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## SADA NEWSLETTER APRIL 2022

Some things change while some things stay the same. Since our last newsletter we have welcomed a new government in South Australia and we have committed to maintaining the Dairy levy at its current level. SADA welcomes the new Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, Hon Clare Scriven MLA. We have had the opportunity to work with the Minister during her time as opposition spokesperson and look forward to a constructive relationship into the future. While we have had some informal conversations with the Minister, we will meet formally with her in the coming weeks. Let us know if there is an issue that you believe should be raised.

We also recognise that as we support the South Australian dairy industry, it is important that we engage with a number of other ministers of the new government. The new Deputy Premier Dr Susan Close MP in her role as Minister for Climate, Environment and Water, as well as her role as Minister for Innovation, will have an agenda which intersects with that of the dairy industry on a number of fronts including climate change and carbon management, water allocation planning and the Murray Darlin Basin plan, animal welfare and product traceability. We look forward to also meeting with Minister Close in the near future.

Workforce matters remain critical for the dairy industry and we will work with Minister Blair Boyer, Minister for Education, Training and Skills to highlight the workforce and training need of the industry. We will also be seeking to reinvigorate the SADA Workforce committee to ensure we have all issues covered when we have these discussions with Minister Boyer and with the Agribusiness Industry Skills Council which advises him.

Dairy Levy Poll has come and gone. It was fantastic to see the level of voter turn out for the poll. Minister Littleproud, who has responsibility for the legislation that enables the collection of the levy and Dairy Australia who invests it, have received a clear message regarding the levy rate for the next period. We look forward to working with ADF and Dairy Australia in formulating their investment decisions.

And lastly, it is opening price season. If you wish to discuss

any aspect of an opening price from local or national milk processors, please give the team a call or email. You certainly won't be the first to do so.

ANDREW CURTIS | CEO.



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

Dear Regional and Industry Partner,

It is both an honour and privilege to become Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development and Minister for Forest Industries.

I have used the term 'partner' very deliberately because it is only through listening and working collaboratively together that we will be able to deliver the best outcomes for our state.

Many of you I have worked with, met with or shared challenges with in recent times. We have had severe weather and biosecurity emergency responses, much of that shouldered by our regions and primary producers, and each and every sector has had to work through the challenges of a global pandemic.

The Malinauskas government has a clear vision to introduce a series of policies and reforms that will set South Australia up, not just for the next four years, but for the generations to come.

I was raised in Mount Gambier and returned to the region after living and working in Adelaide for many years.

Before entering Parliament in 2018, I held private sector roles in forestry and human resources, and I also have many years' experience in government policy and service delivery.

I am committed to regional development, industry, improving educational opportunities, supporting small business, and addressing barriers such as housing shortages, lack of transport and gaps in health services in regional areas.

In addition to the change in government, is a change in leadership of the Department. PIRSA is equally as committed to resetting the agency; re-establishing its priorities; and reconnecting with its stakeholders to partner with our regions and industries to deliver good outcomes into the future.

I'm excited by the opportunities ahead and look forward to delivering with you and for you.



You may be aware that NFF has launched its federal election campaign, called Time to Thrive.

This was the center piece of the Agriculture Leaders Debate between David Littleproud and Julie Collins at the National Press Club in Canberra this

week. It was a well-attended event where a number of key issues were addressed. It is likely to be only one of a few major party debates in the campaign.

Key issues such as Labour (AgVisa), Biosecurity, Supply Chain Resilience and Competition Policy were raised in the Q&A session.

You can catch up on the debate on [here](#)

and see NFF's media release from the debate [here](#).

#### **Knowledge is power.**

Do you know which candidates standing at the upcoming federal election have regional Australia's best interests at heart?

[Sign up](#) to receive a Policy voting guide that contains all the information you need to make an informed choice.

#### **From strength to strength.**

Regional Australia is currently enjoying a strong period of growth, but much work needs to be done to ensure this continues into the future. The federal election is your chance to influence the road ahead for regional Australia and ensure the regions and the people living and working in them enjoy the best outcomes possible.

#### **The issues that matter.**

The National Farmers' Federation has identified 5 priority areas that need to be addressed to ensure stronger regions for all Australians. A strong focus on these key priorities will help to ensure that Australia's regions and the people living within them continue to thrive for many years to come.

*Over the past few weeks SADA has been keeping it's head above water in MDB plan and WAP reviews!!*

- Elf dived into the proposed South Australian Murray Darling Basin Water Allocation Plan and report from the Royal Commission into the Murray Darling Basin Scheme as part of SADA's participation in representing PPSA at the NFF's water committee.
- [Andrew splashed around some water issues with Mike Fuller, General Manager for Water Licensing at DEW. Discussion included; The focus of the new Minister, Water meters and the requirements for science to underpin water allocation determinations. Opportunity to partner in trialling of automated meter reading and roll out of new water management platform which will replace WILMA.](#)
- Andrew and Elf met with members of the SA Murray Irrigators association to discuss the state of the Murray Darling Basin Plan and opportunities to collaborate in supporting the execution and evolution of the plan. There is a general consensus across the industries regarding the policy positions that all irrigators share, namely that the Murray Darling Basin Plan should progress as designed.
- [On behalf of PPSA, Elf and Warren Jacobs \(by Zoom\) attended the National Farmers Federation, water sub-committee meeting in Canberra. This meeting brings together all of the water users across the Murray Darling Basin nationally. The discussion was robust and there are a number of competing expectations across the basin. Elf and Warren continued to support South Australia's position that the plan be rolled out as designed. Nevertheless, there will be a requirement to refine SA's position as time passes closer to 2024 when the plan will be revisited. PPSA has been requested to be part of the response to challenges that will arise over that time.](#)
- Correspondence was prepared to the new Deputy Premier in her role as Minister for Environment, Water as well as in her role as Minister for Innovation. SADA will be seeking an opportunity to brief the Deputy Premier in an effort to bring her up to speed on how her roles impact particularly in the work that SADA is doing in the areas of traceability, methane research and as the PPSA representatives on the NFF water committee.

#### **[Latest news from MDBA](#)**





# AUSTRALIA ON ALERT

**If you suspect an exotic disease like  
LSD in your livestock, call the  
Emergency Animal Disease Watch Hotline  
immediately on 1800 675 888.**

For more information, visit the Department of Agriculture,  
Water and the Environment's website  
👉 [bit.ly/35msZKf](https://bit.ly/35msZKf)

**Lumpy skin disease (LSD)** is a viral disease of cattle and water buffalo that causes relatively low mortality; however, the disease can result in animal welfare issues and significant production losses.

The disease is spread primarily by biting insects such as certain species of flies, mosquitoes and possibly ticks. The disease can also be spread by fomites through such things as contaminated equipment and in some cases directly from animal to animal. It does not pose a risk to human health.

Infection typically causes an acute disease with fever, depression, and characteristic skin nodules. **There may also be a marked reduction in milk yield as well as abortion in pregnant animals.**

Originally limited to Africa, the global distribution of LSD is increasing the risk to Australia. Since 2019, the disease has spread through China and Southeast Asia. In 2021 the disease was confirmed in Vietnam, Thailand and Malaysia. In March 2022 it was officially reported by Indonesia on the island of Sumatra.

## #advocating4ag



Earlier this year our CEO Andrew with ADF President, Rick attended the (Covid-delayed) AFI annual conference on the topic: **Where to next for ag advocacy?**

An overview of the conference discussion will be included in the next edition of the newsletter, but you can catch up on some of the media coverage [here](#).



## Farm Managers Scholarships

Dairy Australia recognises the importance of supporting a skilled and capable workforce. The Dairy Farm Managers scholarship will address the increasing need for future dairy farm business managers by the industry.

Closing Date 5th August 2022  
[More info here](#)

## SAVE THE DATE 2022 FRIDAY 5 AUGUST

SADA is pleased to again be the  
Premier Partner of the DIAA  
**South Australian Dairy Awards for 2022.**

This year SADA will present 3 awards;

- **Best Innovator**
- **Young Farmer of the Year**
- **Best Relationship with a Processor**

This is an important event for the South Australian Dairy Industry and continues to strengthen our relationships across the supply chain, recognising the work and products of both farmers and processors in SA.

SADA will be sending out nomination forms in the next few weeks and we encourage all farmers to participate.



## 2022 DairySA Innovation Day

Wednesday 1 June, 9.30am  
The Barn, Mt Gambier, SA

**The 2022 DairySA Innovation Day on Wednesday 1 June  
which also happens to be World Milk Day!**

Delegates will hear how research plays a pivotal factor in the future of dairy, current projects and most importantly application to your dairy business.

At day's end, gather in a relaxed setting with other farmers and presenters at the Top Paddock for a pre-dinner graze followed by the DairySA Innovation Day two course dinner.



Wednesday, 30 March 2022

## MEDIA ALERT

### Budget 2022: agriculture pulls its weight for the nation

A stronger than expected economic recovery – driven by growth in the mining and agricultural sectors – has resulted in a 2022 Federal Budget providing cost-of-living assistance and further support for Australia’s fiscal bounce-back from the COVID-19 pandemic.

“This budget once again demonstrates the importance of the agricultural industry to Australia’s economy. Revenue derived from agriculture and mining is being distributed across the economy to help the hip pocket of all Australians,” said Australian Dairy Farmers president Rick Gladigau.

“Dairy farmers will be pleased to see initiatives addressing the increasing cost of farming, including flood recovery and further support to grow our regions. However, in reality the extent of expenditure for primary industries is small relative to economic contribution.”

[You can read the full Media Alert here](#)

Wednesday, 6 April 2022

## MEDIA RELEASE

### Poll result supports “no change” to dairy services levy

A vote by dairy farmers in Dairy Poll 2022 to not change how much they invest in RD&E has been noted by Australian Dairy Farmers (ADF), the national policy and advocacy organisation for dairy farmers.

“With almost two-thirds of votes (64%) cast for “no change” the result demonstrates considerable support for the dairy services levy to remain at the current level,” ADF President Rick Gladigau says.

[You can read the full Media Release here.](#)

Friday, 1 April 2022

## MEDIA ALERT

### Budget reply strong on aged care, more needed for farming

A commitment from the Federal Opposition in the Budget reply to set minimum standards for nutrition in aged care is great news for the dairy industry and warrants bi-partisan support, Australian Dairy Farmers (ADF) has announced today.

An improvement in nutritional health in Australia, especially in residential aged care, and abroad, is a policy priority for ADF – the national policy and advocacy organisation representing dairy farmers – ahead of the federal election. It is one of three guiding objectives in the ADF’s 2022 Federal Election Policy Statement.

[You can read the Media Alert here](#)

Wednesday, 20 April 2022

## MEDIA RELEASE

### ADF welcomes new federal grant for supply chain reform

Australian Dairy Farmers (ADF) has secured a federal grant of \$814,000 to improve price transparency, product traceability and efficiency across the dairy supply chain.

With the grant, ADF will produce a framework for the dairy industry that lays out what technology and systems need to be deployed to track and trace produce and price through the supply chain.

[You can read the full Media Release here](#)

By applying to be a member of Australian Dairy Farmers (ADF) you will help improve the profitability and sustainability of our \$13 billion manufacturing, processing and exporting industry. ADF membership is 100% free for all dairy farmers who are a member of their State Dairy Farmer Organisation (SDFO).

[Click here](#) to download your ADF membership application form.





## \$600+m

The 2022–23 Budget delivers over \$600 million to a broad range of initiatives supporting trade, exports, biosecurity and regional communities across agriculture, fisheries and forestry. The Australian Government is committed to supporting industry to reach its goal of \$100 billion by 2030.

### \$146.8m

to continue to transform and modernise Australia's agricultural export services and streamline trade

### \$91.7m

to boost our northern biosecurity frontline, uplift on-farm biosecurity and respond to emerging biosecurity threats

### \$127.3m

to encourage farmers to participate in biodiversity and stewardship activities

#### Measures include:



### \$127.4m

to build on the \$328.4m Busting Congestion for Agricultural Exporters package and complete the transformation of the agricultural export system



### \$19.4m

to continue whole of government reforms to streamline trade processes



### \$10m

to support the agriculture response to Japanese encephalitis



### \$61.6m

to strengthen our northern biosecurity frontline and target high biosecurity regions of growth, with an early focus on lumpy skin disease



### \$20.1m

to support producers and industry to uplift their on-farm biosecurity and traceability outcomes through grants



### \$27.3m

to deliver a world leading voluntary biodiversity market with new income streams for farmers



### \$100m

to improve the tax treatment of carbon and biodiversity markets and support primary producers to undertake additional carbon abatement and biodiversity stewardship activities



### \$23.4m

to extend the recently developed patent box regime to the agriculture sector to support plant breeding and agvet chemical innovation and commercialisation



### \$94.5m

to improve the drought readiness and resilience of Australian farmers and communities through the Future Drought Fund



### \$15.4m

to deliver a second round of the oversubscribed and in-demand Agricultural Show Development Grants Program



### \$12m

to sponsor key agricultural trade events to showcase our produce to the world, such as Beef Australia



### \$90.6m

to grow and protect our valuable forestry sector and secure its future



### \$30m

Through the Government's Regionalisation Accelerator Program, to establish a new National Centre for Digital Agriculture and provide additional funding to our 8 Innovation Hubs to support the uptake of digital agriculture.

# Around the grounds

- Andrew and John (Hunt) attended the PIRSA-PPSA Quarterly meeting. This was the first meeting to be held with Mehdi Doroudi as PIRSA CE and with Simon Maddocks as PPSA Chair. There is a clear intent to make the meetings more “cross-commodity” and strategically focused. A draft Terms of Reference was discussed which will be considered by the SADA Board following modifications and prior to sign off. Initial government priorities were discussed with recognition that much remains to be done to understand (and influence) the agenda of the incoming government.
- Andrew participated in the inaugural Primary Industries and Regions forum convened by PIRSA CE Mehdi Doroudi. The event provided a forum for a wide range of leaders from industry and government to discuss the macro challenges facing the primary industries sectors and regions of South Australia.
- Andrew and Ash attended the SA Livestock biosecurity summit in Murray Bridge. This summit provided an opportunity to commence the development of a livestock biosecurity blueprint for South Australia.
- Ash attended the ADF Lumpy Skin Disease (LSD) briefing. Joining the session was Australian Chief Vet Officer, Animal Health Australia and the Australian Centre for Disease Preparedness to discuss implication on the livestock industry. ADF National Council then had a policy session to discuss the recommendations and protocols that would be put into place in the dairy industry given an outbreak occurring. This included vaccinations and virus material, trade implications and EAD awareness and preparedness.
- Ash and Elf attended the Australian Agri-food Data Exchange Demo Day. This was an excellent event where local and international technology vendors along with industry partners showcased experiments to demonstrate different methods of enabling data exchanges and share lessons learned and benefits unlocked for specific cases across biosecurity, traceability and compliance.
- Andrew participated in the first Genomics in Practice workshop run by Dairy SA. As well as being an excellent pilot, the workshop provided an opportunity to engage with a range of Fleurieu Dairyfarmers and service providers.
- Ash taught at the 2022 Young Environmental Leaders Murraylands Day. The event held in Myponga focused on the dairy industry and looked at how innovation in agriculture is improving businesses and sustainability. The students from approximately 10 schools in SA learnt about the workings of a buffalo dairy as well as being able to interact with the buffalo calves. Students also learnt about what crops feed the buffalo and grain mixes whilst they are being milked. A presentation then focused on dairy nutrition with an ice cream making activity before learning about new technology being implemented into dairies. Outstanding positive feedback from both the students and the teachers hoping more excursions such as this will be possible in the future for students.
- Ash presented to a number of teachers at the Murraylands Teacher Professional Development night. This was an opportunity to talk about sustainable water use in agriculture and the journey of dairy products from paddock to plate.
- Elf and Andrew attended the Fleurieu Dairy Farmers Collective Bargaining group session held at McLaren Vale. A briefing session was held by La Casa Del Formaggio and SADA also addressed the group regarding SADA’s role and up coming engagements with the new government.
- Ash attended the National GS1 Steering Committee Meeting to discuss the upcoming National Traceability Summit proposed to happen on 7 April 2022. Worryingly, details are still being finalised.
- Ash spoke to the Chief Scientist of Food Agility CRC, Dave Lamb. The discussion was about the traceability project that was also presented, the development of the Australian Dairy Traceability Standards and how the feed industry could be involved. Food Agility CRC specialises in investment to agricultural supply chains to further data and technological capabilities. There is an opportunity for some funding in the future.

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

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



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