



SADA Newsletter

August 2019

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SADA Congratulates the winners of the Dairy Industry Awards



The Winners of the SADA sponsored categories of the DIAA Dairy Industry Awards – South Australia.

SADA and the South Australian branch of the DIAA have committed to developing closer relationships between the producers of South Australian milk and the processors South Australian milk as part of the commitment to the South Australian Dairy Industry Action Plan 2019 – 2024 aimed at turning SA into the global jurisdiction in producing premier dairy products.

Best Innovation - Glen Dohnt. Glen's farm is located halfway between Murray Bridge and Jervois on the banks of the mighty Murray. Glen and his dad have turned their farm into a model of efficiency and production using a mixture of smart feeding, sound milking technology and herd management. Infrastructure on the farm reflects an expenditure commitment with the future in mind.

Best Relationship with a processor

The award was based on feedback by processor field officers from various processing firms who responded to SADA's enquiries as to who they had a good relationship with. The winner, no-nonsense **Brad Fischer**, who hails from the Meningie district is a farmer who has shown a passionate desire to succeed and this is reflected in every aspect of his approach to farming including his relationship with those who buy his milk.

Young Farmer

In this award Beston Global Foods and SADA came together to recognise a young farming team. **Angela and Ben Tweddle** reflect that passion for doing dairy right and stand as beacons to others in the dairy industry and reflect the reality that there is a future in dairy farming in our great state. Ben and Angela hail from the South East and are respected by many farmers in the district where they farm.

REMINDER: Please return your updated membership forms asap.

Why join SADA? South Australia has a long and proud history of producing **premium milk** and dairy products. Accounting for approximately five percent 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 marketplace.

Juice is not Milk

SADA has thrown its weight behind the ADF's call to ban the term "milk" being applied to nut juice. In June 2018 SADA wrote to ADF regarding this issue and recently it has percolated to the surface again.

At the core of the issue is the fact that the Food Standards Australia and New Zealand Code specifically allows for this to occur. The Code is the product of an Inter- Governmental Agreement or IGA. It was the product of an agreement where Ministers were asleep at the wheel when they agreed to this standard.

The Code enables the representation of certain products in the Australia Market place as "milk" or "milk products".

As a matter of general policy the IGA and the Code allow for the mislabeling of vegetable matter a milk is becoming a matter of increasing concern. Because of the construct of the Code, South Australia has been unable to respond to a complaint by SADA about mislabeling on South Australian shop shelves.

Supermarkets continue to have on sale products labelled 'Almond Milk', 'Soy Milk' and 'Rice Milk'. Nothing in this article is in anyway a reflection on the

supermarkets and the service they provide to the Australian community. Products of this nature are available in many supermarkets across Australia and should be available, they just shouldn't be called "milk".

The reason that these products can be labelled 'milk' is essentially because of the operation of clause 1.1.1-13 (4) of the Code which provides:

- *If a food name is used in connection with the sale of a food (for example in the labelling), the sale is taken to be a sale of the food as the named food unless the context makes it clear that this is not the intention.*
- *Example: The context within which foods such as soy milk or soy ice cream are sold is indicated by the use of the same soy, indicating that the product is not a dairy product to which a dairy standard applies*

This interpretation is, in the opinion of SADA, letting both the dairy industry and the consumer down.

There is also an inherent contradiction within the Code arising out of the definition of milk. Elsewhere in the Code is clear that the intent in the code with regard to the term milk there is a strong focus on milk being "the mammary secretion of milking animal"

The definition is very similar in terms to the definition provided by the European regulations particularly relating to the product being a "...mammary secretion of milking animals...".

With regard to products such as Cream and Butter Standard 2.5 is entitled "Dairy Products". Each of the Standards under the heading have definitions that refer directly to milk. For example, Standard 2.5.5.-2 defines butter to mean "a food that is derived from milk, and products obtained from milk..."

Similarly, cheese means "the ripened or unripened solid or semi-solid milk product"

Again, the reference is directly to 'milk'.

The European Court, a number of years ago ruled that nut juice is not milk and consequently the labelling of Almond and Soy type products cannot be sold as milk. It's time for Australia to catch up.



Free Trade Agreement with European Union.

As you may be aware, Australia is currently negotiating a free trade agreement (FTA) with the European Union. As part of the negotiations, it is anticipated that the EU will seek to restrict Australia's use of a number of cheese names that fall under Europe's Geographical Indications regime.

An agreement on Geographical Indications as part of the Australia-EU FTA could limit the ability of Australia's cheese manufacturers to call products by their common name. This includes cheese names such as feta, parmesan, halloumi, tallegio, and others.

A Geographical Indication (GI) identifies a good as originating in a specific region where a particular quality, reputation or other characteristic of the good is attributable to that geographic origin. This is best illustrated with an example from the wine industry, where champagne and burgundy are both now protected GIs. This means that Australian wine producers are not able to call wines by these names.

An agreement on GIs as part of an Australia-EU FTA could have two possible impacts:

1. Restricted use of common **food names**, including names of cheeses commonly produced in Australia.
2. Restricted use of **packaging and labelling** that are judged to evoke an image of a particular EU product in the mind of the consumer. E.g. flags, colours or images that evoke European nations.

The implications of a strict agreement on GIs has the potential to significantly impact Australia's dairy industry. Dairy Australia analysis shows that the

Australian cheeses that face the highest risk from GI implementation have average recorded domestic sales of \$180m per annum, and an additional \$55m per annum in export sales. Local cheese production of up to \$300m per annum could also face possible evocation issues. [The Australian Dairy Industry Council \(ADIC\)](#) has been vocal in its opposition to a strict GI regime.

We anticipate the Australian Government will undertake a public consultation process, at the request of the EU, including a call for submissions. In advance of this, we are looking to engage state farming



organisations, ADF, ADPF and specialty cheese manufacturers.

Next steps: Dairy Australia will engage early with SADA to discuss how we might work together to develop a range of outreach activities that aim to:

- (1) inform dairy industry participants and consumers of the *risks* associated with a strict GIs regime in any agreement with the EU.
- (2) recommend that all interested parties sign up for regular *updates* from Dairy Australia on GIs and the Australia-EU FTA
- (3) ensure that the industry is prepared for any *consultation* period.

Property Identification Code (PIC) biennial renewals online

Over the past few years, Primary Industries and Regions SA (PIRSA) has progressed with Digital Transformation initiatives, by identifying and developing services for clients and producers to register and transact electronically with PIRSA. I am pleased to advise that the latest initiative, designed to provide livestock producers with the convenience of processing their Property Identification Code (PIC) biennial renewals online, has been completed. The PIC online renewal application has been in use since January 2018, and all producers sent registration renewal letters since then have been invited to renew online and provide feedback on the process. Biosecurity SA has now been able to review and implement enhancements to the system as a result of this producer feedback. The online renewal option delivers the following benefits:

- Livestock producers can now renew their PIC registrations online at their own convenience
- Secure online payment processing
- Immediate return delivery by email, of PIC certificate, tax receipt, and online summary details
- Producers can update their information online at any time at no cost
- Notification of pending PIC expiry will continue to be advised

approximately 6 weeks prior to expiry, via email (rather than via Australia Post which can incur delayed delivery)

- Email Renewal documentation sent electronically conserves our natural resources
- Producers with slow/no Internet connections can request their renewal form be forwarded for manual processing

Future initiatives include the ability to apply online for a new Livestock PIC

SA Dairy Industry Fund



The South Australian Dairy Industry Fund in conjunction with SADA and Creation Care is funding a research

program attempting to establish the introduction of three new species of dung beetle on the Fleurieu. We are calling for expressions of interest for farmers who want to participate in this project.

Dung beetles offer substantial advantages to the industry of dairy farming. This program is intended to establish the viability of three new dung beetle species on dairy farms on the Fleurieu Peninsula.

The Purpose of the Project

Participating dairy farmers will be trained in on-farm dung beetle rearing and management, and in the process three dung beetle species which are new to South Australia, *Onthophagus vacca*, *Bubas bubalus* and *Copriss hispanus* will be established on pilot dairy farms across the Fleurieu Peninsula.

The project will also define the environmental conditions on the Fleurieu Peninsula that are best suited for these three new species to thrive. This will provide guidelines for the future successful

distribution of these species on other dairy farms throughout South Australia. Greg Dalton of Creation Care is co-ordinating the project and will select farms based on their distribution across the Fleurieu Peninsular and suitability for the project.

Eighteen (18) test sites across the Fleurieu will be required for best outcomes. For this the project will need nine (9) to twelve (12) participating properties. Participating farmers will need to comply with specific directions to ensure the integrity of the program. These demands will not be onerous.

Dung beetles offer substantial benefits to farmers if they can be established particularly in the areas of cattle health and nitrogen replenishment in the soil. Carbon sequestration is also a notable benefit of the presence of dung beetles. The need to be ready for spring is important to this project so please be quick.

If you are interested in participating in this project and you have a farm on the Fleurieu Peninsular please contact Greg Dalton from Creation Care via email gregdalton@creationcare.com.au or alternatively, **John Elferink at SADA on 0418 406 400** or by emailing John on john@sada.asn.au. We look forward to a positive response.

In addition to Make it Cheaper providing free energy comparisons to you our members to save you time and money, they have a **prize draw to win \$500** running through winter.

Every member who uploads a copy of a recent energy bill between the 1st of June and the 9th of August will automatically go into the draw to win the \$500 gift card.

Don't hesitate to give SADA a call if you need any further assistance with any services that you may require.

Upload your bill for a **FREE** energy comparison &

Be in to WIN a
\$500
Gift Card

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Full terms and conditions on www.makeitcheaper.com.au/2016/06/01/energy-comparison

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Penalties for unauthorised take and use of water.

We recognise that most water users do the right thing by monitoring and managing their water use responsibly, supporting the sustainable use of our state's water resources.

Unfortunately, some water users take more water than they have been allocated. This behaviour reduces the security of supply for all other users.

If there is evidence of the taking water without an allocation or taking water in excess of available allocation then a penalty will issued.


Penalty rates are calculated with consideration of the level of risk that water theft poses to a particular resource and the value of water. These rates vary by water resource area and for severity of overuse. Some examples of the rates in effect for high use resources during the 2018-19 water year are shown in the table below.

Prescribed Water Resource	Penalty for overuse			Penalty for unlawful taking or use of water
	For first 10 per cent	Above 10 per cent and up to and including 25 per cent	Above 25 per cent	
Barossa PWRA	\$2.19/kL	\$5.11/kL	\$8.76/kL	\$12.14/kL
Eastern Mount Lofty Ranges PWRA	\$0.69/kL	\$1.61/kL	\$2.76/kL	\$3.91/kL
McLaren Vale PWA	\$1.74/kL	\$5.22/kL	\$9.57/kL	\$13.92/kL
Mallee PWA	\$0.39/kL	\$0.91/kL	\$1.56/kL	\$2.21/kL
Northern Adelaide Plains PWA	\$0.46/kL	\$1.38/kL	\$2.53/kL	\$3.68/kL
Western Mount Lofty Ranges PWRA	\$0.34/kL	\$1.02/kL	\$1.87/kL	\$2.72/kL


Penalty rates are published in the first half of the accounting period. For areas other than the River Murray Prescribed Watercourse, the accounting period is from 1 July to 30 June. As such, penalties for the current water year will be declared by 31 December or the penalty rates declared for the previous water year will apply. A quarterly accounting period now applies for the River Murray Prescribed Watercourse, as follows:

Quarter 1 accounting period	1 July to 30 September
Quarter 2 accounting period	1 October to 31 December
Quarter 3 accounting period	1 January 31 March
Quarter 4 accounting period	1 April to 30 June

This means that a penalty will apply to water taken in excess of available allocation at the end of each quarter. Excerpt from Waterfind Australia - www.waterfind.com.au



Australian Government
Department of Agriculture
ABARES




REGIONAL
OUTLOOK

Mount Gambier

25 September 2019

8:30am - 4:30pm
City Hall, The Main Corner Complex
1 Bay Road, Mount Gambier



**Grow your knowledge and branch out at the
ABARES Regional Outlook conference in Mount Gambier**

Need insurance? You need WFI.

Proud insurance
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Australian Dairyfarmers
Association.



At WFI, we take the time to thoroughly understand your business and how it operates. Because when we get to know a business, we can protect everything that matters.

We're available to meet with you face-to-face to discuss your insurance requirements. That's just one of the reasons why we're good people to know for insurance.

WFI Rural Plan consists of a range of different policies, covering a wide variety of risks. This approach gives you greater flexibility, and if circumstances change it is easy for you to add another policy.

WFI Rural Plan policies you can choose from:

-  Farm Property Damage
-  Farm Loss of Income
-  Farm General Property
-  Farm Transit
-  Farm Legal Liability
-  Farm Machinery Breakdown
-  Farm Electronic Equipment
-  Farm Burglary and Theft
-  Motor Vehicle
-  Personal Legal Liability
-  Domestic Workers (WA only)
-  Classic Home
-  Standard Home
-  Personal Valuables
-  Pleasure Boat
-  Personal Accident and Illness

Need an insurance quote?

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1300 934 934 or visit wfi.com.au**



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