight in this announcement." SADA President John Hunt said.

Media release from the Minister



Review of the Dairy Code

The Commonwealth Department of Agriculture is now reviewing the Competition and Consumer (Industry Codes – Dairy) Regulations 2019 (the Code).

SADA was instrumental in the development of the code and many of its provisions are a direct result of SADA's input.

The Code has been operating for just over a year.

This first review is critical to assessing the Code's role, impact and operation since coming into force.

You can now provide feedback on the effectiveness of the Code and the terms and conditions it entails. The Department wants to hear from stakeholders in the dairy industry, including farmers, processors, industry representative bodies, government agencies, and consumer organisations.

Your feedback will inform the review and help determine the effectiveness of the Code.

The department has prepared a [discussion paper](#) to inform and encourage comments on the Code.

The paper includes:

- Introduction
- Background
- Review procedures
- Discussion questions
- Other relevant reading for the review.

How to have your say: [read the discussion paper](#)

- Submit your feedback or upload a document.
- Submit your feedback by 15 August 2021.

Next Steps

The Department will analyse submissions and other contributions to the review. We will then draft a report for the Agriculture Minister. The Agriculture Minister must ensure that a copy of the review report is provided to the Treasurer by 31 December 2021.

If you don't want to communicate directly with the department, SADA is preparing a submission on behalf of SA Dairy Farmers, and feel free to talk to John Elferink at SADA on 0418406400.

The report will include recommendations about the future role and operation of the Code.



Farmers voices sought on the dairy service levy

Dairy Australia's Levy Poll Advisory Committee (LPAC) has recommended a poll be conducted of all dairy farmers to determine the future level of the dairy service levy.

Earlier this year, dairy farmer and industry representatives were appointed to an independent committee set up and conduct the levy review.

Ron Storey, Chair of the Levy Poll Advisory Committee, is leading the review and commented:

"It's time for the dairy farmers to vote on the levy; twelve out of the fifteen LPAC members are dairy farmers and the decision was unanimous."

"The last levy poll was almost ten years ago. A lot has changed during that time for farmers and the industry looks quite different. There are challenges, but there are also great opportunities."

"It's important that the Australian dairy industry has the right settings for future investment so that it can develop and realise its full potential. This poll puts that decision in the hands of those with most at stake, the dairy farmers."

LPAC will now develop the voting options which will go on the ballot, including LPAC's recommended option, expected to be available for consideration by September 2021. LPAC and its members will continue seeking input and feedback from farmers in the coming weeks to determine the voting options, including the preferred LPAC option.

Further communications and engagement will follow as the LPAC leads into the poll which will take place in March 2022. The results are expected by April 2022.

To view LPAC's full report on the decision around moving to a levy poll and more on the Dairy Levy Review visit: dairylevyreview.com.au

Alternatively, please contact the office on 8293 2399 or sada@sada.asn.au if you require more information.

SA DAIRY AWARDS Nominations are now CLOSED

The South Australian Dairy Award Nominations have been overwhelming, thank you to all that took the time out to share your best farmer stories. We will refer this to the selection panel and be in touch with the lucky winners.

SADA will present 3 awards

**Best Innovation,
Young Farmer of the Year,
Best Relationship with a Processor**

This is an important event for the South Australian Dairy Industry and continues to strengthen our relationship across the supply chain, recognising the work and

products of both farmers and processors in SA. Collaboration and communication is highly important for the future of the industry and events such as this demonstrate this.

SADA looks forward to working with the DIAA and seeing the dairy industries progression into the future.

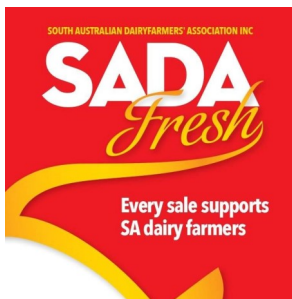
If you have any questions or would like to make a comment, please feel free to contact Ashleigh at ashleigh@sada.asn.au or alternatively contact reception at sada@sada.asn.au or via telephone 08 8293 2399.

Heritage Agreement Small Grant OPEN until 2nd August



Applications for grants up to \$10,000 are now being taken for current & aspiring Heritage Agreement owners to assist in the protection and management of native vegetation in SA. Eligible activities include weed and feral animal control, management of grazing impacts, repair to damaged areas and much more. Guidelines and applications can be found at www.revitalisingconservationsa.org.au

For more information contact the team on 0436 431 660 or email us on rca@naturefoundation.org.au



The SA Dairy Industry Fund has had a successful financial year on the back of strong royalty contributions. As supermarkets have experienced waves of locked down shoppers, the numbers show that SADA Fresh Milk has been flying off the shelves at Coles.

The SA Dairy Industry Fund is currently funding fifteen projects ranging from small sponsorships to larger scale activities.

The most notable is the SADA Fresh **Cows Create Careers** Program. The fund has become the major sponsor for the program after Dairy Australia stepped back from the role. The Program has wrapped up for the year and was delivered in 37 schools to 1,380 students from Primary to Senior years. The program introduces students to the dairy industry by bringing farmers and industry advocates together to share information about working on dairy farms.



TRACEABILITY



The SA Dairy Traceability

Trial is in full swing and we are pleased to announce the Golden North Ice Cream has joined the trail. Having gone through tours of processing plants and farms, the technology is just about ready to follow milk from the farm to the consumer.

On farm, there has been an outstanding response to the technology with many farmers seeing it's future potential, including herd management data, vaccination and drenching times and even the potential to individually gauge milk production using milk cup flow meters.

Off farm, as the manufacturing plants begin to implement more technology and machinery, huge cost saving and time efficiencies are seen throughout. As well, farmers will be able to see what their milk is transformed into, something that until now hasn't been possible.

With everything running on track, SADA along with its traceability partners and Minister Basham will launch the traceability trial in the coming month.

For more information or if you have any questions, please contact Ashleigh at ashleigh@sada.asn.au or alternatively the SADA office at sada@sada.asn.au.

COVID-19 UPDATE JULY 2021

Reasons to Leave Home:

Authorised Worker (otherwise known as an essential worker)

A person is permitted to leave home to undertake duties as an authorised worker.

IMPORTANT the list of authorised workers has been updated since this morning. For the full [list of authorised workers](#).

Please note however that if activities can be postponed, they should be.

Around the grounds

- Ash and representatives from across the supply chain attended the inaugural Workforce Committee meeting. Karen Hunt was nominated as chair of the committee. Key outcomes of the meeting were to investigate opportunities for education and upskilling, including the newly developed Micro credentials courses by the Department of Innovation and Skills.
- Warren Jacobs represented Dairy at the PPSA NRM Committee meeting. Topics under discussion included the State Landscape Strategy, prescribed burning and the NFF Water Committee. The NRM Committee also welcomed two guest speakers, Ellen Litchfield from Farmers for Climate Action and Jen Barwick from PIRSA who talked about carbon farming.
- Elf visited a number of farms on the banks of the Murray River meeting with members and non-members alike to discuss issues with farmers. As a general response, farmers are expressing satisfaction with current prices and a number are investing into their properties.
- Andrew and Don together with Jordan Brooke-Barnett (SA Horticulture Coalition) met with Minister Basham to discuss aspects of the proposed Biosecurity Act. It is anticipated that early consultation on a draft Bill may occur later in the year.
- Andrew and Don participated in a Dry-times working group meeting where the key topics for discussion were the weather forecast for the coming season and the application of the Future Drought Fund in South Australia.
- John H, Andrew and Don attended an 'extraordinary' meeting of the PPSA Council to discuss the recruitment of the PPSA Chair and CEO Positions. It was recognised by the Council that with the investment by the government in PPSA strategic policy development and the need to support action across the identified cross-sector issues, it important to fill both roles and move away from the current Executive Chair position.
- Ash and Kelly made 150 promotional packs for future events. The packs are a great way of showing the benefits of a SADA membership along with a few other goodies. We will be looking at using the packs at the upcoming dairy events and to hand out to non-members as an initiative to join the association.
- Ash attended the NGTAG Steering Committee Meeting to discuss some upcoming events in the traceability space including a Global Trade Event next Tuesday afternoon. Other topics included the upcoming distribution of the National Traceability Accords and the possibility of a National Traceability Congress in either April or May next year. Here solution providers will be able to pitch their products to industry associations and government. It will also be an opportunity for state and federal governments to allocate future funding to AgTech opportunities.
- Ash attended the PPSA Educating Kids about Ag Steering Committee meeting to discuss what the skills, career needs and work force opportunities are needed in school. An update was also provided regarding some of the programs already underway including the George the Farmer program.

WFI, proud alliance partner of the South Australian Dairyfarmers' Association



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SADA NEWSLETTER AUGUST 2021

Dairy Service Levy Poll

All dairy farmers will be able to have their say on the future of the industry's service levy.

Dairy Levy Poll Advisory Committee (LPAC) intends to run a nationwide poll in March 2022 as part of its review of the dairy service levy.

The LPAC consists of 12 farmers and three independents from industry and will determine the future levy options, including a preferred option to go on a voting paper by September 2021.

The LPAC is seeking farmer's views on whether the dairy service levy should increase, decrease or stay the same, and the reasons why.

South Australian Dairyfarmers' Association Chief Executive Officer Andrew Curtis said the poll would provide a great opportunity for local farmers to

have their say.

"This review and the changes that may come from it will inform future investment, growth and profitability in the dairy industry," he said,

"Because it is such an important review, it is vital South Australian dairy producers make their voices heard as part of this process."

There are a number of ways farmers can provide this feedback:

- Via the 'feedback' option on the [Dairy Levy Review website](#)
- Inform an LPAC member (contact details are available on the website)

In providing their views, farmers are urged to consider the impact of a levy change on the range of services deliv-

ered because of it, including:

- Research and innovation,
- Initiatives supporting farm business management,
- Tools to adapt to the environment and address climate change,
- Attracting people to the industry and building skills,
- Marketing and campaigns to drive community trust, and
- Policy research, market insights, and trade relations.

Many of these services are delivered through Dairy Australia's eight regions: DairySA, Murray Dairy, Gipps Dairy, West Vic Dairy, Western Dairy, Dairy Tas, Sub Tropical Dairy and Dairy NSW.

To assist farmers wanting to provide feedback to the LPAC, it is recommended they review the [Dairy Levy Review website](#) and view the [LPAC Report](#). Alternatively, contact the SADA office on 8293 2399 or sada@sada.asn.au if you require more information.

WISH WE WERE HERE - ROYAL ADELAIDE SHOW CANCELLED

It was recently announced that the Show would very sadly not go ahead in 2021 due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

SADA would like to thank both the Royal Agricultural and Horticultural Society of SA for its diligent attempts to run the event in the current climate and the numerous individuals who helped with preparations and also attempted to run some aspects of the Show - such as the dairy competitions. We feel for all exhibitors and competitors who will miss out on this year's event, but are hopeful the Show will be back up-and-running in 2022!



DRIVING FARM VEHICLES AT NIGHT

Often it's safer and easier to drive your farm machinery on the roads at night, but did you know that in some areas you could require a permit to do so?

Some councils, such as the Alexandrina and City of Victor Harbor, require permits to drive your farm machinery in certain conditions, including in the dark.

To find out if you require a permit, either contact your council or check the following National Heavy Vehicle Regulator (NHVR) bulletins:

[Night Travel for Agricultural Machinery](#)

[Night Travel for Rubber Tracked Tractors](#)

To apply for a permit, visit an assessor will then gather all required information and send it to councils for approval, which can take up to 28 days.

During the application process you will need to select your council area. You will have the ability to choose either a single route or access permit, depending on the travel you need to undertake.

Each permit costs \$76 which is payable on application to NHVR.



Machinery Repair Experience

The Productivity Commission wants to hear about the repair experiences of agricultural machinery owners.

The Commission is interested in learning about farmers' most recent or most significant repair experience, to inform its inquiry into an Australian 'right to repair'.

If you own agricultural machinery that has recently been repaired, please fill out this short (5-10 mins) [questionnaire](#) by 26 August.



**Seeks Non-Executive
Directors: 2 POSITIONS**

DataGene Limited delivers innovative, pre-competitive services to the dairy herd improvement industry, allowing farmers to make timely and data-driven decisions in genetics and herd management.

In line with the DataGene constitution and schedule of Director nominations, they are now seeking two (2) applicants with the following skills and experience:

- Director - Herd Improvement Supply Chain: Strong background in milk production with a comprehensive understanding of dairy farm systems, and demonstrated capability in identifying and evaluating technology, including knowledge of modern herd improvement services.
- Director - Milk Producer: Strong background in milk production with a comprehensive understanding of dairy farm systems and demonstrated capability in identifying and evaluating technology, including knowledge of modern herd improvement services.

To enquire, phone Nigel Crawley on 1300 380 701 or apply via www.rimfireresources.com.au by Friday 27 August at 5pm. Upon receipt of your application, a candidate pack will be made available.

Nominations open for SADA board members

The South Australian Dairyfarmers' Association (SADA) is encouraging you to consider nominating for the SADA board. There are positions in the South East and Central regions up for election this year.

To nominate, producers must be a SADA member and must submit a nomination form on or before 5pm Friday 22 October, 2021. SADA chief executive officer Andrew Curtis called on all members to think about putting their name forward. "Being part of the SADA board is a wonderful opportunity for dairy farmers to contribute to the future of their industry," he said. "It's also a great opportunity on an individual level to gain an understanding of how the association works in advocating for the dairy industry."

For a nomination form, contact the SADA office on 8293 2399 or email sada@sada.asn.au.

Successful candidates will be announced at SADA an-

Around the grounds

- Staff attended the board meeting in Mount Gambier. This was meant to be a face-to-face meeting, but the escalating COVID-19 danger meant it was partially attended by Zoom. The board meeting was supposed to have board members and staff in Mount Gambier attend a farmer's lunch, but the government called a lockdown so that was cancelled and all staff and members returned home.
- Elf attended the Dairy Code Review Reference Group's (DCRRG) second meeting. The DCRRG is advising the Commonwealth Department of Agriculture on the appropriate issues to be canvassed as part of the Dairy Code review. SADA has called for input from farmers regarding matters that should be considered in the review.
- Elf prepared the draft submission from SADA to the Dairy Code review. This is an extensive document which makes a number of recommendations to improve the Code, but from a perspective that the Code has so far served the industry well in leveling the playing field for contractual negotiations and farmers. While suggesting minor amendments SADA's overall position at this time is "...if it ain't broke don't fix it..."
- Elf also communicated with AMPI regarding the development of a hedging system for the dairy industry. SADA supports hedging in principle, however has expressed concern on how it is going to be rolled out for farmers and how it will relate to the operation of the Code.
- Ash attended a Rural Biz Training Seminar/Ag Career Expo that talked about the educational needs in agriculture and the opportunities available for school leavers. There were a range of different industries present with a major challenge notable in all industries being a labour workforce. Questions were put to educators and industry as to how to attract more younger people into the ag industry and remain in the industry.
- Ash attended the ADF Dairy Beef Forum. The main topics included animal welfare, bobby calf welfare and the opportunities for Australian dairy cattle to be sold predominately internationally as dairy beef. There were numerous international speakers especially from Canada and the United States that show the benefit of dairy beef in the consumer market as an option for bobby calves and the reduction of stigma. Interesting was the hear of the uptake in dairy beef as a business and enterprise option as the cost benefit to farmers in regards to the price of beef currently.
- Elf attended a meeting to discuss the two traceability projects that were underway with Beston Global Foods. Each party briefed the other on the current status of the projects and discussed the possibility of ever combining the projects to advance the SA position. It was agreed that such an approach should not be discounted if it is ever required.
- Elf briefed the National Farmers' Federation staff on the current state of Native Title in Australia. The NFF have turned to SADA for advice in the past on Native Title issues and continues to do so. The briefing was well received by staff and other NFF members alike and the NFF expressed its gratitude to SADA for the time given to the NFF on this topic.
- Elf also had a further conversation with AMPI regarding the milk supply hedging initiative and AMPI briefed SADA on proposed changes to the Code to accommodate hedging.
- Curtis and Elf met with NBN representatives about the future and reach of the NBN network and how that impacts on farmers. A number of issues were raised, particularly relating to bandwidth available to remote and regional farmers who are increasingly relying on technology for the running of their businesses.
- Ash and Elf engaged in multiple meetings with the various category nominees for the dairy industry awards. Nominees were interviewed by panels for the three categories namely, 'Best Relationship with a Processor', 'Young Farmer', and 'Best Innovation'.
- SADA and GPSA had a joint meeting of staff to examine crossover work being done by both sectors. This was a successful event which has created important networks between the grains sector and the dairy sector in South Australia.
- Elf assisted a non-dairy farmer with a Native Title related issue regarding access and egress from the farmer's particular property. The

COVID-19 UPDATE AUGUST 2021

Level 1 restrictions

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Please note however that if activities can be postponed, they should be.

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1300 934 934

Good people to know.



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SADA NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2021

Traceability Trail Launch

The SADA traceability trial is officially underway.

In an Australian first on 10 September, SADA embarked on a trial using cutting-edge technologies to improve supply chain visibility and industry transparency.

SADA Dairy Action Plan Officer Ashleigh Pulford said the trial, which would be funded completely by the SA Dairy Industry Fund, was about creating the most open and transparent supply chain in history.

"This trial is about the use of blockchain and distributed ledger digital technologies so there will be complete visibility across the supply chain," she said.

"SA is leading the way in the development of this technology by using the Hedera Hashgraph protocol, the same distributed ledger system being governed and endorsed by companies such as Google, IBM and Boeing.

"Until now labelling has been the source of trust for consumers in Australian and international markets, but this technology will allow all participants in the supply chain - including consumers -- to track the milk from the farm to the product they hold in their hand.

"Consumers will be able to see details as simple as temperature every step of the way, while farmers will be able to see wherever in the world their milk ends up."

SADA President John Hunt said the State Government set a direction when in September 2020 it launched an industry-led plan to grow SA's food, wine and agribusiness sectors to \$23 billion by 2030.

"The dairy industry is delighted the government heard our call and adopted SADA's Dairy Industry Action Plan 2019-2024 as part of its \$23 billion by 2030 plan," he said.

He said in 2017/18 farm gate sales of milk contributed \$195 million to the State economy and just four years later that amount rose to almost \$284 million.

"The industry is committed to both continuing that growth and to increasing production amount from 500 million litres per year to 700 million," he said.

South Australian Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development David Basham said the trial was an exciting step for the South Australian dairy industry.

"South Australia's dairy industry punches well above its weight and this trial is another shining example of that," he said.

"The Marshall Liberal Government has taken on the Dairy Industry Action Plan policy in the \$23 billion by 2030 plan and this trial is another fantastic step in the right direction."



SADA's Alpha Traceability Trial was launched by Primary Industries Minister David Basham at SADA board vice-president Nick Brokenshire's Mount Compass dairy on 10 September.

SA DAIRY AWARD WINNERS 2021

The South Australian Dairyfarmers' Association (SADA) recognised several outstanding members of the industry at SA dairy's night of nights.

Bool Lagoon's Andrew Cavill, Jamie Nietschke from Moppa and Meningie's Timothy Wright were named SADA-sponsored award winners at the South Australian Dairy Awards 2021 at Adelaide Oval on 25 August, an event where SADA was the premier partner.

Over the coming months SADA will profile the winners, so keep your eyes peeled to find out more about Andrew, Jaime and Tim! But for now...



Most Innovative Farmer – Jamie Nietschke

Jamie's farm in the Barossa Valley is continuing to grow, with innovative practices being implemented on the farm increasing confidence to expand the dairy operation. From cow collars that monitor activity levels and rumination to heat monitoring systems for early heat detection in the herd, there are numerous examples of how innovative practices on the farm are helping Jamie's business.



Best Relationship with a Processor –

Andrew Cavill

Andrew has spent most of his life in the dairy industry. He has developed an appreciation of the relationship between farmers and the processors and has made a point of understanding the processor side of the business. When asked by SADA about the needs of communication between farmers and processors he simply said: *"By the time that you're reaching for your contract, it's already too late."*



Best Young Farmer – Timothy Wright

Tim manages the day-to-day operations of Majesta and Greendale, a 1440ha dairy operation with 350 milking cows, 300 replacements and 25 bulls. The management of the dairy, overseeing and the rostering four fellow workers, milking, feeding, maintenance of farm infrastructure and breeding have all become Tim's tasks over the last few years. He has handled all these new responsibilities with maturity and skill. On top of his regular duties, Tim is always keen to participate in discussion groups and learning opportunities before applying farm management philosophies and technical abilities to continue to build and develop. He is always preparing for a future in dairy farming which is sustainable and acceptable to the consumer.

Did you miss any of our updates? [Register Here](#)

Call for ADIC Steering Committee Nominations

The Australian Dairy Industry Council (ADIC) represents and advocates on behalf of the whole of the dairy industry. The ADIC Board comprises directors from both Australian Dairy Farmers (ADF) and Australian Dairy Products Federation (ADPF) and is ultimately responsible for the Australian Dairy Industry Sustainability Framework. ADIC has delegated the ongoing development and implementation to a Steering Committee that reports to the ADIC.

The ADF is currently seeking expressions of interest (EOI's) from farmers who are passionate about providing strategic input into the ongoing development and implementation of the Dairy In-

dustry Sustainability Framework as ADF members of the Sustainability Steering Committee. Mr Daryl Hoey has recently been appointed Chair of the Steering Committee following the retirement of the inaugural Chair, Chris Griffin.

EOI's close 5pm Monday 27 September.

For more information, contact Helen Dornom, secretariat of the ADIC Sustainability Framework Steering Committee, by calling 0419 395 374 or email Helen.Dornom@dairyaustralia.com.au or Daryl Hoey, current Chair of the Sustainability Steering Committee (dmlhoey@bigpond.com) or mobile: 0407 582 982.

Ag Visa a win for local industry

After five years of lobbying, the Federal Government has delivered on the National Farmers' Federation long called-for agriculture-specific Visa (Ag Visa).

The Ag Visa will provide real long-term workforce relief to Australia farmers and widen the recruitment opportunities for an uncapped number of low-to-highly skilled workers from ASEAN countries - Brunei, Cambodia, Laos, Malaysia, the Philippines,

Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.

The Ag Visa will be operational from 30 September, 2021.

National Farmers' Federation Ag Visa Media Release

<https://nff.org.au/media-release/government-makes-nffs-coveted-ag-visa-a-reality-provides-hope-for-this-years-harvest/>

Nominations open for SADA board members

The South Australian Dairyfarmers' Association (SADA) is encouraging you to consider nominating for the SADA board. There are positions in the South East and Central regions up for election this year. To nominate, producers must be a SADA member and must submit a nomination form on or before 5pm Friday 22 October, 2021.

SADA chief executive officer Andrew Curtis called on all members to think about putting their name forward. "Being part of

the SADA board is a wonderful opportunity for dairy farmers to contribute to the future of their industry," he said.

"It's also a great opportunity on an individual level to gain an understanding of how the association works in advocating for the dairy industry."

For a nomination form, contact the SADA office on 8293 2399 or email sada@sada.asn.au. Successful candidates will be announced at SADA annual general meeting on 17 November 2021.

Early trial results smelling rosy

On-farm dung beetle nurseries have been established on 30 sites in the Adelaide Hills and Fleurieu Peninsula regions as part of the SADA Dung Beetle Project.

Early reports have found dung beetles offer a number of important benefits on farms, including:

- Disposing of dung in the fields quickly and effectively, which reduces pasture fouling;
- They mix clays with sand by mixing sub-surface soils with surface soils, improving the soil quality;
- Soil quality is also improved with water infiltration being

improved;

- Reduction on breeding grounds for flies and other pests;
- They return carbon to the soil to a surprising depth - up to 50 cm;

There are many species of dung beetle. The final objective of dung beetle research in Australia will be to have identified enough species to have all year-round beetle activity. While this report does not achieve that goal, it is an important step in that direction.

[View the Dung Beetle Project Overview Report](#)

COVID-19 UPDATE - SEPTEMBER 2021—Level 1 restrictions

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Good people to know.

WFI, proud alliance partner of the South Australian Dairyfarmers' Association



Around the grounds

- SADA's September Board meeting was attended by all staff and board members.
- Ash presented at the National GS1 Traceability Advisory Group meeting about the SA Dairy
- [Australian Dairy Traceability Guide-lines](#) Traceability Alpha Trial. The meeting was to showcase the work that the Australian Dairy Industry is doing in the traceability space and was an opportunity for Senator Susan McDonald to officially release the
- Ash and Elf attended the offices of Entrust to inspect the completed alpha trial interface systems as well as a demonstration of functionality in the system.
- Nick, Ash, Elf and Andrew attended the launch of the SA Dairy Alpha Traceability Trial at Mt Compass on Friday. Primary Industries and Regional Development Minister David Basham officially launched the trial.
- Ash, Andrew and John met with Todd and Allys from ValAi to discuss the traceability trial and how the ValAi 'Greenhouse' Technology could integrate onto the dashboard of our technology. With a focus on sustainability, Todd and Allys will be looking at the Australian Dairy Sustainability Framework and how they could develop tracking and record systems throughout the supply chain.
- Elf attended the SA Productivity Commission's briefing on their draft report into red tape. The Commission has been tasked by the state government to recommend changes to South Australia's regulatory system to make it more business friendly and fit for purpose for growing jobs and investment, while not compromising the public interest. SADA made two submissions to the review.
- Elf attended the fifth meeting of the Dairy Code Review Reference Group (DCRRG) being run by the Commonwealth Agriculture Department. This committee is reviewing the Dairy Code. SADA has also written a comprehensive submission to the review. The thrust of the SADA submission is aimed at no substantial change.
- Nick and Andrew attended the Rural Media and Communicators SA/NT's (Not the) Royal Show breakfast, where they networked and listened to guest speaker Mick Keogh OAM, Deputy Chair and Agricultural Commissioner of the ACCC via Zoom connection. He spoke about the role of the ACCC and its relationship with agriculture.
- Primary Producers SA is pleased to announce the selection of Dr Simon Maddocks to lead the organisation as Chair, following a meeting of the PPSA Council earlier this week. With an extensive involvement in the SA primary industries over several decades, his most recent role was President and Vice Chancellor of Charles Darwin University, a position he held from 2014 to 2020. He remains an active primary producer with a mixed farming property outside Hamley Bridge, growing cereal crops and producing prime lambs. Dr Maddocks will formally commence in the role following the PPSA Annual General Meeting to be held next month, with Dr Don Plowman continuing to oversee the transition from inaugural Executive Chairman, Hon Rob Kerin, who retired in June.
- Ash attended the 2021 Science Investigation Awards, where she was judging some year level with the PPSA Educating Kids in Agriculture Team.
- The SADA team reviewed the Annual Operating Scorecard during the weekly operational meeting and updated the information for August.
- Ash attended the NFF Workforce Committee Meeting to discuss the AG Visa to be introduced at the end of September.
- Nick organised for Ash to feature on 5MU radio rural segment to talk about the traceability trial and what it means for the customers when they buy dairy products.
- Ash presented at Urrbrae Agricultural High School with Belinda Cay from Ag Communicators about technology in Agriculture and more specifically technology in the Dairy Industry. It was great to see so much interest from the students in the dairy sector and the potential workforce opportunities that technology could provide.
- Elf and Ash presented to the SFMCA Stock Feed Manufacturers' Council of Australia branch meeting. A follow up face to face meeting has been planned.
- Andrew and Marilena met with Chas Cini to discuss Industrial Relations support for SADA members.

Dairy markets hold up under Delta, but Chinese import demand the challenge – industry report *Originally published by Medianet.*

Farmgate milk prices remain on the “high side” across much of the world, and at near-record levels in Australia, as dairy demand proves resilient in the face of the pandemic, according to the latest Rabobank Global Dairy Quarterly report.

The report says while some regional disruptions will continue to occur as a result of COVID-19 and uncertainty remains, the potential for major global demand shocks is limited, with downside risk to the global dairy market more likely to stem from the anticipated slowdown in Chinese import demand.

With supply expected to outpace demand in China, as domestic production and inventories increase, the country's imports are expected to start to decline in the second half

of this year, the report says.

“Global markets may be able to absorb lost sales through 2021, but pressure will be felt in 2022, initially in Oceania, but eventually rippling through global dairy markets,” it says.

And with prices heavily dependent on import demand, the “near-term peak in global dairy commodity prices is likely behind us”. Meanwhile, global milk supply has been on an “extended run of interrupted growth” which is set to continue, the report says, albeit at a slower pace.

“The growth rate has been sustainable without becoming overly burdensome on markets so far, but any slowdown in global demand would quickly lead to inventory

build,” it says.

For Australian dairy farmers, farm margins are positive with “most experiencing healthy on-farm profitability”, according to Rabobank's senior dairy analyst Michael Harvey.

“Near-record milk prices, affordable purchased feed prices and supportive seasonal conditions have set many up for positive trading conditions ahead,” he says.

While the cost of fertiliser has jumped, Mr Harvey says it has only had a “slight negative hit on farmgate margins”, with the majority of Australian dairy farmers locking in near-record milk pricing for the current season.

Read the full report [here](#)



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SADA NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2021

Dairy levy increase recommended by advisory committee.

The independent Levy Poll Advisory Committee (LPAC) reviewing the dairy service levy has determined an increase in the service levy, is in the best long-term interests of the dairy industry.

The committee's decision included setting the options for the levy poll and recommending a 20% increase in the levy.

In July, the LPAC recommended a poll be conducted of all dairy farmers to determine the future level of the dairy service levy. Following the recommendation, LPAC was required to determine the voting options which will go on the ballot to be voted on in March 2022.

The four (4) levy options to be presented in the levy poll are:

1. no change to the levy (status quo)
2. an increase of 15%
3. an increase of 20%
4. an increase of 25%

The levy option which LPAC recommends is an increase of 20%.

In making its decision LPAC took into consideration many factors including that there has been no change to the levy since 2012, CPI increases in that time,

financial projections of a continuing decline in reserves, future commitments required for the dairy industry to succeed, as well as analysis of the benefits of the levy investment for dairy farmers.

The LPAC has taken into account these insights and data, as well as many views on the dairy service levy from industry stakeholders and farmers.

LPAC Chair, Ron Storey said a 20% increase was "in the best long-term interests of the dairy industry".

"LPAC agreed that while an increase to the levy is recommended, farmers will make the final choice, and therefore an

option of no increase is included on the ballot paper," he said.

"Throughout the process, LPAC heard from many farmers, some of whom advocated for no levy or no increase, and others who supported a larger levy for increased investment in research, development and extension and other dairy industry services to secure their future.

"LPAC has considered these views, and on balance, believes farmers have been provided with a choice in the poll to select from the 'increase' options, or to choose 'no change' to the levy.

"I would like to thank all farmers who contributed and the LPAC members for their dedication and contribution and their commitment to acting in the best long-term interest of the dairy industry."

To view LPAC's full report on determining the Dairy Levy Poll options visit: dairylevyreview.com.au



From recycling to upcycling: A smarter way of dealing with plastic and ag waste.

RMIT University researchers have developed a clean and cost-effective way to upcycle used plastic, transforming it into valuable nanomaterials and high-quality fuel.

Key points

- New tech produces carbon nanotubes and clean liquid fuel from used plastic
- Smart solution for upcycling plastic and agricultural waste simultaneously
- Circular economy approach to help turn two massive waste streams into genuine revenue

Globally only about 20% of waste plastics are recycled. Boosting that figure remains a challenge as recycling plastic cleanly can be expensive and usually produces lower-value products, often making it financially unviable.

The new method from RMIT researchers can produce high-value products from plastic – carbon nanotubes and clean liquid fuel – while simultaneously upcycling agricultural and organic waste.

The team's two-step process, revealed in the *Journal of Environmental Management*, converts organic waste into a carbon-rich and high-value form of charcoal, then uses this as a catalyst to upcycle the plastic.

If you're interested in participating in an Investigation into silage wrap recycling, contact the SADA office on (08) 8293 2399.

Read more about the new method here: <https://www.rmit.edu.au/news/all-news/2021/sep/upcycling-plastic>

Looking to employ seasonal workers?

Approximately 40-60 workers from Kiribati will be available for work opportunities in South Australia from mid-January to the end of March 2022.

The cohort of workers are employed via a labour hire provider and have been completing work on the South Australian citrus harvest.

If you're interested in employing workers during this period and would like to be connected to the labour hire provider, contact:

Stephen Poskett

Email: Stephen.Poskett@sa.gov.au



Regulators ramp up quad bike safety checks

Eighty-four per cent of quad bikes assessed by Australia's consumer law regulators were compliant with the first stage of a new national safety standard that came into force in October last year.

The ACCC and state and territory consumer protection agencies have coordinated national market surveillance to determine whether quad bike suppliers have complied with Stage 1 requirements of the Quad Bike Safety Standard.

Stage 1 requires all new and imported second hand quad bikes sold in Australia be tested for lateral static stability, have a hang tag attached to them showing the angle at which the quad bike tips onto two wheels, and carry a roll over warning label. The owner's manual must include roll over safety information.

Stage 2 came into effect on October 11.

<https://www.accc.gov.au/media-release/regulators-ramp-up-quad-bike-safety>

Did you miss any of our updates? [Register Here](#)

ADPF launches economic report

Australian Dairy Products Federation (ADPF) on 23 September launched the report by Deloitte Access Economics on the Economic and Broader Contribution of the Australian Dairy Processing Industry, highlighting the significant contribution dairy processors make to the Australian economy and regional communities.

ADPF commissioned Deloitte Access Economics to provide the first, singularly-focused comprehensive positioning of the dairy processing industry and its economic contribution and value more broadly across Australia.

View the full report and media release here; <https://adpf.org.au/australian-dairy-processing-industry>.

Highlights from the report include:

- \$15.7 billion generated in revenues p.a.
- 70,158 FTE jobs supported across direct and aligned industries – 56% of them located regionally.
- \$6.1 billion of capital employed and \$383 million capital reinvested p.a.
- \$12 million p.a. invested in R&D
- Reduction in energy use and emissions intensity by 24.5% and 23.5% respectively, in the last three years.

The report can be found on the [ADPF website](#), along with an [infographic](#) that provides a snapshot of the report as well as a short, [animated video](#) and member case-studies .

Last chance to nominate for the SADA board

The South Australian Dairyfarmers' Association (SADA) is encouraging you to consider nominating for the SADA board. There are positions in the South East and Central regions up for election this year.

To nominate, producers must be a SADA member and must submit a nomination form on or before 5pm Friday 22 October, 2021.

SADA chief executive officer Andrew Curtis called on all members to think about putting their name forward.

"Being part of the SADA board is a wonderful opportunity for dairy farmers to contribute to the future of their industry," he said.

"It's also a great opportunity on an individual level to gain an understanding of how the association works in advocating for the dairy industry."

For a nomination form, contact the SADA office on 8293 2399 or email sada@sada.asn.au. Successful candidates will be announced at SADA annual general meeting on 17 November, 2021.

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Around the grounds

- Elf and Ash briefed PIRSA on the traceability project. PIRSA attended the SADA Offices and spent an hour and a half discussing the technology and being briefed on the smart contract and distributed ledger system being employed on the trial.
- Nick finalised a style guide for SADA's communications and social media. This will be valuable as all communications to both members and the public will have a uniformed 'voice'.
- Nick had discussions with Andrew, Elf and President John Hunt about potential updates to both the SADA and SADA Fresh websites. A range of options will be discussed over the coming weeks both in-house and with Blis Web Agency, who SADA have on retainer for website work.
- Ash and Andrew attended the Urrbrae High School Careers Expo. This was an excellent event with many sponsors from across the agricultural industry educating and inspiring young students about potential career avenues.
- Elf has been working with PIRSA regarding the roll out of the underpass scheme.
- Ash attended the NFF Ag Visa update and had a discussion with Steve Burdett from the Approved Employers Association about the operational aspects and requirements of Phase 1.
- Elf attended a briefing by consortium seeking to develop seaweed in South Australia. A particular seaweed is being proposed for commercial growth in SA which will become an additive to stock feed that has the impact of drastically reducing methane production in cows' digestion. SADA will keep a close watch on developments.
- Elf Attended the Austrade Preparing to Trade in the UK seminar. This seminar was prepared by Austrade to introduce Australian, and potential Australian exporters to the challenges and opportunities that are available in post Brexit and FTA UK.
- Elf attended the Dairy Code Review Reference Group. The Dairy Industry Code is currently being reviewed by the Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment, as required by the Code. This committee has met periodically, and this was final meeting of the committee. An issues paper is now in restricted circulation and farmer groups are expected to make final submissions.
- Ash met with Irina from the Department of Innovation and Skills to talk about the Gap analysis project and the requirements from the SA Dairy Workforce Committee in terms of support for the project.
- John H, Rick and Andrew attended a National Council virtual meeting to discuss the activities and recommendations of the independent committee reviewing the dairy service levy, the Levy Poll Advisory Committee. LPAC has determined an increase in the service levy is in the best long-term interests of the dairy industry. Their decision included setting the options for the levy poll and recommending a 20% increase in the levy.
- Elf made a number of farm visits across the Fleurieu Peninsula talking to farmers about a number of issues which impact their respective businesses.
- Andrew and the SADA team commence planning for Lucindale Field Days in March next year.



1300 934 934

Good people to know.

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SADA NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2021

SADA AGM and Board Election.

The SA Dairyfarmers' Association Board has been announced to carry the organisation forward for another twelve months.



There were positions in the South East and Central regions up for election at the association's annual general meeting on 17 November.

Positions were filled by currently sitting members Nick Brokenshire, Ben McHugh and John Hunt, who was returned as SADA's President for a sixth consecutive term.

Mr Brokenshire will continue as Vice President and Mr McHugh replaces Rick Gladigau as Treasurer. Positions held by Mr Gladigau and South East board member Sharon Joppich were not up for election, meaning they will continue on for another 12 months.

Mr Hunt said he was proud to continue leading the South Australian Dairyfarmers Association.

"This is a very exciting time to be part of a very exciting industry," he said.

"Between the traceability trial and our soon-to-be released 2022 election platform, this is a great time to be part of SA's dairy industry.

"SADA's members and its staff are constantly working to better the industry and to provide top quality dairy products.

"I'm honoured to be continuing on as President." It was also announced at the AGM that SADA CEO Andrew Curtis - who is currently also employed as the Livestock SA CEO - will be resigning from Livestock SA to focus solely on his role with SADA. "I have very much enjoyed my time managing both organisations over the last five and-a-half years and I feel they have both grown and achieved much in that time," he said.

"My agricultural roots are in dairy and I'm excited about being able to give SADA my full focus.

"I believe this is the best decision for both organisations and I wish Livestock SA all the best as it moves forward."

"This is a very exciting time to be part of a very exciting industry,"

Mr Curtis said the board was comprised of dedicated members passionate about representing dairy producers across South Australia.

"This group has served the industry diligently throughout this difficult COVID-19 pandemic and that will continue over the next 12 months," he said

Did you miss any of our updates? [Register Here](#)

2020/21 President's Report: Time for Optimism

After almost a decade of challenges including drought, turbulent international conditions, flood fire and pandemic, dairy in South Australia - as with the rest of the country - has seen some clear air.

With farmgate prices for milk and beef now reflecting a purposeful income for farmers who have, weathered the storms, there is now an opportunity to re-invest in businesses either by retiring debt, investing in advancing the businesses by introducing innovative technologies, some long overdue repair and maintenance getting completed and the opportunity to expand enterprise. It has been refreshing to hear the optimism around our industry.

Farmers are looking forward to the future and young farmers are entering our industry and looking at pathways to farm management, contract milking, share milking and farm ownership.

It has also allowed some farmers at the twilight of their careers to make a voluntary choice to exit our industry and leave on good terms.

Working with processors to give farmers surety looking for more long-term stability has had a significant impact on our plan to grow the SA milk pool. The code of conduct has reassured farmers that contracts are fair and equitable so they can concentrate on pre-farmgate.

Our relationship with Government has grown and have been able to provide stability with issues around surety of water, NRM localising issues, under-passes to encourage growth and safety, reduction in bureaucracy so can get on with the job.

PPSA will also be a huge factor going forward with a dedicated Chair and CEO taking the lead on cross commodity issues and having one strong voice. I

must thank Rob Kerin and Don Plowman for their services to our industry and look forward to our relationship with new chair Simon Maddocks and CEO Caroline Rhodes.

Our relationship with Dairy SA and Dairy Australia has stayed on path with regular communication and having farmers interest at heart. All these boards are made up of farmers willing to take time and thought away from their businesses to give back to industry. It is great to be a part of a team that is looking forward to the future of our industry.

Dairy Safe and the Dairy Industry Association of Australia (DIAA) have played a huge role in the last year by making sure procedures were in place for both processors and farmers due to the COVID-19 pandemic. They will also be influential in our aim to grow our milk pool with a win-win for all industry.

Our peak industry body Australian Dairy Farmers (ADF) has performed well with numerous submissions going into Government around working Visas, making sure dairy and its service providers are classed as an essential service. National Council has a huge part to play in this space. It is key that ADF has the ear of the Federal Government. The National Farmers Federation is also kept well informed of dairy issues and help promote our message.

Our Mission Statement to be the voice of SA dairy farmers is always the key reason we strive to get results for our members.

Now is the time to look to the future and SADA and re-adjusting our focus with a clear view to what is coming. A few years ago, SADA created its vision statement to become the premier representative organisation in the state as an expression of the association's ambition for the future of the industry and to provide its members with the best

possible service.

In that time, SADA created new commercial SADA Fresh products, doubled the sales of existing SADA Fresh products, rolled out an industry plan which has now been adopted as government policy, strongly influenced the structure and content of the national Dairy Industry Code and is now leading technical development of a national traceability model in Australia.

Not bad for a small organisation, but there is more to do.

As SA dairy looks to the future the next challenge, while daunting, should be embraced as it will enable SADA to continue to lead the way both within the state and nationally.

Looking to the future the greatest challenge that is to be faced by all farmers will be the impact of climate change. Consumers will be demanding outcomes and, while Australia is committing to a net zero target by 2050, SADA has committed to the same target by 2030. While ambitious, this can and will be reached as dairy farmers contribute just .097% of Australia's emissions. This will mean that SADA in conjunction with Dairy SA will over the next year map out steps to be taken to achieve this goal and will promote them to members.

SADA has already staked its claim in this area. The support by SADA through its industry fund has supported a number of projects in SA that potentially have good outcomes. The use of dung beetles to sequester carbon and two reviews of total mixed ration systems as a source of methane capture are reflective of the serious attitude that SADA has already taken in this critical area. Opportunities also exist in carbon credits, seaweed food additives and genetic selection.

Cont from page 2

SADA is also making strides in the roll-out of the traceability project which was started in the 2020-2021 financial year. This project will continue in the 2021-2022 year and will place SADA at the front of the queue when it comes to attracting investment in cutting-edge distributed ledger-based traceability technology. If successful SADA will lead the charge nationally in creating a traceability framework that will set the benchmark for a national system.

The reason SADA has committed itself to this path is that this technology is coming fast and if we as farmers do not get to describe what it is then it will certainly be inflicted upon us from somewhere else. The ability to control these models is the ability to manage the demands that are placed on farmers by other parts of the supply chain.

SADA will have regular contact with its members to act on any upcoming issues it can see arising in the industry. The organisation can provide support to our members on a raft of issues.

As the president of SADA I have been repeatedly struck by the dedication of our team, led by Andrew Curtis. It is humbling to have people who care about our industry as much as our SADA team does - it is a pleasure to be fortunate enough to have the role of President of this organisation.

Finally, I place on the record my sincere thanks to my fellow board members who continue to go above and beyond when it comes to representing the interests of our fellow farmers in South Australia.



All About Effluent

SADA Policy Officer John Elferink was recently invited to travel to the South East with the State's Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) to discuss the development of the next iteration of the Dairy Shed Effluent Management Policy.

The purpose of the trip was to visit farms with the EPA and other farm provider groups to help inform the EPA how best to manage on-farm effluent and how to develop the EPA's policies so that they reflect practical outcomes for dairy farmers.

John has been consulting with the EPA for about the last 12 months in relation to this issue and SADA is very grateful for the opportunity to collaborate. SADA is looking forward to future collaboration with the EPA.



SADA ladies visit Jurlique

SADA's Dairy Action Plan Officer Ash Pulford and Office Manager Alison Amber join about 40 other women from across the dairy industry at the Dairy SA Ladies Day Out.

Employers, managers, employees, service providers and other dairy industry members were given an insight into how cosmetic brand Jurlique runs its farm and what goes into its luxury skin care products.

The business was founded by Ulrike and Jurgen Klein more than 30 years ago, starting out in Nairne, before moving to Mount Barker Summit to now being based in Biggs Flat, with a factory in Mount Barker.



On the 105-acre property, botanicals and special trees are grown alongside crops such as hay and beans.

Attendees were shown the property's gardens, greenhouses, biodynamic and organic processes, drying room and cellar door. They were also provided samples of the range of beauty products, honey and teas produced on-farm.

After the farm tour, the ladies continued on to lunch at The Haus in Hanhndorf, where they had a chance to network, catch up with friends and colleagues and share stories.

2021 DAIRY COCKTAIL FUNCTION

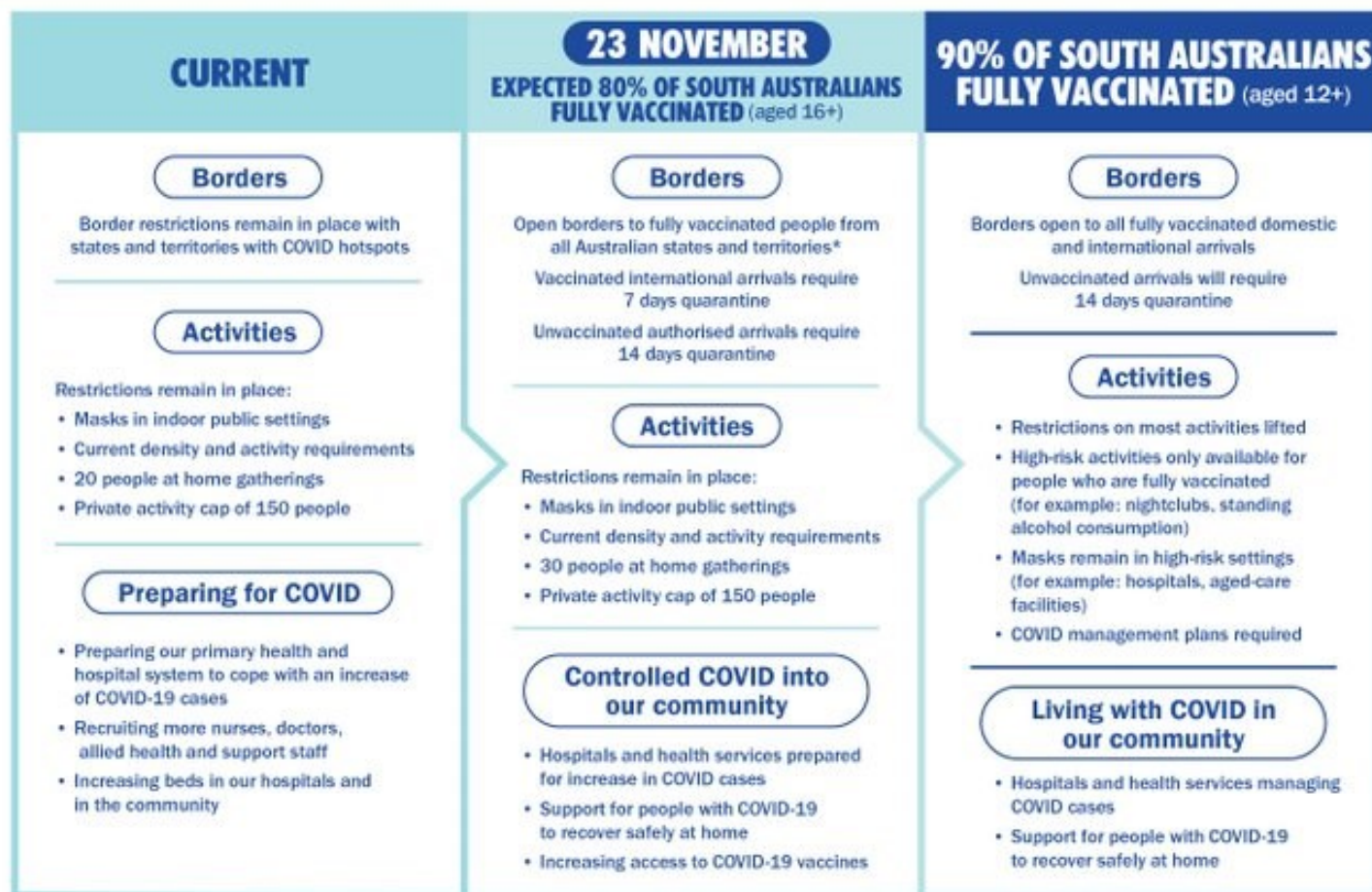
The SADA team celebrated 2021 with the organisation's annual Dairy Cocktail Function at MYLK Bar on Flinders Street. Industry leaders and politicians joined SADA board members and staff in acknowledging the work done by all members of SA's dairy Industry. Bring on 2022!



Around the grounds

- The new CEO of PPSA was announced. SADA congratulates Caroline Rhodes on her appointment. Caroline was formerly the CEO of GPSA.
- The SADA and Livestock SA teams participated in a team building session at the Arkaba Hotel on October 27.
- Ash was invited to be a part of the BAHWAC committee and provided an update about the traceability project. Having an on-farm dashboard could work in the livestock industry to report on biosecurity, animal health and welfare as well as sustainability targets.
- Andrew and Warren Jacobs attended the PPSA NRM Committee meeting.
- Ash attended the MLA Updates: IMPACT series webinar focusing on supply chain innovations. The series will run weekly for five weeks focusing on pressing issues in the industry and looking at the 2030 sustainability goals.
- Elf completed SADA policies for the 2022 State Election. The policies deal with issues of Stamp Duty, Traceability, Water Policy (Both South East and Murray Darling), Methane Capture and a Skills Fund for the dairy industry.
- Nick and Elf created a 2022 State Election Priorities Communications and Engagement Plan outlining key dates to roll out communications to Ministers, political parties and media releases.
- Elf and Ash met with Australian Stock Feed representatives to discuss relationships between SADA and stock feed suppliers, as well as their potential input into the beta trial of the traceability project.
- Elf met with Jayant Keskar, who has led the methane study on a SA farm. Discussions included the next steps in developing a functional on farm model for methane recovery from effluent. SADA is now working communicating with the farmer about feasibility of a power generation system generating power exclusively from effluent methane.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA COVID-READY PLAN



*Quarantine will apply to LGAs with community transmission and less than 80% of the population fully vaccinated.



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Or [find](#) us on Facebook

SADA NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2021

EXCITING TIMES AHEAD FOR DAIRY IN SA

Despite the ongoing challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, SADA had a very productive and exciting 2021.

SADA was involved in numerous projects and committees and performed a range of advocacy throughout the year, but some highlights include:

- **The launch of SADA's traceability trial using blockchain technology.** SADA is currently completing its first trial of this technology using the Hedera Hashgraph protocol in partnership with another SA firm, Datahash. The SA Government has thrown their weight behind the project with its absolute political support, and we are now initiating conversations with the SA Government to see how that support can continue into the future.
- **A submission the SA Minister for Primary Industries on the need for an underpass subsidy scheme in South Australia.** This was a lobbying exercise over a number of years which was finally rewarded with success with the introduction of the [Livestock Underpass Subsidy Program \(LUPS\)](#).
- **A submission to the SA Minister for Primary Industries recommending that the Government support the activities in SADA for a methane capture pilot.** The pilot is based on feasibility studies which had been successfully initiated by SADA.
- **SADA made several submissions to the South Australian Productivity Commission.** Issues included stamp duty inefficiencies in South Australia and the absurd collection of forms which exist across government that farmers are required to fill out. (There are 86 online forms alone – one form to ride a quad bike from one paddock to another invites the farmer to draw maps, research engine and VIN numbers and requires research into vehicle specifications).

SADA was again front and centre in negotiations to amend South Australia's Trespass laws, with government adopting several of SADA's recommendations, two submissions were made to the SA Parliament's Economics and Finance Committee's inquiry into essential production and Dairy supply chain security in the context of emergency circumstances in South Australia.

As we move into 2022, SADA will be ramping up its efforts, but we need you.

The insights that dairy farmers and industry partners provide are the backbone of our advocacy work.

We have work to do and discussions to have regarding climate adaptation and carbon, about workforce and upskilling, about animal welfare and biosecurity, and about profitability. And we will be cracking on with our traceability trial and our workforce committee.

In the coming months we will focus on the upcoming State and Federal elections and as the handbrake of COVID lifts, we will be out and about. But don't wait for us to drive up your driveway, give us a call, [drop us an email](#) or meet us at an event. It is the issues you raise that strengthen the arguments we make. But also there are many issues that we can just assist with. Feel free to reach out because it is likely that someone else has done so before and we can assist in addressing a local issue quietly and quickly.

Bring on 2022!

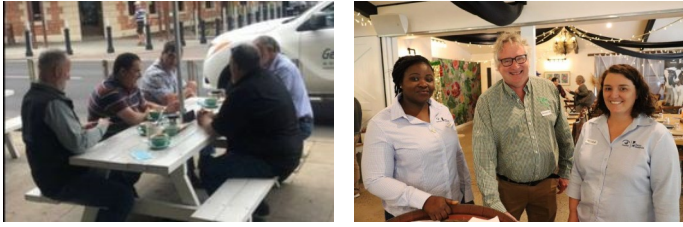


The board and staff at SADA would like to wish you and your family a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

The office in Glandore will be closed from
12pm 23 December and reopen 9am 10 January 2022.
If you have an urgent enquiry please text 0419 037 569.

Did you miss any of our updates? [Register Here](#)

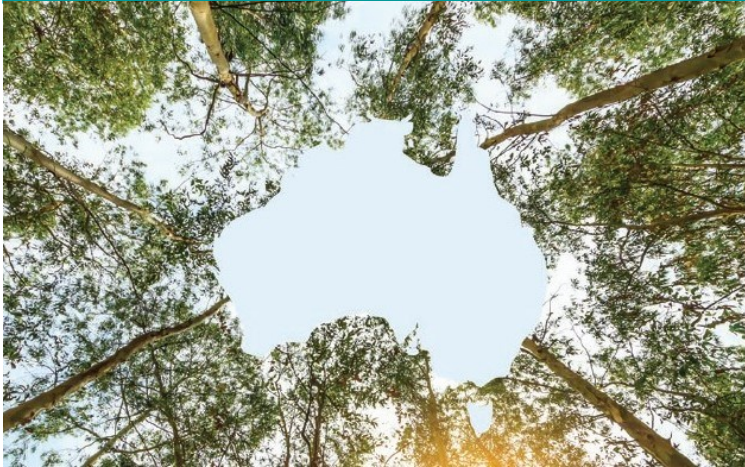
Engaging with the South East



SADA team members CEO Andrew Curtis, Policy Officer John Elferink and Dairy Action Plan Officer Ash Pulford travelled to the South East to attend the Dairy SA Update and Christmas Lunch on 13 December.

While there they also caught up with a range of local dairy farmers and industry representatives (Andrew is pictured above with Alberta and Melissa from Dairy SA) to hear the latest on what the industry has been up to and what's planned for 2022.

SADA President John Hunt, CEO Andrew Curtis and Policy Officer John Elferink met with several politicians, including Federal Member for Barker Tony Pasin (pictured above with dairy farmer Graeme Hamilton and potato grower Terry Buckley), State Member for Mount Gambier Troy Bell and Member of the SA Legislative Council Clare Scriven.



The Department of Agriculture, Water and Environment is calling for feedback in its [National Farm Forestry Strategy Survey](#).

The strategy is aimed at helping to build Australia's future wood resource through increased farm forestry.

To [Have Your Say](#) please visit and complete the short survey or upload a written submission by 14 January 2022.

New ADF President



SADA extends a HUGE congratulations to our (former) board member Rick Gladigau who's been elected as the Australian Dairy Farmers President!

Rick has served as an ADF Board Director since 2019 and was a SADA Board Member between 2007-2021.

The fifth generation dairy farmer from Mt Torrens was elected at the ADF AGM on 25 November and said he was thrilled about the appointment.

"I really appreciate the opportunity and am really looking forward to being able to lead our industry on a national scale alongside a great team from ADF," he said.

Make sure to check out this great article from the [Stock Journal](#) where Rick outlines where he'll focus his efforts in the top job!



Good people to know.

Below is a range of information from SADA partner WFI about making sure you're properly covered in the event of a bushfire.

[Protecting Livestock](#)

[Bushfire Underinsurance](#)

[Are You Adequately Covered?](#)

[Farm Security](#)

[Grassfire Information](#)

[Haystack Fire Information](#)

[Harvester Fire Information](#)

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SADA WELCOMES FREE TRADE AGREEMENT

SADA welcomes the recent signing of Australia's Free Trade

Agreement (FTA) with the United Kingdom (UK).

Under the FTA, Australian dairy products will enter the UK duty free within a five-year timeframe with substantial transition quo-

tas providing improved access from entry into force.

The UK is a large dairy importer as well as exporter of dairy products.

According to UK customs data, it imported almost 1.5 million tonnes of dairy products in 2020, making the UK the second largest importer of dairy in the world.

Currently, European Union members supply 98% of the UK's dairy imports.

The Australian dairy industry looks forward to timely entry into force and successful implementation the FTA.

Woolworths Dairy Innovation Fund



Applications open for Woolworths dairy innovation grants

Woolworths is calling on Australia's dairy farmers to share their plans for on-farm improvement, with grants of up to \$100,000 available through the latest round of Woolworths' Dairy Innovation Fund. The second round of the \$5 million Woolworths Dairy Innovation Fund is now open and seeking applications from farmers for

grants to support on-farm projects that deliver innovation, efficiency and seasonal resilience.

If you would like to discuss an idea or apply, we're here to help.

Contact us on 8393 2399.

Applications close 20 February 2022.

<https://www.woolworths.com.au/shop/discover/sustainability/dairy-innovation-fund>

SADA Fresh UPDATE

With funding from the SA Dairy Industry Fund, SADA has purchased a Henryetta AI Training Cow which has been loaned to the TAFE Mount Gambier for use in their artificial insemination training course.

Mark Thompson (TAFE Mt Gambier) will use the cow in lessons in the South East and maintain it while it is on loan.

The SA Dairy Industry Fund is also working with Dairy SA to find out if similar equipment is needed in the other dairy regions of SA.

If you have any information, please get in touch with Tom Cosentino in the office on 8293 2399 or by emailing sada@sada.asn.au.



BOB SNEWIN JOINS FUND

BOARD

The SA Dairy Industry Fund Board held its annual general meeting on 9 December and welcomed new board member Bob Snewin. Bob brings a lifetime of experience developed through working with a range of varying parts of the dairy industry.

Bob is now closely aligned with the Royal Show Society and will provide a connection for the fund to the grassroots of the dairy industry. The Board and Executive Officer Tom Cosentino look forward to working with Bob in 2022!



2022 CENTRAL CONFERENCE

LEADING THE FIELD

SAVE THE DATE

Wednesday 16 March 2022

Conference

BRIDGES EVENT CENTRE
MURRAY BRIDGE RACING CLUB

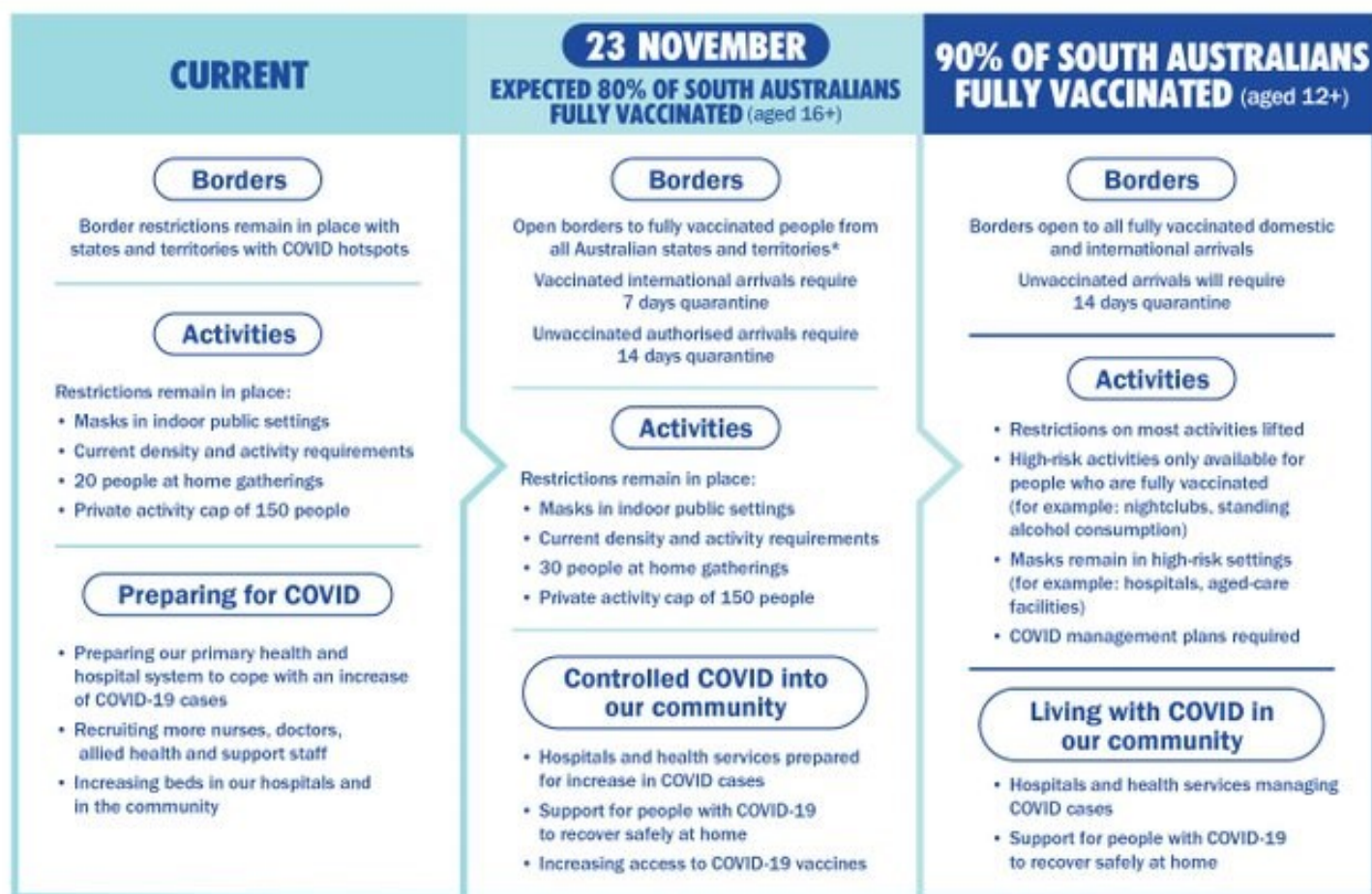
Post conference

BRIDGEPORT HOTEL, MURRAY BRIDGE

Around the grounds

- Elf continued in polishing the SADA policy for the next election in South Australia. Letters were sent to the Minister for Primary Industries, the Treasurer and the Environment Minister regarding the opportunity for government to attend to these policies in the first instance.
- Elf and Alyssa worked together in relation to SADA Fresh cheeses and continuing to plan for what appears to be a growing demand for the SADA Fresh cheese products.
- Ash, Andrew and Alison attended the NFF Ag Visa update, to talk about its progression and criteria for application next year, more information will be released before Christmas. If you have any enquires please contact the SADA office.
- Nick created a webpage where a range of SADA's submissions to governments, organisations and commissions can be uploaded. Some of SADA's submissions cannot be published publicly due to confidentiality agreements.
- Elf assisted state dairy farm organisation presidents with a meeting relating to national council matters.
- Andrew and Elf met with Caroline Rhodes in the SADA board room to discuss SADA issues moving forward and to outline the capacity of SADA to offer support to both Livestock SA and PPSA moving forward and what arrangements should be entered into should PPSA and/or Livestock SA require support.
- Nick met with Anthony from Solstice Podcasting on Wednesday to discuss the possibility of creating SADA-themed podcast series in the future.
- Elf attended a further Piper Alderman Employment Relations Seminar discussing the law and employer responsibilities around mandatory vaccinations and how employers can protect themselves in circumstances they terminate an employee for refusing vaccination.
- Ash continued her work in supporting the SADA Fresh traceability trial which has now commenced and is operational.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA COVID-READY PLAN



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