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SADA NEWSLETTERS 2024



Members Newsletter

January 2024



From the President

Robert Brokenshire

2023 was a year of consolidation and setting up for the future for many in the South Australian dairy industry. There was a focus in on-farm infrastructure and technology, which will allow farms to be more efficient in the coming years. While robots were the poster child, many different technologies were adopted from underpasses to collars to improve the long-term operations of dairy businesses.

Rising input costs and inflation were the big issues for all dairy businesses while the impact of [flooding in the lower Murray](#) was a critical issue for a section of our industry. The increasing costs of power, fertiliser, fuel and feed, combined with labour shortages, took the gloss off what could have been a standout year.

Uncertainty regarding access to water in the Murray Darling Basin and in a number of Water Allocation Plan areas also caused concern.

The season in itself also proved to be a challenge for all SA dairy regions with a late opening followed by continual rain and then almost a complete shut off from September, which has had significant impact on

silage and hay cuts and the flush of spring pasture. Milk prices also have been varied, with the opening prices being strong to steady for some dairy farmers and a partial reduction for others where their processor has a focus on export.

A number of storm clouds are gathering on the horizon of 2024, which mean it is likely to be a cautious year.

Opportunities and challenges

2024 is all about leveraging opportunities and challenges for the dairy industry, including working with farmers along the River Murray to assist with the significant challenges they faced in milking again and continuing to milk after the floods had an enormous impact on their operations.

International pricing for dairy is depressed and somewhat volatile while the impact of El Nino and erratic weather patterns mean that it will be important to bunker down and cement in the gains of the last year or two. We will hopefully have a better feel for the year to come by April.

A reduction in input costs during 2024 after

inflation and interest rate increases took the shine off better milk prices in the past few years. With a strong domestic market and a soft international export market the dairy industry will closely monitor opening prices for July 2024. While China will always be an important market, future exports are likely to focus on South East Asia. The Indian market remains both a great and distant opportunity.

Effluent management focus of EPA

The Environment Protection Authority was reviewing its Dairy Effluent Management Code with possible legislative changes, occurring at the same time as significant changes to federal and state biosecurity - all of which impacted dairy.

On a positive note there are signs that the [demand for dairy across the globe is starting to pick up](#) as indicators are showing countries starting to slowly recover from high inflation and interest rates.

In 2024 we will launch our revised Dairy Industry Action Plan, which will provide focus for our ongoing development across the industry.

Our key goal will be in partnering to deliver premium dairy products to local and distant consumers which are healthy and nutritious **and have strong** sustainability credentials.



DairySA's Central Conference 2024

New year, new speakers and a new location – driven by local input, to leave you inspired in the world of dairy.

You're invited to join Dairy SA on **Thursday 21 March** in picturesque **Hahndorf**, within the stunning Adelaide Hills region.

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

<https://share.hsforms.com/1IAwYKsxjQ1inwndbn2NbYQd5tpo>



Dairy SA 2024 Young Dairy Network YDN Retreat

February Tues 6 to Wed 7 2024.

Join DairySA's for its first Young Dairy Network event of the year. This event will be different to other events they have hosted in the past, spanning over 2 days with two main components, its important that all YDNers stay the night!

The first component is looking at your future in the dairy industry – this planning session will aim to define and strategizing your personal journey within the industry. What does your career look like going forward?

What steps do you need to take to get to where you want to be?

What are your goals and ambitions for the future?

This will be followed up with one-on-one sessions with the deliverer after the event. The second component will be a team building activity – we will visit the magnificent Kuitpo Forest where we will be above the trees, completing an array of different obstacle courses. Dairy SA will cover accommodation and meals, with those who are wanting to come only needed to cover the price of the activity and drinks (activity is \$55). [More info here](#)

Raising the Roof 2024

Brought to you by Dairy Australia and Agriculture Victoria to be held in the Hunter Valley, NSW on Tuesday 27 February – Thursday 29 February 2024.

Industry leaders and global experts will share world-best practice in feeding and housing infrastructure design and management. Hear first-hand from Australian dairy farmers who have successfully transitioned their farm systems and discover the resources shaping the future of dairy farming. Virtual and in-person farm visits showcasing latest innovative thinking in a range of intensive farm systems.

Practical insights and key take homes for those contemplating change or already operating intensive farm systems. Networking opportunities with fellow dairy farmers, as well as experts and service providers.

[To Register or to find our more info](#)



South Australia's new Biodiversity Act

Biodiversity is the incredible tapestry of life on our planet, including different species of plants, animals, microorganisms, and the ecosystems they form.

We need functioning biodiversity for clean air, healthy soil, modern medicine, food on our plates, and a resilient earth that can respond to threats like climate change.

Across the globe, biodiversity is under threat. In South Australia more than 1,100 of our plants and animal species are listed as threatened with extinction.

South Australia does not currently have a dedicated Act to safeguard biodiversity, instead provisions exist across multiple laws, which has led to gaps in protections.

Developing the new Act and increasing the effectiveness of our legislative framework will allow us to do things differently. The new Act will be an important tool in ensuring South Australia's long-term future through a resilient and sustainable economy, while safeguarding nature for future generations to enjoy.

Find out more:

- read our [discussion paper](#)
- watch our [biodiversity Q&A video with Tim Jarvis](#)([External link](#))
- take a look at our [FAQs](#) when reading the discussion paper for answers to your questions, including for more technical information. You can also [download a printable version](#)
- learn more about biodiversity and the Act on [DEW's website](#)

This [consultation](#) is open from 6 December 2023 to 14 February 2024.



Take a look at the carbon journey in the livestock business - what farmers need to know to get started and lessons from those leading the way.

Methane and carbon science: How it all adds up

Not so long ago, carbon was a word few farmers mentioned.

Yet producers have always been in the business of carbon farming, as close to half of the pastures and crops grown is carbon. The real question, says one of the country's leading scientists in climate change Professor Richard Eckard, is how farmers can be more efficient at capturing carbon from the atmosphere and putting it through to animal product in the most profitable way.

Of course, the other key element is to do that in a way that minimises greenhouse gas emissions. Dr Eckard is Professor of Sustainable Agriculture at the University of Melbourne and Director of the Primary Industries Climate Challenges Centre, a research centre addressing the impacts of a changing climate on agriculture.

His research focuses on sustainable agricultural production, with a recent focus on carbon neutral agriculture. He developed the first GHG accounting tools for agriculture and has provided the science basis for the development of six carbon offset methods in Australia.

He is passionate about the potential agriculture has to drive a climate solution, and is happy to speak endlessly on every facet of this topic.

The Carbon Series was produced in collaboration with the Australian Science Media Centre with support from the META Public Interest Journalism Fund administered by the Walkley Foundation.



On Farm Connectivity Program

The Australian Government's **On Farm Connectivity Program** is providing \$30 million over 2 years to enable primary producers in agriculture, forestry and/or fisheries to take advantage of connected machinery and sensor technology.

The objectives of the program are to:

- extend digital connectivity and enable Primary Producers to take advantage of advanced farming technology
- enhance a Primary Producer's ability to implement digital agribusiness solutions through improved connectivity
- capitalise on the agricultural sector's productivity and growth



The AgTech producer groups aim to upskill and support producers in using technology, for industry-specific improvements.

Are you a producer looking to learn how [#AgTech](#) can improve your efficiency and profitability?

Expressions of interest (EOI) are now open for eligible primary producers, pre-existing groups and new groups formed for the purpose of exploring the use of AgTech.

Eligible groups will be able to apply for funding of up to \$18,500 (GST exclusive) towards the delivery of Ag-Tech Producer Group activity costs. **Applications close 19 February 2024.**

- support access to new communications equipment and services by offsetting some of the cost.

Round 1 Applications are now open for Round 1 of the OFCP, with up to \$15 million in rebates available for the purchase of eligible equipment.

Eligible equipment suppliers can claim a rebate of between \$3,000 and \$30,000 for the sale of eligible equipment, with primary producers accessing discounted prices. The rebate can be claimed for up to 50 per cent of the cost of the eligible equipment.

Equipment suppliers must submit an application for each proposed sale to the Business Grants Hub through the online [portal](#).

This application must detail the proposed connectivity solution/equipment and include a declaration from the primary producer that they meet the eligibility criteria. The Business Grants Hub will assess applications against eligibility criteria specified in the Grant Opportunity Guidelines.

The Business Grants Hub will notify suppliers if their application has been successful. The equipment supplier will then have 60 days to finalise the sale of the connectivity/solution equipment with the primary producer.

Equipment suppliers can then claim the rebate through the online [portal](#).

This is a demand driven grant opportunity. Rebates will be awarded to eligible applicants on a first come, first served basis in order of application receipt, until the funding is exhausted. \$15 million is available to **30 June 2024**, or until funding is exhausted, whichever occurs first. It is important to note that a rebate cannot be claimed for equipment sold before the Business Grants Hub has notified the supplier that their application has been approved.

Program Guidelines can be found on the [On Farm Connectivity Program Grant Opportunity page](#).



21 May 1957

The Wholesalers in their letter informed the Association that as from the 1 July 1957 the manufacturers contribution of one penny per one pound fat in the basic price will be discontinued. Mr. Elliott answered a number of questions but said he could not reveal the confidential part of the conference. He said the members must fully realise that this penny was a contribution made by merchants some two years ago, it was not part of the formula for fixing the basic price, and was only added to the price after it had been fixed by the formula. If we remained adamant it would not be easy to approach the Premier as two of the companies which are most insistent that the penny should be returned, are co-operative factories. In view of all the circumstances he felt that it would be wise to allow this penny to be withdrawn which would of course make the basic price 3/5¼d. (Three shillings & Fivepence farthing) as from 1 July 1957.

In **April 1958** following a general discussion regarding lean period production, the Central Council obtained figures from the Milk Board showing that of the 2,400 licensed producers, approximately 500 did not produce more than 10 gallons per day during the lean period.



Australian Dairy Sustainability Framework

CELEBRATING 10 YEARS

AUSTRALIAN DAIRY SUSTAINABILITY FRAMEWORK

Dairy profitability and sustainability linked:

Aussie dairy farmers are doing a bloody good job when it comes to environmental sustainability. But like marathon runners competing against folks doing their first couch-to-5k, those personal best records aren't going to fall as easily and in as big an increment as those just getting started.

We need to recognise that back [in 2012 we were the first Australian ag industry](#) to have the foresight to set up a sustainability framework that covers our livelihoods, human nutrition, our animals and the environment. That since then we've made big gains, and that while we'll continue to make gains, they'll be increasingly incremental.

Sure, the latest Australian Dairy Sustainability Framework report figures are looking pretty good, but the reality is what we're going to see from now on are incremental gains. It's not because we're not doing enough, but rather because we've done so much already.

Today more than 70 per cent of Australian dairy farmers have implemented energy efficiency projects or used renewable ener-

gy and 83pc have fenced off all natural waterways.

We're also making new commitments, such as agriculture's first industry action plan for halving food waste and a roadmap to improve the sustainability of the packaging of dairy products by 2025.

Of course, we need to keep going: farmers have traditionally been custodians of their land and environment, as demonstrated by organisations such as Landcare, which started more than 30 years ago! We now see it has become a focal point for global and domestic consumers and markets.

But we need everyone to recognise that the next gains are going to be tough, and we need to balance our business viability alongside our environmental investment.

Trust is strong in dairy industry

It's encouraging to see consumer support for dairy reflected in the framework report. The Dairy Trust Tracker Survey shows that is strong, with almost eight in 10 Australians of the belief dairy is essential for good health and wellbeing.

In 2023 the dairy industry also welcomed the release of a [study that quantified the health and financial benefits](#) that could flow from increasing the servings of dairy in the diets of aged-care residents. Essentially, consumers know dairy is good for them. And they should feel good about consuming dairy, too.

As we look to 2024, we need to make sure we continue to do our bit for the environment, but we also need to make sure that consumers understand our bottom lines

must also be sustainable.

To keep producing food that is nutritious, good for our health and wellbeing and sustainable, it must also be commercially viable - we must be able to turn a profit like any business, otherwise we are not going to be here long.

Essentially, we need regulators and shoppers to recognise the good work we've done and when comparing our produce with countries that don't have the standards we do be willing to pay for the sustainability progress we have achieved.

That's not all we need to do. We need the whole supply chain to do its bit and not just to look at farmers for the easy gains.

We need to be real about the promise of the new income streams for adapting and mitigating climate change.

Sure, these may be great for some, but for a lot of us already doing good environmental work, we've done it. It's not new, so we won't be rewarded or will need to keep the gains to shore up our post-gate credentials.

We need to ensure farmers' interests are represented when new well-considered environmental policies and regulations that impact us are being set. These must recognise that due to the industry's front foot approach that a scalpel is needed not a chainsaw.

Whatever the world (or nature, for that matter) throws at us, we need to keep doing what we do best, continually evolving and improving what we do and ensuring we have a dairy industry that not only cares for the environment but which makes sense financially too.

[Download](#) the 2023 Sustainability Report.



Dairy Australia



Australian Dairy Farmers



Good people to know.

1300 934 934

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.

Members Newsletter

February 2024

January 2024



From the President

Robert Brokenshire

As I write this, we are bringing our girls into our newly commissioned 70 birth high tech rotary dairy.

SAVE THE DATE for the official opening on **Tuesday 23 April**, we thank DeLaval for all their support over the past couple years to help get this over the line. We invite you to join us for the official opening with the Premier and Minister Scriven to launch the next iteration of the SA Dairy Action Plan.

Aside from finishing off the new dairy, it's been a busy month in the SADA Office with a joint meeting with our partners Dairy SA, where we also got the opportunity to network with Mehdi Doroudi, Chief Executive of PIRSA and Ben Bruce,

Chief Executive of DEW, a great evening with some informative outcomes for the dairy industry to come. We also welcomed the new Chief Veterinary Officer (CVO) Elisa Sparks and will soon be meeting with EPA Chief Executive Jon Gorvett.

After all this we have started discussion with Milk processors to get a handle on milk prices going into the next year. PIRSA released it's annual Scorecard showing positive figures for entire Ag industry but most importantly Dairy is looking great with an **increase of 34% in farmgate milk prices along with an increase in production and a rise in cheese exports.**

If you have any questions don't hesitate to give the office a call.

In this issue, our busy team has outlined some of the work underway at the moment;

Submissions - There are a few Submission due over the next Month, get involved and send your thoughts to the office or undertake any of the surveys. Namely the [Dairy Industry Code](#), [The Animal Welfare Act](#), [Biodiversity Act](#) and the [SA Climate Change Risk Assessment](#).

Funding - there are 2 funding grant opportunities closing soon, the Methane Emissions Reduction in Livestock and the Energy Efficiency Grants for Small and Medium Enterprises. Check out our website for [links](#).

SADA has facilitated a few forums recently on the **EPA Dairy Effluent Management Plan** demand, we can not stress enough, "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 signaled 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.

[Register now](#) for all EPA Updates or check out our [Website](#) for the latest news.



Primary industries revenue reaches record high

South Australia’s primary industries and agribusiness sectors continue to set the pace and deliver solid growth, with a 7% increase in generated revenue to \$18.5 billion for 2022-23.

Dairy: increase of 34% in farmgate milk prices along with an increase in production and a rise in cheese exports.

This result illustrates the resilience of the sector despite ongoing domestic and international pressures such as inflation and rising interest rates, the slow global recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic and the war in the Ukraine.

The main driver of this increase is a result of last year’s 2022-23 record grain harvest, coupled with strong global commodity prices for grain which resulted in an increase of 39% for field crop revenue to \$7.76 billion.

While primary industries grew overall, particularly driven by the record value grain crop, a number of sectors including wine, livestock and horticulture saw declines in value compared with the previous year.

The 2022-23 Primary Industries Scorecard, [interactive dashboard](#) and more detailed information by sector can be found at pir.sa.gov.au/scorecards.

Closing Date: 15 March 2024.

The Code was introduced in January 2020. The aim of the Code is to improve the clarity and transparency of trading arrangements between dairy farmers and buyers.

The Code legislates two review periods for 2021 and before the end of 2026. The *Competition and Consumer (Industry Codes – Dairy) Amendment (2023 Measures No. 1) Regulation 2023* amended subsection 6(9) of the Dairy Industry Code regulations to extend the timeframe for a report to be provided to the Treasurer on the second review of the Code by three years. From ‘on or before 31 December 2023’ to ‘on or before 31 December 2026.’ The commencement date of the second review of ‘on or after 1 January 2023’ has not changed.

In May 2021, the Australian Government conducted the first review.

The first review report, released in March 2022, found that the Code was working as intended. It also made three recommendations for improvement.

This consultation is seeking feedback on the topics raised in Recommendation 3 of the first review of the Code. The feedback that you provide will help us identify ongoing issues in Australia’s dairy industry. This feedback will inform the second review of the Code.

Responding to this survey is your opportunity to Have Your Say on issues with the Dairy Industry Code, as identified in Recommendation 3 of the first review of the Code. Read the [discussion paper](#),

South Australia Climate Change Risk Assessment Stakeholder Adaptation Survey

SADA invites you to participate in the Climate Change Adaptation Survey, a key component of South Australia’s first state-wide Climate Change Risk Assessment. This survey aims to better understand the climate change adaptation actions underway in South Australia, the gaps and barriers to responding to climate risks and opportunities, and to learn from you about the challenges and success of real-world adaptation projects.

We know that your time is important, and we appreciate your commitment in sharing your experiences. Together, we can make a significant difference in addressing the challenges posed by climate change and help make sure the important efforts underway in South Australia are accurately reflected in the South Australian Climate Change Risk Assessment.

Please provide your responses to SADA by 15th of March to ensure our submission can be lodged by the due date.

The survey can be accessed here: [South Australian Climate Change Risk Assessment – Stakeholder Adaptation Survey](#)

Please ensure that your membership and supplier details are current and up to date.
<https://share.hsforms.com/1IAwYKsxjQ1inwndbn2NbYQd5tpo>



Funding to validate and demonstrate solutions to reduce methane emissions from grazing animals

Closing date: Wednesday 20 March 2024

The purpose of this grant opportunity is to validate and demonstrate technologies to deliver methane-reducing livestock feed supplements to grazing animals and other solutions to reduce methane emissions from grazing livestock (beef and dairy cattle, and sheep) at large scale.

Applicants will need to demonstrate how their proposed solutions will be safe and effective in reducing enteric emissions in an operational environment. Please refer to the grant opportunity guidelines for full details. [More info here](#)



Latest update from the Department for Industry, Innovation and Science (DIIS)

Interim response to the responsible use of AI

The Australian Government has published its interim response to the safe and responsible AI consultation held in 2023, outlining how community feedback will influence regulation of AI in Australia, and the action the government will take. [Read the response](#)

Research collaboration grants support industry

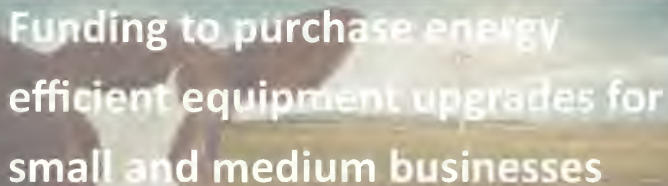
Apply now for the Australian Government's Cooperative Research Centre (CRC) Grants which support medium to long-term industry-led research collaborations that aim to solve industry identified problems. [Apply Now](#)

Tucker's pilot program to measure emissions

A partnership between DIIS, Siemens and Food SA has supported South Australian business, Tucker's Natural, to pilot Siemens' new technology to identify and track their carbon footprint across its supply chain. [Read More](#)

Small business sustainability support

The Office for Small and Family Business, in partnership with the Department of Environment and Water, is looking to procure a subject matter expert to deliver its Small Business Sustainability Support Program in 2024. [Learn More](#)



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

Closing date: Monday 8 April 2024

The grant opportunity provides eligible small and medium businesses up to \$25,000 to purchase energy efficient equipment to reduce and manage energy usage and costs. The Energy Efficiency Grants for Small and Medium Sized Enterprises Round 2 will support businesses to upgrade or replace inefficient equipment to improve their energy efficiency. These upgrades will enable industries to reduce their energy use, manage energy cost volatility in the long term and contribute to Australia's target of a 43% reduction on 2005 emission levels by 2030. [More info here](#)



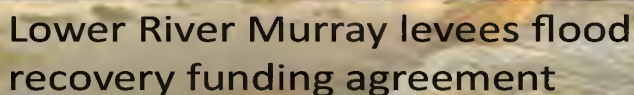
Documentary highlights dairy sustainability

The documentary series, Planet Shapers, highlights ways Australian dairy farmers help protect the environment. The series showcases Gippsland dairy farmers Sandra Jefford and Wilco Droppert, and the work they are doing to reduce their carbon footprint. It uses them as an example of the work the whole industry is doing to be more environmentally sustainable. Australian Dairy Sustainability Framework Steering Committee Chair Graeme Nicoll shares the progress the industry has made and our ambitions to continuously improve. **Watch** the segment on Youtube [here](#).

The role of global 'nutrient trade' in population health

Our food can travel a long way to get to us. Food trade plays a key role supplying nutrition around the globe, and diversifying food supply. Research on food trade has a long history, but what about the importance of the nutrients that make up those foods? Researchers from the [Sustainable Nutrition Initiative](#) have examined nutrient trade, focusing on protein, calcium, iron and vitamins A and B12 – and their impact on health.

Did you know? Dairy foods are responsible for approximately half of global food calcium consumption. **Read more** from [The Conversation](#).



Lower River Murray levees flood recovery funding agreement

Up to \$31 million in funding will be provide for intermediate remediation of government-owned and private levees between Mannum and Wellington which were damaged in the 2022-23 River Murray flood. [Full Media Release here](#).



16 July 1959

Members of the Executive committee explained to the Milk Board that the current seasonal position was grave in that very little grazing was available, herds were being almost entirely hand fed, and both farm stocks and fodder for purchase were seriously depleted. Hay prices were rising rapidly, and oats were now unprocurable, though they expect wheat and barley to be readily available. As well as the high cost of producing milk farmers were experiencing lower production, and they requested the Board to grant an immediate price increase on the grounds that costs had undoubtedly increased since the last adjustment in May 1957, and that no action had been taken on the 1957 cost survey which showed a figure of 42.74 pennies compared with current price of 38.7 pennies. In view of this they were asking on behalf of the Association for a rise of 4 pennies per gallon. The Members of the Milk Board expressed the belief that no price rise would be considered on the score of "Drought", but it was reasonable to assume a cost rise since the last price was determined. Other sections of the industry would feel they had grounds for a rise also and hence the 4d. asked for would rise to 8d. overall. After much consideration the Milk Board then advised members that it would consider the request.

1 July 1959 Memorandum of a meeting with the Minister of Agriculture.

The General Secretary asked the Minister whether the Government had considered the effect on Metropolitan Dairy farmers of the recent restriction on sewerage farm fodder, and whether some form of control on slaughtering was possible rather than total prohibition of grazing. The Minister replied that this had initially been the case, but the farmers had not fulfilled their obligations and several cases of slaughtering or disposal of restricted cattle had been detected. In view of the extreme danger to our US meat market it had been decided to prohibit all grazing by animals subject to slaughter for human consumption.

Fleurieu AG FEST
Yankalilla Showgrounds
MONDAY 18 MARCH 2024

All Welcome
FREE Community event.
 Gates Open 9.30am to 5pm with speakers, panels and workshops. Showcasing the ideas and tech being used in Agriculture.



DairySA 2024 Central Conference

Thursday 21 March 2024

Adelaide Hills Convention Centre, Hahndorf

DELIVERING for DAIRY



Good people to know.
 1300 934 934

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March 2024

January 2024



From the President

Robert Brokenshire

This month I attended the ADF State Presidents meetings on 12 March. At the top of the Agenda was a discussion around ADF and VFF levy discrepancies. This matter remains unresolved and the State Presidents supported the push by ADF to have the issue addressed.

Closer to home, on 21 March together with my fellow board members Ben McHugh and Gary Zweck, I attended the Dairy SA Central Conference in Hahndorf. Well done to the Dairy SA team on another quality conference. The level of optimism for the South Australian industry was one of a number of highlights from the day.

The following day I attended the national [Dairy Symposium](#) convened by the Australian Government to discuss productivity, competition and growth for the dairy industry in Australia. Minister Watt announced funding for Dairy Australia to work with the department to deliver industry workshops on dairy's productivity challenge. He also announced it's time to take another look at the Dairy Code of Conduct, since the code was first reviewed in 2021 it had changed the way the industry works.

The big challenge for government is not the unwinding of regulations, but what it replaces them with. Inflation is slowing, interest rates look to have peaked. I know a lot of farmers are really feeling the pain

this season and that costs remain stubbornly high. What we really need are rules that are fair, practical, affordable – but also enduring. That's what's going to give us certainty to make investments and restore farmer confidence.

I've yet to meet a farmer who doesn't want to see improved water quality, increased biodiversity, or reduced emissions – we just need to be able to see an affordable and realistic roadmap to help get us there.

On my own farm front we have been busy transitioning the Jersey's into our new dairy. Don't forget to [register](#) to the opening of our new Dairy and the Launch of the next SA Dairy Action Plan. This will be held on Tuesday 23 April in Mount Compass.

SADA continues to hold Effluent Management Plan sessions in the regions, if you've not been able to get to one, let us know and we'll see what we can arrange.

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.**

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Have you got a Telstra mobile phone?



To check if your mobile will be impacted by the 3G network closure on 30 June.

SMS 3 to 3498

Telstra has developed a **3G SMS Checker** tool to assist customers in checking if they need to upgrade their device before the 3G network closes on 30 June this year. It's very easy to use – just send a SMS with the number **3 to 3498** or “3G XT” to receive almost instant advice on your device. SADA would also be happy to hear from any members with concerns regarding the 3G closure.



AgTrader - the website where farmers come to buy and sell . . . has a fresh new look and is making it easier than ever to find everything you need when it comes to machinery and equipment. The [website is a highly trusted rural marketplace](#), offering easy searches on everything from tillage and seeding equipment, tractors, trucks and other vehicles.



Government of South Australia
Department of Primary Industries and Regions

In case you know anyone keen on a government role

PIRSA has an opportunity for an Animal Health Officer to be part of the Biosecurity Division within the Department of Primary Industries and Regions. The role contributes to delivering and implementing programs that educate and raise the standard of management and husbandry of primary producers and agribusiness personnel. The role will work in the Lower Southeast, and is open to recent graduates, through to those with more experience in the animal health and biosecurity field. [You can find out more here](#)

SA Government is seeking to introduce a Biodiversity Act



The first of its kind in the state. It is important that as part of this, the dairy industry highlights not only its current commitment to biodiversity but also our expectations around biodiversity conservation and the priorities for a new Act.

Biodiversity is described as the incredible tapestry of life on our planet, including different species of plants, animals, microorganisms, and the ecosystems they form. It is recognised that we need functioning biodiversity for clean air, healthy soil, modern medicine, food on our plates, and a resilient earth that can respond to threats like climate change. To support our engagement on this matter, we need to be able to highlight the amount of “biodiversity” or native vegetation that is managed as part of dairy businesses. [Please complete this one minute survey.](#)



Cows under cover: can sheds protect Australia's dairy herd?

An increasing number of Australian dairy farmers are building large housing structures to shelter their cows from rising climate extremes. South-West Victorian farmer Simon Rea, who recently spoke at Dairy Australia's Raising the Roof 2024 event, says creating a shelter for his herd has lifted income and cut operating costs – “one of the best investments he has ever made” (The Land). Sheds could also aid in herd management and combatting rapidly rising land prices. “Within six years about half the nation's milk production will likely come from cows housed in giant barns, and more from herds partially accommodated under big shelters.”



The South Australian Agricultural Education Strategy

South Australia's primary industries sector is growing, innovating and achieving, but to realise its potential there needs to be talented and motivated people ready to fill positions. The primary industries sector is full of potential, yet many students are unaware of the opportunities and pathways. As such, the sector is facing a critical skills gap. There are not enough agriculture teachers and general teachers to deliver the food and fibre components of the national curriculum. A coordinated industry strategy is needed to engage people in agricultural pathways and opportunities to ensure the future workforce needs are met.

Primary Producers SA has a vision: The delivery of coordinated and innovative food and fibre education programs which engage, link with industry and showcase opportunities, research and innovation pathways while building trust in the sector. With a clear plan, industry will drive change. We will promote agricultural pathways, innovation and opportunities and get more people into agriculture.

If you would like to comment on the draft [PPSA South Australian Agricultural Education Strategy](#) please drop us [an email](#)

Genetics – the key to a sustainable farming future?

One of Australia's leading genomics researchers, Professor Jennie Pryce, says genetics can lead the way to a greener future. Prof Pryce's team at Agriculture Victoria delivers genetic improvement tools to the dairy industry, including DataGene and the Sustainability Index. Pryce says there are exciting developments on the horizon: “we are also using more data and robust information to identify cows that are tolerant to hot and humid conditions and evaluating the reduction in yield as temperatures and humidity increase.”

Find out more about the role of genetics on [Genetics Australia](#).

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

<https://share.hsforms.com/1IAwYKsxjQ1inwndbn2NbYQd5tpo>

Members Newsletter

April 2024

January 2024



From the President

Robert Brokenshire

The SA Dairy Industry Action Plan is the roadmap to that future.

This plan is about creating a future for an industry that sees itself as part of the 21st century global marketplace. The industry is not without its challenges in a highly competitive market where pressure has been felt by all in the supply chain, including farmers, processors and retailers. Nevertheless, the partnerships which have been developed in SA in the past 5 years have laid a platform for a future which means that all South Australians can benefit from an industry that will be recognised globally as being sustainable and of the highest quality.

On the 23 April 2024, Premier Peter Malinauskas and Minister Clare Scriven launched the **South Australian Dairy Industry Action Plan 2024-2029**. The plan is designed to set the pathway for the SA dairy industry for the next 5 years. This builds on the 2019-2024 plan which achieved its goal of aligning the SA dairy industry with industry participants, regulators and government. The earlier plan succeeded in creating communications and pathways across industry that led to a clear ambition, shared by all in the industry, for an industry with a predominant orientation toward a premium South Australian product.

SA dairy products are simply among the very best in the world.

The Dairy Industry Action Plan 2024-2029 builds on the notion of premium by expanding what will be expected in marketplaces globally as society moves to a more sustainable future. Premium will come to mean much more than the simple quality of a product. Customers will come to expect that products are not only premium in quality but premium in sustainability, integrity and reputation. For this reason, the new plan will highlight the need for sustainable product that is not only sustainable, but also verifiably so.

The whole dairy supply chain from cow to customer is aware that consumers will expect that the product they are enjoying has been sustainably sourced.

Sustainable in terms of emissions, biosecurity, animal care and environmental footprint. We welcome your feedback and continued involvement as we deliver the plan. Robert Brokenshire - SADA President.



Quotes from Premier Peter Malinauskas

"I am pleased to be able to launch the new Dairy Industry Action Plan today on behalf of SA Dairyfarmers' Association, as it demonstrates the ongoing commitment from all our dairy producers and processors to keep growing and improving the industry."

South Australian dairy products are globally recognised and exported around the world, and the plan laid out by industry will aim to build on that reputation and ensure we are also the greenest, and more premium products on the market.

I look forward to seeing the work and action from all South Australian dairy farmers who continue to work hard not only in providing us with delicious and nutritious products, but in taking care of their land and our environment for future generations of South Australians."



Quotes from Minister Clare Scriven

"We know that South Australian dairy products are among the very best in the world, and this Plan will guide the sector to grow their market share and provide premium products domestically and internationally."

Changing consumer expectations mean that sustainability is now key to South Australia's reputation for premium products, and I am pleased to see that the dairy industry in South Australia shares our vision for sustainability into the future.

The Australian Dairy Sustainability Framework and the new South Australian Dairy Action Plan will support our producers to meet new challenges while continuing to provide leadership in sustainable and nutritious food production.

The goals of industry development, growing our export markets and promoting the SA dairy brand will all contribute to sustainability in the sector and the profitability of South Australian businesses."

Download your copy of the Dairy Action Plan [here](#)



Keep an eye out next issue to register your nominations for the 2024 SA Dairy Awards.



South Australian Dairy Awards Gala Dinner Friday, August 2 in the William Magarey Room at Adelaide Oval

South Australian Dairy Awards

SADA is pleased to announce that it will again be the Premier Partner of the South Australian Dairy Awards for 2024.

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.

SADA has joined forces again 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.

APPLY NOW!

2025 NUFFIELD SCHOLARSHIPS

FOR AUSTRALIAN PRIMARY PRODUCERS

SEE WHAT'S POSSIBLE

NUFFIELD AUSTRALIA



- \$40,000 bursary
- 15 week scholarship
- Applications close 31 May 2024



nuffield.com.au

Please ensure that your membership and supplier details are current and up to date.
<https://share.hsforms.com/1IAwYKsxjQ1inwndbn2NbYQd5tpo>



Richardson honoured with Outstanding Service Award

Tuesday, 16 April, 2024

branch in 2004, before being appointed to the board of Warrnambool Cheese & Butter in 2007. He later joined the ADF board in 2011 and served as ADF president and ADIC chair from 2017 to 2021.

Current ADIC chair, Ben Bennett, presented the award to Terry at a function in Melbourne on Tuesday night. Ben said Terry spearheaded pivotal initiatives aimed at fostering innovation, sustainability, and prosperity within the industry.

“Terry was heavily involved in crafting the Australian Dairy Plan and was instrumental in overseeing the introduction of the Dairy Code of Conduct,” Ben said.

“With a passionate belief that the dairy industry holds an important place in Australian society, he has con-

sistently gone above and beyond the call of duty to grow and promote dairy’s valuable contribution to Australian communities.”

ADIC deputy chair, John Williams, said Terry was a “true leader” and “statesman”.

“As ADIC chair, Terry never lost sight of the target and what was in the best interest of the whole industry,” John said.

“He could deal with a myriad of personalities and provide a selfless rationale and steady influence in the face of individual self-interests.

“It is for this reason Terry is a well-deserving recipient of the Pat Rowley award.”

ENDS

Former Australian Dairy Farmers (ADF) president and Warrnambool Cheese & Butter chair, Terry Richardson, has received the Australian Dairy Industry Council’s (ADIC) 2023 Pat Rowley Outstanding Service Award.

This prestigious accolade recognises Terry’s exceptional contributions and dedication to the dairy industry throughout his career.

Having moved from New Zealand to Australia in the early 2000s, Terry’s commitment to the dairy community spans four decades and two countries.

Terry became a member of the United Dairyfarmers of Victoria (UDV) Colac



Tell us what you think and go into the draw for gift cards

The *Australian Dairyfarmer* magazine are keen to hear from the readers, so have launched a reader survey with five prizes* up for grabs.

The survey closes May 3 - so click on [this link](#) now to complete it and be in the running to win.

The *Australian Dairyfarmer* magazine is next month celebrating its 40th anniversary.



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.

DO DAIRY
Support SA





The SA Dairy Industry Action Plan 2024-2029 is the roadmap to that future.

The South Australian Dairyfarmers' Association (SADA) announces its pride in the launch by Premier Peter Malinauskas and Minister Clare Screeven of the South Australian Dairy Industry Action Plan 2024-2029. The plan is designed to set the pathway for the SA dairy industry for the next 5 years.

The plan builds on the earlier 2019-2024 plan which achieved its goal of aligning the SA dairy industry with industry participants, regulators and government. The earlier plan succeeded in creating communications and pathways across industry that led to a clear ambition, shared by all in the industry, for an industry with a predominant orientation toward a premium South Australian product.

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Sustainable in terms of emissions, biosecurity, animal care and environmental footprint.

Members Newsletter

May 2024

January 2024



From the President

Robert Brokenshire

Feed and fodder support - We are here to assist where possible with fodder suppliers through our contacts and membership base, we understand the lack of rain is alarming. Alternatively if you have any fodder to offer for sale or donate, please call the office to organise.

Right now, if you're an irrigator, that's fortunate, but irrigation growth slows this time of year, and if you're a dryland dairy farmer you're putting much more silage and hay out than you would normally be doing, so for the rest of the year the supply issue could be a concern.

The reports we have received is that dairy farmers have already got their own supply, but they're accelerating the use of it, which rings the alarm bell for the winter if we don't get a good winter feed growth pattern. Some

farmers have already purchased significant amounts of additional fodder because it is so dry, at this stage it was too early to make a call on silage effects.

What is concerning is that it's already shortening the growing season, so it's going to be very important that we get a long and late spring. If we can get an opening in the next couple of weeks and we get a good long late spring then we could end up still in a pretty good position. But if the opening drags on much longer, and we don't get a long spring then plan that's going to have an impact on silage and fodder production next spring. A shortage of feed puts stress on dairy farmers and if they need any support in any aspect we welcome them to ring us.

Unseasonal dry conditions are challenging our dairy farmers whether it's feeding cows, increased amounts of hay and silage or still irrigating in May.

Please be aware that there are significant fines if an irrigator goes over their allocation, hopefully the season will open soon.

We note media speculation on **Opening Milk Prices** and have been talking to processors about input cost into milk production for our farmers. We will continue to lobby for the best possible opening price, not withstanding pressure on export prices and arguably dairy product being dumped in Australian from the US and NZ in Australia.

I was disappointed the **federal budget** didn't have more of focus on Agriculture and regional Australia. There were some positives for Agriculture and SADA will work with relevant departments to maximise the benefits for all SA dairy farmers.

I was particularly pleased to see \$1.5 million allocated to investigate accurate and clear labelling of plant based alternative products, almond juice and soybean is not milk and we need to continue the argument in **truth in labelling**.

Further details are available [here](#).

VIRTUAL DISCUSSION GROUPS



www.sada.asn.au



Exciting news!

We've launched new discussion groups on the SADA Discussion Forum, and we invite you to join the conversation.

Power Policy Group: Dive into discussions about the latest policies shaping our industry and how they impact our work. Share your insights, ask questions, and stay informed about the power sector's policy landscape.

Workforce Group: Connect with fellow professionals to exchange ideas, strategies, and best practices for building a skilled and resilient workforce.

Participating in these groups is a fantastic way to engage with peers, gain valuable knowledge, and contribute to our community's growth and development.

To join these groups and start participating in the discussions, simply log in to the [SADA Discussion Forum](#) and navigate to the Groups section. If you haven't registered yet, now is the perfect time to join our community!

We invite you to scan the QR code above or click [here](#) to join.



Celebrating World Milk Day with us on 1 June.

It's a fantastic opportunity to highlight the importance of milk for health, nutrition, and the economy, as well as to recognize the efforts of the dairy industry.

The **"Powered by Milk"** campaign is a great way to showcase how milk plays a vital role in Aussie homes, supporting strong, healthy bodies and local economies. Encouraging farmers to share short videos showcasing sustainability practices is an excellent idea to engage the community and promote awareness about dairy farming.

With the ease of creating short videos using mobile phones, it makes participation accessible for everyone. By collecting and sharing these videos, **SADA** can effectively reintroduce dairy farming to South Australians and celebrate the contributions of dairy farmers on World Milk Day.

What a fantastic opportunity to spread awareness and appreciation for the dairy industry!

Share your video via email: sada@sada.asn.au or Tag [@sadairyfarmers](https://twitter.com/sadairyfarmers)



By now most of you have either touched base on your renewed Effluent Plan.

*Please don't just
pull the hoof!*

Give us a call today.

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 signaled they're focusing on dairies for the first time in many years. SADA has taken the time to get across a comprehensive tool to evaluate your Effluent Management and mechanism for submitting your plan.

[Register now](#) for all EPA Updates or check out our [Website](#)



5 October 1960

The Chairman stated that he had been appointed a member of the Advisory Committee on Artificial Insemination (AI), and although he was not there as a representative of the Association he believed it would be valuable for him as a member of the advisory Committee to have some indication of the Association's opinions on the subject.

Although the Committee's proceedings were confidential, he could state that it had been set up to advise the Minister on the most satisfactory form of control for AI in this State.

So far the Committee had followed the steps being taken to set up a semen collection centre at Northfield and they hoped to see it working by the middle of next year.

The pilot trials operating over the past two to three years had shown that AI could work here.

It was now necessary to determine the way it should be handled in South Australia.

There were a number of alternative methods of distribution, as used in other States and Overseas. . . . [more](#)



This is your chance to nominate someone who you feel excels in the industry and deserves to be recognised.

The South Australian Dairy Awards is in it's 16th year, these 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.

This premier event will showcase South Australia’s finest dairy products and provide a platform for the winners to lead the way for the future of the industry in this country.

Nomination forms are quick and easy to complete!

Simply choose which award category you want to nominate for;

[Young Farmer of the Year Nomination 2023](#)

[Best Relationship with a Processor Nomination](#)

[Innovative Farmer of the Year Nomination 2023](#)



SADA in collaboration will again facilitate the

Foodland Dairy Sustainability Award

The Award Criteria is based on the Australian Dairy Sustainability Frameworks 4 focus areas – Economic Viability and livelihoods - Wellbeing of people - Best Care of Animals and Environmental impact.

[Foodland Dairy Sustainability Award](#)

Are you about to head into Semester 2, have you ever thought about an internship in dairy?

SA Dairy Internship Program



The SA Dairy Internship Program is actively welcoming undergraduate project interns, interested graduates and casual employees to work across the industry supply chain with SADA, DairySA and Dairy SAFE, at the coal face of dairy and in the many service industries which support it.

This Internship has been designed for you to gain experience across all three organisations over 10 days. The applicant will be required to undergo some travel and will be exposed to on farm activities, government policy and processor manufacturing procedures.

SA accounts for approximately 6% of Australia's milk and almost a billion dollars in generated revenue, the South Australian dairy industry is well positioned to target the premium end of the national and international market. SA's dairy industry consistently produces a product which is demonstrably of a higher standard than the rest of the country and SA milk is highly valued by processors for both its quality and record high butterfat and protein values.

Those interested are urged to contact SADA directly via email: sada@sada.asn.au or phone: 8293 2399

*Or still unsure about next year after completing year 12.
Try the Ag Career Start Gap Year program, you won't regret it.*



Say hello to Mikaila!

Mikaila is the new **Community Engagement Coordinator**, here to support Host Farmers & Participants through their on and off farm AgCAREERSTART journey. Having grown up in the **Fleurieu Peninsula**, Mikaila found her love for all things ag and is a passionate advocate for future proofing Australia's agricultural workforce.

Mikaila looks forward to meeting each of you!



ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT TAYLAH REDGEWELL

Check out this article written by an 2023 AgCAREERSTART Alumni, who recently attended a study tour in New Zealand. "It was fascinating to see firsthand technologies that we utilise daily on our dairy farm back home"

Click to read more

2025 AGCAREERSTART APPLICATIONS OPEN

22 July - 29 September 2024





Many dairy farmers report feeling 'stable and happy', says Dairy Australia

Dairy Australia's Analysis and Insights manager Eliza Redfern says data collected as part of the 2024 National Dairy Farmer Survey shows farmers' confidence remains buoyant.



Insights May 2024

13 May 2024 | Dairy

The [May update](#) provides an analysis of production and pricing trends for Australian dairy producers.

- Opening farmgate prices for the 2024/25 season are expected to be around 5 per cent lower than last year's opening bids.
- Full season farmgate prices are forecast to finish at or above \$9/kg MS, but processors will be reluctant to step up too quickly.



In its recently-released Australian Dairy Seasonal Outlook 2024, titled **Walking a Tightrope**, agribusiness banking specialist Rabobank says "all signs indicate that, with diligent budgeting and planning, the average Australian dairy farm business will post a fifth consecutive season of profitability in 2024/25". This is despite a drop in farm-gate milk prices expected for farmers in the southern milk pool.



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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.



DO DAIRY
Support SA



SOUTH AUSTRALIAN DAIRYFARMERS' ASSOCIATION INC.
SADA
Fresh
2.1m
Invested into the dairy industry
sadafresh.com.au

SNAPSHOTS in DAIRY

Ben and Katie McHugh's investment in four robots at their Mount Compass dairy is driving improvements in both milking efficiency and animal health.



[Full Story from DairySAFE here](#)

Farming for feed security a lesson dairy farmers can teach beef producers



Navigating Family Business

Family Business Association is offering three workshops in SA to help family business owners build fundamental knowledge and capability.

*Please note that these workshops are for family business owners in South Australia only.
[Register for Workshops here](#)



South Australian dairy partnership plans for the future with robots

So we can make sure that you're getting all the relevant updates. Please ensure that your membership and supplier details are current and up to date.

<https://share.hsforms.com/1IAwYKsxjQ1inwndbn2NbYQd5tpo>

Members Newsletter

June 2024

January 2024



From the President

Robert Brokenshire

With over 80 years of dedication and excellence, SADA stands as a testament to the strength and resilience of our state's dairy industry. Our unique position within the advocacy space has allowed us to champion the interests of dairy farmers and ensure the sustained vitality of our industry. Many of you are aware of the recent developments with the VFF's decision to exit seven commodity groups, a move that has sent ripples through the advocacy landscape. Despite these changes, SADA remains committed to our core mission: supporting our dairy farmers and maintaining the steady flow of milk that enriches our daily lives. Our steadfast efforts might even inspire advocacy reforms in other states.

This past month, we have diligently communicated with both ADF and DA to ensure our farmers receive unwavering support. Our continuous engagement is crucial in maintaining the productivity and sustainability of our dairy sector. In a significant development, the Dairy component has now been officially segregated from the Cattle Industry Fund. SADA has successfully submitted its applications under the new Management Plan, marking an exciting progression for our industry. This initiative, unique to our state, promises greater transparency and sustainability for the levy tags collected from our dairy herds. By fostering cooperation between farmers and processors, we can develop innovative solutions to enhance efficiency, reduce costs, and improve the value of our products.

As we navigate the challenges of 2024, we acknowledge the impact of inflation on input prices and the difficulties with interest rates increases. The extended dry autumn has further stressed our dairy businesses, increasing reliance on conserved fodder and driving up feed costs. These conditions necessitate a call to action: we have again written to processors urging them to reassess their opening prices. Without a viable supply of milk, their businesses will be at risk. Together, we can overcome these challenges and continue to build a robust and thriving dairy industry. SADA remains committed to supporting our farmers and advocating for a sustainable future for all. Let us work together to ensure the enduring success of our beloved dairy sector.

Have your say on the nation's breeding objectives.

Has your breeding philosophy changed in the past few years?

Are you focused on developing different traits in your herd?

Maybe you are keen to use genetics to lower your dairy farm's emissions intensity?

Or, you might not want to change a thing.

Either way – as an Australian dairy farmer or industry representative – now's your chance to have a say on the national breeding and genetic priorities.

DataGene – Australia's independent industry organisation responsible for driving genetic gain and herd improvement – is asking farmers and industry people to fill in an online survey as part of its review of the [National Breeding Objective \(NBO\)](#).

For full details and the Survey Link - [CLICK HERE](#)

Nominations NOW OPEN for the 2024 SA Dairy Awards
 Young Farmer, Innovative Farmer and Best Relationship with a Processor Awards are all open again for 2024.

South Australian Dairy Awards Gala Dinner
 Friday, August 2 in the William Magarey Room at Adelaide Oval

This is your chance to nominate someone who you feel excels in the industry.

FOODLAND
Dairy Sustainability AWARD
SADA

Foodland are excited to once again join forces with SA Dairyfarmers Association to deliver on the Australian dairy industry's promise to provide nutritious food for a healthier world.

NOMINATIONS CLOSE 8 JULY

Young Farmer of the Year

Best Relationship with a Processor

Innovative Farmer of the Year

Foodland Sustainability Award

VIRTUAL DISCUSSION GROUPS



www.sada.asn.au



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We invite you to scan the QR code above or click [here](#) to join.

WEBINAR

Animal Care Commitments for the Australian Dairy Sustainability Framework (ADSF).

A Working Group was established by the ADSF Steering Committee to review the Goal 7 targets, indicators and metrics. The findings of the Working Group were reported in June 2023, and the report is attached here for your reference. Please refer to this document for more detail on the process of review undertaken by the Working Group, including participants and methodology, and refer to Appendix 1 and 2 for the Proposed and Current targets, metrics and indicators.

For more information on the ADSF, please follow this link: [Australian Dairy Sustainability Framework - Dairy Australia](#).

A Webinar has been scheduled for **19 June 2024 at 10.30am**. Allow 2 hours for a manageable discussion with a limited number of registrants.

So you don't miss out please [REGISTER HERE](#)

Items up for discussion will be;

- detail the proposed targets
- describe how the targets will be developed,
- the type of information sources which will be utilised to report on the targets,
- how they might be collated in practice.

SADA will receive and collate any feedback from the attendees regarding the proposed targets, at the end of this process the information will be reported back to the ADF Farm Operations Policy Advisory Group (PAG).

SMART FARMING

Climate Toolkit

Farmers are stewards of the land and manage it carefully. As an industry, agriculture is facing increasing challenges due to extreme weather like, flooding, bushfire, drought and extreme heat. In many cases, farmers and peak bodies are already well progressed on the road to climate resilience and emissions reduction. To keep farming forever, farmers need access to tools and resources which will help make sure their business and our industry can thrive in the face of continued climate challenges.

Farmers for Climate Action has recently launched a new online resource to help farmers understand and address the challenges to their businesses due to climate change and discover opportunities to build resilience into the future.

The Climate [Smart Farming Toolkit](#) has been curated by Farmers for Climate Action in partnership with farmer members and key stakeholders. The Toolkit provides resources for farmers at all stages of their climate adaptation journey - from farmers who are just starting out on resilience building, to those who have looked at their emissions and are considering developing climate smart strategies for their farm. The Toolkit provides up-to-date information for each climate-related topic, with new resources being added all the time.

The Toolkit will be a valuable resource for Australian farmers, including your members. We understand information and climate contexts change often, so please let us know if you have any additional tools or resources that could be incorporated to further enhance its value.

Australian Dairy Carbon Calculator



The Australian Dairy Carbon Calculator helps dairy farmers with improving efficiencies and lowering greenhouse gas emissions. This can lead to reduced operational costs and increased profitability, while also protecting the environment.

[The calculator](#) equips farmers to measure their farm carbon footprint, understand sources of emissions and explore options for reducing emissions through herd, feed and soil management or reviewing their farm system. Opportunities such as reducing energy use and switching to renewables can deliver efficiency improvements that also lower greenhouse gas emissions.

PFAS burden in livestock

You are invited to participate in a farmer science project on the topic of: Investigating the PFAS burden in livestock raised on biosolid-amended pastures.

Farms that have historically applied biosolids or used wastewater effluent on their sheep or cattle pastures in the past 10 years.

The research aims to investigate the impact of biosolid application on the presence of Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) in sheep and cattle. The study will assess the relationship between the historical use of biosolids or wastewater effluent as fertiliser and the level of PFAS detected in the animals' blood samples, as well as examine the environmental distribution of PFAS in soil, water, plant, feed, and biosolid samples.

Recently, PFAS has become the subject of increasing research because of its widespread use in various products and its ability to persist and accumulate in the environment. However, our understanding of its presence within agricultural systems is limited, highlighting the need for this research.

As a key part of this study, we are seeking to recruit 10 farms in South Australia who applied biosolids or sewage wastewater as fertilizer sometime in the past 10 years. Participating farms will be visited by our team to collect blood samples from livestock and environmental samples (e.g., soil, water, and plants). Participation in this study comes at no cost to the farmers, and we are committed to maintaining strict confidentiality of all results. Published findings will be completely anonymized, making sure that individual farms cannot be identified. However, we are happy to provide participating farmers with their individual results, accompanied by a complimentary consultation to explain the findings and how they compare to the nationwide average.

[Full details here](#)

SNAPSHOTS in DAIRY

WHAT TO KNOW: AVIAN INFLUENZA (BIRD FLU)



Avian flu is a disease caused by influenza viruses. It affects domestic poultry and wild birds, but can also infect humans and other mammals.



FULL UPDATES HERE

sada.asn.au



UPDATE

Final report of the Food and Grocery Code of Conduct Independent Review.

Parliamentarians urged to stand up for family farms in the face of 'Super Tax'

NFF hosts new wave of women leaders in Canberra.

Future Drought Fund Commercialisation Project.

Impact artificial intelligence and autonomous machines have on the agricultural industry.



sada.asn.au



PRIMARY PRODUCERS SA

Successful and meaningful engagement has underpinned Primary Producers SA's operations and was a critical part of the funding agreement when the South Australian Government granted PPSA \$1million over two years.

Engagement is crucial in achieving the right policy settings which enable South Australian primary industries to thrive and reach the target of \$23billion in food, wine and agribusiness revenue by 2030.

FULL UPDATES ON STATE PROJECTS HERE



DAIRYSAFE Bulletin #20 Leaders in dairy food safety

risks of selling raw milk

It is illegal to sell raw milk to an unaccredited entity or person.

Penalties of up to \$20,000 apply.

The sale of raw milk poses a significant risk to public health as well as to the reputation of the dairy industry.

dairy-safe.com.au



Good people to know.
1300 534 554

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SOUTH AUSTRALIAN DAIRYFARMERS' ASSOCIATION INC

SADA
Fresh

2.1m
Invested into the
dairy industry

sadafresh.com.au

Members Newsletter

July 2024

January 2024



www.sada.asn.au



From the President

Robert Brokenshire

While there are significant headwinds facing SA dairy farmers, including milk price cuts, additional fodder costs caused by seasonal pressure, rising interest rates and late processor payments for some, SA Dairyfarmers' Association president Robert Brokenshire says positive long-term prospects should give farmers reason to hang tough.

Concerns about the state of the industry, as it battles these hurdles have been voiced recently, including by suppliers of Beston Global Food Company, who say

late milk payments have been heaping additional financial pressure on farmers in an already tough time. Trading in the company's securities has been suspended as it negotiates funding to refinance debt. SADA is doing all it can to support the company and its farmer suppliers, given it is such a big player in SA, but late payments are concerning. Bestons are an important part of the industry in SA, last year taking nearly a third of the milk.

The silver lining on dairy's cloud of challenges, is the projected growth in dairy demand both nationally and globally. Milk

processors have told SADA they have a thirst for 700 million litres of SA milk a year from 2024 to 2029, a significant increase from the current level of 500m litres. A template for growth was outlined in the industry's five-year action plan, released in April.

All mid to long-term indicators show the prospects for the dairy industry were strong. Recent nutritional advice has also backed in the industry, recommending people - particularly children and the older population - have three serves of dairy a day.

"There's a lot of positive signs and if you stick with dairy year-in, year-out, it's a strong sector to be in."



Join us for the Gala Dinner. This is an important event for the South Australian Dairy Industry and continues to strengthen our relationship across the supply chain. While we enjoy some of the finest local produce and network with industry peers and friends we encourage all farmers to look at the dairy industry as a source of inspiration as we develop SA to rank amongst the world's finest.



CONSUMER CHOICE AWARD

South Australian support is very important to our state's food and beverage manufacturers and producers, making the **Consumer Choice Award**, sponsored by *Foodland Supermarkets*, one of the most hotly contested categories in the

[South Australian Premier's Food and Beverage Industry Awards](#)

All Australians are eligible to vote for their favourite South Australian food or beverage brand/business from 22 July to 20 September 2024, via the online voting platform. The Consumer Choice Award operates through a single round of online voting, with the winners determined by the number of public votes received. **Voting closes Friday 20 September at 5.00pm.**

VOTE FOR YOUR FAVOURITE BRAND HERE



Agri career opportunities offered with opening of applications for 2025 Rabobank Australia graduate program

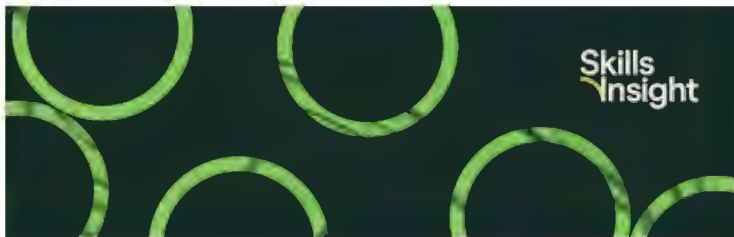
University graduates passionate about agriculture are being offered the opportunity to commence their careers with Rabobank, with the opening of applications for the specialist agribusiness bank's 2025 graduate program.

Since commencing its formal graduate program in 2023, the bank has launched the careers of a range of university graduates across the country, in locations spanning from Sydney to Geraldton in regional Western Australia.

Rabobank is now 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 2025. 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.

Rabobank Group Executive, Chief HR Officer Belinda Webber said the program offered graduates the opportunity to pursue meaningful careers with a global agricultural leader. "Program participants have the opportunity to gain skills, knowledge, and experience while working across one of Australia's leading agricultural and financial institutions," she said.

[RABOBANK AUSTRALIAN GRADUATE PROGRAM](#)



Ag Trade Apprenticeship

A career in agriculture, such as in livestock farming, crop production or land management, offers individuals the opportunity to become skilled in aspects of agronomy, animal science, digital technologies, mechanical operations, supply chains, logistics, and business management. It also allows them to have a profound impact on the broader community by contributing to the food security of Australia and being at the forefront of climate-smart solutions and practices. Improving the visibility of career pathways and enhancing the attractiveness of a career in agriculture are crucial steps in addressing the current workforce challenges faced by this industry, particularly when it comes to attracting new entrants. [Visit Project Page](#)

Rural Operations Project

Certificate II level qualifications can provide an important pathway into work for many learners, equipping them with the skills to enter the workforce or higher-level qualifications. [Visit Project Page](#)

Livestock Operations Project

Skills in handling and caring for livestock are crucial to Australia's food production system. Livestock units are used across many qualifications, including the certificates of agriculture, to provide training to work with a range of animals in an agricultural setting, including sheep, cattle, alpacas, pigs, poultry, goats and bees. [Visit Project Page](#)

Worker Safety Induction Pilot

Across the agricultural value chain, safety is a key concern. It is important that everyone has access to a safe work environment and the skills to keep themselves and others safe. These skills are critical in environments where machinery is used, animals are involved, or work takes place in isolated or remote locations. [Visit Project Page](#)

Essential Meat Processing Skills Project

Australian meat is highly regarded in both local and global markets for being top quality, wholesome and safe. The Australian Meat Processing (AMP) Training Package includes coverage of all the skilled job functions of the industry, including the essential foundation skills that are used daily. It is important the training package supports the workforce to learn skills and carry out work efficiently and safely. This will help Australian meat products live up to their strong reputation, operating to the current standards in food safety, quality control and compliance requirements. [Visit Project Page](#)

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.

DO DAIRY
Support SA

SADA Fresh

2.1m
Invested into the dairy industry

sadafresh.com.au

SMART FARMING

New PastureSmarts tool aims to help dairy Farmers lift profitability

Farm data coupled with the latest technology can assist farm managers in [making better on-farm decisions](#) in real time leading to more profit.

We often hear about large data sets referred to as 'big data'. Big data can be simply defined as a data set that is too large and cumbersome to be stored and analyzed on an Excel spreadsheet. That said, big sets of data, such as data from our dairy farms gathered over numerous seasons, can be useful for more informed decisions, especially in times of lower milk prices and weather extremes.

Having robust farm data that can be aggregated for industry use also assists when our industry needs to provide evidence-based data to support our social license to operate or to direct resources to priority areas when they are needed most.

Three buckets of data What are the types of farm data that can be collected? Generally, we can group farm data into three buckets.

Bucket 1. Herd and animal data - often collected using numerous herd or livestock software programs plus processor milk production platforms.

Bucket 2. Financial data - collected using a large range of financial/accounting software programs plus Dairy Australia programs such as Dairy Farm Monitor, Farm Business Snapshot etc.

Bucket 3. Farm physical data - such as paddock activities, grazing records, pasture growth, feeding and other farm physical data. Numerous options, however, few platforms perform all of the required functions.

New web application tool developed

The good news is that as an industry we now have a platform that will collect all the information required for our Bucket 3 and will also provide real-time information regarding pasture covers, growth rates etc.

Dairy Australia, Agriculture Victoria and Gardiner Foundation jointly funded the **DairyFeedbase research program**. One outcome from this program was a collection of technologies to accurately estimate pasture covers using modelling and satellite data. Funding from Agriculture Victoria then incorporated these technologies into a new web application tool - [PastureSmarts](#).

PastureSmarts is a personalised web application tool that helps farmers manage pasture across their farm by centralising grazing records and estimating their current pasture availability. It can be used on a phone, tablet or desktop computer.



VIRTUAL DISCUSSION GROUPS



www.sada.asn.au



Exciting news!

We've launched new discussion groups on the SADA Discussion Forum, and we invite you to join the conversation.

Power Policy Group: Dive into discussions about the latest policies shaping our industry and how they impact our work. Share your insights, ask questions, and stay informed about the power sector's policy landscape.

Workforce Group: Connect with fellow professionals to exchange ideas, strategies, and best practices for building a skilled and resilient workforce.

Participating in these groups is a fantastic way to engage with peers, gain valuable knowledge, and contribute to our community's growth and development.

To join these groups and start participating in the discussions, simply log in to the [SADA Discussion Forum](#) and navigate to the Groups section. If you haven't registered yet, now is the perfect time to join our community!

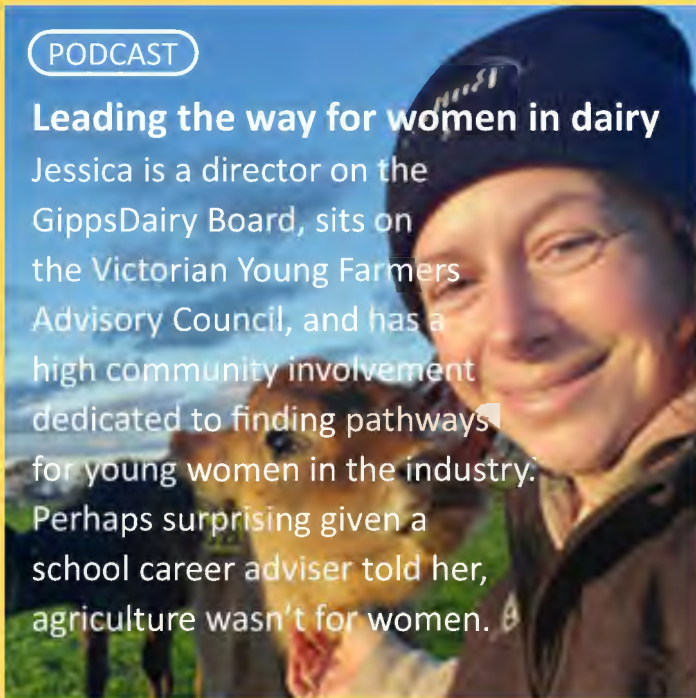
We invite you to scan the QR code above or click [here](#) to join.

SNAPSHOTS in DAIRY

PODCAST

Leading the way for women in dairy

Jessica is a director on the GippsDairy Board, sits on the Victorian Young Farmers Advisory Council, and has a high community involvement dedicated to finding pathways for young women in the industry. Perhaps surprising given a school career adviser told her, agriculture wasn't for women.



Dairy exports soar as key partnership extended



As South Australian exports reach near-record highs with the Chinese export market hitting \$4 billion for the first time, one sector in particular has seen significant increases, with dairy exports growing by 23 per cent year-on-year, now valued at more than \$150 million per year.



sada.asn.au

WHAT TO KNOW: AVIAN INFLUENZA (AKA BIRD FLU)

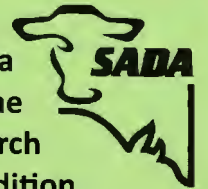


Avian flu is a disease caused by influenza viruses. It affects domestic poultry and wild birds, but can also infect humans and other mammals.



Source: Maine CDC

Federation University, Australia are seeking support in an online survey as part of a Ph.D. research project on increasing value addition to Australian agricultural products. The aim is to understand the farmers' perception of adding value to their agricultural products, which will provide opportunities for farm diversification, employment, and increasing income in the regional areas. Your role as a farmer is crucial in this research, and your insights will significantly contribute to the success of this project.



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Dairy Industry Committee of Enquiry February 1961

The secretary tabled an extract from the report of the Dairy Industry Committee of Enquiry, saying that as the Industry had already been accused by the Committee of lacking in unity, we should consider carefully whether we ought to take any action

other than support the ADFP in its stand on the subject. The Report was a handbook and a guide of tremendous importance but the ADFP intended to see that the Federal Government did not ride rough-shod over us and implement the recommendations.

The Chairman said he could not see any solution to the present problems than the continuance of Subsidy, the credit squeeze was hitting the farmers very hard, despite Federal protestations that it was not intended to apply to primary production, and the resultant position was a forecast of what we could expect if the recommendations of the Committee were carried out.

Mr. Turvey commented that the Committee had been particularly vicious about the whole milk trade and said the leaders of the dairying industry had not sought the enquiry; it had been convened by the Federal Government for the sole purpose of getting rid of the subsidy; and we should get hold of our Federal Members, not only as an Association but also as individuals, and tell them what we consider to be the facts of the case.

Members Newsletter

August 2024

January 2024



From the President

Robert Brokenshire

Reflecting on Our Progress

As we round out another financial year and reflect on the milestones we've achieved, I'm reminded of the incredible dedication and resilience that our members have shown throughout the past 12 months. We've marked significant achievements, starting with the Premier, Peter Malinauskas launching the SA Dairy Industry **Action Plan** and securing additional assistance for processing of water transfer applications. We've also made joint industry submissions with **PPSA** on crucial issues such as Animal Welfare, Biodiversity, Water Allocation Plans, and Disaster Preparedness. These milestones underscore the collective effort of our industry in addressing challenges head-on.

As we gear up for the AGM, I want to encourage those who may be interested in **joining the SADA Board** to reach out

to me or drop a line to the SADA office. Your voice and expertise could play a key role in shaping our future.

We recently celebrated the **SA Dairy Awards** on 2 August at Adelaide Oval, with over 300 industry leaders and supporters in attendance. It was a fantastic opportunity to acknowledge the exceptional contributions to our state's dairy sector.

Firstly, I would like to acknowledge this year's Award recipients. You can read more about them below. We were delighted with the level of nomination this year.

I'd also like to recognize our strong partnership with **DairySAFE** and extend our best wishes to Geoff Raven as he enters retirement. Geoff has led DairySAFE with distinction for six years and has expressed his deep appreciation for the industry's support. As DairySAFE ex-

plores new strategic directions, including sustainable regulations, Geoff believes this is the right moment for a leadership change. He leaves behind a legacy of enhanced training initiatives and modernized food safety processes, with confidence in the team's ability to continue driving progress.

Lastly, I'd like to acknowledge **James Mann** for his outstanding service to our industry. Over decades, James has helped shape the direction of dairy in this state and nationally. His tenure of 10 years at Dairy Australia, including six as Chair, was marked by significant progress and innovation. James' large-scale operation at Donovans in Wye exemplifies his commitment to excellence. His legacy and dedication set a high bar for all of us.

As we head into another year, let's keep building on these successes together. Your hard work and vision are what make South Australia's dairy industry strong, and I look forward to continuing this journey with you all.



If joining the **SADA Board** is something you're considering, there are a few ways to take the next step. You can reach out directly to the President, Robert Brokenshire, who is open to discussing the opportunities and expectations that come with being on the board. Additionally, you can review the profiles of current board members to get a better understanding of their roles and the expertise they bring.

If you're ready to express your interest or have specific questions, dropping a line to the SADA office is also an excellent way to start the conversation. You don't have to commit to the Board but may be interested in. The SADA team is available to provide information about the application process, what's expected from board members, and the **benefits** of being involved in **shaping the future** of South Australia's dairy industry. Taking the initiative to connect shows your commitment and can help you explore how your skills and vision align with SADA's goals.



Celebrating Excellence in South Australian Dairy

We're thrilled to announce the winners of the 2024 South Australian Dairy Awards. This prestigious event, held at the iconic Adelaide Oval on Friday, August 2, continues to celebrate the outstanding efforts and contributions of dairy farmers and processors across South Australia. In partnership with the Royal Adelaide Show, the awards showcase South Australia's finest dairy products.

SADA, as the Premier Partner, is proud to uphold this longstanding tradition, recognizing the dedication and excellence within the industry. The awards highlight the importance of collaboration and communication across the supply chain, strengthening relationships and ensuring a bright future for the dairy industry in South Australia.

2024 South Australian Dairy Award Winners



Best Relationship
with a Processor:
Bec and Rob Walmsley



Innovative Farmer
of the Year:
Ben McHugh



Young Farmer
of the Year:
Jake Altmann



Foodland
Sustainability Award:
Trent Mueller

"Stay tuned for our upcoming feature articles highlighting the award winners in the next issue."



Workforce Group: Connect with fellow professionals to exchange ideas, strategies, and best practices for building a skilled and resilient workforce.

Currently on the schedule for this group;

Employer of Choice – Best practice people management on farm.

AgriFutures has contracted Inspire AG to deliver this exciting initiative in collaboration with project partners, the University of Melbourne, AgInnovate, and The Capacity Co. The purpose of the project is to conduct research to understand what farmers across Australia are currently doing in people management and to explore ways to **enhance on-farm people management capabilities**. We are eager to engage with farm businesses that employ staff to explore how the project outcomes can support farm leaders and managers in attracting, developing, and retaining people effectively. You are invited to participate in an [online survey](#)

Review of Traineeship and Apprenticeship Pathways Schedule

SADA is committed to supporting industry skills development, and under our obligation to the Industry Skills Council for Agribusiness, Food, and Wine/Beverages (AFWB ISC), we are currently tasked with reviewing the Traineeship and Apprenticeship Pathways (TAP) Schedule. This crucial process ensures that pathways remain relevant and continue to meet industry needs.

The TAP Schedule lists recognized trades and vocations in South Australia and outlines the qualifications aligned with these pathways. As part of our review, we will assess various factors including industry demand, occupational titles, contract terms, supervision rates, and whether pathways are suitable for school-based programs. Recommendations will determine if pathways should be retained, modified, or revoked. We invite input from members and can arrange out-of-session workshops to discuss any gaps or specific concerns. Your insights are vital to ensuring the training pathways remain aligned with current industry expectations and standards.

Here's a [short 9-minute video](#) to explain the proposed qualification reform concept.

The concept is being developed to consider the goals of the Qualification Reform Design Group and Skills Ministers. It aims to reduce duplication in the system and enhance the transferability of training and skills across qualifications, workplaces and industries.

If What's App is not your thing, reach out to Alison here sada@sada.asn.au



Determining our national established weed priorities: Step 1 now open!

What's it all about: The National Established Weed Priorities (NEWP) is a collaborative initiative to determine and address weed priorities through nationally coordinated actions. NEWP's objective is to reduce the further spread and impacts of established weeds across Australia. Weeds have a major impact on Australia's agricultural productivity, imposing a cost of nearly \$4.3 billion across Australia each year. They also adversely impact our natural environment, cultural values, human health and community spaces.

Now is your opportunity to help determine national established weed priorities

Through this nomination process for nationally significant weeds, the EIC are seeking to identify non-native weeds that:

- cause the most significant impacts (current and potential) on Australia's natural environment, agricultural productivity, cultural values or community spaces
- have feasible management options to reduce these impacts have stakeholder support and clear benefits for taking a nationally coordinated approach to containing the species' spread and improving its management.

The process:

Before applying, make sure you've read the [Guide to nominating a nationally significant weed](#) that explains the process.

The EOI is the first step in the process. EOIs must be submitted by using the [EOI form](#).

To be eligible, the weed must:

- be a single species or a small group of closely related species that are similar in life-form and management requirements
- not be native to Australia
- not be under national eradication established in at least one state or territory.

Prior weed nominations, such as through the Weed Biocontrol or Weed Scan projects will not be considered for this process. An EOI is needed for NEWP consideration.

The EOI period is open until 9 pm (AEST), 20 September 2024.

Contacts:

Visit the [National Established Weed Priorities \(NEWP\)](#) web page or contact the NEWP Project Team on weedpriorities@aff.gov.au to learn more.

Unlocking the Benefits of Dairy for You

The Role of Dairy in Human Nutrition

Watch Later Share

LEGENDAIRY

Humans of Agriculture

Watch on YouTube

The image shows a YouTube video player interface. The title is 'The Role of Dairy in Human Nutrition' in large white and green text. Below the title is a red play button icon. The video thumbnail shows two women smiling outdoors; one is wearing a blue top and the other is wearing a dark blue polo shirt with 'LEGENDAIRY' written on it. At the top left of the player is the text 'Unlocking the Benefits of Dairy for You'. At the top right are 'Watch Later' and 'Share' icons. At the bottom left is the 'Humans of Agriculture' logo, and at the bottom right is 'Watch on YouTube'.

SNAPSHOTS in DAIRY



Dairy Australia

Promoting why bone health matters

DairyPod Podcast

DELIVERING for DAIRY



PRODUCER APPLICATIONS OPEN NOW

KICK-START YOUR FARMING FUTURE



DAIRYSAFE
Leaders in dairy food safety

Processor training available

Managing Notifiable Contaminants



The time for action is now

We are urging farmers, to check all technology as soon as possible, to avoid adverse consequences post 3G shutdown.



Financing Robots

EPISODE 7

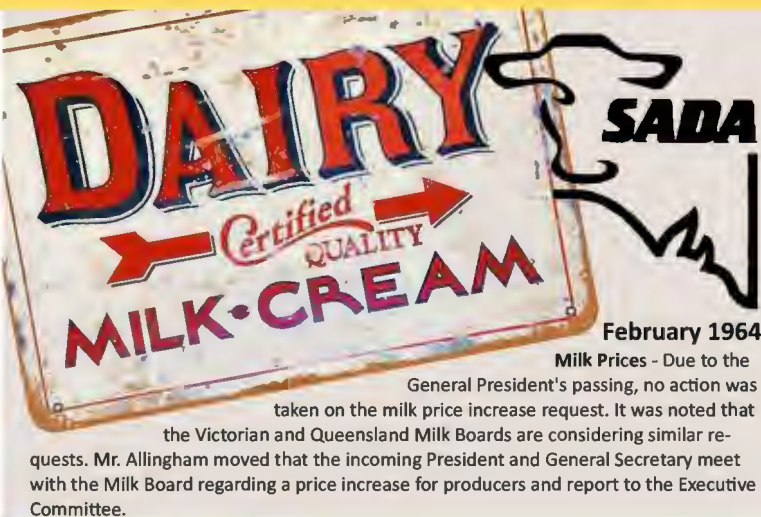
Lely



MEDIA RELEASE

South Australian Minister for Education, Training and Skills, The Hon. Blair Boyer MP launches National Skills Week 2024

20TH AUGUST 2024



February 1964

Milk Prices - Due to the General President's passing, no action was taken on the milk price increase request. It was noted that the Victorian and Queensland Milk Boards are considering similar requests. Mr. Allingham moved that the incoming President and General Secretary meet with the Milk Board regarding a price increase for producers and report to the Executive Committee.

Weighting of Milk - Mr. Parik proposed requiring milk weighers to be sworn in before a Justice of the Peace, like wool weighers, to prevent unskilled staff from weighing milk. Mr. Humphris supported this to avoid irresponsible practices. The Secretary agreed to investigate the wool weigher rules and report back.

Cheese Import Control - A committee was formed to monitor cheese imports and seek a tariff increase. The current tariff, set in 1927, is outdated, but preparing a case for an increase falls to the manufacturers, not producers. Despite efforts, only two solid submissions have been made, and support from the SA Cheese Manufacturers Association has been limited. The A.D.F.F. criticized manufacturers for failing to protect producers, who bear the costs. They resolved to request the Minister for Primary Industry to take direct action, as current tariff measures are ineffective in protecting the cheese industry.



wfi
Good people to know.
1100 934 334

WFI SADA Partnership:
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Make sure when your next speaking with WFI that you mention your a SADA Member to get the discounts.



SOUTH AUSTRALIAN DAIRYFARMERS' ASSOCIATION INC

SADA Fresh

2.1m
Invested into the dairy industry

sadafresh.com.au



DO DAIRY
Support SA

Members Newsletter

September 2024

January 2024



From the President

Robert Brokenshire

The past week has brought its share of challenges, with the announcement of Beston entering administration. We've been in direct contact with all affected members and want to reassure everyone that all milk collected will be paid for by the administrator, regardless of Beston's future direction.

In times like these, it's crucial that we look out for one another. If you cross paths with peers who are impacted, please offer your support. Solidarity in difficult moments strengthens our industry.

This past month saw the 99th Royal Adelaide Agriculture Show at Wayville, a true highlight for the agricultural community. We were also proud to celebrate 120 years of the Stock Journal, which has chronicled the heartbeat of rural life for more than a century. SADA was pleased to continue its support of the Dairy Exhibition, sponsor the dairy

cow awards, and host the BBQ for the Junior Handlers. These long-standing traditions hold a special place in our hearts, and we look forward to their continued success.

SADA is pleased to welcome Alistair McFarlane as the new Chief Executive Officer of Dairysafe. Following a national recruitment process, Mr. McFarlane officially took on the role on 18 September. He brings a wealth of experience and passion for agribusiness, food security, and dairy safety and has extensive executive leadership experience, which will help to further Dairysafe's mission of ensuring high food safety standards and protecting South Australia's dairy industry.

We face tough conditions ahead as a result of the climatic conditions across much of the State. August delivered below-average rainfall across southern South Australia, and the outlook suggests more challenges. If you

haven't already got a plan in place for the dry season, time is running out. Rainfall deficiencies remain severe across the state's agricultural regions, and soil moisture is critically low in the South East. To add to this, streamflow and water storage levels are significantly down, with some reservoirs 10% to 50% lower than this time last year. With these pressures mounting, it's more important than ever that we stand together and advocate for our future. SADA will continue to work tirelessly on behalf of South Australian dairy farmers.

On the water front, SADA continues to represent dairy farmers in a number of regions. These include in the Murray Darling Basin, the Lower Limestone Coast and the Eastern and Western Mount Lofty Ranges. We continue to highlight the importance of water for production and its sustainable use in the support of economic development and vibrant communities.

Stay resilient, and here's hoping for better conditions in the months to come.



If joining the **SADA Board** is something you're considering, there are a few ways to take the next step. You can reach out directly to the President, Robert Brokenshire, who is open to discussing the opportunities and expectations that come with being on the board. Additionally, you can review the profiles of current board members to get a better understanding of their roles and the expertise they bring.

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Dairy Sustainability Award

Riverglen dairy farmer Trent Mueller believes respect for the environment, animal health and the implementation of sustainable crops is the key to successful farming.

Named as the winner of the South Australian Dairyfarmers' Association (SADA) Foodland Dairy Sustainability Award at the SA Dairy Awards in August, Trent says that sustainability is not just a goal, but a continuous journey.

The South Australian Dairy Awards were presented on Friday 2nd August to celebrate the effort and contribution of SA dairy farmers and processors who showcase their products in our supermarkets, deli counters, cafes and restaurants.

As the Premier Partner of the 2024 Awards, SADA partnered for the second year with Foodland Supermarkets to present the Foodland Dairy Sustainability Award, which honours dairy producers who deliver on the Australian dairy industry's promise to provide nutritious food for a healthier world.

Farming in the beautiful region of Riverglen near Murray Bridge, Trent is a fourth-generation dairy farmer who has continually demonstrated what it means to be a steward of the land and

a leader in sustainable agriculture. Trent's farm is a family affair, with four family members working alongside five full-time employees as well as wife Emily and their three children.

Operating a 15-acre herringbone dairy, supplying the Boston Global Food Company Trent manages three diverse farms that focus on cropping, young heifer rearing, and dairy production. His core philosophy of leaving the land in better condition than how it was found speaks volumes about his approach to farming.

Trent's respect for the environment, cow health, and overall productivity has not only ensured the sustainability of his operations but has also driven significant benefits in production and profitability. He places immense importance on animal welfare. His proactive approach to cow health is exemplified by regularly walking through the herd with nutritionists with this early detection system for sick cows is a testament to his dedication to the well-being of his livestock.

Trent sees immense opportunities in the sustainable space, particularly in water efficiency, which has already yielded surprising and impressive results. With a comprehensive three-year plan for best practices in land and water use efficiency, Trent has ensured that his farming methods align with the highest standards of environmental planning for instance, growing maize crops when the season requires it, striving for self-sufficiency, and reducing market volatility underlines his strategic approach to farming.



Living close to town and neighbouring vegetable farmers, he is ever mindful of his impact on the community.

Trent's careful land management practices, guided by expert arborist advice, and his prudent use of chemicals and irrigation reflect his deep understanding of the delicate balance between agriculture and the environment.

Looking to the future, Trent has ambitious plans to transition to a fully housed barn system with a methane capture system. During his recent visit to the Netherlands, he witnessed a tractor running wholly on methane,

which has inspired him to push the boundaries of sustainable farming even further.

The Foodland Sustainability Award is presented to a dairy farmer demonstrating excellence in four key areas: enhancing economic viability and livelihoods, reducing environmental impact, improving the wellbeing of people and providing best care for their animals.

sada.asn.au



SA Dairy Sustainability Award

Mr Mueller was recognised for his commitment to sustainability, which shined through his operations at Riverglen near the Murray. Trent prioritises environmental health, cow welfare, and productivity.

His plans for a fully housed barn system with methane capture and efficient water use underscore his dedication to sustainable farming practices.

Trent is driven by the principle of leaving his farm in better condition than he found it, ensuring a positive impact on the environment and future generations.

SADA were a premier partner in the events and the awards align with the objectives of the SA Dairy Action Plan, which focuses on driving growth, sustainability, and innovation within the industry.

Sustainability has become a critical focal point for industries worldwide, with the dairy sector being no exception. SA's dairy industry exemplifies how agricultural practices can align with environmental stewardship and social responsibility.

This commitment is encapsulated in the South Australian Dairy Industry Action Plan and the broader Australian Dairy Sustainability Framework, setting a benchmark for future agricultural practices.

Sustainable dairy farming in SA balances economic viability with environmental protection and social responsibility.

This holistic approach ensures the industry's resilience and productivity while safeguarding natural resources and supporting local communities.

The South Australian Dairy Industry Action Plan outlines strategic goals for sustainable growth and innovation. It emphasizes reducing environmental impact, enhancing animal welfare, and ensuring economic stability for dairy farmers.

By promoting efficient water usage, waste reduction, and renewable energy adoption, the plan underscores a commitment to a sustainable future.



Basham's service to dairy sector recognised with industry award

Fifth generation dairy farmer and politician David Basham has been recognised for his contribution to the dairy sector with the Brenton Higgins Award.



**AgriFutures[®]
Rural Women's
Award**



We need rural leaders with the skills and knowledge to make informed decisions about the future of their enterprises and industries. We also know the unique challenges faced by rural women and how important grants for women are. That's why we created the [AgriFutures Rural Women's Award](#) – Australia's leading award empowering and celebrating the inclusive and courageous leadership of women involved in

Australia's rural and emerging industries, businesses and communities, now and into the future.

[Applications close on Wednesday, 9 October 2024](#)



WoTL's Stepping into Leadership Program

After working in retail for most of her life, Shannon Pearson never imagined she'd become a fulltime dairy farmer. It was a transition that started off small.

At first, she helped her mother-in-law with the business bookwork. Then there was a season helping out with calving on the property near Mt Gambier in SA's South East. The more she did, the more she realised she enjoyed farm life. The only thing holding her back from taking on more was a lack of confidence in her skills. Now, thanks to WoTL's Stepping Into Leadership Program, Shannon has found the confidence and a network of supportive connections which led her to embrace fulltime farming.

Shannon met her husband Adrian, a third-generation dairy farmer, in the late 1990s and the couple built their home together on his family's farm in 2003. "I'd worked in retail forever and when I moved onto the farm people asked if I'd be milking cows soon and I always said 'no thank you I have my own fulltime job'," she said. "I had my own job in retail management, and then I took time off when I had my two boys, but I went back parttime afterwards. Every year my husband asked if I wanted to help with the calving, and I always said 'no thank you'. "After about six or seven years of him asking, I said yes. I went out and helped the woman we had doing it back then and I found I really enjoyed it. After a couple of seasons, she left and I was thrown into it. "Around that time, I also took on a bigger role with the books as my mother-in-law was wanting to do less."

When her husband needed shoulder surgery, Shannon took on more farm work, helping out in the dairy with milking cows. With every new farm challenge she took on, Shannon looked for ways to upskill. She completed online training with Dairy Australia, but wanted to build on her knowledge further.

Please [contact us](#) to express your interest in the 2025 Stepping into Leadership Program.



**NFF CEO
to depart for
Energy Infrastructure Commissioner Role**



Mr Manjar's efforts have resulted in NFF's growth from a small team to a staff of over 40, with a broader membership base and a consolidated and stable financial position. His ability to build and maintain relationships across the industry has established NFF as a key stakeholder for both government and industry bodies.

[FULL MEDIA RELEASE HERE](#)

**20 INNOVATE
24 WITH NBN[®]**

A grants program that's designed to support regional and remote businesses.

Businesses throughout regional and remote Australia often face numerous challenges. Whether it be related to their relative isolation, or simply finding ways of promoting themselves – finding a path to success can be hard.

It's through these times of adversity that many of these businesses have found not only a deep resolve and determination, but a vast amount of innovation and creativity.

Innovate with nbn[®] Grants Program

The Original Chemical Shed – Shop at your local store



- The complete Bunded Chemical Shed Kit features:
- Gable roof shed, 1.83m wall height (or 1.96m, 2.0m upgrade), available in two standard sizes:
 - 2.27m x 1.53m includes 1 Bunded slab
 - 3.02m x 2.27m includes 2 Bunded slab, double door in 3m side
 - Precast Bunded flooring made with reinforced concrete, in-built drain attachment fittings and anchor points

SAFETY FIRST - DO YOU NEED ONE OF THESE?

For more information contact us via phone or email sales@gardenmaster.net.au or visit gardenmaster.net.au

gardenmaster.net.au | sales@gardenmaster.net.au | 08 8297 3666 AS 1940



Safe and Secure Storage: A Smart Investment - A Bunded Chemical Shed provides an affordable, secure solution for leftover hazardous materials, ensuring compliance and safety for your family and workers.

Easy to Transport and Install Flat-packed panels and a 700kg slab make it easy to move and install. Simply bolt the panels to the precast floor and attach vents.

Customizable The user handles site-specific plumbing, making it a flexible, safe storage investment for your farm.

We support Food On The Table - FOTT charity receive a \$10 donation from Garden Master for every quote in 2024. Our target is 1,000 quotes. "NO ONE GOES HUNGRY"



National Drought Agreement

The Australian Government, in partnership with the South Australian Government, is offering resources to help farmers facing challenges due to the lack of rain. Through the [National Drought Agreement 2024-2029](#), various support programs are available, regardless of drought declarations, so farmers can access aid when they need it most. Support measures include:

- Rural financial counselling
- Tax and income support
- Low-interest loans

These resources are designed to provide assistance before, during, and after droughts, ensuring that farmers don't have to wait to seek help. To find out more about the Australian Government programs, visit drought.gov.au. Additionally, the South Australian Department of Primary Industries and Regions (DPIR) also offers essential drought resources, which can be explored on their website.

It's important that farmers don't face these challenges alone. We encourage open conversations with farm advisers, agronomists, accountants, suppliers, bankers, and even local community groups or charities. Everyone has a role to play in supporting each other during tough times.

By working together and connecting farmers to the right resources, we can help ease some of the burdens that come with dry conditions. Reach out to your fellow farmers, share this information, and let's make sure no one is left struggling in silence. Stay safe.

Dairy Australia - Managing during drought and recovering from drought



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.



SNAPSHOTS in DAIRY



TAKING STOCK
for

Made by rural communities,
rural communities and farmers.

Growing farmers'
wellbeing



Helping farmers to focus on the present moment



FaB Mentors

The PIRSA initiated Family and Business (FaB) mentor service is available to help primary producers.

It is a free service in South Australia, identifying assistance specific to your situation.

Fleurieu and Lower Murray
Beck Burgess: [0438 262 966](tel:0438 262 966)
Colleen White: [0409 388 649](tel:0409 388 649)

Limestone Coast

Sally Klose: [0427 829 143](tel:0427 829 143)

FAT FARMERS
RURAL HEALTH INITIATIVE

Get Involved

Encouraging farmers and those living in rural communities to get active, connect with others and have some fun!

Welcoming farmers and friends of all ages and fitness levels.

Check for your nearest group.
Or contact us to start a new one!

Members Newsletter

October 2024

January 2024



From the President

Robert Brokenshire

With only a couple of months left in 2024 and still no rain worth mentioning the summer season is looking to be a tough one, hopefully you've adjusted your farming practices to suit, if you're struggling to see any positives, reach out, we're all in this together. SADA is looking to hold their AGM on **12 November 2024** via Zoom. More details to come soon, any questions please give me a call on 0419 815 990.

Australia's dairy industry thrives on innovation, and there's a fantastic opportunity ahead. The **Australian Dairy Conference (ADC)** is calling for cutting-edge ideas, research projects, and scientific outcomes that can take our industry forward. Sponsored by the Gardiner Foundation, this award seeks to highlight the best in dairy innovation across the country. For

those interested, you can find more information and apply via the [ADC Innovators Application](#). I encourage our members to explore this chance to showcase the innovations shaping the future of dairy.

Meanwhile, the Federal Government is stepping up efforts to protect Australian agriculture from external threats. A \$95 million allocation has been [announced](#) to guard against the inevitable arrival of **H5N1 bird flu**. With the strain already impacting dairy farms across the US, including a worrying number of human cases, Australia remains the only continent free of this highly pathogenic virus. However, its rapid global spread serves as a reminder of the importance of being prepared. In addition to this, there's positive news regarding market fairness.

The Federal Government has pledged an [additional \\$30 million](#) to the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC). This funding boost will enhance the ACCC's ability to enforce **fair competition practices in the supermarket** and retail sectors, ensuring our industry is supported against potential market abuse.

These developments demonstrate both challenges and opportunities for us, reinforcing the need for vigilance, innovation, and resilience in today's evolving landscape.

"October is Farm Safety Month, a timely reminder to stop and assess the risks around your farm. I know I've had my own wake-up call this month, and it's been a powerful reminder that safety should always come first. Take a moment to look out for yourselves and your teams – a few helpful tips are included at the bottom of this newsletter. Let's stay vigilant and keep each other safe.

Stay safe and take care.

Invest in energy-efficient upgrades with a Small Business Energy Efficiency Grant

If you're an eligible small business or not-for-profit, you can apply for a Small Business Energy Efficiency Grant to help you purchase new equipment to save on your energy bills. By investing in energy-efficient upgrades, you'll not only give back to the environment – you'll also get back up to half your cash outlay*. That means if you purchase equipment or solutions between \$5,000 and \$100,000 (ex-GST), you can apply for a grant to receive between \$2,500 and \$50,000 back.

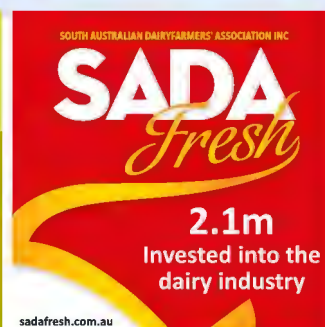
Grant applications are [open](#) until Friday 29 November 2024.



WFI SADA Partnership:

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Make sure when your next speaking with WFI that you mention your a SADA Member.



Cyber Security Awareness

Telstra's Regional Australia team, wanted to share with you a program funded by the Australian Government aimed at helping small businesses identify and manage online security threats.

43% of cyber-attacks target small businesses, and on average a single attack can cost small business \$46,000.

To help protect small businesses, Telstra have partnered with COSBOA (Council of Small Business Organisations Australia) and the Commonwealth Bank on the **Cyber Wardens** program designed to simplify cyber security for small businesses – this online learning program is free.

The program is quick, self-paced and can be completed by anyone in the business. The course is focused on providing quick wins that small businesses can implement to help identify online security threats and manage the situation to protect their business today.

Completing the course will provide small businesses with the tools to:

- Identify and protect your important business information
- Take simple and effective steps to defend against digital break-ins
- Spot common tricks and scams hackers use to attack small businesses
- Promote cyber safety in your team.

The Cyber Wardens program is [available to small businesses](#) .



<https://www.droverag.com.au/>

Full support agricultural recruitment service

Drover Ag are specialists in Agriculture recruitment, delivering employment solutions to agribusinesses, primary producers and farmers all over Australia. We have proven experience in recruiting for executive management, corporate and family agribusiness and general agricultural and farming roles. We provide a full support recruitment service, HR advice specific to your industry and information for building successful Ag teams.

<https://www.rmcb.com.au/>

RMCG is a multi-disciplinary consultancy specialising in environment, agriculture and communities. We provide advice to government agencies, water authorities, institutions and private sector clients in the fields of environment, water, agriculture, economics and communities. RMCG is one of Australia's strongest regionally focused consulting groups. We have achieved this position through a commitment to the sustainable development of rural industries and communities.

<http://fairfarms.com.au/>

Fair Farms - Ethical sourcing and social compliance

We are an Industry-led initiative aimed at fostering fair and responsible employment practices in Australian Horticulture. Fair Farms is the only Australian Training and Certification Program for fair and ethical employment practices on farms.

<https://agriculturejobsauswide.com/>

Ag Jobs Auswide We're dedicated to supporting Australia's hard-working agriculture community. Our platform is designed to make job searching easy and efficient, so you can spend less time online and more time where it counts.

<https://2workinoz.com.au/>

2workinoz - is a unique employment agency offering both training solutions and recruitment service for rural and regional places of work. Located in York, Western Australia, we recruit all year and we run our Farm Skills Training Program to align with the peak seasonal demands of the Grains Industry.



My name is Beau Simmons and I live in Strathalbyn with my wife and 2 kids - I am born and bred on the Fleurieu Peninsula with 20+ years of banking experience, I am a Senior Manager in Agribusiness for Bank SA that covers the South East and Fleurieu Peninsula regions.

Bank SA for the last 176 years has held a long and proud history within the Agricultural Industry and we have a strong and stable team of bankers right across the state. Importantly, all of our funding decisions are made locally by South Australians - **at Bank SA we back SA!**



We recognise the critical role that the Dairy Industry continues to play within our state and we are here to support it's growth aspirations as recently outlined in the [Dairy Action Plan 2024 - 2029](#). I would be pleased to chat with any farmers that may be considering refinance opportunities, land acquisition, livestock funding or succession planning. We are also able to offer competitive equipment finance rates.

Feel free to contact me on mobile via 0412 977 249
or via email simmons@banksa.com.au

Same hard work. Less Taxing.

Deposit up to \$800,000 into a **Farm Management Deposit Account** before the end of the financial year and defer paying tax on that amount until the financial year it is withdrawn. T&Cs apply.





Innovation, sustainability, and leadership

were on full display at the SA Dairy Awards in August this year, where four of the state's dairy farmers were recognised for their remarkable contributions to the industry. Among them, the spotlight was on **Ben McHugh**, a deserving recipient of the

Innovative Farmer of the Year award. His family-run farm, nestled in Mount Compass, has embraced technology in ways that set new benchmarks for the future of farming.

Ben McHugh is no stranger to hard work and tradition, but it's his forward-thinking vision that has garnered attention. His farm not only houses 450 dairy cows but also spans 7,000 acres of crops and includes beef cattle, making it a diverse operation where innovation fuels growth. At the heart of his success lies a commitment to both sustainable farming and cutting-edge technology.

In 2023, Ben took a major leap forward with the installation of a fully **robotic dairy** system, demonstrating the kind of innovative spirit needed to keep the dairy industry competitive in the 21st century. The McHugh farm's **solar-powered, off-grid system** is impressive in itself, but it's their **Herd Navigator system** that stands out as a game-changer. This state-of-the-art system analyses milk samples to detect heat and pregnancy levels in cows via progesterone—revolutionizing herd management. Unlike traditional methods such as veterinary testing or activity collars, the McHugh's automated approach represents the future of precision dairy farming. When asked about his award, Ben's humility was clear. "It's nice to be recognised for the efforts that you do to contribute to the industry," he said, a reflection of his deep-rooted commitment to South Australia's farming legacy.

For the McHugh family, innovation is not just a means of improving efficiency; it is also about ensuring the **long-term viability of the farm for future generations**. Ben and his wife Katie, view the robotic dairy system as an investment not only in technology but in their children's futures. Their three sons, are already showing an interest in the family's agricultural enterprise, and the McHughs are keen to pass on a farm that's ready for tomorrow's challenges. "If our kids choose to take up a career in farming, we want to be able to give them the same opportunities we were given," Ben says.



#AgDayAu Photo Competition is Now Open!

The wait is over—National AgDay Photo Competition is officially open for entries! Whether you're a professional photographer, a passionate hobbyist, or simply someone who loves capturing the beauty of the bush, we want to see your unique perspective. Snap and share your best shots that celebrate the heart of Aussie farming, and be in the running to win great prizes!

How to Enter Simply head over to the website and submit your photo. Show what agriculture means to you—whether it's a stunning landscape, a farmer at work, or the fresh produce that fills our plates.

Photo Comp Entries close 15 November



National Agricultural Leadership Program (NALP)

is the flagship leadership and capability development program for Australian agriculture. This program provides provide targeted activities and unique experiences in leadership, advocacy, and policy development. It uses a whole-of-agriculture perspective to build networks across industry and create the next generation of leaders for Australian agriculture.

The program will run for six months starting in **February 2025**. It will begin with an introductory webinar before the Advocacy Retreat in Canberra. Other activities will follow and finish with a Graduation on **14 August 2025**.

Apply Now - Applications close - 18 November 2024

SNAPSHOTS in DAIRY



Did you know that there's been a significant reduction in on-farm fatalities this year or that heavy machinery, large animals and severe weather events are a leading risk on Australian farms? In the latest article from WFI Insurance, they break down key findings from the Safer Farms 2024 report which you can read [here](#).

airagri
Your Lifeguard in the Bush
There when you need it, out of the way when you don't.

Precision tracking and alerts
Helps farmers track the location of the most valuable asset, their people.

AirAgri stands out as the premier software solution tailored to meet the needs of farmers, making it the ultimate choice when it comes to protecting farmers and their teams.

Renewal of the national primary production work diary and fatigue record keeping exemption notice

Farmsafe AUSTRALIA

Induction Tool

The tool is free and seeks to further improve the safety induction of new workers.

Start Your Induction Here

Farm Safety Insights 2024

wfi Insurance

Members Newsletter

November 2024

January 2024



From the President

Robert Brokenshire

November has been roller coaster to say the least. On the 12 November we had the pleasure of hosting our Annual Dairy Industry Event at Parliament House. A big thank you to all who joined us in celebrating the hard-working Dairy Farmers of SA. It was fantastic to see so many familiar faces, meet new supporters and engage in meaningful conversations about the future of Dairy.

On 26 November, we welcomed the State government announcement of \$18 million to assist farming communities affected by **drought across South Australia**, as many primary producers experience their driest season on record. The support package includes a range of measures including grants for

on-farm drought resilience infrastructure, mental health and community support, and funding to enable donated fodder to reach more communities. Then unfortunately **From 3 December Beston will close it's doors for good.**

This announcement is extremely disappointing. SADA has worked to support our farmers and the industry and the demise of Bestons comes as a blow to us all.

However, the South Australian dairy farmer is nothing if not resilient and SADA will find other mechanisms to assist their members in protecting their interests into the future. SADA will continue to work with all parts of the industry as part of the South Australian Dairy Industry Action

Plan 2024-2029. This means that the SA Dairy Industry will find ways to step away from these events and become stronger and better into the future. SADA wishes to thank all those who assisted with the bid for Beston and places on the record SADA's appreciation to all of the dedicated people in South Australia who want to see a better, stronger and enduring dairy industry in the state.

SADA realizes this is a tough time, for all the famers that haven't been paid for milk supplied, should you want to discuss any issues with Bestons or the dairy issues.

The French Consulate spent a week in South Australia engaging with dairy and wine industries. Lots of opportunities for more collaboration in business, research and training!



Fantastic tour of the Fleurieu Peninsula with [Rebekha Sharkie](#) MP, with a visit of [Fleurieu Milk Company](#) and

then Montawell Jerseys at Ben and Katie McHugh's robotic dairy farm.



Celebration of the 100th anniversary of the [OIV - International Organization of Vine and Wine](#) chaired by

Ambassador [Pierre-Andre Imbert](#) in the presence of Minister [Don Farrell](#), SA Deputy Premier Susan Close, [Rebekha Sharkie](#) MP, [Louise Miller-Frost MP - B App Sc, MA, MPH, MBA, FAICD](#), [Steve Georganas](#) MP, [David Basham MP](#) and many others. it was also the opportunity to cele-

brate the [hashtag#MakeItIconic](#) brand with [HOPSCOTCH Season](#).

Engagement with the [Urrbrae Agricultural HighSchool](#)



with [Vince Fleming](#) and with the students. We will explore part-

nering with ag high schools in France. Opportunities for more collaboration on training were confirmed with [Dairysafe](#), [Leaders in Dairy Food Safety](#) [Alistair Mcfarlane](#)

Drought Support Package

As you may be aware, Premier Peter Malinauskas and Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, Clare Scriven MLC, announced [a new drought support package](#) on Tuesday 26 November, which is part of an \$18m State Government investment in drought assistance.

The support package includes a range of measures, including \$8.1 million in new funding for:

- \$5 million for on-farm drought infrastructure grants for rebates of up to 75% (to a maximum of \$5,000 excluding GST) that assist with projects to manage drought conditions and strengthen preparedness.
- \$2 million to assist charities with freight costs to transport donated fodder.
- \$1 million for additional health and wellbeing support through the Rural Financial Counselling Service and Family and Business Support Program.
- \$100,000 for grants of up to \$5,000 for the 'Connecting Communities' events program, for groups to host events that foster social connections and provide support.

This is on top of existing funding including:

- \$4.4 million budget commitment to provide Family and Business (FaB) Mentors and Rural Financial Counsellors, who provide free confidential and independent services that link people with the appropriate assistance.
- \$5.5 million funding provided to the State and Federal Government's Future Drought Fund, which includes ongoing programs to help farmers with farm business resilience planning, climate tools and demonstrating more resilient farming practices.

More detail are available at [Drought - PIRSA](#), including:

- **On-farm drought infrastructure grants:** Applications will open as soon, people can [register their details](#) to be notified when you can apply.
- **Connecting Communities events grants:** [Applications are now open](#) for eligible groups to host events that foster social connection and provide community support.

The Federal Government response to the final report on the future structure of the [nation's farm chemical regulator](#), the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA) has met with broadly supportive feedback from industry, although there were calls for more government investment. As a result of the report there will be a shake-up of the APVMA's funding model, with further work to develop a new cost recovery structure.



Australia needs a four-year, **\$1 billion plan** to address a national drag on farm sector competitiveness, domestic food costs and emissions mismanagement caused by poor road infrastructure and clumsy, inefficient transport networks.

In the past decade the World Bank has revised our ranking on its "Trading across borders" list from 25th spot to 106th.

The National Farmers Federation has highlighted the need for regional rail and road infrastructure investment as a priority in a government spending wish list delivered to

Treasurer Jim Chalmers, Agriculture Minister Julie Collins, and Prime Minister Anthony Albanese. In the lead up to next year's federal election and March's 2025-26 budget, the NFF identified 20 strategic investment areas which it said could address cost of living challenges faced by all Australians and reverse a national farm productivity slowdown.

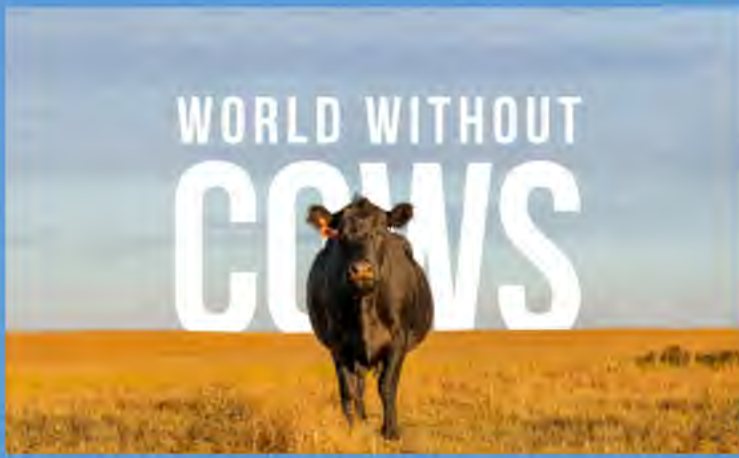
[2025-26 Pre-Budget Submission](#), providing 20 targeted investment ideas to the Federal Government.

We are championing these as investments to drive productivity growth, not only in the agricultural sector, but for the Australian economy.

[The 2024 South Australian Premier's Food and Beverage Industry Awards](#)

were presented by Food South Australia. Congrats to The Fleurieu Milk Company who came away with a bottle-full of awards including the Business Excellence Award and category awards in Business Improvement and the Innovation Award. Also Brandon Reynolds at **The Yoghurt Shop** was awarded a personal 'Next Generation Award'. It's *'dairygood'* to see our industry milking it in the awards!





We are excited to invite you to an exclusive premiere of the much-anticipated documentary **World Without Cows**, a Planet of Plenty® production by Alltech.

Date: Thursday, 12 December 2024

Time: 4.00pm - 7.00pm

Venue: Palace Nova Eastend.

4.00pm - Pre-Screening Networking:

5.00pm - Screening of A Life Without Cows:

6.00pm - Post-Screening Q&A Session

[Click here to RSVP](#)



The [survey](#) takes 15-20 minutes to complete and is open until the end of November.

We are reaching out to South Australia's farming women as part of a comprehensive national survey of rural, regional and remote women. The 1000 Rural Women's Survey will be featured in a new Australian documentary called [Rural Daughters](#). The documentary, by award-winning CheekyMac Productions, will take an unflinching look at life for women in rural and regional Australia, explore their unique barriers and highlight their often-overlooked successes. Results will also be used to inform policy and develop educational resources in schools.

The survey is thought to be the largest and broadest of its kind, covering topics from natural disasters, health and domestic violence to societal attitudes, racial prejudice, Tall Poppy Syndrome, community life, leadership and female role models.

More than 700 rural women have already completed the survey, such is the hunger to have their voices heard. We are hoping you can help us reach our target in the final weeks of the survey by forwarding this email to your networks and giving as many RRR women as possible the chance to be part of the Rural Daughters story.



Rabobank

Who will pay for GHG emissions reductions in Australia's drinking milk market?

As key players in the food supply chain set targets for reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, Australia's dairy sector is grappling with how to best transition to lower-emissions production, and how the cost will be borne, Rabobank says in newly-released research.

The report, *Who pays for GHG emissions reductions in Australian drinking milk markets?*, by the agribusiness banking specialist's RaboResearch division, says addressing "enteric" (intestinal) methane production in dairy cattle – particularly through the use of feed additives – has the greatest potential to deliver emissions reductions for the sector. And this will likely come at a cost.

However, the report says, the good news is this additional cost is relatively low for Australia's drinking milk sector – estimated to total \$35.1 million annually, or less than two per cent (2.5 cents per litre) of the retail value of milk. And it could potentially be spread across dairy sector stakeholders – including farmers, processors, retailers and consumers.

While emissions reduced for the sector could be as much as 226,000 tonnes of CO2 annually, or the equivalent of taking approximately 103,000 cars off the road.

Report author, RaboResearch sustainability analyst Anna Drake says the issue of who pays within the value chain, though, will need to be determined before the dairy sector can begin implementing effective emissions reduction practices.

"While progress has been made within the Australian dairy industry on engagement around emissions, the economic realities of putting the most impactful emissions-reduction technologies into practice are yet to be fully addressed," she says. "With the current lack of market signals to incentivise on-farm reductions, there is an uncertain path towards the best way for the dairy industry to move to a lower-emissions footprint," she said.

Full Media Release [here](#)

SNAPSHOTS in DAIRY

The latest innovations for the dairy industry from Europe to go on show. Ahead of the big EuroTier trade fair in Germany, the DLG organisers have announced the innovations that impressed judges enough to win medals.

EuroTier, held from November 12-15 at Hanover, Germany, showcases the most important innovations, products and services for the livestock sector. A total of 120,000 visitors are expected to attend the event, which sees more than 2100 exhibitors from 52 countries promoting their wares.



Danish company Cow-Welfare has launched its new Flex Air Stall, which is an air supply system integrated into its already popular Flex Stall range of cubicles.



Forster-Technik: CalfGPT
Farmers can check on the health of individual calves using CalfGPT. By using simple voice commands.



Kraiburg has developed the **espaFLEX rubber matting** for slatted floors that helps reduce ammonia levels produced when animal faeces and urine is not separated.



Urban SipControl
Drink slow, grow fast!
Urban Sip Control is a system for determining the welfare of suckling calves at automatic feeders by recording the animal's sucking strength and the individual swallowing processes.



Dutch company Spinder Dairy Housing Concepts won silver for its Spinder Track sliding gate system, which can easily change the space available to cows in a barn.



The Weidemann Follow Me tool allows a farmer to have a Hoftrac wheeled loader follow them autonomously.



WFI SADA Partnership:

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Make sure when your next speaking with WFI that you mention your a SADA Member.



Members Newsletter

December 2024

January 2024



From the President

Robert Brokenshire

On behalf of the SADA Board and Team, we wish all our members, volunteers, partners, and industry associates a safe and Merry Christmas. As we round out another big year for SADA, it's a time to reflect on our collective achievements and challenges.

The infographic above offers just a glimpse into what our small but dedicated team has accomplished over the past 12 months. Your membership has never been more valued than during these challenging times. From managing the complexities of the Beston administration to navigating flood recovery and now drought support across much of the state, our advocacy efforts remain at their peak. Agriculture is never without its challenges, but the dairy industry continues to lead with innovation. The rise of robotics and cutting-edge technology positions dairy at the forefront of agricultural advancements, outperforming many other sectors.

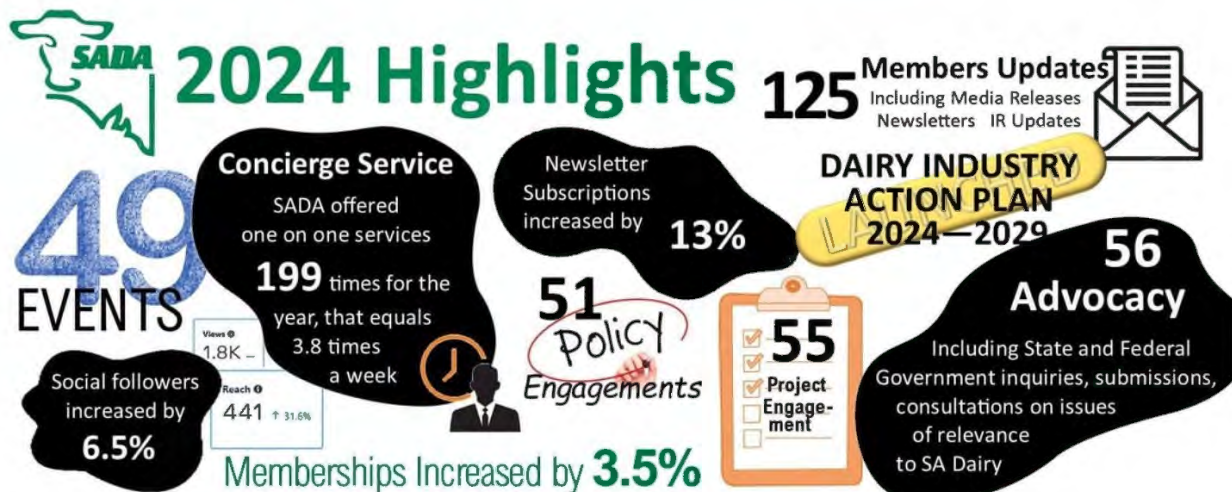
In November, we relaunched the [Do Dairy campaign](#) in response to the significant impact of losing Beston. While this has been a blow to the state, South Australians are resilient and parochial. We've spent the past month encouraging everyone to buy local, rallying support for our industry and producers. On a national front, the updated draft of the [New National Water Agreement](#) has been published. SADA has written to all Senators to highlight critical issues identified during the recent consultation period. With over 300 changes proposed to the existing National Water Initiative, the inclusion of concepts like cultural water and allocations—with limited detail—has left many struggling to understand the implications. This remains a priority for us as we advocate for clarity and fairness.

In state matters, the [Natural Resources Committee](#) of the Parliament of South Australia tabled its report, Inquiry into

Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) in Primary Production, in both Houses on Tuesday, 26 November 2024. This report marks an important step in aligning sustainability and governance with the realities of primary production. On another critical front, the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry has commenced the [second review of the Dairy Code](#). We are pleased to announce that SADA's nominated representative has been accepted to participate in the Consultation Group, ensuring South Australian dairy farmers have a voice in shaping the future of our industry.

As we close out this eventful year, we extend our heartfelt thanks for your continued support. Please take care over the festive season, and don't forget to celebrate with plenty of Aussie dairy products. Together, we will continue to face challenges head-on and lead our incredible industry.

*Wishing you a joyous
Christmas and a
prosperous New Year!*





Fire Danger Season is here

South Australia's fire danger season is here. Bushfires pose a threat to lives, property and electrical infrastructure. It's everyone's responsibility to be prepared. Bushfires pose significant risks, not just to properties but also to the power distribution network. Fire-damaged powerlines and infrastructure could result in extended outages, while bushfires can threaten critical electrical assets. Strong winds during bushfire conditions increase the likelihood of trees and debris coming into contact with powerlines, which can further escalate risks. To minimise these dangers, it's important to prepare both your property and your household for the upcoming bushfire season, especially in the event of a power outage.

Click [here](#) to read about what you can do to prepare for bushfire danger season.



As you may be aware, the state government announced [a new drought support package](#) last month, which is part of an \$18m State Government investment in drought assistance. More detail are available at [Drought - PIRSA](#), including:

On-farm drought infrastructure grants: [Applications are now open](#)

Connecting Communities events grants: [Applications are now open](#)

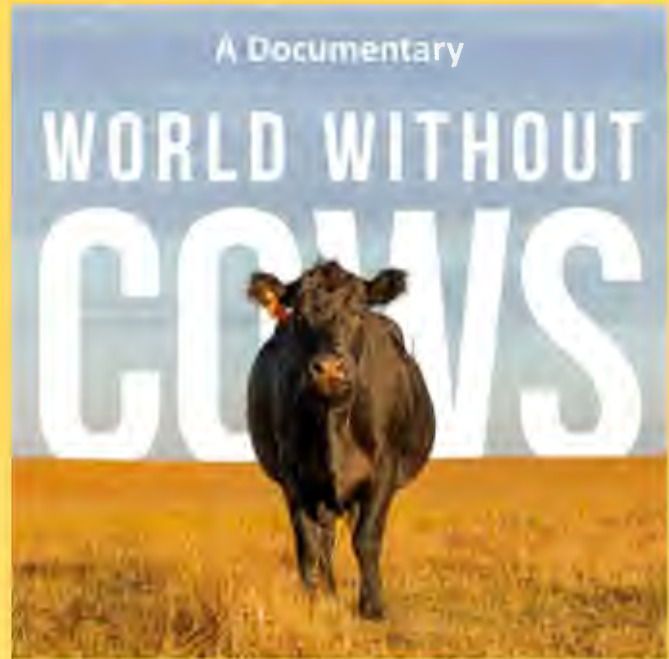


E.W. STEVENS APPLICATIONS OPEN
Trust Fund FOR SCHOLARSHIPS

Apply via the PPSA website

Do you know a student in a remote or regional area who needs a hand with their study? Applications are now open for scholarships of up to \$2500 for 2025 through the E.W. Stevens Trust Fund, administered by Primary Producers SA. For more information and to apply, visit ppsa.org.au/scholarships/

SNAPSHOTS in DAIRY



WFI SADA Partnership:

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Workforce and Skills: Have Your Say

Your input is critical to ensuring these migration and training programs meet the needs of South Australian dairy farmers. Please share your thoughts with us to help shape the future of training and skills in our industry.

Feedback on Training Projects

SADA is seeking your feedback on the latest training initiatives being developed under the Jobs and Skills Council. These projects are vital for ensuring that training and skills development align with the needs of our industry.

Key projects include:

- **DAMA (Designated Area Migration Agreement)** – Exploring pathways to address workforce shortages in regional areas.
- **Livestock Operations Project** – Focused on improving training programs for livestock management and farm operations.
- **Rural Operations Project** – Aiming to enhance training pathways for broader rural and agricultural operations.
- **Skilled Visa Program** – Supporting the streamlining and accessibility of skilled migration for the agricultural sector.

The Designated Area Migration Agreement (DAMA) is an overarching five-year agreement between the [South Australian](#) and the Australian Governments that provides concessions to criteria for employer-sponsored visas. South Australia's two DAMAs, the Adelaide Technology and Innovation Advancement Agreement and the **South Australian Regional Workforce Agreement**, are due to cease in June 2025.

Consultation is now open to help inform the South Australian Government's approach to negotiations to establish a new iteration of the South Australian DAMA in 2025.

SADA is asking for your feedback on SA's new DAMA. This needs to be submitted no later than 10 January 2025. Your important feedback will inform the State's business case to the Australian Department of Home Affairs. **You can also complete this [short 5 minute survey](#)**

The DAMA provides a range of concessions to Commonwealth criteria for employer sponsored visas including work experience, age, English language ability and salary. They enable South Australian employers to sponsor skilled overseas workers for positions they are unable to fill with local workers and allow for more flexible requirements than are available via the standard skilled visa programs.

More information about the current DAMA including the occupation list is available [here](#).

Livestock Operations Project | Finalisation Stage

This project has reviewed the Certificate III in Feedlot Operations and 70 units of competency that support the skills of the livestock industry. Through extensive industry consultation, the qualification and units have been updated to align with current technology and practices so that learners are equipped with the skills required to work safely and effectively with and around livestock.

The final draft units of competency and qualification have been submitted to the Assurance Body, after which they will be forwarded to the Skills Ministers for endorsement. The drafts have undergone an anti-discrimination assessment and consideration by the Senior Responsible Officers. [READ MORE](#)

Rural Operations Project | Development Stage

Research was undertaken as part of this project to understand how the AHC21216 Certificate II in Rural Operations is used to prepare workers for various industries and whether it reflects the necessary skills.

A Research Summary and Product Development Proposal outlining findings to date and recommendations for next steps has been put together for consideration by the project Technical Committee when the project recommences. [READ MORE](#)

Important changes to skilled visa program begin

A modernised skilled occupation list and a new Skills in Demand (SID) visa are included in changes to Australia's skilled visa program begin on 7 December 2024. [READ MORE](#)