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Or find us on Facebook

# SADA NEWSLETTERS 2023





# Members Newsletter



## The year that was 2022

We hope all our Dairy farming families got a chance to spend some well earned time with family over Christmas. As we regroup after the end of a massive year, we wanted to recap on the year just past.

Since the March 2022 election, SADA has continued to connect with the Minister Clare Scriven as the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, as well as with many Ministers in the Malinauskas Government. Topics including workforce, climate, water, underpasses, trade, education, biosecurity and health have all been raised with both Ministers and Advisors. The strength of our advocacy efforts is dependent on the issues and feedback provided by our members. If you haven't had the chance to reach out, please drop us a line or give us a call any time and we'll be sure to follow up with you.

Here's a list of policy areas that we touched on during 2022.

- Inquiry into biological charcoal (biochar)
- Lower Limestone Coast Water Allocation Plan review commencement
- Family and Domestic Violence Leave submission (NFF)
- Veterinary Services Bill
- Carbon Farming
- Virtual Fencing
- Environment Protection Policy
- The Dairy Services Levy poll (concluded in late March)
- Foot & Mouth Disease and Lumpy Skim Disease.
- Opening milk prices and the value of milk

During the year we valued the input of all members as we can engage with governments and other agencies to support the development of the industry and address issues that are holding us back, This included dialogue with:

- Dairy Australia to support the strategic investment of the dairy services levy.
- Biosecurity agencies to ensure FMD & LSD preparedness and response is properly defined, targeted and proportional.
- The community to highlight the nutritious and sustainable product that is South Australian Dairy.

*We would love to hear from you.*



### Board and Committee Updates -

The SADA board welcomed three new faces in November which you can read about in earlier newsletters. - check out the back issues on our website [www.sada.asn.au](http://www.sada.asn.au) .

- A very successful State Dairy Farmer Organisation (SDFO) Committee has been formed and regular monthly meetings held during 2022 with the first face to face in Adelaide in November to coincide with our policy forum. This committee supports stronger collaboration between dairying states.

- The SADIF board and administration has had a few changes, with Bob Snewin elected as Chair and our own John Elferink back at the Executive Officer helm.
- At a national level ADF farewelled David Inall and welcomed a new CEO Steve Sheridan while SA's own Rick Gladigau was return as an ADAF Board member and as president for a further term.

**Media Releases** - Six Media Release were released by SADA, welcoming both new State and Federal Government parties, announcement of new faces on the SADA Board, responding and supporting the Australian Government Methane approach and promise.

**Events-** SADA held 2 Policy forums, 4 Regional Meetings, Royal Show BBQ for Junior Judging Competitors, Annual Dairy Awards, and the annual cocktail function with the pollies to round out the busy year.

### What's coming in 2023

It's all about Workforce across the industry and Educating our next generation, especially in the AgTech space.

The Climate debate continues as we focus on educating the masses on what outstanding work dairy has already done in this space.

2023 is looking to be a big year for our Traceability project, can't wait to see where this takes the dairy industry.

There's also funding for the [Our Farm Our Plan](#) program through the Australian Government, PIRSA and Dairy Australia, if you haven't had a look at this yet, now is your time!

## Change the way we do things; Creative solution required to combat ageing farm population



With 50 per cent of farmers expected to retire in the next 15 years, experts are worried soaring land and production costs

are making it difficult for the next generation to take over.

With 50 per cent of farmers expected to retire in the next 15 years, skyrocketing land and production prices has industry experts worried young farmers are being priced out of being able to afford their own farms.

South Australian Dairy Farmers Association president John Hunt said it was a matter of being “creative” to get younger farmers established. Partnering retiring farmers and young people through equity managers is one option that has been floated and would allow new owners to take over a farm, for a smaller deposit.



Young couple Ben Walker, 28, and his fiancé Michelle Roe, 30, have both entered into a shared farming agreement with a landowner in order to run their own dairy and eventually buy a farm outright.

Mr Walker said he understood it was difficult but urged older farmers who are looking to slow down to “let go of the reins” and let somebody “young and keen” have a crack.

“For younger people, it’s not just going to fall into their lap,” he said.

“They need to set goals and work for it — do a business plan, set a timeline — approach those older people, even if they might not be advertising.”

Read the full story on the SADA Webpage

## Thriving Regions Fund

South Australia’s primary industries and regions are important contributors to our state’s ongoing prosper-

ity and in the 2022–23 State Budget, the Government of South Australia committed \$1.49 billion for our regions to deliver on its election commitments that support primary industries and other sectors.

**The Thriving Regions Fund** is a \$15 million commitment per annum to support regional projects that act as enablers to regional industries, to grow jobs and strengthen regional communities.

The long-term outcomes from investment through the Thriving Regions Fund are identified as:

- improved quality of life for regional communities
- thriving, resilient and sustainable regional communities that attract and retain people to live and work
- pipeline of regional leaders providing a voice for their regions
- regions creating job opportunities and improved career options by capitalising on regional growth potential
- stronger regional economies.

Applications close on 30 June 2023 or when funding is fully allocated, whichever occurs first.



## TAFE Cert II in Agriculture

While Semester 1 course admissions are now closed, SADA is able to help run some additional Dairy courses, please contact us today if you want to know more.

**2023 Churchill Fellowship**  
information session on  
**Agriculture/ horticulture**  
**1 FEB 5:15 - 6:30pm AEST**  
with guest host  
**Leigh Radford**  
multi-award winning broadcaster, ‘Captain Rural’



Winston Churchill Trust  
Learn globally, inspire locally.



## A message from Minister Scriven

Dear partners in industries and regions, As you may be aware, the previous Government commenced the process of developing a consolidated **Biosecurity Bill in 2019**.

In 2020, Public Consultation was undertaken on a Technical Directions Paper and 13 written submissions were received. I sincerely thank those who made submissions and advise that this information will be considered in developing a draft Bill.

As a result of the consultation, a summary document was prepared in November 2020, and while this has not been previously released, I can advise that this Public Consultation Summary can now be accessed via [pir.sa.gov.au/legislation\\_reform](http://pir.sa.gov.au/legislation_reform).

If you wish to make any comments on the Public Consultation Summary or seek further clarification, please email [PIR-SA.BiosecurityAct@sa.gov.au](mailto:PIR-SA.BiosecurityAct@sa.gov.au) by **12 February 2023**.



## Water Allocation Plans

The [Lower Limestone Coast Prescribed Wells Area](#) is now undergoing its statutory 10 year review. Mount Lofty Ranges Water Allocation Plans Please enter your details to [sign up](#).



Learn globally,  
inspire locally.

# DairySA 2023 Central Conference

WEDNESDAY 22 MARCH 2023

Bridges Event Centre  
Murray Bridge Racing Club



## Save the Date.

The inaugural Ag Tech  
Field Day & Careers Expo

## Fleurieu AG FEST

Monday 20 March at Yankalilla.

This is a Free  
event, check out the  
[Facebook](#) page for more  
information.

The day aims to cover not only primary production career pathways such as agriculture, horticulture and viticulture and related pathways (such as ag professionals/service providers, contractors and suppliers) but also regenerative farming, conservation and land management,

fisheries and aquaculture, forestry, agritourism and value adding, transport/logistics, emergency response and preparedness, fire management, communications, R&D, extension and, of course, technology.

## IT IS time to consider food security in Aus- tralia and abroad.

War in Ukraine, inflation and rising costs of production and goods, floods and supply chain constraints make us ask an important question - are people able to access the food they need to live a healthy life? During the coming months, the Australian House of Representatives Standing Committee on Agriculture will be seeking to answer



this question in its Inquiry into Food Security.

On December 9, Australian Dairy Farmers (ADF) made a comprehensive submission highlighting the important role dairy plays in food consumption.

The submission identifies various actions to ensure this continues long into the future.

As a good source of many nutrients, including calcium, protein, iodine, vitamin A, vitamin D, riboflavin, vitamin B12 and zinc, dairy foods can support food security.

The DairySA Central Conference continues to build on its reputation and success for connecting farmers, service providers, and industry members, while tapping into new ways of thinking.

Expect a diverse line up of inspiring speakers, and topics designed to challenge your thinking across all aspects of dairy farming, including: Authentic panel discussion with farmers to share their success stories with the aid of Dairy Extension Programs.

Change is inevitable - how can you be part of the solution to drive positive change across the industry?

In 2023, we are proud to present relevant, timely and challenging discussions which reflect the directions and subjects requested by our farmers.

Amongst a long list of innovative experts and industry professionals, this year's keynote speakers will include:

- Joseph "Jake" Martin III - World renowned dairy advisor for housed and intensive systems
- Professor Frank Mitloehner - University of California Davis
- Scott McDonald - Department of Victoria
- Oli Le Lievre - Humans of Agriculture

[Don't miss out and  
book your tickets today](#)



17 January 1939

The General Secretary reported that a large number of our members had been either partially or wholly burned out in last weeks disaster. He had already sent 80 letters of sympathy, and a further list of 14 names had come in this morning making a total of 64 who had been badly affected by the fire. The list was not complete as he had found it particularly difficult to get any information from Meadows and Macclesfield, the post mistress could only furnish very limited information.

Some of the cases were particularly distressing as all that some Dairymen had left were the clothes they stood in, having lost their stock, house, sheds, stacks, machinery, implements and fencing. He has also sent a letter of sympathy to the Chairman of Directors at Kondaparinga Factory and Amscol both having had a factory partially destroyed.

The Secretary prompt action was commended by Members of the Council. It was unanimously resolved that the Secretary be on the State Fire Relief Committee and arranged to see the Minister accordingly. It was also resolved that a Bush Fire Fund be established by the SA Dairymen's Association to assist our fellow dairymen who have suffered by the recent fires.

# Around the grounds

## Flood stuff ...

- The River Murray and its impact on dairy farms in that part of the world was again the focus of SADA this past month with multiple visits again being completed to various farms which may be impacted by rising waters. Flows in the 190 gegalitre to 200 gegalitre range are materialising upstream and will soon pass lock 1 at Blanchetown. Those flows will peak at late December 2022 and early January 2023. State Emergency Service chief executive Chris Beattie said authorities had already door knocked more than 5,000 dwellings — more than 1,000 of those had already experienced some level of inundation. SES expects that the number of properties that are inundated will increase over December in line with the forecasts and that by the end of December somewhere around 4,000 properties will be inundated.
- Weekly updates from SA Power Networks on River Murray Flood Event
- The team continued to assist with issues including the relocation of water meters and pumps in the irrigation trusts. Attending public meetings and communications and regular updates.
- The Minister for Primary Industries, the Hon Clare Scriven has toured the farms of several primary producers along the Murray which included a dairy farm will be adversely impacted by the rising river.

## Other stuff ...

- Andrew met with PIRSA staff to progress EAD preparedness planning
- Andrew participated in a ADF Murray Darling Basin water policy sub committee meeting in Echuca and Deniliquin. In addition to establishing a

shared understanding of future policy, the group visited an innovative project seeking to deliver enhanced environmental outcomes in southern Murray Darling floodplains. Andrew investigated a number of flood recovery measures while in northern Victoria.

- Elf attended the Lucindale Area School to congratulate two students who participated in the local region of the 'Cows Create Careers' program, which ran in twenty-three dairying regions around Australia over 2022. The program is supported by SADA Fresh funds. The winning team from each region became eligible to submit a final entry for judging in the National Competition; in this case, it was "The Jersey's" from Lucindale Area School, consisting of Maddi Hann, Emily Hann, Hannah Kiefel and Paige Pinchback, who won the Junior Division.
- Alison and Andrew attended an Industry Stakeholder Briefing Session regarding the proposed Veterinary Services Bill .
- Andrew and Alison participated in a cross industry Emergency Animal Disease recovery planning meeting hosted by PIRSA.
- Elf attended the Dairy SA Christmas Function at Mount Gambier. This provided SADA with an opportunity to meet with a number of its members in that part of the world and the meeting was well attended.
- John Hunt and Andrew participated in a ADF National Council meeting.
- Andrew and Elf attended a meeting with Woolworths, Datahash, the Fleurieu Milk Company to put the final touches on the bid for Commonwealth Grant assistance for the National Traceability Trial.

- John and Andrew attended the ADF National Council Meeting to discuss the Excess Calves recommendations from the PAG Committee, Milk Price Initiatives and the Food Security Inquiry.
- Andrew and Alison participated in a Dairy Australia workshop regarding the development of an implementation strategy for the findings of the Aged Care Study.
- Andrew has worked with the SA Government to develop a program for farmers who have run into costs in moving pumps and meters. SADA continues to build relationships with Government to assist members financially.
- Elf attended a Business SA discussion on the Government's proposed Industrial Manslaughter legislation. Elf pointed out a potential flaw in the proposed law to Business SA who agree with SADA's articulated issue and SADA will assist business SA in drafting a response to the SA Government.
- Andrew represented SADA at the PPSA / PIRSA Quarterly meeting where the situation on the Murray was discussed along with SA Government's Carbon Farming Roadmap, the Trees on Farms project, the 2023 Primary Industries and Regions Forum and meeting arrangements for 2023.
- John joined the ADF Constitutional Review Committee for its inaugural meeting where terms of reference and financial matters were discussed
- Andrew and Alison participated in the Dairy Industry Sustainability Webinar – the future of work.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

[Australian Dairy Conference 15-17 February](#)

[Agri Futures Evoke Ag 21-22 February](#)

[ABARES Outlook Conference - 7-8 March](#)

[Fleurieu AgFest - March 20](#)

[DSA Central Conference - 22 March](#)

Did you miss any of our updates?

[Register Here](#)



Good people to know.

1300 934 934

# Members Newsletter



## John Hunt stands down as SADA President

After more than a decade on the Board and the past six at the helm, President John Hunt has announced his decision to step away from the board, allowing him to concentrate on family and new business ventures. [More](#)

## Robert Brokenshire takes the helm at SADA

The South Australian Dairyfarmers Association is pleased to announce the appointment of Robert Brokenshire as President of SADA. Robert is a dairy farmer from Mount Compass and former member of the South Australian Parliament. The Brokenshire family currently milk 440 jersey cows and maintain a Jersey Stud breeding from a fourth-generation herd. [More](#)



At SADA we want  
To understand what  
your connectivity  
frustration are?

So the team can better assist  
you with solutions for all your  
connectivity issues. Please  
give us a call to answer some  
quick questions.



In addition to the work SADA is undertaking in this space, the ACCC is seeking public contributions to the **Regional Mobile Infrastructure Inquiry**.

The purpose of the Inquiry is to:

- inform future Government policy decisions on the provision of regional, rural, remote and peri-urban mobile telecommunications services
- investigate the feasibility of providing temporary mobile roaming during natural disasters or other emergencies.

More information about the Regional Mobile Infrastructure Inquiry is available at the [Project Overview](#) page, the [Ministerial Direction](#) page, and the [Public Consultation](#) paper.



### New service to help connectivity woes

Regional Australians frustrated with their phone or internet connection can get help more easily following the [Regional Tech Hub launching a book in service](#).

The team provide free, independent personalised connectivity assistance, answer questions, and offer advice on internet and mobile options.

### Spring clean your devices

Doing a clean-up of your devices can ensure your device works better for longer. Most operating systems have built-in software that automatically looks for and cleans up temporary or "junk" files. This can restore a lot of disk space over time. You can also look for third-party software that can help clean and maintain your hard drive.

[Regional Tech Hub website](#) and click on the link for your device.

## DairySA 2023 Central Conference

WEDNESDAY 22 MARCH 2023

Bridges Event Centre  
Murray Bridge Racing Club

With less than 4 weeks to go  
Don't miss out,  
book your tickets today.



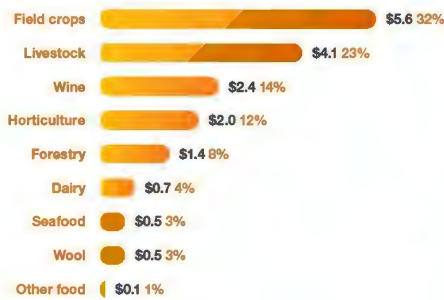
Use our handy tool to check your digital skills and access helpful online resources

Start now



# \$17.3 billion

Figure 1. Composition of the 2021-22 primary industries and agribusiness revenue (\$ billion)



**South Australia's primary industries are a vital contributor to the state. In 2021-22, primary industries and agribusiness revenue increased by 12% totalling \$17.3 billion, while the sector also supported 71,000 jobs.**

In South Australia, most dairy farms received below average rainfall for the 2021-22 season. In spring, however, the La Niña event saw increased rainfall over many areas and late autumn breaks in some areas reduced pasture growth leading to increased supplementary feeding. Higher input costs also had a noticeable impact on fertiliser rates and likely reduced production of home-grown feed (Dairy Australia, 2022). Dairy primary production value (the value of milk produced) increased by 0.3% to \$263 million in the year reflecting a 2% decline in milk volume and a 2% increase in the farmgate milk price in 2021-22 compared with 2020-21. The value of dairy primary production remains well above the previous five-year average (up 12%). Dairy processing value increased by almost 24% due to greater production of milk powder and cheese, which is also reflected in the increase in cheese exports (up 95% to reach \$31 million) and milk powder exports (up 9% to \$80 million) in 2021-22.

**Total Dairy sector value was up 17.4% to \$690 million.**



## National Mentoring

**Program** The second round of the National Mentoring Program, part of the Helping Regional Communities Prepare for Drought Initiative, is now open for applications.

Another 180 places are open in this second round. That's 90 people from all walks of life sharing their experience as a mentor to support someone else to be the best version of themselves, and 90 people from all over rural, regional and remote Australia getting the chance to have a mentor guide them.

- Applications open: 1 February – 3 April 2023
- Program start: June 2023
- Duration: 12 months
- 12 x one-on-one mentoring sessions
- Virtual learning sessions covering effective communication, personalties and self-awareness, leadership and more.

## Funding to purchase energy efficient equipment upgrades for small and medium businesses

Opens 6 March—Closes 19 April 2023

The Australian Government is providing grants worth between \$10,000 and \$25,000 to small and medium businesses to upgrade or replace inefficient equipment to improve their energy efficiency and reduce power use and bills. It is expected that there may be a high level of interest for this grant opportunity, and it may be oversubscribed. This is a demand driven grant opportunity. Grants will be awarded to eligible applicants on a first come, first served basis until the funding is exhausted in each jurisdiction.



## SA CATTLE INDUSTRY FUND

### Call for Applications SA Cattle Industry Fund

The South Australian Cattle Industry Board invites applications for project funding that will provide benefits to the State's beef and dairy cattle industry. Projects are to be delivered within the 2023-24 financial year. Project funding will be drawn from the SA Cattle Industry Fund.

For more information about funding guidelines and how to apply, visit: [CIF - Apply for Funding](#).

Applications are due by COB **31 March 2023**.

### EOI for Cattle Industry Fund Board Members

South Australian livestock producers are encouraged to consider expressing their interest in joining the SA Cattle Industry Fund Boards. The Industry Fund Boards are responsible for providing recommendations to the Minister for Primary Industries and Regions as to the expenditure for the Funds.

Expressions of interest are open for the following positions:

- 1 cattle producer (beef or dairy)
- 2 independents with a knowledge of the cattle industry

All terms are up to 3 years. To nominate, candidates must submit an expression of interest on or before 5pm on **Friday 31 March 2023**.



A podcast dedicated to finding out more about our AgriFood system, from the people involved in it.

Join us each **Wednesday** as we dive deep into the journey that have Humans of Agriculture.



**AUSTRALIAN  
DAIRY  
CONFERENCE**



**ADC  
RETURNS  
TO THE  
DAIRY**

**CALENDAR WITH ITS  
LARGEST CONTINGENT**

The Australian Dairy Conference (ADC) has once again established itself as the premier event on the dairy industry calendar with an almost-capacity delegation. More than 550 plus dairy industry delegates will gather in two weeks in Hobart in a record-breaking contingent for the farmer-led organisation.



**600  
NATIONAL  
DAIRY  
MEMBERS**

**DESCEND ON HOBART**

“ADC is an event for farmers, by farmers, with both the Board and the Programming Committee (appointed annually) made up of strong farmer representation making ADC one of the most unique and independent models to bring the issues that matter to farmers most to the fore,” said Tom Acock, ADC President.

**Farmsafe Australia -  
- Toolbox Talks**

**Farmsafe Australia Pod-  
cast “Toolbox Talks” has  
launched.**

Free to stream on [Spotify](#) and [Anchor](#) platforms, Toolbox Talks focuses on farm culture, and how we can all contribute to making our farms, and our farmers, safer! Tune in each week as Dr Richard Franklin explores the important topics facing Australian farmers, families, and the agricultural community. This week’s podcast is an interview with Glen Cook and is a great listen.



**PRIMARY  
PRODUCERS  
SA**



Some of the NFF committee work PPSA is involved with in February includes:

- **Sustainable Development and Climate Change Committee** meeting, 3 February, issues covered include the Independent Review of Australian Carbon Credit Units, the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act update, COP15 Convention on Biological Diversity outcomes, AASF briefing, and National Reconstruction Fund update.
- **Telecommunications and Social Policy Committee**, 16 February, agenda topics included the 2023 TSPC workplan, on-farm connectivity program, NFF draft telecommunications policy and an overview of social policy including Indigenous engagement.
- **Trade Committee**, 22 February, key outcomes were presented from NFF President Fiona Simson's recent trip to the UK and EU with the Minister for Agriculture, Senator Murray Watt; developments in Australia's bilateral relationship with China were discussed; as well as EU FTA negotiations, following the conclusion of the latest negotiating round in Canberra.
- **Workforce Committee**, 23 February, issues covered included IR reform, the Workplace Sexual Harassment Prevention Program and ag apprenticeships.



**January 1940**

Total Members 1158 increase of 252 members from 1938.

Mr Gormile was appointed as acting Secretary: 2/10p.w. Col Nelson Son be appointed for work in the office: 1/10p.w. This was bought about by Colonel Nelson being appointed to the command of the 3rd Light Horse Regiment. He would be in camp for 30 days.

**January 1941**

In January of this year, the heavy rains caused severe floods, and in the Murray area some swamps were as much as 12 feet under water. Many of these dairymen were prevented from de-pasturing their cattle on the swamps for quite a considerable period, and in some instances the fodder that they had conserved and placed in stacks on their land had been swept away, they were therefore without means of feeding their cattle.

In the full knowledge of this, and foreseeing that many of these members would be hard placed to adequately feed their cattle, an approach was made (within a few days of the flood ,to the Government for fodder and assistance for these dairymen.



Nearly 100 people turned out for the **Murray Bridge Get Together** today. What a great outcome for a strong community that has stuck together. With representation from Department of Primary Industries and Regions SA Power Networks Livestock SA Rural Business Support and many others, to help and answer any questions. A number of important issues were raised by farmers, particularly the processing of grants. Thank you to Thomas Foods International and Foodland Supermarket for feeding us and to the Imperial Football Club for providing the venue and opening the bar.



- Andrew and Lyndon Cleggett met with officers from PIRSA and DA to discuss **BJD management** going forward.
- Andrew and Alison attended the **Humans of Agriculture** presentation by Rural Media & Communicators SA/NT. Providing us with some 'influence' to tell the story of Ag. <https://humansofagriculture.com>
- Elf attended at the office of the **Hon Sarah Game MP** to assist the office in preparing tax policies for Ms Game.
- Elf travelled twice to the **Murray River flood impacted farmers** in making applications for government grants that are available to farmers as a result of the River Murray's events. SADA will continue to assist farmers to lodge grants to recover as much money as possible for members (and in some instances non-members).
- Elf met with **Lulu's Hypermarkets (Saudi Arabia)** at the request of Lulu's to discuss the possibility of supplying cheese and fresh milk to Lulu's. Lulu's asked to see SADA Fresh products after SADA expressed interest in meeting with them when their buying reps were in South Australia.
- Andrew met with Foodland CEO to discuss the **2023 Dairy Awards Sustainability Award** and other matters.
- John Hunt spoke on the Country Hour – [LISTEN HERE](#)
- Andrew participated in an **TAFE Roadmap** for the Future on-line consultation – "Connecting with Industry"
- Elf worked with the EPA on another **effluent management issue** involving a member. The EPA and SADA continue to work collaboratively to ensure that farms are compliant with environmental laws with as little impact or interruption to the farm business as possible.

- Elf attended the **GS1 Woolworths Solution Provider** conference (by electronic means) to hear the latest developments in 2D barcode technology. The meeting incorporated processor and farmer members.
- Elf also corresponded with Business SA including a follow up meeting regarding the introduction of industrial manslaughter legislation in SA. Business SA passed on their thanks to SADA for providing advice on the proposed legislation and the impacts that the legislation represents on all businesses in SA.
- Andrew attended the quarter meeting of the Agribusiness, Food & Wine/ Beverages **Industry Skills Council**.
- Andrew and Elf met with Elders and a delegation from the **Ukrainian Dairy industry** over several days in various locations around Adelaide. Tours were conducted with the delegation as they investigated ways to assist their industry to recover after the war which is currently ravaging the Ukraine. The tours included a tour of the now famous Connor robots and the Fleurieu Milk Company. The Ukrainians expressed their gratitude and asked that that be passed on to the SADA Board.
- Elf met with the **Fleurieu Milk Company** to develop an application for funding to deliver an industry wide needs analysis for making South Australian farmers and processors more export focused. This accords with the South Australian Dairy Industry Action Plan 2019-2024, in which exports are described as a key component of the work of SADA and other industry participants.
- Elf reviewed the **Veterinary Services Bill** which proposes a replacement of the current Veterinary Practices legislation in South Australia. While the proposed legislation is largely benign it does introduce a new offence which could

lead to unnecessary prosecution of farmers. This has prompted SADA to write to the Minister for Primary Industries as well as the Shadow Minister and One Nation MLC, both of whom are veterinarians. SADA will work with the Minister to see if the offending parts of the legislation can be amended.

- Elf continued to assist farmers with processing **applications for grants** arising out of the floods in the lower River Murray. This has led to a number of conversations with departmental staff regarding the demands government are placing on applicants under the scheme.
- Andrew and Tracey attended the **Australian Dairy Conference in Tassie**. With over 600 delegates the conference was one of the best events of its type that Andrew has been to during his career. Some of the take home messages included Without courage, dreams die and methane is part of our positive future. More to following the newsletter

**2023 JUDGING SCHOOL**  
**27th - 29th March 2023**  
 Victor Harbour - South Australia  
 Expressions of Interest **NOW OPEN**  
 Misty Bruce | Rockwella Farm | Windy View

## UPCOMING EVENTS

[ABARES Outlook Conference - 7-8 March](#)

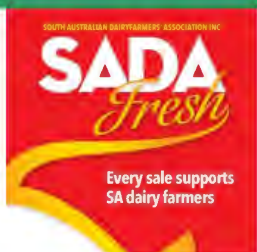
[Fleurieu AgFest - March 20](#)

[DSA Central Conference - 22 March](#)

[SA Industry Climate Change Conference - 20 April](#)

Did you miss any of our updates?

[Register Here](#)



March 2023

# Members Newsletter



March saw the start of Autumn and a range of Industry engagements that will enhance the positive future for our industry. We kicked the month off in Melbourne for a workshop to develop the **Dairy Australia Annual Operating Plan** for 2023/24. With 7 pillars up for discussion from resilience to innovation the outcomes from the day are a testament to the dairy industry across Australia.

This was followed by the Australian Dairy Farmers **Policy Advisory Groups** meeting for the first time in 2023. There are three committees, Market and Trade, People and Community, and Farm Operations. Hot Topics from these discussions covered; Workforce, Education, Ag Tech, Capital Works, Milk price and supply and Connectivity, just to name a few. If you would like to know more about the PAGs and their topics areas, please let us know.

Early in the month, we also joined with PIR-SA, Dairy SA and Dairysafe to discuss a range of things FMD including **Public information in an EAD Response**. There are further workshops planned for the coming months. Please read below for further details on some of these.

We then trekked back to Melbourne for the **Australian Dairy Sustainability Framework Committee**. The framework has now supported the industry for more than 10 years. The evidence in the industry is so positive that reports show 97% of Australian households continue to buy dairy, according to Dairy Australia's latest **Situation and Outlook report**.

All National reports are on our Website, grab a glass of milk, jump in and have closer [look](http://www.sada.asn.au). [www.sada.asn.au](http://www.sada.asn.au)

## Got your game plan?

Set your farming and personal goals with  
**Our Farm, Our Plan**

Our Farm, Our Plan is a new program designed to equip farmers to clarify their long term goals, prioritise and identify actions needed, and to better manage uncertainty and risk. It has been developed by Dairy Australia.

The program is delivered via in-person workshops over three sessions, or via Zoom workshops over six sessions and includes 1:1 sessions with a trained consultant/facilitator. These sessions help to give you structure around where you are heading and what to focus on to get there.

Programs are running regularly in all regions of SA, Please contact SADA or the Dairy SA team to be made aware of the next available program in your area.

[www.dairyaustralia.com.au/dairysa/farm-business/our-farm-our-plan](http://www.dairyaustralia.com.au/dairysa/farm-business/our-farm-our-plan).

## Australian Dairy Sustainability Framework

**CELEBRATING 10 YEARS**

### INDUSTRY UPDATE FINDS POSITIVES IN DAIRY'S SITUATION OUTLOOK

Despite cost-of-living pressures and higher retail prices, 97% of Australian households continue to buy dairy, according to Dairy Australia's latest Situation and Outlook report. Strong consumption helps to ensure dairy contributes to improved health outcomes for all Australians.

Further, the report highlights that Australian dairy exports are extracting a larger-than-usual premium on the global stage, held firm by limited product availability. A target in the Australian Dairy Sustainability Framework is to increase Australian dairy's share of global trade. [Dairyaustralia.com.au/industry-statistics](http://Dairyaustralia.com.au/industry-statistics)

## A message from the Minister for Education, Training and Skills

Australia is facing significant skills shortages, including here in South Australia.

Since coming to government, we have not wasted a day in doing what is needed to get the pipeline of skilled workers we need into training and into jobs. Whether it be fee-free TAFE and VET, restoring funding to Adult Community Education, providing funding to the Motor Trades Association and the Master Builders Association to tackle local skills needs, or restoring critical health and early childhood courses to TAFE SA, we are doing everything we can to deliver the best training system in Australia.

I am passionate about getting our training system to work better for students, workers, employers, and our economy – and that requires significant work.

Over the past few months, Skills SA has been consulting on a new, 10-year South Australian Skills Plan. This will set about a new direction for our skills system, one much more focused on completions and addressing skills shortages.

We have heard your ideas to improve our skills system. Today I announced a range of immediate initiatives to respond to this feedback. This includes:

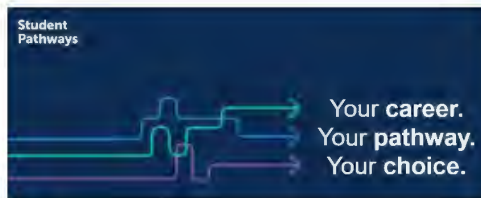
1. \$8.9m in grants to address skills shortages in areas of need, including a specific stream of grants to get more women into trades
2. \$2.3m to try innovative new ways to provide wellbeing and learner supports for students and improve completions, including through grants
3. \$2m for new Skills Hubs in regional South Australia, providing new services and connecting learners, industry and training providers to get more local residents skilled up and into jobs
4. \$500k to develop a new, one-stop-shop website that will make it easier for South Australians to find where the skills shortages are and what training they can do to work in those areas.

Together, these initiatives will support improved completions, get more South Australians skilled up in areas where there are shortages, and will give people better information to get into training and into jobs.

Only by working with industry, unions, training providers, and community organisations will we give South Australians the skills they need for the jobs they want.

**SADA is working closely together with all industry partners for a better skills system. To see a comprehensive look at the plan engagement please visit <https://skills.sa.gov.au/plan>.**

The final South Australian Skills Plan will be released at the beginning of 2024, following the finalisation of the new National Skills Agreement with the Commonwealth Government.



### Connecting Primary Industries to Secondary Schools in 2023

The Department for Education has invested in a team of Industry Engagement Consultants to partner with industry and develop opportunities for students to learn about South Australia's industries and make informed decisions about their career of choice. Industry engagement also helps support and develop a viable pipeline of skilled workers for South Australian employers, helping meet future workforce and skills needs.

To help South Australia's primary industries engage with our students, this plan has been developed to outline key initiatives for 2023, focusing on establishing greater connections between primary industries and secondary school students to encourage greater engagement in careers in the primary industries sector.

By connecting to our secondary schools, the primary industries sector can help provide opportunities for students to be exposed to the breadth and depth of the industry, its roles, and identify the exciting career opportunities it can provide.

Primary industries are impacted by a lack of awareness among young people of the jobs and career opportunities that exist, as well as misconceptions about what working in the industry is like. Connecting and hearing direct from people within the industry is powerful and will help students create a personal connection to see how they too can have a career within primary industries.



### Breed, raise, and manage cattle for milk production

TAFE SA's dairy courses are designed to support South Australia's vital dairy industry. Learn about the general health and welfare of cattle, milking, feeding, reproduction, farm machinery, and management. Become a dairy industry specialist with TAFE SA

## DAIRY FARM JOBS BOARD

**Find a rewarding dairy farm job!**  
View some of the jobs available across Australia's main dairy farming regions. Take the next step by directly contacting employers or viewing their online job ads. Increase your opportunities by searching [other places](#) that advertise dairy farm jobs.

**Oli and Nedd Brockman chat over Choccy Milk.**

In 2022, Nedd cemented his legend status by running from Perth to Bondi in 47 days, he raised \$2.5 million for homeless charity We Are Mobilise. But we all watched as he finished his 40+km run every day with a choccy milk.

*#Nedd quote: Resilience is what makes the Ag industry resilient.*



## Stepping up for EAD preparedness

SADA, Dairysafe, Dairy SA and Primary Producers SA participated in a facilitated workshop on 'Public Information in an Emergency Animal Disease Response' on Monday 20 March.

Hosted by PIRSA, the workshop detailed how national structures and processes, and public information (communications and media) work in an EAD response. Communications during a response was identified as a key priority at the EAD workshop held in August last year.

The workshop identified the challenges of managing information during a response, including the importance of consistency, accuracy and timeliness, as well as information needs, roles and responsibilities, with the ultimate goal of making sure that the target audience - our members and supply chain partners - receive the information they need.

### Next Step . . .

#### Liaison – Livestock Industry training

16 May 2023

SADA is looking for interested dairy farmers to nominate for the Liaison - Livestock Industry training in EAD response. They will be joined by additional stakeholders from jurisdictional biosecurity agencies along with other agriculture sectors.

The **EAD foundation course** is a prerequisite to participating in a workshop being delivered by AHA for the Liaison – Livestock Industry training.

The purpose of this course is to inform learners about how EAD responses are managed in Australia, and to give a foundation for further training in EAD response functions.

The EAD foundation course is recommended for producers, veterinarians, veterinary and animal science students, livestock industry and government personnel, and individuals who may be involved in an EAD response; however, it is publicly accessible and open to anyone with an interest in EAD response arrangements.

This course takes approximately 2 hours to complete. Follow [these guidelines](#) to register for and access the online courses listed below.



## Farmgate milk value tool

This tool allows a user to understand how milk is being valued in each region and how that varies across the season, influenced by different farm characteristics (seasonality of milk supply, size of farm, milk components).

This tool is not designed to compare prices available from individual processors for a specific farm as the data provided is averages and ranges, based on a discrete set of variables. Income estimates from individual processors are still the best way to compare prices available for your own farm.



## 🌦️ What's driving your season?

PIRSA is running a free workshop covering the Limestone Coast 2023 seasonal weather forecast and climate update. Leading SA climate and weather experts Darren Ray and Dr Peter Hayman, along with farmer and consultant Barry Mudge, will assist growers to understand, forecasts, climate prediction models, other climate tools to make better decisions on farm.

**When:** Thursday 13 April, 9:00 am to 12:00 pm

**Location:** Struan House, 74 Struan House Rd, Struan SA 5271

**RSVP** by 6 April <http://ow.ly/hY4050NoyOr>



## Soil Health Survey

DBM Social Research is seeking your help in a national study on soil health in Australia. We are conducting this research on behalf of the Office of the National Soils Advocate.

Soil health has a major impact on communities and industry and is a complex area where soil types, condition and management practices vary widely across the nation. In this study, there are no right or wrong answers! We are seeking to understand how soil health and practices are perceived in Australia among people who work with soil or in an industry related to soil or environmental conservation. We are also interested in how the National Soils Advocate is known and perceived in this community.

The insight you provide will be used by the Office of the National Soils Advocate to better understand the perceptions of soil health in Australia, including current areas of concern. Your responses will also help identify priority areas of the National Soils Advocate's terms of reference and to inform activities moving forward.

If you would like to share your thoughts, please click 'start' below to enter our online survey. It should take between 10 and 15 minutes, depending on your answers.

Your participation and feedback will remain confidential <https://bit.ly/42VcGwK>



## PPSA Strategy day plots course forward

PPSA's vision for a strong and viable primary production sector was the driver behind our Strategic Planning Workshop held at Adelaide Oval, bringing our commodity groups together and a range of notable, high calibre speakers. The workshop explored whether the operation of agricultural advocacy in South Australia was fit for purpose and what the major issues were for advocacy groups. Guest speaker National Farmers' Federation CEO Tony Mahar said advocacy groups needed to be selective in the issues they tackled - as it's impossible to be everything to everyone. Mr Mahar also highlighted a major issue for the sector - attracting young people into these organisations when they are often employed under short-term projects. Australian Farm Institute General Manager Katie McRobert drove discussion around the AFI's Future of Australian Agricultural Advocacy report and how it applied to PPSA. Ms McRobert highlighted that people were advocacy groups' single greatest resource and that sharing, rather than telling, stories was a way to create community trust in agriculture. Minister for Primary Industries, Regional Development and Forestry Clare Scriven acknowledged agriculture as the foundation of the state's economy, while PIRSA CEO Mehdi Dourodi said a priority for his department was improving productivity gains through extension. PPSA looks forward to working together with our commodity groups on the workshop outcomes.

## PPSA proud to support valuable student resource

A major focus at PPSA is on promoting the opportunities agriculture offers to the next generation. With this focus in mind, PPSA is proud to support the launch of the Adelaide University Agricultural Students Association 2023 Student Compendium. The compendium connects students to industry and highlights the range of opportunities the agriculture sector offers. It is a valuable collation of awards, scholarships, conferences, competitions, training, graduate programs and internships. Our Graduate Policy Officer James Easter has played a major role in putting the compendium together, alongside his fellow agriculture students, and our Chair Simon Maddocks is speaking on behalf of PPSA at the launch at the Edinburgh Hotel on March 30.



## Woolworths Dairy Innovation Fund

The third round of the \$5 million **Woolworths Dairy Innovation Fund** is seeking applications from farmers for grants of up to \$100,000 to support on-farm projects that deliver innovation, efficiency and seasonal resilience.

These grants will support on-farm improvements that deliver innovation, efficiency, greater resilience or enhanced sustainability. Our contribution to farms will fund new capital improvements or technology, and provide additional funds to help expand existing projects.

In addition to the Woolworths Dairy Innovation Fund, we also provide grants to farmers through our [Organic Growth Fund](#), partnering with organic fruit and vegetable farmers to make on-site investments which will increase the availability of organic produce in Australia.



# Around the grounds

**Dairy Industry says cheese in nations capital:** Crowd of circa 130 people, with over 80 politicians, senators and their staff/advisors in attendance. Fantastic engagement, where you could see farmers and industry reps interacting with politicians all evening. Event was co-hosted by the Parliamentary Friends of Primary Producers. MPs Meryl Swanson and Nola Marino anchored the evening, with speeches from Murray Watt, David Littleproud, Rick Gladigau (ADF) and John Williams (ADPF).

- Andrew and Robert attended the **PPSA Annual Strategy Day** with a Roundtable discussion with Minister Scriven, followed by the PPSA Q2 Council Meeting.
- Andrew attended the **Adelaide International Womens Day Breakfast** with Penny Wong.
- Elf met with a farmer to assist with EPA matters. SADA is currently assisting two farmers with **EPA related matters** and is seeking to resolve them so that farmers can continue to go about their businesses. Over the past two years there has been increasing attention by the EPA, particularly to effluent management. SADA maintains a cordial working relationship with the EPA and if any farmer has any questions regarding the EPA'S expectations, contact John Elferink at SADA.
- Elf and Andrew also worked with DIT in an effort to resolve issues around the **construction of underpasses** on state roads. Grant Council has led the way and recently meetings with Alexandrina Council assisted in progressing projects in that council area.

- SADA also communicated with PPSA about the most recent efforts by the Greens to introduce a bill seeking to create an independent office of **animal welfare in South Australia**. The Greens have been highly critical of the industry working with PIRSA to ensure husbandry standards. SADA and PPSA have committed to working together to make certain that our already high standards of animal care are not made the subject of an ideological crusade by organisations which seek to inflict themselves on farmers in South Australia.
- Andrew and Alison attended a meeting with PIRSA to discuss the progress of the 'Enhance the Action Plan engagement' Grant.
- Andrew attended a Dewatering and Levee Reestablishment Update - LMRIA Chair Meeting.
- Alison sat in on the launch of the **Farming Forever: A national plan for climate change and agriculture**. With Presentations from Senator the Hon Murray Watt, Olivia Lawson, Dr Kate Andrews and Charlie Prell (Chair of FCA) - 770 members Australia wide

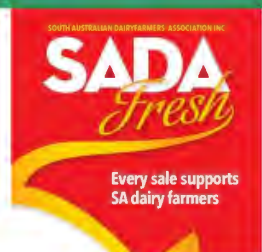
- (Ambassador style program). Note: There is no national strategy in Australia to address Climate Change. Farmers for Climate Action - <https://farmersforclimateaction.org.au>
- Andrew and Alison met with Peter Adamo and Katherine to start planning for the **SA Dairy Awards**.
- Andrew attended a Dairy industry meeting with CVO to discuss **FMD preparedness**
- Andrew and Alison attended a packed house for the **Dairy SA Central Conference** in Murray Bridge.
- Andrew, Elf and Alison attended a meeting with **Foodland** to discuss the new Foodland Sustainability Award at this years DIAA Dairy Awards. While in the same room discussions around the progress of SADA Fresh cheese on foodland shelves and an opportunity to partner with a Methane capture project.
- Andrew and Warren attended the NFF Water Committee



"Some time ago I was approached by the South Australian Dairymen's Association with regard to a better price for milk. As you are aware the State Government has had to take steps to drastically supervise the milk coming into the Metropolitan Area. Owing to manpower shortages, less frequent deliveries, and reaction from the zoning system, the milk supply in Adelaide became unsatisfactory. Steps have now been taken to ensure that milk sold in Adelaide is of reasonable quality, and from time to time further steps will need to be taken to improve the standard as this becomes practicable. The delivery of milk of a better quality obviously involved the dairymen in extra expenditure and one of the difficulties confronting the Government in its campaign for a better supply of milk is that the margin provided does not, in my opinion, fully compensate the producer for the additional expenditure involved. In other words, insufficient incentive has been provided to ensure that high quality milk will be available for the Metropolitan Area. I am enclosing here with a copy of statement submitted by South Australian Dairymen's Association. I would appreciate if you would give consideration to their request, and would be prepared to make available the services of Mr. Barlow if such would enable you to reach a conclusion in connection with the merits of the dairymen's request."

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- Primary Industries and Regions Forum 2023: Transitioning to a Green Economy - April 4
- Industry Climate Change Conference - April 20
- DSA 2023 Euthanise Livestock - R&L - May 2



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



# Members Newsletter



## SA Dairy Awards

SADA is pleased to announce that it will again be the Premier Partner of the South Australian Dairy Awards for 2023.

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 more than 15 years.

This year SADA has joined forces with Foodland to bring you the **Foodland Dairy Sustainability Award** to deliver on the Australian Dairy Industry’s promise to provide nutritious food for a healthier world. This will build on our 3 annual awards; Best Innovative Farmer of the Year Award 2023, Best Relationship with a Processor Award 2023, Young Farmer of the Year Award 2023.

The Australian dairy industry has a proud history of producing sustainable dairy products. On our farms and in our factories, we undertake programs that contribute to enhancing livelihoods, improving the wellbeing of people and animals,

and reducing our environmental impact, for today and for future generations.

To capture, direct and measure these efforts, and drive change where necessary, we have taken a **whole-of-industry approach to sustainability**. Following extensive consultation with the dairy industry and our stakeholders, we developed the Foodland Dairy Sustainability Award.

**Keep an eye out next issue to register your nominations for the 2023 SA Dairy Awards.**



### Minister Murray Watt addresses NFF Members Council

*G'day everyone, its lovely to see so many from the agriculture industry here today.*

*An Industry that feeds Australia and the world, that generates billions of dollars of wealth for our country, that employs thousands from our cities to our most remote regions an that is central to our national identity.*

[Click here for full speech](#)

# All dairy farmers should have a biosecurity plan

To help protect their own farm and the broader dairy industry from the spread of pests and diseases on and between farms. Dairy Australia supports farmers to build their skills to create and manage biosecurity risks on their farm.

As signees to the [Commonwealth Emergency Animal Disease Response Agreement](#) (EADRA), dairy farmers are required to plan and implement actions to reduce the risk of pest and diseases spreading from farm to farm.

It is the responsibility of every dairy farmer to have an active biosecurity plan and communicate any requirements for staff and visitors.

## Dairy biosecurity tool

Dairy Australia and Agriculture Victoria have worked together to develop a biosecurity tool which assists dairy farmers to create a biosecurity plan tailored to their farm. This tool has been based on Dairy Australia's Healthy Farms Biosecurity Framework.

Farmers can [access the biosecurity tool](#) to manage their farm and herd's risks to 14 separate diseases such as salmonella and Bovine Virus Diarrhoea. Farmers with an existing DairyBase account can use their existing login details.

## BIOCHECK®

[BIOCHECK®](#) is a biosecurity planning program developed by Australian Cattle Veterinarians. This program allows for the building of a biosecurity plan with veterinary oversight.

## Animal Health Australia

Animal Health Australia (AHA) and Farm Biosecurity provide resources covering the basics of on-farm biosecurity. Farmers can find out more on the [Animal Health Australia website](#).

Farmers can also purchase a biosecurity gate sign, or download the template for free from the [Farm Biosecurity website](#).

## One Biosecurity (South Australia)

South Australian farmers can access the [One Biosecurity](#) tool through Primary Industries and Regions South Australia (PIRSA). This tool builds and stores biosecurity information, which can then be shared when required.



EMERGENCY ANIMAL DISEASE  
WATCH HOTLINE 1800 675 888



## Got your game plan?

Set your farming and personal goals with  
Our Farm, Our Plan



May 1943

A lengthy and public dispute took place over the General Secretary holding another position which was contrary to the interest of dairymen. The General Secretary explained that he is General Secretary of the SA Dairymen' Association and of the Metropolitan Milk Marketing Committee. This committee consists of four members, two of whom are dairymen's representatives. The committee was set up as the result of negotiations with the Wholesale Milk buyers to stabilise the Adelaide milk price a little over two years ago. The General Secretary then stated that he is Hon. Secretary of the advisory Committee on the collection of cream. Both Committees have two representatives from the SA Dairymen's Association.

He then pointed out that there is a district **shortage of milk** in the metropolitan area at the present moment with the great influx of troops and evacuees. In consequence of this, sales of city milk, have gone up tremendously. His firm started supplying the military with 250 gallons of milk daily, which has now increased to 2,400 gallons daily. He rang Kenton Co-op factory regarding surplus, and their reply was that all their milk was being sold and not one gallon being processed into cheese. The same applies to other country factories, except Jervois and this factory is prepared to assist in the Metropolitan area.

*Vendors may have had a gift from the Wholesalers, but at a cost to the Dairymen!!*

## INDUSTRY WEBINAR ON FMD AND LSD

The latest on disease incursion risk + Q&A



JOHN MCKILLOP (RED MEAT ADVISORY COUNCIL), DR BRANT SMITH (DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE), DR BETH COOKSON (DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE), DR BRENDAN COWLED (AUSVET), DR SAMANTHA ALLAN (ANIMAL HEALTH AUSTRALIA)

THURSDAY 4 MAY  
6PM - 7PM (AEST)

## APPLY NOW!

2024 NUFFIELD  
SCHOLARSHIPS  
FOR AUSTRALIAN  
PRIMARY PRODUCERS

- \$35,000 bursary
- 14 week scholarship
- Applications close 9 June 2023

ENHANCING A RESILIENT AND SUSTAINABLE INDUSTRY



# Message from ADF President



Rick Gladigau | President,  
Australian Dairy Farmers

Your small, hard-working policy and advocacy team at ADF has been busy representing your interests at home and abroad.

Highlights include [my trip to France](#) as a delegate on a National Farmers' Federation (NFF) organised visit; organising and bringing together dairy farmers from across Australia to participate in ADF's Policy Advisory Group (PAG) meetings in conjunction with the [Dairy Australia-ADF Annual Operating Plan consultation](#); and speaking at the ['Celebration of Dairy' event](#) hosted by the Parliamentary Friends of Primary Producers group at Parliament House in Canberra.

It has been great to connect with fellow farmers, processors and industry bodies, overseas and across Australia, and I look forward to sharing my observations from these activities in the next edition (May-June 2023) of [The Australian Dairyfarmer Magazine](#) (ADFM). Keep an eye out for it in early May.

Many of you may have heard that the [Victorian Farmers Federation \(VFF\) has advised it will not be paying its annual subscription fees to ADF at the same level and is seeking to reduce the total amount it pays](#). As a peak body representing dairy farmers across all Australian states, we are working to resolve this matter with the VFF and to ensure Victorian dairy farmers are well represented at a national level.

On the policy and advocacy front, ADF continues to [raise awareness of the adverse implications for our dairy industry if geographic indicators \(GIs\) are accepted in Australia](#). We support free and fair trade, and we look forward to continuing to work with government on the Australia-European Union free trade agreement (EU FTA), to achieve a win-win outcome in the best interests of the Australian dairy sector.

As always, I am happy to hear of other opportunities for engaging with ADF members across Australia. If you have any feedback for the newsletter, please email Jenny Tran at [me-dia@australiandairyfarmers.com.au](mailto:media@australiandairyfarmers.com.au).



## PPSA NEWS

The Department for Education has invested in a team of Industry Engagement Consultants to support industry and employers across South Australia. Each Industry Engagement Consultant has a portfolio for which they are responsible. Portfolios are aligned to the ISC portfolios.

The role of an Industry Engagement Consultant is to work with industry to create partnerships with secondary schools, raising the profile of vocational education and training and developing pathways into South Australia's industries.

The purpose of these partnerships is to develop opportunities for students to be exposed to the breadth and depth of an industry and help students identify the different types of roles and exciting career opportunities available to them, supporting informed decision making.

Providing students with first-hand exposure to an industry, employers and their workplaces forms part of a school's career education program. This is also a way for industry to promote the benefits of their sector to students, engage them in school-based apprenticeship and traineeship opportunities, and build quality relationships with schools and their students to encourage a viable pipeline of skilled workers.



## Australian Dairy Sustainability Framework

CELEBRATING 10 YEARS

### THE ROLE OF ANIMAL-SOURCED FOODS IN HEALTHY DIETS

A critical review released last month shines a spotlight on the role of animal-sourced foods in a healthy and environmentally sustainable diet. The review, published in The Journal of Nutrition, found "efforts by governments and civil society organizations to increase or decrease animal-sourced food consumption should be considered in light of the nutritional and environmental needs and risks in the local context and, importantly, integrally involve the local stakeholders impacted by any changes". [Read the full review here.](#)



# Around the Grounds

- Andrew met with Geoff Raven and checked out the new DairySafe office \* (and coffee machine). The DairySafe meeting room will be a valuable resource for the industry for many years to come.
- Andrew, Melissa and Alison had a productive discussion around the Our Farm Our Plan program for 2023.
- Andrew and Alison attended a meeting with Telstra to talk through some connectivity options for on farm and to assist with monitoring pumps on the river.
- Alison, Robert and Louise met to develop a members survey to gain a better picture of what our members want from their State Dairy Farming Organisation.
- Andrew/Rob/Elf attended the Primary Industries and Regions Forum 2023.
- SADA met with the NSW Farmers Dairy Committee to brief that committee on the SADA Fresh arrangements in South Australia and as an added component of that conversation brief the Committee on matters relating to the operation of the South Australian Dairy Industry Action Plan 2019-2024.
- Elf attended and spoke to a member on

the River Murray about flood issues on farm as well as discussing matters pertaining to on farm development of infrastructure aimed at mitigating emissions. SADA continues to assist this farmer and other farmers on the river with issues.

- Andrew attended the first meeting of the LMRIA Recovery Subcommittee. It is important that the positive opportunities presenting themselves in the dairy industry are not hamstrung by sub optimal "recovery" discussions.
- Elf attended to the mitigation of a legal matter in which a member is engaged. That matter is expected to be resolved without advancing to any further level of concern for the farmer.
- Andrew attended the SA Climate Change Conference with Warren Jacobs, and Cathy Ashby
- Andrew/Elf met with officers of the Department of Environment and Water Resources relating to the position of South Australia on the Murray Darling Basin Plan and discussed some of the opportunities which may become available as the plan continues.
- Andrew/Elf attended an Industry Partnering meeting with the NFF Water Committee and the Irrigators' Council of NSW to discuss the Murray Darling Basin Plan and the positions which need to be taken across the basin by various interested groups.
- Elf assisted in aligning a farmer and a processor in creating a new contract for

the supply of milk. SADA will continue to assist the farmer in his contractual negotiations as required.

- Elf assisted a processor in expanding processing capacity in South Australia. This involved marrying up the processor with potential service providers to ensure the increased processing footprint of dairy products in South Australia.
- Elf visited a farm to assist with the development of an effluent management plan for the farm. SADA continues to maintain a working relationship with the EPA to ensure that the expectations of SA's environmental legislation and the operations of SA farms are reconciled with as little friction as possible.
- SDFO EO Meeting, topics discussed were: carbon farming, opening milk prices, milk production and WA submission on the Live Export trade forseeing the trickle down to cattle.
- Alison met with Stephen and Tegan at Foodland to further set the criteria for the SA Dairy Foodland Sustainability Award.
- Alison attended a full day workshop on Emergency Animal Disease (EAD) run by Livestock SA. The underlying take home was firstly to understand where Dairy sits in the Biosecurity space, how many have Action plans in place and secondly how can industry best get the message out to industry how important a strong Biosecurity plan is for their own business.

PRIMARY INDUSTRIES AND REGIONS

**FORUM** 2023

Collaboration

Waste methodology livestock methane reduction  
 Awareness Emerging Industry education  
 FREIGHT Green energy reduction WORKFORCE  
 BLUE carbon opportunity Benchmark ESG MEASURE  
 Alternative energy

Jump on to our Website for the full summary from the PIRSA Forum

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- Liaison Livestock Industry EAD Training - 16 May
- Lower Limestone Coast Water Allocation Plan - 24 May
- WORLD MILK DAY - 1 June**
- Dairy Innovation Day - 21 June
- SA Dairy Awards - 4 August

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



May 2023

# Members Newsletter



It has been said that "the future belongs to those who plan for it". Whether that is true or not can be debated but there is no doubt that there is a lot of planning going on just at the minute. In this issue, we focus on the recent federal **Budget** outcomes and reflect on the government's strategy for the next FY. Find all your budget updates in one place, with a SADA inspired recap, our glass of milk is always half full.

Closer to home, president Robert and the board have also renewed the organisation's [Strategic Plan](#). Keep an eye out for the official launch coming soon.

At the farm level we are again partnering with Dairy

SA in the next round of Our Farm Our Plan workshops. With support through the Future Drought Fund, there has never been a better (or more cost effective) time to review your farm business.

Staying on farm, the **SA Dairy Awards Nominations will close June 26**. [Jump on](#) now and nominate, let's celebrate the efforts our great state produces in dairy.

**EAD (Emergency Animal Disease)** preparedness has stepped up a notch with eight people from the South Australian dairy industry undertaking training as Liaison Officers to be front line if there is an outbreak. Have you got a Biosecurity Plan in place for when the emergency hits your gate, that hopefully hasn't been left open!



Calling all our  
**River and Lakes Members**

Murray-Darling Basin Plan  
Implementation Review 2023  
Call for Submission

WHEN | Wednesday July 5  
TIME | 3.00pm  
WHERE | 'River Room' Bridgeport Hotel, Murray Bridge  
REGISTER | [sada@sada.asn.au](mailto:sada@sada.asn.au)

[sada@asn.au](mailto:sada@asn.au)

Our president Robert Brokenshire has released a [Members Survey](#) to celebrate the exciting opportunities in Dairy at the moment, share your excitement and let SADA know how we can help you.



And looking to the future, after a successful **Traceability Trial** utilising blockchain/distributed ledger technology to trace milk from the farmer's vat to the outgoing loading dock of the processor, our work has gained national attention. The trial has now been expanded to cover the supply chain from the cow to the customer. Read all about it.

## Got your game plan?

Set your farming and personal goals with  
Our Farm, Our Plan



## Our Farm Our Plan with Beck Burgess

Our Farm, Our Plan is a program developed by Dairy Australia with support from the Gardiner Dairy Foundation. It is designed to equip farmers and farming families to clarify their long-term goals, prioritise and identify actions needed, and to better manage uncertainty and risk.

Having a clear view of long-term business and personal goals helps to make better decisions, especially the big decisions. Our Farm, Our Plan keeps it simple and takes long term plans and ideas from dairy farmers' heads and gets them down on one page. The Plan on a Page requires agreement, can be shared and enables farmers to track their progress.

The next program will be delivered by Beck Burgess and the DairySA team over two in-person workshops (10.15am – 2.30pm on June 6 & 7) and two one-on-one sessions.

An example of the benefits of the program can be viewed here: <https://bit.ly/3VHv8FO>

**WHEN:** Tuesday 6 June and Wednesday 7 June 2023

**TIME:** 10:15am -2:30pm each day

**WHERE:** 'River Room' Bridgeport Hotel, Murray Bridge

**Register:** [OFOP with Beck Burgess - Central SA | Dairy Australia](#)

Morning Tea and Lunch Provided



## HR Update with Chas Cini

Wednesday July 5, Murray Bridge

DELIVERING for DAIRY

Join Dairy SA for an interactive Lunch with Chas Cini, Principal of Mediation and Employment Relations Service (MERS) to discuss the latest changes to employment law and legislation. Get equipped with the right tools and information to be an Employer of Choice. Chas will be discussing the following topics:

- Key Updates to the Pastoral Award (Minimum wage & Superannuation)
- Employment Contracts and IFAs
- Zombie Agreements
- Sexual harassment
- Enterprise Agreements
- Termination
- Compensation claims

Chas has been providing a workplace relations service to dairy farmers for many years! \*Morning Tea and Lunch Provided.

**WHEN |** Wednesday July 5

**TIME |** 10:30am to 2:30pm

**WHERE |** 'River Room' Bridgeport Hotel, Murray Bridge

**REGISTER |** [bit.ly/3BxyYbv](https://bit.ly/3BxyYbv)

2023 SOUTH AUSTRALIAN PREMIER'S  
FOOD and BEVERAGE  
INDUSTRY AWARDS

The 2023 South Australian Premier's Food and Beverage Industry Awards are your opportunity to share your success with your team, customers and industry.

The awards recognise and celebrate excellence and best practice in our dynamic food and beverage sector – here's your chance to join the list of pioneers whose contribution to the industry, the environment, the development and wellbeing of their people, the growth of their markets and more, has branded them as outstanding.

While winners and finalists use the awards as a powerful recommendation for their products in domestic and export markets, by participating all entrants have the chance to develop their sales networks, increase their brand and business profile, evaluate their goals and benchmark their business against the industry's best.

**Award entries close Monday  
3 July 2023.**

*Enter NOW*

Wednesday June 21, Mount Gambier

## 2023 DairySA Innovation Day

Planet, people and productivity –  
our future in dairy farming



DairySA Dairy Australia



Find out if you're a Curd Nerd!

<https://bit.ly/3HWwhnB>

[eda.asn.au](https://eda.asn.au)

# Message from ADF President



CELEBRATING 10 YEARS

## BEEF BURP PILOT SEEKS TO PROVE ENVIRONMENTAL CREDENTIALS

A new IT platform that includes tools to measure carbon balance, tree cover, ground cover, drought resilience and biodiversity stewardship is being trialled by Australian grass-fed beef producers. The environmental impacts on the platform were selected due to their alignment with the environmental pillar of the [Australian Beef Sustainability Framework](#) (ABSF) and demand from customers. The platform aims to measure sustainable production and demonstrate the environmental credentials of producers. The project is being conducted by Meat & Livestock Australia (MLA), the University of Queensland and WWF-Australia. [Read more here.](#)

Rick Gladigau | President | Australian Dairy Farmers

## MEDIA RELEASE: Budget protects agriculture but stops short of growing it

AUSTRALIAN Dairy Farmers (ADF) has welcomed the focus on protecting agriculture and a return to surplus in the 2023 Federal Budget.

ADF president Rick Gladigau said the budget addressed many of the key priorities for dairy farmers' national policy and advocacy organisation, however ADF believed there were some areas of concern for dairy farmers.

Mr Gladigau said the extra funding for biosecurity announced in the budget delivered in part on ADF's submissions

to the Senate's recent biosecurity inquiry. However, he said it was unclear how the biosecurity protection levy would be calculated and how the revenue raised would be collected and allocated.

"We appreciate that biosecurity is a shared responsibility, and all risk creators and beneficiaries need to pay their fair share. Based on this premise it is difficult to understand why farmers and importers of low-value cargo are the only people bearing new costs and levies," Mr Gladigau said. "Surely, the importers of high-value cargo must also bear some of these costs.

[Full Release here](#)

## Media Releases: 2023/24FY Budget.

### National Farmers Federation

['Cost of living' budget does little to stem rising food prices as farmers taxed more](#)

### Small and Family Business

[2023-24 Federal Budget – what it means for small businesses](#)

### [Speaking in Adelaide today SADA President, Rob Brokenshire, said:](#)

*As a farming organisation we do welcome this increased attention to this vital part of our economy. However, we now expect to be consulted by the Government as to how this money will be spent in the coming years. As farmers we have a vital interest in ensuring this money is expended in the most effective and efficient way possible. Edicts from government far away, rather than effective consultation, still risks sub-optimal outcomes. SADA stands ready to work with the Commonwealth and the department to assist in ensuring this extra money delivers genuine bang for buck over the next four years."*



Linking Grower Networks

## Carbon without the Jargon Workshop

May 31 @ 9:00am - 4:00pm

Save the date for the MFMG and GSSA Carbon without the Jargon: Deciphering carbon farming in the Limestone Coast. A workshop to de-mystify carbon farming and provide a forum to interact with and learn from experts in the carbon sector.



## Did you miss any of our updates?





# Cattle Diseases - The Farmers' Guide

Now available:  
Cattle diseases guide for farmers

Following the popularity of the recently updated *Sheep Disease Guide*, the Red Meat and Wool Growth Program has collaborated with Animal Health Australia to create the next edition in a series of useful disease guides for livestock producers, *Cattle Diseases - The Farmers' Guide*.

Like its counterpart, this quick-reference guide has been developed in consultation with cattle producers, veterinarians, animal health officers and livestock consultants across South Australia.

## What's inside?

The new cattle guide includes photos and descriptions of cattle diseases and conditions producers face on South Australian farms with information on:

- how to identify signs and symptoms in cattle
- tips on how to diagnose diseases
- how to treat and prevent future occurrences in your herd
- best practice management tips on vaccination,
- traceability and movement obligations
- farm biosecurity and the One Biosecurity program.

## What about emergency animal diseases?

The guide also covers exotic diseases that could pose a threat to SA farms including foot and mouth disease and lumpy skin disease.

Remember, if you notice unusual signs or symptoms in your livestock you must contact your local veterinarian and report immediately to the **Emergency Animal Disease Hotline** on **1800 675 888**.

Download the [Cattle Diseases Guide](#) to your device for easy access offline.

## Dairy Australia—Biosecurity on Farm:

Watch on Youtube <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6mxegxdG0Fs>



## Algorithmic auditing of milk supply chain ('Dairy Beta')

SADA supported by Datahash, has been successful in winning a 'RegTech Research and Insights grant', from the Federal Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF). The grant is formally titled, '**Algorithmic auditing of milk supply chain**'. For the purposes of simplification, the project is called 'Dairy Beta'. The project will run for 13 months, from 1 June 2023 to 30 June 2024.

SADA has additionally partnered with Dairysafe (the South Australian dairy regulator), Fleurieu Milk Company, GS1 (the global barcodes standard agency) and Woolworths.

The 'Algorithmic auditing of milk supply chain' project (Dairy Beta) will build on our previous work and will digitally capture certain regulatory data (data collected between a dairy farm and retailer). This data will be recorded to a distributed ledger and linked (via the product's bar code) to the physical product (package), with a goal to enable Dairysafe to conduct its auditing remotely.

# INDUSTRY WEBINAR ON FMD AND LSD

The latest on disease incursion risk + Q&A

The recording from the latest FMD/LSD Industry Webinar is now available

EMERGENCY ANIMAL DISEASE WATCH HOTLINE [1800 675 888](tel:1800675888)





# Around the grounds

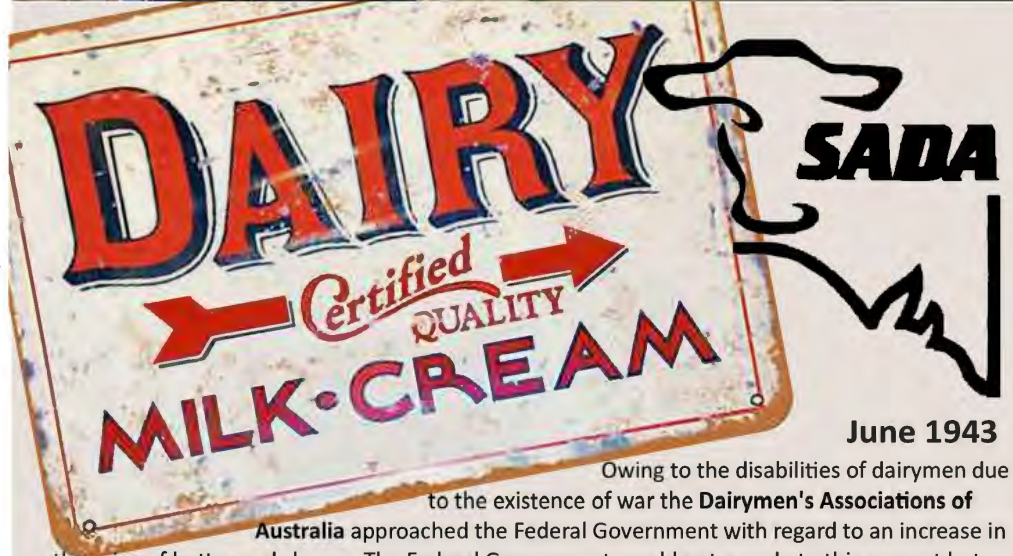
- SADA together with Dairy SA, Rick Gladigau and Beck Burgess attended the **AHA Liaison –Livestock Industry (LLI) Workshop**. Can not stress enough how important your biosecurity plans are. Give us a call if you need more info
- Andrew and Alison met with **SA Health** to talk over the Fractures Trial and Dairy Health opportunities in our great state.
- We sent out a quick 3 question survey to members on **Biodiversity** to help Warren Jacobs attendance to the Biodiversity Act Principles Workshop.
- We had a young Intern join us, **Lachlan** is doing Agribusiness at Adelaide Uni. Make sure you say Hi next time you're in the office.
- **WFI** Meeting to re-invigorate the long standing partnership that SADA has with WFI. Renewed marketing and messaging coming soon. Have you reviewed your insurance lately?
- Andrew and Alison met with Leigh Duffield from the **SA Apiary Association**, to look how SADA can best assist their funding and governance issues going forward
- Elf assisted a processors **contract** review to make certain that the contract was Code compliant.
- Elf met with the **Jervois Irrigation Trust** to assist them with correspondence to the Government regarding recent flood events.
- Elf assisted a farmer with the farmer's **effluent management** plan arising from an EPA inquiry. SADA continues to liaise with the farmer and the EPA to resolve the issue for the sake of legislative compliance as well as an effective outcome for the farmer, this required two visits to the farm in question during the week.
- Andrew attended a number of LMRIA **dewatering** sites to check on progress with pump placement and dewatering.
- Elf sorted out issues with the **SADA Fresh cheese** product on behalf of SADA Fresh.



# Better coverage in more places.

When she's out in the paddock with her cattle, Jane needs to know she can still make a call. That's why she has a Telstra GO Repeater installed at her property and in her ute, maximising her coverage and giving her greater peace of mind through a more reliable connection. With fewer missed calls and drop-outs, plus better battery life on her phone, Jane is able to feel more connected to her community and closer to those who matter most.

Telstra GO Repeater



June 1943

Owing to the disabilities of dairymen due to the existence of war the **Dairymen's Associations of Australia** approached the Federal Government with regard to an increase in the price of butter and cheese. The Federal Government would not accede to this request but allocated a sum of £1,500,000, after negotiations it was agreed to spread the £1,500,000 over the twelve months. It was further pointed out to the Government that sum allocated was so small that it would result in very little help to the dairymen. The Dairymen requested to allocate the sum of £6,000,000. Further negotiations resulted to allocate an extra £4,500,000 to be retrospective to the 1 April 1943.

The original £2,000,000 remains, so that the total subsidy to be paid to dairymen from the 1 April 1943 to the 1 July 1943 of £6,500,000. It must be clearly pointed out that this subsidy is on the manufacture of butter, cheese and condensed milk. It will therefore be seen that the milk suppliers operating under the marketing plan will only receive the subsidy on that portion of their milk which is manufactured. This portion spread over the 12 months is approximately 50%.

**The Commonwealth Government was not prepared to grant £6,000,000 until such time as there was a wages award for dairy employees.** Which was fixed by the arbitration court; the basic wage being £4-16d. per week, less 30 shillings per week for board, lodgings and laundering or 25 shillings per week for board and lodging only.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**WORLD MILK DAY - 1 June**

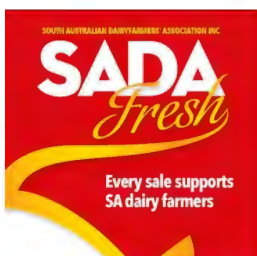
[Dairy Innovation Day - 21 June](#)

River and Lakes Discussion Group - 5 July

SA Dairy Awards - 4 August

Did you miss any of our updates?

[Register Here](#)



June 2023

# Members Newsletter



[www.sada.asn.au](http://www.sada.asn.au)

Dear Fellow Dairyfarmers,  
Most of us are experiencing a very **wet start to winter** and whilst this brings challenges in managing our dairy herd it has fully saturated our soils and put water in dams, whilst the BOM are saying we are facing an El Nino our spring still looks encouraging due to high moisture levels.

You would have received your **opening price** from your processor by now and whilst it is disappointing to see some have reduced their price from last year, many have kept their opening price similar to last year with a couple opening with an increase. The processors with a focus on export are finding it a bit tougher with price reductions some of which are considerable throughout world markets. There are reports coming in recently where they are forecasting world market price improvement later this financial year, let's hope they are accurate and we see step ups.

Dairying like any business has its challenges however in all the years our family have been dairying I find this is probably the most **exciting time** so far, yes there are also some challenges but I want to reassure you your **SADA team** are constantly working on those and keep in close contact with all relevant players including Government and Members of Parliament.

At present the EPA are doing a review of **Effluent Management Codes and Plans** we have been talking with them and

will be invited to make a submission when it is a completed draft it is important that SADA have professional relationships with these agencies and if you have any concerns regarding obligations and requirements under the EPA Act please contact John Elferink at the SADA office. SADA have recently authorised **John to become a certified person to do design plans for the code and management plans**, he will start the course asap and once completed we will advise you of services in this area we can offer.

Please remember **SADA are here to serve our members** and if there are concerns you face at anytime I encourage you to reach out and we will do our best to help you. That is a priority for us together with Advocacy and policy development that helps to grow our industry in a sustainable, viable direction for the future.

Finally we recently sent you a **survey** which only takes a few minutes to complete but is important to us in ensuring our **Strategic Plan** is on track with your priorities. Please feel free to contact our office, any of your Board Members or myself at anytime if you want to chat about anything associated with Dairy my mobile is 0419 815 990.

Best Wishes

Robert Brokenshire President SADA.



After an overwhelming response to our annual Dairy Awards nominations, we are so proud to be announcing the winners at the upcoming Gala on Friday 4 August.

**Please join us for a great night of celebrating Dairy in our great state.**

Or alternatively you might like to attend the Cheese and Wine night. Tickets are only \$75. This will be a celebration of the state's finest produce and an informative evening learning from leading cheese and wine makers.



## Message from the Minister: State Budget

Treasurer Stephen Mullighan handed down the 2023-24 State Budget yesterday which highlights the strong commitment of the Malinauskas Government to our regions and primary producers with investment of \$588.4 million.

[Full Media Release here](#)



The Albanese Government is turbo-charging Australia's agricultural traceability systems, with \$11 million in government grants available to make it easier for farmers to get their goods to consumers and overseas markets.

[Full Report here](#)

The Government will fund \$6 million for innovative solutions through the RegTech grants round and \$5 million for the Food Agility Co-operative Research Centre (CRC) to invest in leading digital solutions.

A total of 15 projects were successful in the popular funding round and they will share in \$6 million of funding. The projects will run over two years from May 2023 to June 2025. Including SADA application for \$402,488 - Algorithmic auditing of milk supply chains.



WHEN | Wednesday July 5  
TIME | 10:30am to 2:30pm  
WHERE | 'River Room'  
Bridgeport Hotel, Murray Bridge  
REGISTER | [bit.ly/3BxyYbv](https://bit.ly/3BxyYbv)

Join Dairy SA for an interactive Lunch with Chas Cini, Principal of Mediation and Employment Relations Service (MERS) to discuss the latest changes to employment law and legislation. Get equipped with the right tools and information to be an Employer of Choice. Chas will be discussing the following topics:

- Key Updates to the Pastoral Award (Minimum wage & Superannuation)
- Employment Contracts and IFAs and Compensation claims
- Zombie Agreements and Sexual harassment
- Enterprise Agreements and Termination

Chas has been providing a workplace relations service to dairy farmers for many years! \*Morning Tea and Lunch Provided.



## Animal activist activity + updated Farm Trespass Toolkit

16 June, 2023

There has been an increase in animal activist activity in recent months, led by the Farm Transparency Project, a non-profit animal activist organisation in Melbourne (formerly known as Aussie Farms).

[Click here to download the 'Dairy Farmer Toolkit for Engaging in Social Media and the Animal Welfare Debate'.](#)

To date, the focus of this increased activism has been on piggeries in Victoria and the slaughter of pigs in Australia, however there is always a risk that dairy businesses may also be targeted.

To support dairy farm businesses, we have updated our 'Farm Trespass Toolkit'. This Toolkit provides information on proactive measures to prepare your farm and offers guidance on handling farm trespass events, should they ever occur on your property

[Click here to download the 'Farm Trespass Toolkit'.](#)

Farmers may also see an increase in animal activist activity on social media platforms. To provide useful tips for engaging online in these circumstances, we have also developed a Dairy Farmer Toolkit for Engaging in Social Media and the Animal Welfare Debate'.

Did you miss any of our updates?



Industrial relations changes are to occur on the first pay period commencing on or after 1 July 2023. [Full Award Rates can be downloaded here](#)



Good people to know.  
1300 934 934

# Situation and Outlook

May 2023

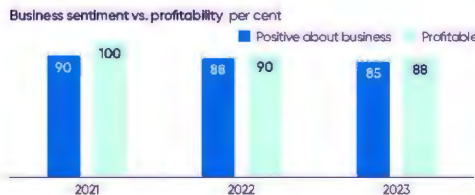
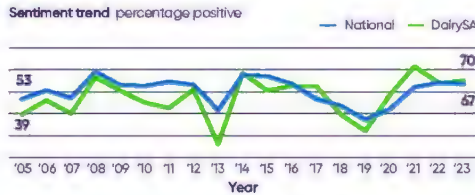
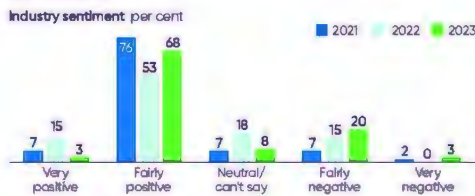
## DairySA Regional NDFS results at a glance\*

While 7 in 10 respondents continue to be positive towards the industry's future, the proportion very positive has decreased significantly over the past 12 months. In contrast, a high 9 in 10 respondents remain positive about their own businesses, probably due to widespread profitability in 2021/22 which is expected to continue this financial year.

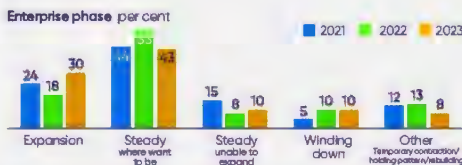
Currently, 3 in 10 businesses are expanding (highest result since 2012) and there is evidence of milking herd growth.

Over the next 6 months, labour is the most commonly anticipated challenge in this region. They are also the region most likely to be concerned about feed production and availability.

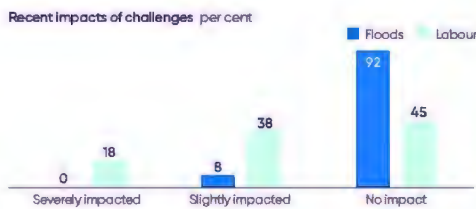
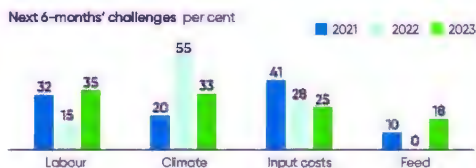
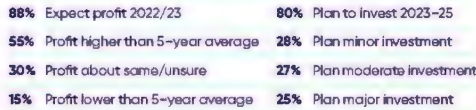
### Sentiment



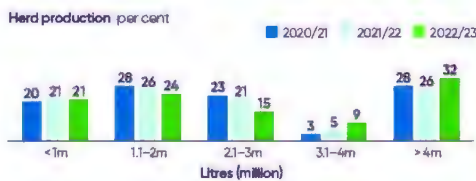
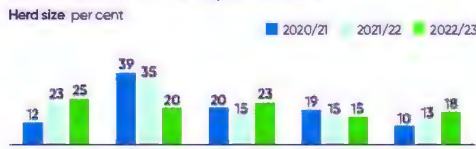
### Farm profile



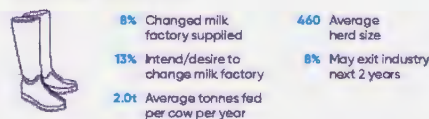
### Profitability and investment



### Current herd size and production



### The 'average' DairySA farmer



\*The NDFS was conducted before any flood impacts in this region.

## SORTING THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN 'RECYCLING' AND 'CIRCULAR'

Sustainable Brands has picked up on confusion between the terms, 'recyclable' and 'circular', putting pen to paper (or rather, pixel to screen) to set out the differences. The piece recognises that "promoting sustainability starts with tackling the misperceptions of recyclability and recycling rates and clarifying the definition of a circular economy".

[Sort out the difference here.](#)



## SOUTH AUSTRALIAN AGRICULTURAL TOWN of the YEAR

### Voting is now open!

Support your favourite town by voting for it to be part of the 2023 Agricultural Town of the Year award. You can vote for any of the 49 nominated towns until Wednesday 28 June.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

HR update with Chas Cini - 5 July  
 Cheese and Wine Night - July 14  
 SA Dairy Awards - 4 August





# Around the grounds

- SADA met with the EPA on a member's farm to finalise the details of an interim effluent management plan. The EPA has, as a result of greater number of complaints, insisted on particular models being developed in accordance with specific tools. SADA has sought to be included in training for the use of the tool and has successfully negotiated directly with a provider to deliver the course so SADA can continue to deliver this important service to its members.
- Robert and Andrew attended ADF National Council meeting which was held virtually. Key matters for discussion were the proposed acquisition by Coles of selected Saputo processing facilities, and Modernising Agricultural Levies Survey.
- Andrew attended (on Robert's behalf) the Q4 PPSA Council Meeting were key matters for discussion included PPSA Carbon Farming Policy, Spray drift/chemical trespass action plan, forecast New Biodiversity Act (SA), DAWE National Farm Safety Education Fund: Improving Farm Safety Practices, and NFF Regional Forum – South Australia, Friday 7 July 2023
- Andrew and Elf met with Woolworths, Datahash, the Fleurieu Milk Company, Inspira and a number of other interested parties to begin to map out the National Traceability Trial. SADA has the role of project coordinator with its partner Datahash to deliver this half million dollar trial. SADA is being recognised

as a national leader in this space and the work being done by SADA is being closely watched by increasing numbers of interested supply chain parties.

- Andrew continued visiting dewatering sites across the Lower Murray Reclaimed Irrigation Areas (LMRIA). It is great to see the progress that has been made in many of these areas although there remains much to be done before they are "back to normal".
- Alison continued to ensure the team remained focus and active.
- Andrew attended the Agribusiness, Food and Wine/Beverages Industry Skills Council Meeting. Topic discussed included the Renewal SA – Regional Housing Authority program, School to Work (Foundation Skills Research) and future developments within Skills SA.
- Andrew met to discuss and plan for an EAD event with officers from PIRSA, Dairy Australia, Dairy Safe and Dairy SA. Further discussions are

planned with a view to enabling the continued operation of the milk supply chain in the event of an outbreak.

- Elf met with a processor regarding contracting issues. Matter related to ACCC compliance with the Dairy Industry Code.
- Elf met with a farmer who signed up to be a new SADA member as a result of the meeting. SADA welcomes Nick Mignanelli to the SADA fold.
- Elf took the necessary steps to inquire into and to secure the Effluent Management Design Course which is slated to occur in July. This course will enable SADA to develop effluent management plans for dairy farmers in South Australia.
- Andrew met with officers from Dairy Australia to discuss Murray Darling Basin policy, Farm Biosecurity, Risk Management and Sustainability
- Andrew attended the UDV Policy Council meeting and discussed the role and functioning of SADA and of agricultural advocacy in South Australia



The Secretary reported that no fodder from the Hay Acquisition Committee would be made available to cream producers, it was felt a number of these dairymen would endeavour to come on the whole milk market to enable them to obtain fodder. This was revealed to be a fact at the last zoning meeting when a number of applications were received, including one as far north as Balaclava, and as far south as Bordertown. At the close of the Zoning meeting, Mr. Elliott rang the Chairman of the Hay Acquisition Committee and pointed out the difficulty of maintaining the dairy herds of the cream suppliers unless able to obtain fodder. Mr. Rice informed him that the hay position was so acute that they could not make any fodder available to the cream producers.

Later on during the same week, the General Secretary said he took the matter up with the Secretary of the Hay Acquisition Committee, as the result of which Mr. Rice rang him the following day. After a lengthy conversation, the Chairman of the Hay Acquisition Committee said he would call his members together the following morning and asked the General Secretary to attend. A full morning was spent with the Hay Acquisition Committee to go into ways and means of making available some fodder to the cream producers. As no finality was reached, he decided to take the matter up with the Premier, and after drafting a letter he personally took it and handed it to the Premier, and at the interview requested that at least 200 tonnes of fodder per week be made available to the cream producer. As the result of all these negotiations, he was pleased to announce that the Hay Acquisition Committee will make available, during July, 200 tonnes of fodder per week to the cream producer.

*"What a champion Col. A.H.Nelson was, you must admire his ability at getting things done, and he worked very closely with the Premier of the day, Tom Playford".*



July 2023

# Members Newsletter



## July is often a time of planning.

Whether it is about planning the year ahead or looking to make longer term decisions, we often find that now is the time. And while your thoughts are turning to "what's next" it is worth considering a couple of opportunities. The Australian Dairy Conference returned after its COVID hiatus in February this year. The 2023 event was a sell-out and met or exceeded all expectations. If you were keen on the future of our industry, it was a great place to be. We mention this because the 2024 version has now been (re)announced. You can read more about it below - well just say that if 2023 is anything to go by, and we think it is, the 2024 Australian Dairy Conference will be a good investment in our dairy business.

While we are talking of planning, SADA is partnering with Dairy SA and with funding through PIRSA and the Future Drought Fund to deliver a new round of Our Farm Our Plan. This program really is a great way to start or continue the journey of your farm. One of the great things about it is that it is tailored by you to suit your farm, your family and your farm colleagues. Talk to anyone at SADA or Dairy SA if you would like more detail.

It is with a heavy heart that we acknowledge the passing of two dairy farmers in the past month. Both Bill and Scott will be sorely missed by their families, their colleagues and their communities. We extend our sympathies to Michelle, Paula and all impacted.

Please reach out at any time if you need assistance with succession planning, dealing with government officers, you or someone else's general mental health or if you just want to have a chat.

## ADC is pulling a 'Swiftly' - date change

There is only one place to be in February 2024 and that is Melbourne for the hottest and biggest events in town. Turns out international megastar Taylor Swift also wants to join in the fun. So, we have pulled a bit of a 'swiftly' ourselves and shuffled Australia's premier dairy event forward to the start of the week (Mon-Wed) to ensure you can absolutely immerse yourself in both events.

"This slight shuffle means you can totally devote all your attention to your dairy business and fit in Tay Tay at the end of the week"

Or depending which way you are aligned alternatively escape the city in time to avoid the forthcoming teenage invasion (wink!).

Our advice, lock your flights and accommodation in 'swiftly' before things really reach fever pitch as Taylor mania appears to be cranking up already and is seriously next level. Get on the front foot to avoid escalating prices. Book your accommodation now.

Discounted accommodation at Crown is offered for ADC delegates. Suggest you act now to avoid disappointment as things are heating up quick.

Rates are quickly escalating from as much as \$500 with a gang of 'Swifties' taking over Melbourne. Secure the Crown ADC rate below.

ADC has a hold on guest rooms at the Crown Promenade for February 2024. Stay on site and maximise your Conference experience.

Book your [ADC 2024 Melbourne accommodation](#) now.

**ADC** AUSTRALIAN DAIRY CONFERENCE

## Mindset of the dairy farmer

'Resilience whisperer'  
Dennis Hoiberg delves into the psychology of the dairy farmer.

Can you have a life whilst Having a dairy business too?  
Dennis challenges us to reflect on our motivations and to remember milking cows is what we do - not who we are.



## Message from the Minister: Veterinary Services Bill

The new [Veterinary Services Bill](#) for South Australia has been introduced to Parliament.

The Bill has been developed following a review of the *Veterinary Practice Act 2003* and further refined based on extensive stakeholder consultation. The Bill considers significant changes to the veterinary profession since this time, including changes in practice models and location, employment type, species serviced, and specialties offered, as well as an increase in mainstream non-veterinary care services.



Senator the Hon Murray Watt:  
Minister for  
Emergency  
Management

## Disaster management expert heads review of Disaster Governance

An Independent Review of National Natural Disaster Governance Arrangements has been commissioned by Australia's emergency management ministers, to better prepare governments for the demands of increasing future natural disasters.

Due for completion by 30 November 2023, the Review has been commissioned to complement the [Independent Review into Commonwealth Disaster Funding](#), which is being led by Mr Andrew Colvin, APM OAM.



## National Statement on Climate Change and Agriculture

Commonwealth, state, and territory agriculture ministers met in Perth on Thursday 13 July 2023. Ministers endorsed the National Statement on Climate Change and Agriculture. An Australian first, the national statement demonstrates agriculture ministers' strong commitment to work in partnership with our agricultural sector to ensure it achieves its full potential as a world-leading, climate-smart producer and exporter of food and fibre.

[Full Statement here](#)

**The National Farmers' Federation (NFF)** has welcomed the National Statement on Climate Change and Agriculture, signed off by agriculture ministers at their meeting in Perth yesterday. Farmers have expressed concerns however over the proposed implementation of new poultry standards, and a lack of tangible progress on other issues placing pressure on the sector. NFF Vice President David Jochinke said it beggars belief there was silence on the phase out of sheep live export in the communique from yesterday's meeting held in the state set to lose the most from the ban. "The meeting being held in WA was an important opportunity for agriculture ministers to consider the impacts of the live export phase-out. "With formal consultation concluding recently we hope that ministers took the chance to reflect on the hardship the Federal Government's policy would inflict on producers in WA. "The NFF continues to call for a reversal of that policy as evidence mounts of the harm it will cause."

[Full Media Release here](#)



*Australian Dairy Industry Council Inc.*

## MEDIA RELEASE:

Wednesday, 12 July, 2023

Slow, steady approach welcomed by dairy in the free trade race. The Australian dairy industry has welcomed today's news that talks on the country's free trade deal with the European Union (EU) have stalled, sending a blunt message "no deal is better than a bad deal". Australian Dairy Industry Council chair, Rick Gladigau, thanked Australia's Trade Minister, Don Farrell, for holding the line and not accepting an inferior agreement without genuine market access concessions from the EU. "We're fully supportive of Minister Farrell's work," Mr Gladigau said. Throughout the negotiations, the European Union has sought to impose geographical indications (GIs) on Australian dairy manufacturers.

## Snapshot

The South Australian dairy industry produced **490 million litres** of milk in 2021-22 from more than **64,000 cows**, bringing more than **\$263 million** in farm gate revenue.

**South Australia's average milk volume produced per cow**

was the highest in the country in 2021-22.

The Limestone Coast alone produces about

**300 million litres** of milk a year

**60%** of the total produced in SA annually

**Milk products**

## Major export markets and products

### Milk and milk products

**490 million** litres of milk produced in 2021-22

Around **40%** is sold as fresh drinking milk, the remainder is made into cheese, milk powder, yoghurt, butter and other products.



**25,000** tonnes of milk products are exported each year.

**Top countries for exported milk and milk products:**

Indonesia \$45m  
China \$20m  
Thailand \$14m

### Cheese

High value niche products and specialty cheeses are becoming more popular in South Australia.

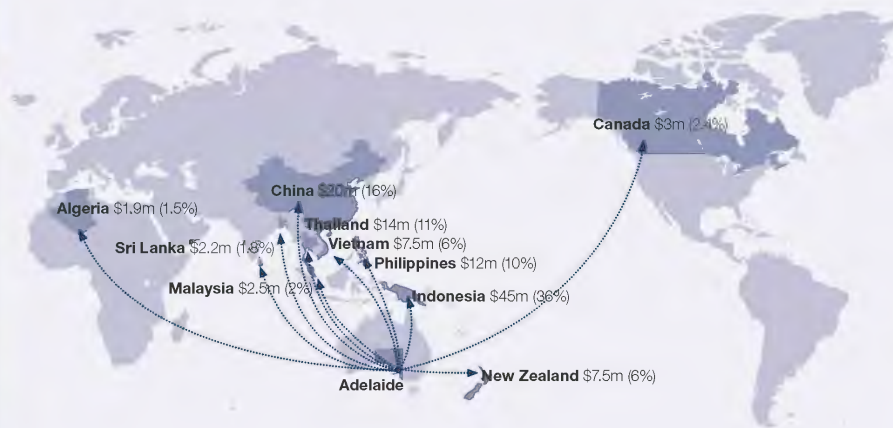
**10,000** tonnes produced each year

**5,000** tonnes of cheese exported in 2021-22



**Top countries for exported cheese and cheese products:**

Philippines \$12m  
Thailand \$6m  
China \$3m



**Internationally recognised food safety record**



**\$263 million** in farm gate revenue in 2021-22.

Dairy exports totalled **\$124m** in 2021-22.



www.pirsa.gov.au  
Copyright © March 2023  
Source: PIRSA Primary Industries Scoreboard 2021-22

## New registration manual will help dairy exporters meet their import and export requirements

Dairy Exports Assurance Program (DEAP) have released the [Dairy Export Registration Manual](#). The Dairy industry now has new and improved access to key information to help manufacturers and exporters to:

- better understand their obligations for becoming export registered, and
- meet exporting and importing country requirements.



The manual is broken down into sections and presented in a user-friendly way, so those new to export can easily absorb the information and navigate through the process. The manual includes the Elements of an Approved Arrangement such as Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points (HACCP), pest control, pasteurisation and more.

The dairy export registration manual, developed in partnership with Dairy Australia, is one of a number of projects under the [Dairy Exports Assurance Program \(DEAP\)](#).

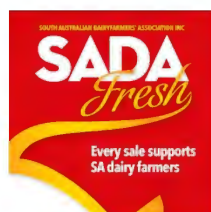
Developing more targeted resources and designing training and learning packages to address gaps in knowledge and capability is part of the modernising of the dairy export process through DEAP.

DEAP also introduced a free export facilitator service in February 2021. Our [export facilitators](#) can provide technical information and assistance to dairy manufacturers who are looking to become export registered, and also assist registered processors and manufacturers looking for new opportunities in global markets.

Explore the Dairy Export Regulation Manual

here: [www.dairyexport.au](http://www.dairyexport.au)

If all this is too much, give John a call at the SADA Office and he'll gladly talk you through it.



# UPCOMING EVENTS

SA Dairy Awards - 4 August  
South Australian Veterinary Expo - 9 Aug  
Gawler Show - 27 Aug  
Royal Adelaide Show - SADA Bbq - 5 Sept





## Ecoplas Australia

was started in 2020, shortly after watching the ABC TV show "War on

Waste", which struck a chord with us. Our mission is to help build a sustainable future by producing quality rural fencing products from locally recycled plastic waste. Our vision is that all rural fencing installations considers Ecoplas recycled plastic fence droppers as an option, with a goal of recycling more than 100 tons of plastic waste per year. We consider ourselves to be a sustainable fencing solution that supports the circular economy by converting an industries waste to a product that can be used again in that same industry. We use 100% locally recycled plastic waste from South Australia and Victoria. The main sources of our plastics are **Milk bottles** and **Bottle lids**. These are granulated and blended with a master-batch containing 2% UV stabiliser to ensure the final product stand up to the harsh Australian weather.

This gives our product it's black colour. We have setup a facility with state-of-the-art manufacturing equipment. We have 2 extruder lines, which allows us to meet customer demands promptly. The products: Droppers and Battens, are continually measured and weighed prior to a final visual inspection during stacking and wrapping. This ensures that the final product meets our strict quality standards.

There are many benefits to our products, including durability, with a life expectancy of more than 40 years, they are easily recyclable and perfect for use with electric fences. The feature that interests most of our customers however is the very competitive pricing, which makes our products more cost-effective option than most other fencing droppers.

If you'd like to support us, please consider our products in your next fencing project. We are approved suppliers to most rural retailing chains, so please enquire through your local store, ask them to stock ECOPLAS droppers and battens.



### Australian Farmers campaign

The NFF-led social media campaign to connect city dwellers with farmers and better value the work that goes into producing food has reached hundreds of thousands. In week two of the [Australian Farmers](#) branded campaign, Australians learnt it takes 10 litres of milk to make 1 kilogram of cheese, so they should think twice before throwing out leftovers from last night's dinner party. Viewers [met dairy farmers from NSW](#) and were given tips from culinary experts at Cornersmith on how to store cheese, plus a [mac n cheese recipe](#) to help with cost of living woes. Keep an eye on Australian Farmers socials ([Instagram](#), [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [TikTok](#)) and please help share the message.

### Regional Capability Community Fund (RCCF)

The RCCF supports South Australian landholders to better equip themselves (in line with the CFS FFU Handbook) to safely respond to fire emergencies. The fund will reimburse approved purchases or a portion of a purchase from \$200 to \$3,000 (including GST). This will allow for the purchase of smaller items such as good quality first aid kits and UHF radios, but also a significant portion of a new farm fire-fighting unit e.g., pump, water tank etc. For further information about the RCCF program, including program guidelines, key dates, and FAQs, please visit the CFS website <https://www.cfs.sa.gov.au/farms> Applications for Round 2 Close 5pm on Friday 4 August 2023.

Did you miss any of our updates?



Industrial relations changes are to occur on the first pay period commencing on or after 1 July 2023. [Full Award Rates can be downloaded here](#)





## Applications open for 2024 Rabobank Australian graduate program – offering career opportunities with agri leader.

[Full Program Details Here](#)

University graduates who have “a passion for and interest in agriculture” are being offered the opportunity to begin their careers with Rabobank, with the opening of the specialist agribusiness bank’s 2024 graduate program.

Rabobank is offering places for graduates from around Australia to join the bank early next year, beginning with a formal 18-month graduate program, which kicks off in February

2024. Applications for the program open today. The world’s leading specialist food and agribusiness bank, Rabobank is one of Australia’s largest agricultural lenders and a major provider of business and corporate banking services to the country’s food and agribusiness sector.



### The Dairysafe farm business continuity tool consists of 2 parts:

1. The first, is a farm business overview – complete the dropdown boxes
2. Next is a set of 8 questions and associated context statements relating to milk safety and quality. Context statements are provided to assist you with the intent of each question

From there, you are provided with a report detailing:

1. A matrix illustrating your business risk exposure and business maturity – maturity is categorised as opportunistic, managed and optimised

2. A summary of your answers and potential opportunities for improvement

Your results are for your use and there is no requirement to share them with anyone, including Dairysafe. The tool is provided to assist you with considering some aspects that may help you make your farm less vulnerable to business continuity breakdowns.

[Don't stop here!](#)

This isn't a set and forget tool. You can go back and change an answer, you can come back at a later date to check your progress. The ongoing aim is to know where your farm business is exposed to business continuity breakdown and knowing where to access tools and people that can assist your business.



After an overwhelming response to our annual Dairy Awards nominations, we are so proud to be announcing the winners at the upcoming Gala on Friday 4 August. Please join us for a great night of celebrating Dairy in our great state.



### WOMEN OF THE LMRIA COMMUNITY : TOGETHER

*a purposefully curated community event for the women of the Lower Murray Reclaimed Irrigation Areas*

#### COFFEE, CAKE & CHAT

8 GUEST SPEAKERS: YORKE PENINSULA'S KATE MARTIN & BEC SMITH  
"STORIES OF STRENGTH & HEARTBREAK"

MONDAY, 7TH AUGUST

9.30 - 11.30AM

1924 RIVERFRONT STEAKHOUSE  
1 WHARF ROAD, MURRAY BRIDGE

Children are welcome.

RSVP FOR CATERING PURPOSES TO ALEXANDRA WESTLAKE (OF LONG FLAT)  
womenofthelmria@gmail.com

This Project is being delivered in partnership with the Department of Primary Industries and Regions. It is jointly funded by the South Australian and Australian Governments under the National Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements.



### Australian Dairy Sustainability Framework

CELEBRATING 10 YEARS

### AMAZON GAMBLES ON SEAWEED FARMING FOR CARBON CAPTURE

The promise of seaweed to reduce greenhouse gases in the atmosphere has inspired Amazon to throw €1.5 million (A\$2.4 million) behind a project to farm seaweed between wind turbines in the North Sea. The project will test the viability of utilising the space between turbines in this manner, as well as research the potential of using seaweed for carbon capture. The 10-hectare seaweed farm is expected to produce at least six tonnes of seaweed in its first year.

[Read more here.](#)



# Around the grounds

- SADA met with the EPA on a member's farm to finalise the details of an interim effluent management plan. The EPA has, as a result of greater number of complaints, insisted on particular models being developed in accordance with specific tools. SADA has sought to be included in training for the use of the tool and has successfully negotiated directly with a provider to deliver the course so SADA can continue to deliver this important service to its members.
- Robert and Andrew attended ADF National Council meeting which was held virtually. Key matters for discussion were the proposed acquisition by Coles of selected Saputo processing facilities, and Modernising Agricultural Levies Survey.
- Andrew attended (on Robert's behalf) the Q4 PPSA Council Meeting where key matters for discussion included PPSA Carbon Farming Policy, Spray drift/chemical trespass action plan, forecast New Biodiversity Act (SA), DAWE National Farm Safety Education Fund: Improving Farm Safety Practices, and NFF Regional Forum – South Australia, Friday 7 July 2023
- Andrew and Elf met with Woolworths, Datahash, the Fleurieu Milk Company, Inspira and a number of other interested parties to begin to map out the National Traceability Trial. SADA has the role of project coordinator with its partner Datahash to deliver this half million dollar trial. SADA is being recognised as a national leader in this space and the work being done by SADA is being closely watched by increasing numbers of interested supply chain parties.
- Andrew continued visiting dewatering sites across the Lower Murray Reclaimed Irrigation Areas (LMRIA). It is great to see the progress that has been made in many of these areas although there remains much to be done before they are "back to normal".
- Alison continued to ensure the team remained focus and active.
- Andrew attended the Agribusiness, Food and Wine/Beverages Industry Skills Coun-

cil Meeting. Topic discussed included the Renewal SA – Regional Housing Authority program, School to Work (Foundation Skills Research) and future developments within Skills SA.

- Andrew met to discuss and plan for an EAD event with officers from PIRSA, Dairy Australia, Dairy Safe and Dairy SA. Further discussions are planned with a view to enabling the continued operation of the milk supply chain in the event of an outbreak.
- Elf met with a processor regarding contracting issues. Matter related to ACCC compliance with the Dairy Industry Code.
- Elf met with a farmer who signed up to be a new SADA member as a result of the meeting. SADA welcomes Nick Mignanelli to the SADA fold.
- Elf took the necessary steps to inquire into and to secure the Effluent Management Design Course which is slated to occur in July. This course will enable SADA to develop effluent management plans for dairy farmers in South Australia.
- Andrew met with officers from Dairy Australia to discuss Murray Darling Basin policy, Farm Biosecurity, Risk Management and Sustainability

## SPEAK TO SOMEONE

For a full list of resources, visit the Dairy Australia Page [here](#)



National Centre for Farmer Health -

[www.farmerhealth.org.au](http://www.farmerhealth.org.au)

Centre for Rural and Remote Mental Health

[www.crrmh.com.au](http://www.crrmh.com.au)

Rural Financial Counselling Service - 1800

686 175 - [www.agriculture.gov.au](http://www.agriculture.gov.au)

Lifeline - 13 11 14 - [www.lifeline.org.au](http://www.lifeline.org.au)

Beyondblue - 1300 224 636 -

[www.beyondblue.org.au](http://www.beyondblue.org.au)

Black Dog Institute -

[www.blackdoginstitute.org.au](http://www.blackdoginstitute.org.au)

Headspace - 1800 650 890 -

[headspace.org.au](http://headspace.org.au)

I Farm Well - [www.ifarmwell.com.au](http://www.ifarmwell.com.au)



January 1950

The Chairman informed the meeting that the Minister of Agriculture had forwarded the

Association a copy of report of a deputation, consisting of 8 Wholesalers, in connection with Equalisation.

Mr. Elliott said the present trouble and dissatisfaction in equalisation has been brought about by manufacturing wholesalers paying a bonus to their producers from the profits of their manufactured products, whereas the non-manufacturing wholesalers were unable to pay a bonus as they did not have surplus milk for manufacture.

Thus, there was a cleavage between the two classes of wholesale milk buyers, i.e. the manufacturer and the non-manufacturer, particularly as the latter was afraid he would lose his producers owing to his inability to pay a bonus.

Mr. Gormlie said, as far as he could see, there were only two alternatives:- 1. Can the Milk Board be persuaded to alter the price for accommodation milk or 2. Raise the Agreement Bonus.

After a long discussion it was resolved." That the Association definitely supports equalisation in its present form and a deputation be appointed to wait on the Minister of Agriculture."

# Members Newsletter



**SADA is extremely proud to celebrate the outstanding achievements of the three winners at the Gala Dinner with over 280 of its industry peers, what an inspiration to rank SA amongst the world finest.**



Board member Tracey Cowie presented the winner for **Best Relationship with a Processor Award to Sam Martin.**

This award is deliberately designed to reflect the ambitions of the Dairy Industry Action Plan and has sought

to help build a relationship between processors and producers. Many thanks to the various processors who responded to SADA's enquiries as to who they had a good relationship with. Sam is Milking 500 plus cows on the Murray in Wall Flat, supplying Bestons. Flexibility being the key to a great partnership, with clear and direct communications. Understanding where business is heading into the future, for both his own farm but also Bestons plans for the future. Sam likes to keep ahead of game and feels Bestons has the same outlook.



Board Member Ben McHugh presented the winner for **Most Innovative Farmer Award to David Altmann.**

The Most Innovative award was a difficult choice as there are a number of farmers across the state who are

making changes across their farming systems and their innovations do reflect farmers who understand the changing world they occupy as time passes. David developed a TMR system at a time that it was considered impossible to turn a profit in the area. Nevertheless, his risks have been rewarded, not only financially, but having the satisfaction of knowing he was right all along. David continues to look forward to other developments as he is currently working with the South Australian Dairy Industry Fund, SADA and the SA Government to raise capital for a methane power generation project to be installed on his farm. He plans to allow the plant to be a showpiece of what can be done making it available for all to come and see.



Board member Gary Zweck presented the winner for **Best Young Farmer Award to Ben Walker.**

The young farmer award recognises a farmer who applies themselves to their farm and possess the skills to run a profitable and sus-

tainable dairy business in the future. Tonight's award winner shows a passion for the dairy industry and stands as role model to others in the industry on how to do it right. This award reflects the reality that there is a future in dairy farming in our great state.

Ben firstly acknowledge his partner Michelle, as he whole heartly believes he wouldn't be standing here today without her dedication and foresight to get them where they are today. As one of the largest Proctor share farmers from Mt Schank milking a whopping 900 cows, so confidently he's just signed for another 3 years.





# From the President

Robert Brokenshire

Another month has passed and we are now hoping for a good spring finish after what for most has been a wet winter. No doubt like you on your farm, SADA have experienced a busy month with meetings with the Minister for Primary Industries, CEO of PIRSA and ADF Board and Presidents meeting.

We are working with our **River Murray Dairy Farmers** re post flood recovery and whilst solid progress is being made we need to give further support to these Farmers who have concerns that still need addressing. **Water allocation plan** reviews are happening on the Limestone Coast (I personally thank our farmer representatives who have been working on the review) and SADA are about to receive briefings re the start of the Eastern and Western Mt. Lofty Ranges reviews, we will keep you posted over the coming months.

On a legislative front two key bills being the **Hydrogen Bill** and a comprehensive **Biosecurity Bill** will be a focus in the next few weeks for SADA and we will keep you updated on these.

At present the **world markets** for Dairy, Beef and Lamb have seen prices fall however commentators say they are expecting some recovery late this year, China is impacting on Global Auctions by a drastically reduced appetite for purchase and this is a contributor to price reductions. I still believe the longer term looks strong for Dairy as the world starts to stabilise from inflation and buyers start to increase their inventory stocks.

What is clear from experiences in New Zealand, England and Ireland is that if Government in Australia are careful with policy and **emissions legislation** we will have future opportunity to grow our exports and therefore production SADA and ADF must be active to ensure we have the strongest possible advocacy and SADA are committed on your behalf to make sure that occurs.

Please always feel free to contact our office, a board member in your region or myself on 0419/815990 should you have any concerns or need help with an issue.



<https://spoti.fi/3R5a7EQ>

In this episode, Oli Le Lievre and Samantha Noon embark on a journey to explore the carbon space in Australian agriculture. They are joined by Professor Richard Eckard, a renowned expert in climate and agriculture, to shed light on key concepts like carbon neutrality and net zero. The conversation covers Australia's emission reduction goals, the choice of baseline years, and the differences between net zero and carbon neutral. Across this series we aim to demystify the carbon space and shed light on the challenges and opportunities it presents.

Key areas covered:

- Understanding Australia's emission reduction targets & how they have been set
- Baseline years and carbon neutrality
- Carbon Neutral vs Net Zero vs Climate Neutral
- Various other environmental claims
- The challenge & opportunity for carbon neutrality in Agriculture

This series is sponsored by Ruminati, an online emissions calculator created by farmers for farmers. You can learn more about their solution [here](#) show notes or by listening to our bonus episodes after episodes 3 and 4.



## Evaluation of the Western and Eastern Mount Lofty Ranges Water Allocation Plans

A water allocation plan (WAP) is a legal document that sets out the rules for using prescribed water resources. A WAP ensures water is fairly and sustainably allocated for community, industry, and the environment. Both surface water and groundwater is prescribed in the [Western Mount Lofty Ranges \(WMLR\)](#) and [Eastern Mount Lofty Ranges \(EMLR\)](#).

To ensure that a plan remains up to date, a water allocation plan must be reviewed (evaluated) on a comprehensive basis at least once every 10 years. The EMLR and WMLR WAPs were both first adopted in 2013 and are now due to be evaluated.

It is the view of SADA and the expectation of the legislation that once the evaluation process has been completed, a consideration of whether amendments are required should be undertaken. It would be inappropriate to form a strong view on amendments ahead of undertaking the evaluation.

**Contact SADA for more information.**

# Impact of inflation on dairy products

28 Jul 2023: Robert Brokenshire, President | on ABC RADIO ADELAIDE.

## *What does this mean for farmers? Profits going up?*

We were hoping it would see a profit margin that gave us good sustainability when we started to see some increases ... but like all consumers, businesses, families, inflation has hit us hard and we're coming off the back of a 10 year really difficult period in the dairy industry where the 'dollar a litre milk' really hurt Australian dairy farmers but at the moment we're focused on sustainability and making sure that we can produce the best quality milk at the most reasonable, sustainable price that we can and that's what's happening.

What's also happened is our input costs have gone through the roof, I'll give you an example, we've just been told our electricity's going to go up by between 28-40%. Along with fertiliser going up too, we're hoping to see some leveling and therefore South Australian dairy farmers are focused now on trying to grow the industry and increase production which will in the long term help the consumers in Australia.

## *Are you worried that there could be a point at which consumers look at the dairy aisle and just go 'I can't afford that'.*

We hope that that wouldn't occur for two key reasons, the first is that if you look at a recent medical and science report that came out, saying that there are 23 reasons why Australian people should consume 3 serves of dairy a day and that's medically proven so dairy is a very, healthy good quality, clean green product. People know they need that as a staple, the second thing is that whilst there's been a lot of hype around the increase

in milk prices. Look at top quality premium milk it's between \$2.20 and \$2.70 a litre. If you buy a soft drink or a bottle of water in a shop it'll cost you more than that. While cheese is \$14-\$17 a kilogram, but when you slice that cheese up and you put that in your kids lunches or your lunch to take to work ... it's still one of the cheapest forms of protein that a family can buy and all families need protein for good health. So, we know the product is a good product and is still cost effective.

## *Can you see prices going down any time soon? Or, you just mentioned the electricity prices about to go up, will they just continue to increase for now?*

We have this opening price that signs off on 1 July each year for dairy farmers through the ACCC code, and we've seen

some milk pricing processes pay a little bit more or less, it depends a fair bit on the export options, if we can grow our milk product locally and continue to be as close as possible to self-sufficient with fresh milk then we'll be able to be very competitive and the consumers will be buying an affordable, health product. So, that's where we're focused at the moment South Australia produces about 6% of the fresh milk market in Australia, SADA want to grow that 10 and that's our business plan, of course we have seen a reduction, remember when the dollar a litre milk hit and really hurt farmers and a lot exited, that pulled production right back and that's now having an impact and we've gone from nearly 10 billion litres of milk produced in Australia a year back to under 8.



**February 1951**  
The General Secretary reported that he had received information to the effect that A. A. Pitman is again endeavouring to obtain more producers from the Clarendon area. It is apparent that he is getting short of milk owing to the excessively dry lean period. Our delegates from that area, Viz. Mr. Easton, said that a number of our members were very restless because Pitman was offering them a higher price than what they were receiving under equalisation. He, Mr. Easton said he suggested a meeting should be held at Clarendon, and would like several members of the Executive to attend and address the members. The secretary said that, in company with Mr. Gormlie he attended the meeting and informed the developments that had taken place in connection with prices, particularly in regard to milk for manufacture and also the Associations overtures to the Milk Board in regard to whole milk. He went on to tell the members at Clarendon that we had always strongly supported equalisation and that any breakaway by any wholesaler or group of producers would seriously jeopardise the smooth working of an orderly plan. He then informed that the Milk Board was determined to prosecute any wholesaler who exceeded the quota and did not equalise.



- A Carbon market caution workshop held at Myponga. It became clear from the discussion that there is more work to be done in developing a clear understanding of the current requirements in relation to carbon and methane.
- An industry briefing on Indonesian LSD detections webinar hosted by NFF.
- Effluent system design course. SADA will be able to provide effluent design capacity for its members (and non-members for a higher fee) which will meet EPA benchmarks.
- With Dairy SA attended the Limestone Coast Jobs and Skills Showcase 2023 for its second year.
- Assisted a farmer with an application for the SADIF fund. That matter will now be under consideration for the next meeting.
- Andrew met with a number of Lower South East members to share a "Schnitty

with SADA". Valuable discussion was had across a number of topics including workforce, biosecurity, national dairy representation, and water allocation plans.

- PPSA Farm Safety Steering Committee Meetings, as this project has not completed, PPSA will seek some further funding to assist with project legacy and so the project can be repurposed for on farm rather than in schools.
- A legislative interpretation issues for the opposition in South Australia. This was on the back of a review conducted by SADA for a department. This led to a redrafting of the Veterinary Services Bill by the Department. The opposition contacted SADA to confirm that the changes were as anticipated. A letter was sent to the opposition indicating that the amendments attended to the issues raised by SADA, however, regulations would be closely monitored.
- Lower Murray Reclaimed Irrigation Area flood response. We are close to completing the dewatering process. Next we meeting with representatives of each of the irrigation trusts and will discuss future.
- Adelaide Vet Students Association (AVSA) Industry Expo with Dairy SA. A well attended and great discussions with all Ag

Science and Vet Students.

- National Traceability Advisory Group meeting as part of an industry event bringing the importance of improved traceability standards to varying industries. SADA has committed to assisting GS1 in demonstrating the important work that was being undertaken in the area of traceability to other industry bodies.
- Assisted a farmer with a consumer affairs issues arising from the unsatisfactory operation of equipment purchased by the farmer.
- 2023 Aither Water Markets report which provided a very useful forecast on Murray Darling Basin allocations and Basin Plan implications.
- Josh Teague MP to brief on a number of issues impacting the Dairy Industry in South Australia, including the proposed Veterinary Services legislation as well as legislation aimed at governing renewable energy in the state.
- SADA/Datahash national traceability trial met essentially to ensuring the proper advancement of the project and remitting the schedule of works through the work plan back to the Commonwealth Government.



## Could you be a Board Member on the South Australian Dairyfarmers Association board?

SADA has become a very diverse organisation operating a number of different aspects being the State Farming Organisation (SFO) arm for the National industry advocacy body Australian Dairy Farmers (ADF). Strong connections with Dairy SA and Dairy Australia to ensure dairy farmers are well connected and up to date with the changing environment across the entire supply chain. In 2012 we launched SADA Fresh . . . Since then, we have evolved to be-

come much more, the complexity of the organisation brings with it governance requirements and statutory compliance obligations that reach far beyond just attending meetings. The SADA Board has the important responsibility of setting and reviewing the Associations [strategic](#) direction and to help ensure a strong future organisation for our members and the dairy industry. The SADA Board oversees existing and potential risks, together with industry

compliance across all areas of the business. SADA is committed to a long, prosperous future and we plan to continue to grow and develop our services to meet members needs in the future. In line with SADAs [constitution](#), we are now seeking an applicant; from either the South East region or the River and Lakes / Adelaide Hills region. To find out more about joining the SADA Board, visit [www.sada.asn.au](http://www.sada.asn.au) phone: 8293 2399 or email: [sada@sada.asn.au](mailto:sada@sada.asn.au)

**Nominations for the SADA Board are now open.**

# Members Newsletter



## From the President

Robert Brokenshire



The SADA Board are calling for dairy farmers to help shape the future of dairying in SA by nominating to fill a vacant position. The Board, which meets quarterly, is comprised of 6 representatives, ideally someone from the River and Lakes region. The Board oversee existing and potential risks, together with industry compliance across all areas of the business. SADA is committed to a long, prosperous future and we plan to continue to grow and develop our services to meet members needs in the future. **Completed nominations are due 5pm Friday 20 October.**

We understand there are a lot of surveys circulated around at the moment. So we've made it easy and loaded them all in one spot on our [Web-site for you](#).

But first, lets turn your attention to the **Dairy ManaJD program**, a voluntary herd testing program in which more than 90% of SA dairy herds participated, with over 70% of SA Dairy

ManaJD herds were tested negative, based on whole herd individual blood tests and maintenance tests every 2 years. Under the J-DAS program, these herds have a Dairy Assurance Score of 7 or 8. SADA is working with PIRSA, the Cattle Industry Fund and the dairy industry to support the continued delivery of the Dairy ManaJD program and the enhancement of Dairy Farm Biosecurity practices. If we could take a couple minutes of your time, to fill out this quick [4 question survey](#), so SADA can access all the relevant information to continue the great work SA has done to ensure our great BJD free status remains.

The team with Rick Gladigau from ADF, cooked up the Annual Bbq at the Show for the Junior Handlers competition participants. This is a long standing agreement between SADA and the Royal Agriculture Show. A great community partnership also showcasing dairy to the state with the Exhibition Dairy.

We understand there is a lot of 'hoohaa' around the MDB Plan. Having reviewed much of the official information and commentary, SADA's understanding is that the changes will have limited impact on South Australian dairy farms although an increased use of water buybacks could impact the temporary and permanent water markets.

The changes do provide an opportunity for us to engage with both the SA and federal governments, to discuss possible solutions and innovative ways to achieve the goals of the plan.

One option that has been suggested is the re establishment of the [3IP program](#), we would welcome your [thoughts / comments](#) on this and any other solutions.

If you're interested in more details regarding the changes, the federal department is hosting a webinar – [Register here](#)

## South Australia is having the biggest community conversation ever seen in Australia on Climate Change - and it's time to get involved!



Every person on earth – every country, every territory needs to respond. To assist national and international efforts to address climate change the South Australian Government has committed to reducing greenhouse gas emissions which are drivers of climate change. The aim is to reduce South Australia's net emissions to at least 50% by 2030 and to net zero by 2050. Getting there will require collaboration and innovation – which will have the added benefit of creating economic opportunities for our state. [More details here](#)

## KICK-START YOUR FARMING FUTURE



If you're 17-25, this unique gap-year program provides you with a paid job, training and development, not to mention the opportunity to build your networks within the agriculture industry. Applicants can indicate which farm type they'd prefer from a wide variety, and also where in Australia they would ideally like to go. A matching process is undertaken to ensure participants are assigned to the type of farms that match their interests and skills.

# JOIN THE WORLD'S MOST IMPORTANT CAREER

- Full-time paid farm job with a passionate host farmer
- A \$4,500 Training and Engagement Bursary to upskill yourself
- Funding to travel for industry events
- A dedicated support team
- A network of peers across the country

## Kick Start your Farming Future



AgriFutures Australia invites you to register for an upcoming **Rural Women's Award & Rural Women's Acceleration Grant Q&A session**.

These sessions are intended to provide clarity around the differences between the [Rural Women's Award](#) and the [Rural Women's Acceleration Grant](#), the respective eligibility criteria, in addition to providing the answers to any questions you may have about either program.

Female leaders who want to create impact, innovate and make a difference to rural and regional Australia are encouraged to come along.

Know someone with the perfect project, program or business for the Rural Women's Award or Acceleration Grant?

We also strongly encourage previous applicants for both programs to join a Q&A session and reapply for 2024!

Applications for both of these opportunities open on Wednesday, 13 September 2023.



## Dairy processors to benefit from training grant

Streamlined safety training will be the result of a \$150,000 state government grant for dairy processors, with hopes this is a sign of things to come for the sector.

DairySafe will use the funding to development five new online training modules to improve safety processes within the state's cheese, milk and other dairy processors and [help upskill those working in the sector](#).

DairySafe chief executive officer Geoff Raven said a research project completed in recent years had shown there was a gap within the industry for this type of training, with it falling back onto individual businesses to do in-house training.

"In the meat industry there are more than 20 certificate and training courses but in the dairy industry, we've got nothing," he said. He said there had been some movement at the national level and would be more to come but these modules would form an interim solution.

Mr Raven said it was also timely with indications that in the next three to four years there would likely be a number of long-

established workers retiring, with these needing to be replaced. The online training modules will form a series of webinar courses focused on process control, good manufacturing practice and hygiene assurance.

Improved training opportunities had been highlighted as an important opportunity for the sector [in the SA dairy industry action five-year plan to 2024 and its industry summits](#).

Primary Industries and Regional Development Minister Clare Scriven said there were signs the dairy processing industry would be expanding rapidly, both within SA and nationally, and they would need more skilled workers.

"The sector expects to recruit over 13,000 people (nationally) over the next five years, with most jobs located in the regions," she said "This funding investment helps create greater opportunities for one or our state's largest sectors and ensures dairy's food safety standards remains best practice."

Ms Scriven said without the added pressure of in-house training, it would allow the state's dairy businesses to focus their attention on other parts of the operations, including potential growth.

Dairy is Australia's third-largest agricultural industry, with SA producing nearly 6 per cent of Australia's total production and generating revenue of \$690 million in 2021-22. In 2021-22, South Australian dairyfarmers produced 490 million litres of milk for a total production value of \$263 million.

The new online training is expected to be available from June 30, 2024 and will ensure the industry has up-to-date safety and training standards.

## South Australian Dairy Industry Action Plan

## Farm powered: a survey about renewables on farm



Renewable energy and storage is a big issue for farmers in Australia right now, both on-farm and beyond the farm gate. We're keen to better understand how farmers see renewable energy working for your business and your community, and how on-farm electrification can best benefit farmers and the energy system. Your participation in our survey will directly inform the policies and solutions that Farmers for Climate Action will push for with governments, planning authorities and energy companies. We want to make sure farmer voices are front and centre in these conversations. <https://farmersforclimateaction.org.au/>

## Have your say on the Greater Adelaide Regional Plan Discussion Paper

The State Planning Commission (the Commission) have released a Discussion Paper for the Greater Adelaide Regional Plan and want to hear from community, councils and industry on how we prepare for future growth.

The Discussion Paper is an evidence-based document with a strong focus on what the Greater Adelaide Region may look like in 30 years time.

It presents key considerations and trends that we need to consider in our future planning. Bold decisions are required to strengthen the sustainability, liveability and prosperity of the Region.

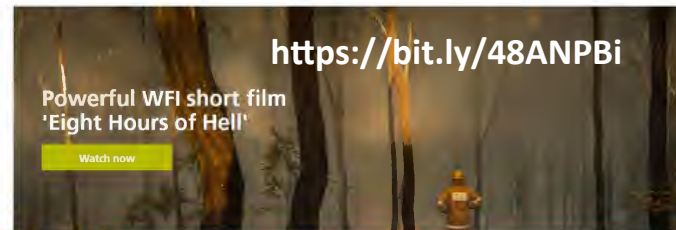
There is an opportunity to provide early input into the Greater Adelaide Regional Plan and help determine:

- what Greater Adelaide might look like in 30 years
- the needs and wants of current and future communities
- where and how we should grow.

The Regional Plan will shape the Greater Adelaide region for the next 30 years and determine where houses and jobs go and how people will live as our population grows.

Engagement is open to everyone. Your ideas and feedback will give us invaluable insights as to how you want to live and what you hope for the future.

This input will help us draft the Greater Adelaide Regional Plan which will replace the 30-Year Plan for Greater Adelaide



**WFI SADA Partnership**  
If you take out a policy with WFI, SADA receives a commission from WFI of 7.5% of the policy premium. Make sure when your next speaking with WFI that you mention your a SADA Member to get the discounts.

## Prepare an animal emergency plan

When preparing an animal emergency plan, it is important to understand that different types of emergencies may require different plans.

Planning for a fire can require different factors than for storms or floods.

Assess the level of risk likely for different emergencies in the area where your animals live, taking into account these key considerations:

- Will your animals be safer left where they are or will you need to move them to a safer place if time allows?

- Think about what will trigger you to enact your plan. Will it be a forecast of extreme weather, an emergency warning or something else?
- What items will you need to support your animal? Think about what you would put in an emergency kit
- If the power fails, do you need to provide a back-up generator for watering, feeding, milking or ventilation of livestock?

What are the temporary accommodation or agistment options for your animals should your property be damaged or destroyed?

Once you have set out your animal emergency plan, as part of your own personal emergency plan to keep yourself safe, it's a good idea to follow these steps:

- Practice your animal emergency plan as part of your personal emergency survival plan
- Discuss your plan with neighbours, friends and family
- Insure your animals and keep documentation in multiple locations so you can access it
- Ensure all animals can be readily identified in case you are separated

Put together an animal emergency kit that can be easily relocated with your animal if necessary



# Around the grounds

- Andrew participated in the AUSVETPLAN Exercise Milky Way Review Sessions.
- Elf travelled to the South East and met with several farmers in the region including hosting a **Schnitzel with SADA** evening in Mount Gambier.
- Andrew and Elf travelled to Myponga to assist the **Fleurieu Milk Company** with a project on site and to be present at a meeting with the SA Education Minister, Blair Boyer, to help advance some of the work that Fleurieu is doing with to improve training outcomes in the dairy industry in SA.
- Alison join with Alberta from Dairy SA in attending the Murraylands **Jobs and Skills Showcase** and the Urrbrae Agricultural High School / Food and Fibre Edu-

cation SA Careers Expo.

- Andrew attended the RMC Show Breakfast at the **Royal Adelaide Show**. Cathy McGowan was the guest speaker. Andrew took the opportunity to highlight the dairy industry's activity in the climate change abatement challenge.
- Elf met with **Say Cheese** to advance the roll out of SADA Fresh cheeses in Foodland. This project is now proceeding and supply chains are now being worked out.
- Andrew and Robert attended the PPSA **PIRSA Quarterly Meeting**, with an update from the CFS on the upcoming **Bushfire season**. Agenda items included: Digital connectivity strategy, Careers in Ag, Biosecurity Bill, Vet Services Bill, Grain Harvest Code, Carbon Farming Roadmap, State Emission Roadmap and Varroa update.
- Andrew assisted PPSA with the 'Broader Economic Contribution Project' with Domestique Consulting.
- Andrew and Alison had some robust discussion with the SDFO EO Group. Hot topic being VFF/UDV/VDA and ADF review.

- Andrew and Elf met with the new South Australian representative of **Lactalis**, Chris Nel. The meeting was both productive as it was cordial. SADA and Lactalis will continue to meet regularly to continue developing relationships between farmers and processors in accordance with the expectations of the South Australian Dairy Industry Action Plan 2019-2024.
- Elf helped a farmer with a contractual dispute arising from the supply of equipment. This matter will be on going and SADA will continue to work with the farmer to generate a positive outcome.
- Elf spent a substantial part of the week completing the second part of the assessment for the **Effluent Management Design Course**. Elf assisted a farmer and spoke with the EPA about effluent related issues on farm. (It is important to note that Elf is not yet qualified to generate plans and is still some weeks away from competing the Diploma Level course). Nevertheless, as a farmer organisation we will help farmers where we can.

## AUSTRALIAN DAIRY SUSTAINABILITY FRAMEWORK

Australian dairy is serious about being sustainable. Learn about our internationally recognised Sustainability Framework and our commitments to our people, animals, the community and planet.



### Safety of calves, cows, handlers at forefront of disbudding.

A goal of the Australian Dairy Sustainability Framework (ADSF) is for all calves to be disbudded at less than two months of age with pain relief, rather than dehorned, in line with recommended industry practices for animal care.

The practice is growing in Australia, with 81% of dairy farmers self-reporting the practice in Dairy Australia's 2022 Animal Husbandry and Genetics Survey, up from 75% in 2019. Of those disbudding at less than two months, 89% of farmers provided pain relief.

At Longwarry, Victoria, Dale and Kahlie Weller have swapped from dehorning to disbudding calves and have noticed the benefits.

[Read more in Farm Weekly.](#)



The membership for this year, 1942/43, has considerably increased, particularly the financial members. 1565 members of whom 1407 are financial for the year 1942/43.

The membership will be increased during the coming year as the Myponga Co-op Society have arranged to join as a District, and new branches at Finnis, Upper Torrens Valley, Eden Valley, Milang and Belvidere and Mt Barker has been revived.

As the Association was dissatisfied with the price of milk, both the City milk price and the surplus price, the agreement was determined by two months notice as at 16th May 1943. Since then, a new agreement has been drawn up and have inserted a clause that will enable, to alter prices in the future without determining the agreement. Unfortunately, the Wholesalers are not unanimous on the new agreement, and at present there is a move by several Wholesalers to break away from the present equalization plan and setup one of their own. It will be most unfortunate for the dairymen if two equalization plans are in operation under separate groups, with different quotas and different plans. Furthermore, the Commonwealth subsidy is now paid out on an equalized price to all dairymen operating under the plan, notwithstanding that they may not be supplying to a Manufacturer. In addition to this it is not possible to run two equalisation plans without extra cost to the dairymen. It is sincerely hoped that the Conference which will be held in the near future on the matter may straighten out the difficulties of the breakaway party and all will subscribe to the one plan.

# Members Newsletter



## From the President

Robert Brokenshire

It's time for us to Sell the Facts.

Agriculture and especially Dairy are leading the way on emissions reductions and targets for 2030. We accept we have a part to play like all Industry sectors and Community, we are not the big polluters with **less than .5% of total emissions** from an overall Australian low emission rate compared to many other countries.

Dairy and all Australian Agriculture are sustainably clean and green and produce natural healthy food. Did you know there are 23 medical scientific reasons why we need three serves of Dairy a day.

It's time to push back and market the facts/truth compared to myths. With truth in labelling and our commitment to Animal Welfare. It time for Agricultural Advocacy across Australia to come together and market our record to consumers **\$100 billion by 2030**.

South Australian Agriculture has always played an important role in the South Australian economy that is why the State Parliament has a wheat sheaf

and wine grapes enshrined in the green carpet working with government and commodity partners we will continue to play a **significant role in South Australia's future** economic prosperity.

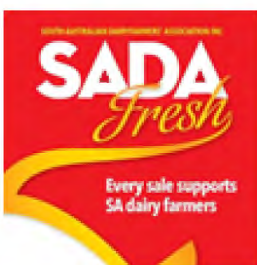
This month we've grabbed the opportunity to submit our opinion on the new **Biosecurity Levy for SA**, as well as the Federal Biosecurity Protection Levy. We've contributed to PPSA submission on the **Greater Adelaide Regional Plan**. Met with Minister Farrell to discuss Free Trade Agreement and Traceability for market access. Engaged with local Processors with support for industry growth projects. And submitted a project plan for an exciting new Virtual Fencing trial with SARDI at Struan. I particularly enjoyed attending the 61<sup>st</sup> AGM for the **Barossa Mid North Dairy Farming Group** and wanted to congratulate them on their long proud history. I welcome any Dairy Farming groups to invite myself or anyone from SADA to attend these auspicious meetings.



If I can again turn your attention to some communications that you have received on the **Dairy ManaJD program**.

As you may be aware moving forward the South Australian Dairyfarmers Association (SADA) will be maintaining the Johnes Disease Assurance program for the South Australian dairy industry. Please contact SADA for any questions regarding what this will mean for you. Importantly, your current SA JD Dairy Score will not change, but certification will be provided through SADA in future, and PIRSA will continue to provide technical assistance only during the transition period of this program .

To adhere to PIRSA's legislated responsibilities relating to personal and other information, written permission is required from participating producers to enable transfer the Johnes disease assurance program database information to SADA.



## The South East is set to become the most connected region in the nation.

The State Government, Local Governments in the Limestone Coast, and Telstra are working together to deliver a Regional Connectivity Program.

“Black spots will soon be a thing of the past due to this co-investment, SADA is excited to see this regions connectivity deliver digital solutions for the dairy industry and the regional communities in the South East.

“Better connectivity improves regional equity, drives productivity and increases the resilience of communication services and public safety. This investment is bridging the gap between metropolitan and regional South Australia, and it will drive economic growth, social equity and ensure everyone in the region has access to information and digital opportunities”.

For dairy, connectivity and quick access to data will not just improve the productivity levels of the industry but will drive the next generation of technological advancement, whether that be in the ever fast growing robotic dairies or out in the grazing pastures.

The delivery of this Regional Connectivity Program will be a game-changer for the Limestone Coast region and the dairy industry is grateful for the investment and the advocacy of the State Government, namely the Minister for Primary Industries the Hon Clare Scriven .

## Helping Regional Communities Prepare for Drought Initiative – Small Network Grants

Small Network Grants are now available to community organisations in regional and rural Australia to develop and deliver one-off events or initiatives to strengthen community networks and capabilities that build drought preparedness.

Through this initiative, with the support of the Australian Government, we are investing in the future by enabling agriculture-dependent communities to identify and act on their drought preparedness priorities at a grassroots level and in ways that best suit their communities.

The Small Network Grants will fund networks, community events, training initiatives, community infrastructure, development and learning initiatives that assist local people and communities to strengthen social capital and capability to prepare for future droughts.

Two streams of grants are available via two rounds:

- Up to a maximum of \$20,000; or
- Up to a maximum of \$50,000 (dependent on location).

Closes: 14 November 2023

Funding announced by: Early March 2024

## A message from the Minister for Education, Training and Skills

This marks a historic milestone with the announcement of South Australia's signing of the National Skills Agreement.

The new five year Agreement will see a \$2.289 billion joint investment in training and skills for the state. This represents an increase of almost \$690m in funding, with \$440m from South Australia and \$250m from the Commonwealth over the life of the Agreement from 1 January 2024 to 31 December 2028.

This is the biggest increase in funding for skills in South Australia in our State's history.



### UniSA study checks-in on farmers' wellbeing post flood disaster

Farmers rely on good weather to grow crops and sustain livestock, so when the Bureau of Meteorology issues an El Niño warning, it's a bitter pill to swallow given that so many farmers and rural communities across Australia are still reeling from recent floods.

Now, researchers at the University of South Australia are hoping to connect with farmers who have been affected by the 2022-23 floods to better understand their first-hand experiences and how they would like to be supported to regain optimal wellbeing.

This study, led by UniSA, is being conducted in partnership with Regional Development Australia Murraylands and Riverland SA and the National Centre for Farmer Health.

**SADA has spent much of this year working across many policy and advocacy areas affecting all dairies across our great state.**

**Without your membership support this would not be possible.**

**Please ensure that your membership and supplier details are current and up to date.**

# Haystack Fires



Haystack fires can happen in any type of bale stored in a haystack. Even hay stored as single bales can spontaneously ignite under some conditions. Haystack fires can spread quickly into the surrounding area and often result in thousands of dollars of damage.

## Why does hay heat?

If hay is too "green" (the internal plant moisture content is too high) or it gets damp before, during or after baling, a complex series of biological and chemical processes may cause the hay to heat.

This is because the plant material is still alive and using energy (respiration). This allows microorganisms, such as bacteria and fungi, to grow in the moist environment. These processes generate heat, which may result in the loss of dry matter, nutritive value, and reduced palatability and, if left unchecked, could result in ignition.

Once temperatures reach about 70°C, they may increase extremely rapidly to the point of spontaneous ignition (about 170°C). Spontaneous ignition may occur within two weeks of baling and may continue to pose a threat for well over three months.

## Signs of heating hay

Use a temperature probe or a crowbar to regularly monitor all haystacks for signs that the hay is heating. Other signs of heating include:

- Steam rising from haystacks.
- Condensation or corrosion under hay shed roofing.
- Mould growth in or on bales.
- Unusual odours (burning, musty, pipe tobacco or caramel).
- Slumping in sections of the haystack.

For a full list of **Fire Prevention measures** visit the [CFS site](#).

## WFI SADA Partnership

If you take out a policy with WFI, SADA receives a commission from WFI of 7.5% of the policy premium. Make sure when your next speaking with WFI that you mention your a SADA Member to get the discounts.



**SUPPORT SA.  
BUY LOCAL!**



## FOOD & BEVERAGE DEVELOPMENT FUND

Applications now open for 2024 training.

The Food and Beverage Development Fund provides financial support of between **\$1,000 & \$10,000** per successful applicant to further skills and knowledge through training and education within South Australia's critically important food & beverage industries.

To support the learning of individuals in our baking, beverage, chocolate, food processing and meat industry sectors. To date the fund has provided in excess of \$1.1 M and assisted 250 people who are now a step closer to realising their aspirations and achieving their full potential. *You could be next.*

The application process is not difficult, you simply need to know what training you want to do, why you want to do it and how it is going to help you.

Applications are now open and will be accepted until 12 noon Friday November 3 2023 with shortlisted applicants expected to be interviewed before end of November and all funding offers finalised in December 2023.

Application forms can be completed online

[www.foodandbeveragefundsasa.com.au](http://www.foodandbeveragefundsasa.com.au)



# Around the grounds

- SADA, in collaboration with SARDI and a range of commercial, government and institutional partners, is proposing a research trial to explore the practical applications of virtual fencing in improving milk yields in pasture-based dairies through enhanced pasture allocation management. This project aims to demonstrate at commercial scale, the potential through enhanced pasture allocation to address milk production disparities resulting from variations in the time cows spend away from pasture during milking. The trial will also monitor and assess animal welfare outcomes.
- Andrew met with Minister Don Farrell (Minister for Trade), and discussed EU ETA, Trade with China and opportunities in Vietnam, Indonesia and India. SADA Traceability project
- Andrew and Lachie met with Datahash David Travers, Woolworths and Fleurieu Milk at Connors to check out the robotic dairy and talk Traceability
- Elf assisted four farmers with effluent management issues. The first assessment plan is complete and delivered and currently two other farmers are having plans prepared. This has taken most of the week.
- Alison and Andrew attended the Ag Trade Apprenticeship Workshop conducted by Skills Insight. Where we workshopped the core functions requirements for a Dairy Production Cert 3 and Cert 4 qualification.
- SADA co-ordinated with Dairy SA and Dairysafe a new 2024 Internship for the Adelaide Uni Agricultural Student Compendium.
- Elf finalised first assessment for a Diploma in Effluent Management System Design. There is now one assessment to go. This will be graded on an actual farm project of which Elf is currently involved in assisting four farmers with their effluent management issues.
- SADA again reminds farmers that the EPA has amped up their regulatory expectations on dairy farmers and greater pressure will come to farmers to get their systems in order.



## Australia's most sustainable cow

The Jelbert family in Leongatha, Victoria, are home to Australia's most sustainable cow – identified thanks to genomics. The National Sustainability Index measures feed efficiency. While cows may eat a similar amount of food and produce comparable methane levels, their level of output can be very different. Genomics is rapidly opening up new horizons for plant and animal breeders, including the breeding of more sustainable dairy cows.

[Watch the full report on ABC iView.](#)

## Dairy navigates global market challenges

Strong farmgate prices persist despite a challenging global market, finds latest [Situation and Outlook report](#) from Dairy Australia.

## Farmers turn to local training options to find skilled workers

Local education and training are front of mind for dairy farmers looking to employ skilled workers, with an increased demand for work-life balance and fostering local careers. Did you know that being able to easily source workers and providing a productive and rewarding work environment for all dairy workers is a key goal of the [Australian Dairy Sustainability Framework](#)



Dairy Australia



Australian Dairy Producers Federation Inc.



Australian Dairy Farmers



Australian Dairy Industry Council Inc.



The Chairman said the conference was called to discuss the report, submitted to the minister of Agriculture by the full committee on the fifth instant, as additional facts have arisen, vitally affecting the position. Wholesalers had now been requested to by a solicitor (on behalf of a number of Vendors) to furnish Vendors with a Warranty in the matter of Milk Standards. Mr. McDonald said his Company had submitted the matter to their Solicitor who has now furnished them with his "Opinion".

This opinion clearly sets out that it is obligatory for wholesalers to issue a warranty, if requested by the Vendor. If the Vendors refuse because the Standard of 8.5% solids-not-fat -is below the Standard, then they can be prosecuted for not giving the Warranty and further prosecuted for having in their possession milk below the standard required even though the milk when received from the dairy farmers was below the standard.

In the discussion it was realised that Dairy Farmers could also be prosecuted if the wholesalers requested a warranty from them, and they refused to give it, notwithstanding that the milk as produced by the cow was below 8.5% solid-not-fat.

# SADA

## Fresh

Celebrating  
10 Years

# \$2.1m

## Invested into the Dairy Industry

sadafresh.com.au

### SADA Fresh is celebrating 10 years

The ground-breaking milk brand was launched by the South Australian Dairyfarmers' Association (SADA) in October 2013 to help secure the future of the State's dairy farmers and their industry. SADA was the first dairy industry association in Australia to launch its own brand, and the response from consumers has been overwhelming and sales continue to grow. Starting with a little over 1.1 million litres sold in 2014 to more than double that in 2023.

- Dairy Science Investigators
- Climate & Agricultural Support Biochar
- Constructive Energy Milking Renewable
- Dairysafe Business Continuity Tool
- Do Dairy
- Creating Care Dung Beetle project
- Forbes Primary School Breakfast Club
- Dairy Feedbase Initiative
- Kongorong Primary School Farm Day Sponsorship
- Limestone Coast Leadership Program
- Barossa Mid North Co-operative Dairyfarmers
- Mount Gambier Spring Show
- Operation Goose Drone
- Pasture Mapper
- Port Elliot Museum
- Pure Limestone Coast
- Quad Bike Rebate Scheme

Shortly after the launch it was recognised the need for a body to govern these funds to be distributed for the betterment of the dairy industry and The SA Dairy Industry Fund Ltd. was officially formed in October 2014.

That's **10 years** of support for SA Dairy Farmers and the industry. **2.1 Million** back into Dairy from **20c** of every litre going to the SA Dairy Industry Fund supporting more than **30 projects** over the past 10 years.

- RBS Dairy Connect 2019
- Rural Directions – Agribusiness Consultant
- SA All Breeds Youth Camp
- SADA Advocacy 2020 - 2022
- SADA Discretionary Funds
- Section 28 – Scholarship
- Solar Shade
- SA Dairy Industry Action Plan
- Traceability Scheme Support
- Wellbeing Project 2017
- Cows Create Careers since 2015
- Dairy SA Wellbeing 2023
- Methane Capture Study
- Nutrient Redistribution and Optimisation
- SADA Action Plan reset
- SADA National Policy



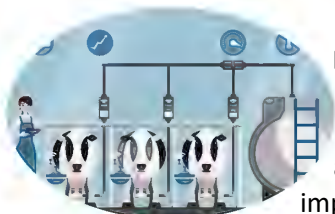
# It's time to get your sh!t together

If you've received a letter from the EPA or want to get ahead of the game, call our office today and book in your first consult—FREE for Members.



## ***The EPA has now signalled they're cracking down on dairies.***

**SADA has taken the time to get trained up on a comprehensive tool to evaluate your Effluent Management and mechanism for submitting your plan. John Elferink has completed the EPA Effluent Management and Design Course and is ready to offer his assistance with your next plan, this will be at a considerably reduced fee for SADA Members.**



Dairy effluent is described as a potential point source of nutrient pollution for waterways and mismanagement of it risks impacting the environment. Environmental legislation in all Australian States and Territories has set a minimum standard that dairies must comply with to prevent nutrient pollution leaving the farm boundaries. Compliance with such legislation requires that all dairies produce up-to-date and validated technical information about options for effectively managing its effluent.

The Australian dairy industry has changed dramatically since deregulation in 2000, with increased average herd size and increased intensity of use in supporting

areas around the dairy. The increased volumes of effluent and solids generated must be considered in effluent and manure management plans.

To make the best use of Australia's knowledge in sustainable dairy management to progress effective and nationally consistent approaches. [Agriculture Victoria](#) and [Dairy Australia](#) collaborated to release [national guidelines](#) for dairy feed pads inline with a national trend towards larger, more intensive farms.

In addition to the [Code of Practice for Milking Shed Effluent](#), the EPA in South Australia has drafted an odour separation distance guideline as well as a new planning and development guideline for intensive dairies. Both are consistent with the new national guidelines.

EFFLUENT MANAGEMENT PLAN GUIDELINES

- Effluent System Overview
- Growing Feed using Effluent
- Risk and Farm return
- State Guidelines
- Economics
- On Farm Data Collection
- Effluent system Components
- Planning intensive operations
- Nutrient Calculator and toolkit
- Geotechnical investigations and liners
- Dairy WatBal—hydraulic model for pond sizing



## SADA EPA Effluent Management Plan rates guide

First Consult	Free for Members
Draft Plan	\$100 per hour for Members (Est. \$2500)
	\$250 per hour for non Members (Est. \$7000)
Completed Plan	Submitted to EPA on behalf of the owner and all consultation with EPA through SADA
Full costs will be discussed on a case by case basis.	

# Members Newsletter



## From the President

Robert Brokenshire

As I write this report it is raining heavily across much of our state hopefully most of you have your silage and hay finished and if you are growing grain hoping there is not too much downgrade, Farmers are reporting cut downs by up to half of last year due to the dry spring but on a positive, quality has been good. We will all need to plan our fodder strategy carefully this year and if you need **additional fodder** SADA would be happy to hear from you as through our network we may be able to help you.

Last month we saw the celebration of 10 years of **SADA Fresh** milk sales, where we have seen \$2.1million invested into our state industry including programs and seeding money for a traceability trial, Cows create careers, mental well being program, support for a pasture program and national advocacy are just a few. The SADIF Committee keep a strong reserve of money for worthwhile grants, so if you are in a **discussion group** that has a project you would like to pursue, contact our SADA office. In this edition I requested an article from DairySafe re the sale of raw milk as there are more people visiting dairies

hoping to **buy raw milk** and I thought it important that the rules/laws are understood.

At present there are three **Water Allocation Plans** under evaluation review, Limestone Coast, Eastern Mt.Lofty Ranges and Western Mt.Lofty Ranges if you need assistance in putting in a submission or more information please contact our SADA office.

A lot happens each month in SADA regarding advocacy, meetings with Members of Parliament and Government Ministers as well as helping individual members, this month has been full on and we are doing what we can to gain for our Farmer Members.

As I have mentioned before the EPA are reviewing their dairy effluent management code presently and it should be ready to publicly release the new code in the first part of 2024, SADA have a professional relationship with them and will be able to make comment on the review, the first principal of the intent of the code is that all dairy effluent and its disposal must be retained on your property. SADA has invested money into a **Dairy Effluent Management** course for John Elferink from our

The 2023 AGM for the South Australian Dairyfarmers Association will be held on Wednesday 20 December at 10am via Zoom. REGISTER HERE

office he will be accredited soon and if you need any assistance please contact him.

Everyone should have received some notification from PIRSA regarding the **BJD Program**, thank you to all those that have responded with permission for SADA to take on the management of this program, for those still getting around to your official permission response please do so immediately. SADA will be in contact shortly with further communications and operations of the program.

As we are quickly approaching Christmas I trust all is going well on your farm however I will continue to remind members if you have any concerns we are more than happy to help and have vast networks and an experienced staff, so at anytime please contact our office, your local board member or myself Robert Brokenshire on 0419 815 990.

## Important Dates for 2024



Friday 24 November 2023

## MEDIA RELEASE

### ADF AGM results and vote for President next week

ADF's post-AGM Board and National Council meeting have decided to defer its Presidential election by a week to next Friday 1 December.

ADF President Rick Gladigau said the decision was made to postpone the vote for President in order to allow Victorian Farmers Federation (VFF) and United Dairyfarmers of Victoria (UDV) more time to decide whether to appoint new representatives to ADF's National Council.

"VFF has written to ADF removing previous State Representative members on ADF National Council – and we await the nomination of VFF/UDV's new representatives. "We understand VFF/UDV is going through a time of change having only just appointed a new UDV council themselves, and the ADF Board and National Council thought it appropriate to allow a few extra days to enable these UDV nominations to occur. He said it was a decision for the State Members of ADF, in this case VFF/UDV, to nominate who represents them on ADF's National Council.

Mr Gladigau said that the nation's peak dairy representative body continues with the business of advocating for dairy farmers as they move through the process of electing a President. . . [more](#)



Dairy Australia [Full Media Release here](#)

# 2024

## The Power of Purpose: ADC 2024

Here it is.... your [2024 ADC Program](#). Global dairy influencers are back center stage at ADC 2024 Melbourne as the return of international keynotes drives a new realm of opportunity and possibilities for Australian dairy farmers.

Programming Chair Michael Rood aka 'Roody' said the focus of the program for this year was '**The Power of Purpose**' challenging every Australian dairy farmer to find their purpose and inspiration for what they do.

"There is an underlying tone for ADC 2024 of getting comfortable with the uncomfortable and how we can make true change and impact by challenging ourselves and defining what we really want to achieve," he said.

"Dairying in today's climate we need to be able to dairy beyond the comfort zone for businesses to grow and prosper and importantly also for our mindset and belief," he said.

Early bird registrations are now open. Save \$100 on full farmer registration (\$770) and save even further for subsequent farmer registrations from the same farm at \$660. ADC 2024 is shaping up to be the one dairy event you do not want to miss.



MLA [Full Media Release here](#)



### More data, better payphones, less stress: how we're supporting you this disaster season

We know better than anyone that connectivity during disasters is critical. We have been investing in our networks to make them more resilient, as well as coming up with new ways to get people connected if damage to our network occurs.

<https://www.telstra.com.au/exchange/disaster-season-upgrades-2023>

Some specific SA initiatives include:

- More than 150 payphones in SA are among 1,000 across the nation being upgraded with free Telstra Wi-Fi, USB charging ports and back-up power to help keep communities connected during a natural disaster.
- 14 new trailer-mounted, high-powered generators are being rolled out to key parts of SA this summer, as part of a multi-million-dollar co-investment under the Federal Government's Strengthening Telecommunications Against Natural Disasters (STAND) program. Generator locations: Kadina, Roxby Downs, Whyalla, Kingscote, Murray Bridge, Mount Gambier, Port Lincoln, Port Pirie, Port Augusta, Clare, Berri, Kingston SE, Bordertown and Naracoorte
- 12 Telstra network sites in SA are among 250 nationally to be upgraded with Automatic Transfer Units (ATUs) - new technology that allows local authorities to hook up portable generators to exchanges and mobile base stations during a power outage. Some sites include Nelson, OB Flat, Mt Schank and Port Macdonnell.

**SADA has spent much of this year working across many policy and advocacy areas affecting all dairies across our great state. Without your membership support this would not be possible. Please ensure that your membership and supplier details are current and up to date.**



## Don't Risk Selling Raw Cow's Milk

Selling unpasteurised raw cow's milk from the farm to an individual is illegal unless that individual is accredited by Dairysafe.

Food safety regulations and compliance systems have played a significant role in ensuring the safety of the food we consume in South Australia and across the country. The critical step in protecting consumers when it comes to raw milk is pasteurisation.

However, dairy farmers are receiving enquiries about obtaining raw cow's milk, possibly due to Australia's diverse population. How farmers respond to such enquiries could have significant consequences on the reputation of South Australia's dairy industry and the health of consumers.

### Is the sale of raw cow's milk allowed?

- It is illegal to sell raw cow's milk for human consumption anywhere in Australia.
- This position follows two extensive studies conducted by the national food standards setting authority Food Standards Australia New Zealand (FSANZ), where the conclusion was that raw cow's milk is an unsafe product and therefore should not be authorised for sale in Australia. [Visit it](#) for further information.

### What are the potential penalties relating to the production and sale of raw cow's milk?

Penalties of up to \$20,000 under the *Primary Produce (Food Safety Schemes) Act 2004* can apply, as well as loss of dairy farmer accreditation.

### Why is raw cow's milk regarded as unsafe and why does distributing raw cow's milk increase the risk?

- Raw cow's milk has a higher risk of containing pathogens that can cause illness and, unlike pasteurised milk, is not treated to render it safe for consumption.
- A wide variety of organisms (pathogens) that can lead to illness can be found in raw milk including *Campylobacter*, *Listeria* and *Salmonella* along with the toxin-producing *Escherichia coli* (e.g. *coli*).
- Health complications from bacteria that can contaminate raw milk can be severe including the haemolytic uraemic syndrome (HUS), which can result in renal failure and death.
- People with increased vulnerability to diseases caused by these bacteria include young children, elderly people, people with compromised immune systems and pregnant women and their fetuses.
- There are many examples of people becoming seriously ill from the consumption of raw milk. Sadly a child

died in December 2014 in Victoria after drinking raw milk sold as 'bath milk'.

- There is no way of telling by taste, sight or smell that raw milk contains harmful bacteria.
- For raw cow's drinking milk, even extremely good hygiene procedures won't ensure dangerous pathogens aren't present.

### The South Australian (and Australian) system of ensuring food safety in the milk industry

- Accreditation of a dairy farm requires that all milk be delivered to an accredited dairy processor. Accredited dairy processors are required to pasteurise all milk and most milk products. Pasteurisation of milk is the most effective step in controlling pathogens which may enter the milk at any point from the cow through to processed products.
- Food safety is critical for all food products and everyone involved in dairy production, from farm to retail, takes their responsibilities very seriously.



In response to recent floods, resolutions were carried at a meeting of govt delegates and owners of swamps on the River Murray. First being appointment of M.R. Gillespie a competent officer to solely advise settlers on replanting swamps during the period of flood, and the General Secretary also arrange to see the Minister of Agriculture in regards to the same matter.

**Minister of Irrigation:** Regarding the rent and water rates on the reclaimed areas of the River Murray, the Minister in his letter advised there is no power under the Irrigation Act to waive these charges as questioned. If they are not paid they become a charge on the land. The matter has however received some consideration and the decision reached in regards to the restricted powers embodied in the irrigation Act 1930-1940 and those granted to the Flood Relief Committee; if the lessee merely requires an extension of time in which to pay, an application could be lodged with the Department for consideration.

On the question of water leases, it has been decided to defer sending quarterly accounts to the lessees until the areas have been de-watered, when the question of how the charges are to be met will be further considered.



- SADA hosted its annual Cocktail event with state politicians during their dinner recess on one of the last parliament sitting weeks for the year. Some great engagement with Minister Scriven and Shadow Minister Centafanti and with with Shadow Premier in attendance as well.
- Andrew attended You, me, and the future of brie: Getting the balance right for a sustainable diet at Dairy Australia
- The Board held their November Board Meeting, topics of discussion included Water Allocation Plans, MDB Plan and legislation before the federal parliament, Workforce and Education, Virtual Fencing, Effluent Management Plans, ADF and PPSA Update. If any of these topics are front of mind for you, give us a call and we would be happy to discuss further.
- Andrew attended the State Climate Change Risk Assessment for South Australia Multi-sector Regional Fact-finding Workshop. A Full brief can be found here
- Andrew and Alison met with Kelly Ann from RDA Adelaide to discuss dairy industry developments and opportunities for collaboration.

### Projects

- Elf Attended a Department of Agriculture Fisheries and Forestry meeting regarding the management traceability grants and reporting requirements of the department with a number of having been issued to meeting participants of which SADA is one. SADA must file a first stage acquittal during the course of this month.
- Elf attended the GS1 NGTAG (National GS1 Traceability Advisory Group) session to discuss progress in traceability technology nationally.
- Andrew and Lachie continued discussion with SARDI on the Virtual Fencing project with a visit to Andrew Cavill dairy near Naracoorte to discuss the trial at Struan, and met with officers from SARDI and Dairy Australia to discuss Virtual Fencing and an emerging R&D project.
- Andrew met with Melissa from Dairy SA and Dairy Australia officers to discuss development of the Our Farm Our Plan program in South Australia

### Workforce / Education

- Andrew and Alison had a number of meetings with Cheese makers, trainers and officers from the French Embassy to discuss training in dairy production and processing.
- Andrew and Elf met with Minister Scriven at Fleurieu Milk Company to present the Centre of Excellence concept
- Elf and Alison attended the Dairy SA session in Mount Gambier focused on employment laws in a session lead by Chas Cini. Followed by a visit to a farm in Meningie to assess their Effluent Management.
- Alison attended a meeting with TAFE and Dairy SA with a few River and Lakes Farmers running trainee programs on farm.
- The ADF People and Capabilities PAG Meeting to discuss Pastoral Award levels under ASNZCO ratings with discussions around reconfiguring or abolishing FLH1.
- Andrew attended the joint end-of-year meeting for all members of the SA Skills Commission's Industry Skills Councils, with the Hon Blair Boyer MP, Minister for Education, Training and Skills and Sharan Burrow the Former General Secretary of the International Trade Union Confederation (2010-2022) and will be discussing best practice approaches to apprentice and trainee safety.

### Water

- Andrew attended a Stakeholder Consultation session on program design for Basin Plan water recovery.
- Elf attended the Stakeholder consultation session on Basin Plan water recovery program design in Murray Bridge
- Andrew attended the ADF Water Policy meeting discussion MDB Plan progress and the Water Bill before the federal parliament.
- Andrew participated in a PIRSA led review of the dewatering operations that are soon to conclude on the Lower Murray following the flooding that occurred in January.

## WFI SADA Partnership

If you take out a policy with WFI, SADA receives a commission from WFI of 7.5% of the policy premium. Make sure when your next speaking with WFI that you mention your a SADA Member to get the discounts.



**Australian Dairy Sustainability Framework**

CELEBRATING 10 YEARS



## Use of methane-reducing feed additive expands

The largest US dairy co-operative is set to start pilot testing the methane-reducing feed additive Bovaer, funded by the USDA. The additive's use is expanding in Australia too, with Coles reaching a deal with Bovaer's manufacturer, dsm-firmenich, to reimburse suppliers for its cost. Reducing GHG emissions intensity (30% by 2030 from a 2015 baseline) is a goal of the [Australian Dairy Sustainability Framework](#).

## DA wins global award for Farm Environmental Tracker

Dairy Australia won an International Dairy Federation (IDF) award for its Farm Environmental Tracker at the IDF Dairy Innovations Awards 2023. The tracker helps Australian dairy farmers assess and measure their farm's performance and identify improvements, exemplifying industry efforts to progressing Commitment 4 of the Australian Dairy Sustainability Framework: reducing environmental impact.

[Read more on The Countryman.](#)

## Milk quality awards reward top dairy farmers

Dairy farmers have been recognised in the 2023 Australian Milk Quality Awards. The awards celebrate farmers who produce the country's best milk based on Bulk Milk Cell Count (BMCC) data. Dairy Australia's National Lead for Animal Health and Fertility, Dr Zoe Vogels, said the awards were part of Dairy Australia's commitment to help farmers support their herd health and milk quality: "the whole dairy industry benefits from high quality milk". [Read more on the Dairy Australia website.](#)

Having recently submitted a final report to the South Australian government on the **Developing primary industries project** – and with Primary Producers SA celebrating 10 years in 2023 – it is pertinent to reflect on the transformation of PPSA and look ahead to the future.

[Read Final Project here](#)

A few recent stories from PPSA;

- NFF recently launched their Keep Farmers Farming Campaign - [more here](#)
- 3G closure in 2024: your questions answered - [FAQ Here](#)
- The new On Farm Connectivity Information Service - [It's free](#)

The statutory review of the **Regional Investment Corporation** (RIC) has been announced and public submissions are now being accepted until 22 December.

The press release states: *"This is the chance for farmers, business owners and other stakeholders to provide feedback on the RIC's products and effectiveness, and what the RIC's functions and governance arrangements should be into the future."* Given past frustrations of broadacre farmers accessing loans, it may be worth members having [YourSay](#) on direct experience in applying/accessing RIC products.

PPSA announces the opening of the **2024 Scholarships** provided by the E.W. Stevens Trust to help students from regional South Australia who are in difficult financial circumstances continue their studies. Funds from the Trust can be used to provide essential school resources such as IT equipment, uniforms or travel costs. The Trust provides scholarships of up to \$5000 of eligible costs for any one applicant in any one year. [Apply here.](#)



**The world-first Hydrogen and Renewable Energy Bill 2023 has passed the South Australian parliament.**

This historic piece of legislation is set to open up global investment into the state's hydrogen and renewable energy industries, solidifying the state's position as a world leader in the global energy transition.

The *Hydrogen and Renewable Energy Act 2023* will streamline the process for companies to invest in these industries, while ensuring that projects are carried out in ways that protect the social, economic and environmental needs of the state.

This is a significant milestone, but the work doesn't end here.

We will continue to work to establish associated regulations for the Act and to identify the release areas for competitive tender.

To find out more about the Act, including future opportunities to have your say, visit the [DEM website](#).



**How to break down the barriers to carbon farming**

In findings that could have a profound impact on the understanding of how farmers approach carbon management, research funded by AgriFutures Australia has found they are less motivated by the allure of carbon credits than the improvement to farm productivity that comes from increasing soil organic carbon. . . . [More](#)

**Six innovations set to change the future of farming**

Investment in research and development is sowing the seeds of a bright new future for Australia's agricultural sector. Here's a quick look at six agtech innovations that could change the way we farm in the years to come. . . . [More](#)



**SADA Fresh is celebrating 10 years**

The ground-breaking milk brand was launched by the South Australian Dairy-farmers' Association (SADA) in October 2013 to help secure the future of the State's dairy farmers and their industry. SADA was the first dairy industry association in Australia to launch its own brand, and the response from consumers has been overwhelming and sales continue to grow. Starting with a little over 1.1 million litres sold in 2014 to more than double that in 2023. We have enjoyed sharing this great story across the state and across the border, we hope you got the opportunity to also share how great the dairy industry is in our State.



# Members Newsletter



## From the President

Robert Brokenshire

Firstly on behalf of the SADA Team may I wish you and your families a very Merry Christmas and a healthy and successful 2024. Hopefully the pace of next year will slow a little compared to this year which seemed to be one of living in a whirlwind with the year going fast. Compared to most dairy producing countries **milk pricing** in Australia has held up for 2023/24, yes it is fact that processors with a large export base are finding it tough internationally however most commentators in the last few weeks are reporting hope for export demand to pick up in 2024. Obviously we are seeing inflation and higher interest rates dampening consumption overseas as well as in Australia. Early next year SADA will launch the new **Dairy Action Plan 2024 to 2029** with one of our goals to increase milk production this should be a real opportunity going forward as the State Gov-

ernment have projected population growth in the Greater Adelaide Area to be approximately 650,000 people by 2050 and that growth will demand much more Dairy product domestically. Please read the article by Lyndon Cleggett on the **BJD program** that PIRSA are now handing responsibility to manage to SADA this will also help us to focus more on **biosecurity** which is becoming more important for a sustainable dairy future. On that note whether we like it or not consumers are requesting and governments are pushing for more focus on **environmental management** by all agricultural commodities. Internationally some of that push has resulted in draconian policies for Farmers, SADA on your behalf will continue to advocate to our governments for a sensible balanced and workable set of policies that meet the demands of our consumers without preventing us from growing

our industry and helping grow the South Australian and Australian economy. We need to point out that populist knee jerk reaction policy such as we have seen overseas damages a nations economy and potentially sovereignty of a country.

As always if we can help with any concerns you have we encourage you to contact us at anytime either by phoning the SADA office, contacting your [local board member](#) or myself Robert Brokenshire 0419 815 990.

### WFI SADA Partnership

If you take out a policy with **WFI**, SADA receives a **commission from WFI of 7.5% of the policy premium.** Make sure when your next speaking with WFI that you mention your a SADA Member to get the discounts.



SADA has spent much of this year working across many policy and advocacy areas affecting all dairies across our great state. Without your membership support this would not be possible.

Please ensure that your membership and supplier details are current and up to date.

<https://share.hsforms.com/1AwYKsxjQ1inwndbn2NbYQd5tpo>



## Redefining the Johne's Program

Around 18 months ago PIRSA indicated they wanted to shift their focus and resources from managing and implementing the Johne's Program to foot and mouth disease and lumpy skin disease as they saw a greater need for this. The funding for the Johne's Program comes from Cattle Industry Fund out of levies from the sale of NLIS tags in South Australia.

Under PIRSA the program had become very expensive to maintain and keep viable.

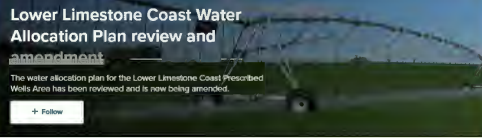
I encourage SADA to tender for the running of the Johne's program in the future. SADA tendered for the opportunity to run the Johne's program and were successful in that tender. I believe the tender from SADA is much more viable and this will result in substantial savings for the CIF fund.

The importance of maintaining the program was reinforced to me in England this year when I was involved in several discussions around the concerns that scientists are still trying to link Johne's to Crohn's disease. If this ever happens it could be devastating to the cattle industry.

In South Australia we have minimal infections and to maintain and better that position it can only be positive for the livestock industry.

In the long-term future in the dairy industry, we could see changes as it has now been shown that with good calf rearing programs and keeping young stock separate to older ones, if you have Johne's infections it's possible to breed it out of a herd over a period. So, with HEC testing this could be very beneficial for the dairy industry in the future.

Lyndon Clegett



A process to amend the Lower Limestone Coast Water Allocation Plan (the Plan) is set to begin in early 2024. The transition to amendment follows the conclusion of an 18 month review period which found that change to the Plan is required for it to remain appropriate for the region.

As with the review there will be a number of ways in which groups and individuals can be involved in the amendment of the Lower Limestone Coast Water Allocation Plan and these will be announced as the opportunities arise.

We encourage you visit the Plan's dedicated project page to keep up to date with and contribute to the amendment process .



## On-farm Emergency Water Infrastructure Rebate Scheme

A new round of the On-farm Emergency Water Infrastructure Rebate Scheme is open for applications. The scheme supports primary producers across South Australia to access funding to install on-farm water infrastructure.

For further details on the On-farm Emergency Water Infrastructure Rebate Scheme, including guidelines and application forms, visit the [On-farm Emergency Water Infrastructure Rebate Scheme](#). Applications close on Tuesday 30 April 2024 at 5.00 pm ACST, or when all funds are allocated.



## The Australian Farmer digital journal now available DEC 2023 LIVE EDITION

TAF, a free online journal of distinction now well into its 7th year, has been updated with more than 100 pages of brand new content in the last 12 months since SADA's previous announcement.

## Dairy Industry workforce development needed



SADA recognises the ongoing importance of a skilled and appropriately trained workforce to maintain our dynamic industry. Developments in technology and management systems, increased complexity in understanding and managing sustainability and improvements in animal nutrition and well being all require a more skilled and focused workforce. Such as;

- Research is underway into the dynamics of a [trade apprenticeship](#) in agriculture to help attract new entrants and promote career pathways in agriculture. SADA has been involved in discussing various options for an apprenticeship model. More detailed engagement is to come and we need to make sure that an apprenticeship model is fit for purpose for SA dairy farmers. A [short survey](#) is available for input between till 28 January 2024.
- Equally, it is important that dairy has an input into the [2024 Skills Priority List](#). This list is used by Jobs and Skills Australia to inform government of recruitment challenges and occupations that might be in shortage across the Australian labour market. Where such gaps exist across the dairy sector (and they do), it is important that they are known. The [2024 Skills Priority List \(SPL\) stakeholder survey](#) by [Jobs and Skills Australia](#) (JSA) is now open until 5pm (AEDT) Friday 23 February 2024.
- The government continues to consider [off shore labour](#) and skills. This consists of complex national policy, it is important that dairy has a strong and considered position which can be articulated to Ministers and Departments.



## Message from the Minister

**Hon Clare Scriven MLC**  
Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development

MONDAY 04 DECEMBER 2022

Dear partners in primary industries and regions, I am pleased to inform you that the [Veterinary Services Bill 2023](#) has now passed both houses of Parliament and will now be referred to as the *Veterinary Services Act 2023*.

This is a significant milestone in the State Government's ambitious legislative reform agenda to deliver modern and flexible legislation that strengthens our primary industries, maintains our natural environ-

ment and safeguards plant and animal health.

The new Act will ensure that the legislation aligns with both the contemporary nature of the veterinary profession and the standards expected by users and providers of veterinary services. Veterinarians play a key role in animal, human and community wellbeing by maintaining the health and welfare of our pets and the productivity and growth of our livestock industries. The *Veterinary Services Act 2023* recognises significant changes that have occurred to the profession during the past 20 years, including changes in practice models and location, employment type, species serviced, and specialities offered, and an increase in mainstream non-veterinary care services.

The Department of Primary Industries and Regions (PIRSA) will work closely with the

[Veterinary Surgeons Board of South Australia](#) to prepare for the commencement of the new Act, with the aim of ensuring a smooth transition. In the meantime, and until commencement of the *Veterinary Services Act 2023*, the [Veterinary Practice Act 2003](#) remains in effect.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to this important process. The State Government, through PIRSA, will continue to prioritise collaboration between government, industry stakeholders, and the community as part of the reform process for our primary industries and regions. I encourage you to take all future opportunities to engage and collaborate with us in delivering comprehensive and forward-thinking legislation. By doing so, we will position our primary industries and regional communities to be resilient and prosperous for generations to come.



## UPDATE [Greater Adelaide Regional Plan](#)



- Submissions will be published online. The completed GARP is expected to be approved by the Commission in late-2024.
- Research on the next generation of Regional Plans has already commenced.
- All Regional Plans will be undertaken concurrently, the 6 Country Plans are expected to be completed prior to the GARP

PPSA's engagement with the State Planning Commission, involved a quarterly meeting with Commissioner Craig Holden, during which time key points arising from the PPSA submission were discussed and received a briefing on current projects:

- The Commission proposes to review and strengthen **interface management policies in the Planning and Design Code**, focussing on sensitive land uses developed in proximity of existing industrial and employment activities, to protect the ongoing operations of existing industries. This will go to consultation in early 2024.
- In response to concerns regarding urban encroachment on farming land, a Ministerial directive has been issued to local governments to suspend approval for "Rural Living" allotments being ap-

proved in proximity to regional townships. This will be reviewed as part of the regional plan reviews, as the view is this class of rezoning is limiting urban growth potential for housing.

- Consultation is open on the **State-wide Bushfire Hazards Overlay Code Amendment** to update the spatial application of the bushfire hazard overlays to reflect recent bushfire hazard mapping, and review the policy contained in each of the overlays. This may address concerns raised by PPSA in relation to urbanisation density in the GARP and impact on bushfire hazards.

The **Future Living Code Amendment** seeks to enhance housing diversity by providing housing options for smaller household types and responding to the ageing demographics of the State's population by providing greater opportunities for ageing

in place and will apply to certain residential areas within the City of Unley, Town of Walkerville, City of Campbelltown, City of Burnside and City of Prospect, and investigations will consider whether it will also extend to other local government areas. This may help to address concerns in the future concerning housing options on farms to accommodate multi-generational living.

Also discussions on the adequacy of **State Planning Policy 8: Primary Industry**, which was last reviewed in May 2019. There is an opportunity for PPSA to consider the effectiveness of this policy; and seek support from the Minister to review this policy (as a statutory instrument) by directing the State Planning Commission to undertake public consultation. This will be referred to the PPSA Planning Taskforce in early 2024 for further consideration.

## 2024



## Save \$100 on early bird registration

ADC early bird registration is available until 12 January 2024. Farmers save \$100+ on full registration including all social functions. Discounts apply for subsequent farmers from the same farm. Find out more at [ADC Registration 2024](#) details.



- Andrew met with Hon Ben Hood and Dr Nicola Centofanti to talk Farmers **Mental Health and Wellbeing**.
- Andrew and Alison met with John Gladigau, director of Little Town Production and creator of a production called 'Kick of ya Boots' this is a musical about celebrating rural life, exploring challenges commonly faced by farming families such as succession planning and demonstrating practical ways that farmers can effectively manage in difficult circumstances. First performed in 2021 by an impressive cast of Loxton locals, has been highly regarded.
- This connection was firstly instigated by a conversation with Adam Smith from Mount Gambier Hay Runners wanting to do a similar thing in the South East. SADA has introduced all the key players for this including Ministers Ben Hood and Nicola Centofanti and is excited to help this idea to grow. If you know anyone or if you are interested in getting involved, reach out.
- Andrew attended the DA AGM and Farmers Forum in Moama. This was a great networking event and pleasing to see the collaboration between SADA and Dairy SA recognised by many outside the state.
- Andrew and Elf met with **Hon David Speirs** to wade through some water allocation planning and water policy issues.
- Andrew and Alison together with Melissa (Dairy SA) met with PIRSA to clear up some reporting on the Farm Business Resilience program that the **Our Farm Our Plan program** is being funded through, have you registered for your session yet?
- Andrew and Alison met with Peter Adamo and Mandy Pacitti from DIAA to discuss the 'reinvigoration' of **Do Dairy**. @dodairy.
- Andrew and Alison met with Paul Verma from **SARDI** to discuss a project opportunity through the Future Drought Fund for a new Genetic study, identifying a cattle mutation for a climate resilient breed, but more to come shortly once the project brief has been completed from SARDI.
- Andrew and Alison then dropped into Struan in Naracoorte to catch up with Megan Willis to further nut out some detail on the **Virtual Fencing trial** and the possibility of tour a Tassie to observe a VR Fencing project that Holter are undertaking.

- Elf met with the incoming Australian **Ambassador to China** with other representatives of the South Australian primary sector. Dairy took the position that China's approach to trade made it too unreliable to create a relationship of ongoing trust to attract substantial amounts of investment from the dairy industry.
- Andrew and Alison attended the Dairy SA South East Christmas get together in Port Mac, and gave an update on SADA policy and effluent, urging all our members 'to get their shit together'! This was then followed by an informative Schnitty with SADA session in Mount Gambier on **Water Allocation Plan**, thanks Graeme Hamilton and Terry Buckley for their foresight and good sound advice on this process. Again we urge all members to reach out with any questions you have on your water allocations.

### EPA Effluent Management Plan

If you've received your letter from the EPA, don't hesitate to give Elf a call, so we can assess what the best action is required by you.

- Elf met with the EPA to discuss the EPA's response to industry compliance with EPA expectations and the operation of the Environmental Protection Act. Eight topics were discussed including specific issues on specific farms.
- Elf completed and submitted a second Effluent Management Plan for a SADA Member. This plan is under consideration by the EPA for approval which is expected in the coming week.
- Elf continued to support another member with an Effluent Management Plan for a farm in the South East. This plan was submitted a week prior however, the EPA has insisted on shorter timeframes. An amended plan will be submitted in consultation with the farmer during the next week.
- Elf provided further assistance and information to a farmer who is subject to a EPA inquiry on the farm. SADA has been informed that there will be an increase in the number of farm visits by the EPA in the coming year.
- Elf assisted a farmer with a separate contract issue pertaining to the farmer's business and arrangements regarding the partial sale of some land.
- Elf assisted a farmer with a civil dispute relating to the installation of equipment on the farm. This assistance will hopefully see the dispute be resolved with the supplier without escalating the matter.
- Elf met with Envirotech, an Adelaide based firm, to discuss the future development of methane based capture on farm as well as composting potential for sludge on dairy farms.



## National Farm Crime Survey

The Centre for Rural Criminology (UNE) has recently launched the [Australian Farm Crime Survey](https://bit.ly/farmcrimeune), the first of its kind in nearly twenty years. Please see a link to the survey here: <https://bit.ly/farmcrimeune>.



## NTI delivers driver safety campaign supporting the dairy industry

One of Australia's first road safety initiatives designed to reduce dairy tanker rollovers has been delivered, with a catalogue of multi-media training resources now complete. The initiative was developed after research revealed dairy tankers were 2.4 times more likely to be involved in a major crash than other freight-carrying heavy vehicles. World-first training resources for [dairy carriers and drivers](#) are now available as a result of the project.



We hope that you've enjoyed these little blast from the past. You can go 'back to the future' on our website and catch up if you've missed any.

This month we've included a report from the South Australian Dairymen's Association entitled.

### The Future Outlook 1963-64

[Click here](#)

