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SADA NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2022

Rabobank recently released its latest Global Dairy Quarterly report which references the recent increase in dairy prices in the supermarket. While it is a report that is well worth a look, it and many other commentators fail to recognise that the recent rise in consumer prices is on the back of a decade of stagnation. For many products, we are just catching up to where we should have been if not for "dollar milk". SADA recognises the pressures all dairy farmers are under at present: Emergence Animal Disease threats, floods and rain, labour availability and of course the rise cost of living which impacts on us all.

Take a moment to read this full [Media Release](#) from Rabobank and lets take the wins when we can. We look forward to working with our industry partners at Dairy SA, DIAA and Dairy Safe to support all dairy businesses and build plans to optimise the future.

Australian consumers are seeing significant price increases across dairy products – based on the national Consumer Price Index (CPI) data – with milk prices having risen at the fastest rate since records began, according to a new report by agribusiness banking specialist Rabobank.

“For Australia’s dairy producers, farmgate margins remain positive and are supported by the record milk prices,” Mr Harvey said. “Average farmgate milk prices across Australia’s Southern Export regions range between AUD 9.50-10.00/kgMS.

“The high milk prices have mostly offset major cost headwinds – fertiliser, fuel and feed – for dairy farmers. While labour availability remains a major challenge for dairy farming businesses.”

Mr Harvey said Rabobank is not expecting further major lifts in milk prices as the season draws to a close.

Australian milk price’s rapid rise – [Rabobank report](#)

Please give us a call with any issues or wins that you have, we will shortly be celebrating the highs and lows of 2022 and we are ready to hit 2023 head on.

Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Biosecurity Matters

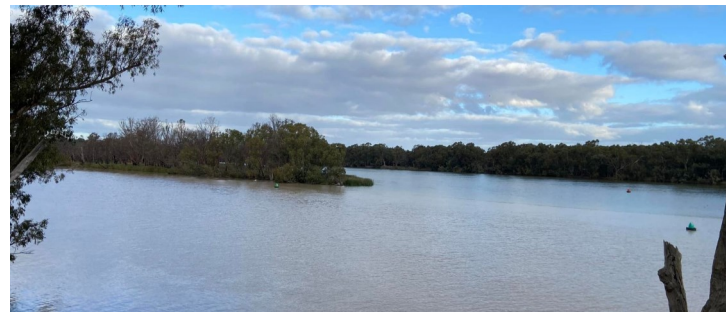
Edition 4, 2022

<https://mailchi.mp/agriculture.gov.au/biosecurity-matters-edition-4-2022?e=389a698934>

What you need to know



With the Christmas season approaching, SADA would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a safe and holiday season. Please note our offices will be closed from:- **12:00 noon Thursday 22nd December 2022, and re-open 9:00am Monday 9th January 2023.** For any matters needing attention, we will monitor messages. Please phone 08 8293 2399 and leave the details and we will respond as soon as we are able.



Be prepared for natural disasters

Take some time to read over the findings of the [Small Business Natural Disaster Preparedness and Resilience Inquiry](#) which has recently been tabled in Federal Parliament.

It's particularly timely given the recent floods that have devastated some communities and destroyed many small and family businesses. We hope there are no more natural disasters, but we know floods, bushfires, storms and droughts rip at the heart and soul that enterprising women and men pour into their small business.

In the aftermath of natural disasters, we typically see massive and heartbreaking clean-up efforts, a lengthy and hard-going recovery and questions asked about how small and family businesses, and communities will bounce back and what, if anything, could have been done to better prepare.

This inquiry found that disturbingly, only one in four small businesses have a current business continuity plan.

Every business should have one.

Taking simple steps to be better prepared, sensible risk mitigation action and bolstering resilience can help small and family businesses to get back on their feet quicker after suffering the effects of a natural disaster.

Here's a 9-point [checklist](#) to help small businesses to be prepared.

If disaster does strike, small and family business owners also require clarity and certainty of the support available. There are [10 things](#) you should consider to recover and get up and running again.

A strong sense of community connectedness, including collegiate business relationships – what we have called “socio-commercial capital” – leads to more resilient and unified communities that learn from and support each other to work together to prepare for, and respond to, natural disasters.

The report finds the building of socio-commercial capital can be done within existing structures, such

as the Small Business Friendly Councils initiative run in conjunction with state Small Business Commissioners.

As a country we have too much focus on the clean-up. Some 97% of money spent by governments on disasters is after the event and only 3% is on preparedness.

Among the 16 recommendations and findings, the report says:

- There should be a “certainty of response” for small business owners, so they are automatically elevated and “front of mind” in disaster response, recovery and funding arrangements. This must include indirectly affected businesses.
- There should be “certainty of support” by establishing a business hub after a disaster as a single point to seek help from federal, state, and local government and non-government agencies.
- A “tell-us-once” triage system should be adopted to save small business owners the trauma and time associated with repeating their story.
- An opt-in “My Business Record” should be created to allow a small business to digitally store all relevant government-held and other vital information it might need after a disaster.
- Infrastructure grants should be provided to ensure critical infrastructure relied upon during a disaster is fit-for-purpose, remains intact and functioning.
- The Australian Government should implement a “good neighbour” program and mitigate risks on land it owns.
- A Government subsidy should be available when workers in a small business are called out for volunteer work for an extended period or a business is required to scale back operations because of volunteer activities.
- When a small business receives an Australian Government grant, an additional amount should be made available six to nine months later for a “business health check”.

Small business creates vitality in our communities, employs two out of every five people with a private sector job and contributes one-third of our GDP, so it is absolutely worth building its resilience.

The full report is available on our [website](#) where we also have tools, resources and tips to help small business prepare for a disaster and, if needed, to recover after one.

The Tax Office has announced that small businesses who have been affected by recent floods can get support and information about meeting their tax and superannuation obligations [here](#) and [here](#).

A snapshot that [SADA](#) is doing in the flood affected areas around the Lower Murray River and Lakes region.

South Australian River Murray primary producers accessing River Murray water for primary production can register your details for [flood support](#) for primary producers

A fact sheet outlining the process for meter removal is available on the [SADA Website](#).

River Murray flood 2022 Sign up for outage alerts [SA Power Networks](#)

We recommend you keep records of costs incurred in advance of funding being open.

For Water Resource Works Approval (WRWA) holders (the irrigators) in the Lower Murray Irrigators Management Zone (LMIMZ) when a register / convertor is to be [removed](#) and up-on [reinstallation](#)

You are encouraged to contact Andy Hansen, for clarification or further information. Andy Hansen | Senior Assessment & Compliance Officer Water Licensing Branch [Mobile 0429 698 667](#)
Email: andrew.hanson@sa.gov.au



PPSA's Water Policy At the special out of session meeting of PPSA's NRM Committee on November 14 our Water Policy was finalised for publication. The Committee also discussed the draft **Climate Policy** for presentation to the PPSA Council for endorsement in 2023. Discussion covered areas including:

- Concerns about inequity for smaller businesses that have less capacity and greater barriers to participation in the carbon market.
- Ensuring the integrity of schemes and how that impacts on access to markets

Over the past month, the following submissions were lodged on behalf of PPSA:

- **Austrroads National Access Framework for Heavy Vehicles**, supporting proposal for harmonised access across jurisdictions.
- House of Representatives Standing Committee on Communications and the Arts **Inquiry into co-investment in multi-carrier regional mobile infrastructure**, supporting accessible, reliable, quality, and affordable telecommunications and connectivity services to drive productivity, sustainability, and to support emergency responses.
- **Annual Operating Plan milestone report** lodged with SA Government Finance Authority for reporting period 1 April-30 November 2022.

Other highlights from the PPSA team include:

- Meeting held with the **Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Hon Joe Szakacs MP**, to discuss how primary industries may work with SA Government to support prisoners and offenders on community corrections orders find and maintain employment.
- Attended meeting of the **Fire Prevention Strategic Alliance Committee** facilitated by SAPOL and SA CFS. Acknowledging progress on Harvest Code communications, and calling for urgent action on remaining codes that refer to the old fire indexes.
- Attended a briefing session by the Australian Regional Tourism (ART) and a small group of farming associations, to discuss opportunities to collaborate on the **development of agritourism**.
- Continued coordination of **Chemical Stewardship** work, including national level meetings with NFF, GrainGrowers, CropLife, and Bayer.
- Worked with PIRSA on a resilience and capacity project proposal for 2023.
- Attended Adelaide Airport on the invitation of PIRSA and DAFF to have a tour of biosecurity procedures and facilities for incoming international visitors.

- Nominated TASC Convener Robert Brokenshire to the **SA Freight and Supply Chain Consultative Committee**.
- Meeting of the **PPSA Tax Reform Taskforce**, exploring possible taxation related reform and identifying potential unintended consequences.
- Consultation to **PWC SA Freight and Supply Chain Strategy**.
- Met with Matthew Dadswell from Federal Environment Department regarding water policy.
- Attended and contributed to the **SADA Policy Forum**, focussing on Carbon, Biosecurity, and workforce matters.
- Attended update from the Chief Executive, PIRSA regarding Impact of the Floods on Primary Producers. PIRSA information update is provided below.
- **PPSA Farm Safety Steering Committee Meeting** to review progress by AgCommunicators in developing curriculum resources on farm safety for kids.
- Met with PIRSA lead on Transport regarding priority projects and joint advocacy.

Met with NHVR Stakeholder liaison regarding permit system, PPSA Transport Policy, and future projects.



FOSTERING TOMORROW'S FARMERS



The National Farmers' Federation (NFF) is looking for enthusiastic farmers across Australia to participate as employers and hosts for young Australians participating in the AgCAREERSTART program.

- AgCAREERSTART offers a supported pathway to find new workers
- Farmers host young Australians on their farm for 10-12 months
- There's a range of incentives for signing up to the program including a \$2000 grant, free FarmSafe training and industry support to train and mentor your staff

- A pilot program has been run, with the Eyre Peninsula farmer who took part this year signing up again for 2023
- PPSA's commodity groups can support farmers in applying for AgCAREERSTART, making it a simple process for them
- All farm types are welcome to participate and employees can help with a wide range of activities

There's also a great video on the AgCAREERSTART homepage, featuring a South Australian participant:
<https://agcareerstart.com.au/>

evoke^{AG}. Down to Earth

📅 21-22 February 2023

📍 Adelaide Convention Centre, South Australia

evoke^{AG} is the region's premier agrifood tech event, attracting the entire ecosystem – farmers, innovators, researchers, corporates, government and investors – to one location to connect and collaborate. Join us at the Adelaide Convention Centre, South Australia on 21-22 February 2023 for evoke^{AG}. Down to Earth where we will explore how farming, tech, science and people collectively have the power to bring innovative ideas to life.



'Cyber security and data breach are not an IT issue'

These issues should be addressed as board and executive-level governance priorities, as they have the potential to halt your business' production at best or create a long-term reputational and even existential issue at worst

sada.asn.au/assets/sada/member-updates/Cyber-security-and-data-breach-are-not-an-IT-issue-Agribusiness-Australia-Editorial-Nov-2022.pdf



The nuts and bolts of cyber security

With the large-scale data breaches and cyber attacks making national news in recent weeks, it is clear that all businesses – no matter their size – must invest in cyber security to keep their business and customers safe.

sada.asn.au/assets/sada/media-releases/20221111-The-nuts-and-bolts-of-cyber-security.pdf

Farm debt mediation

National better practice guide for farm debt mediation

The Australian Government in consultation with stakeholders, including the NFF, has developed a principles-based National Better Practice Guide for Farm Debt Mediation.

The guide aligns with recommendations from the Banking Royal Commission and complements existing state farm debt mediation (FDM) schemes, as well as the Banking Code of Practice and supports early engagement of on farm debt issues.

It provides farmers and their lenders with greater certainty and supports them to progress through a fair, transparent and confidential approach to farm debt mediation.

The guide aims to:

- provide high-level principles to use when considering how best to approach issues regarding farmers in financial difficulty and FDM.
- outline the key principles for fair and effective debt resolution for all stakeholders involved where a farm business is experiencing financial difficulty.
- provide high-level guidance rather than prescribing detailed processes and procedures.

Farm debt mediation remains an important mechanism for farmers and their lenders to work through debt issues before the commencement of any enforcement action.

For the first time in Australia, farmers, lenders, and other stakeholders in the FDM process will benefit from accessing a set of transparent and nationally consistent debt resolution practices.

This will help reduce the financial burden facing some farmers by providing a resource that they can use to facilitate discussions with their lenders that lead to mutually beneficial outcomes.

The guide was developed in consultation with Australian Banking Association, the National Farmers' Federation, Rural Financial Counselling Service, Legal Aid Queensland, state and territory governments, CPA Australia, mediators and other lending organisations.

You can view the guide [here](https://www.agriculture.gov.au/agriculture-land/farm-food-drought/drought/approach_to_farm_debt_mediation)

https://www.agriculture.gov.au/agriculture-land/farm-food-drought/drought/approach_to_farm_debt_mediation



Seeking your input - Animal Care Goal, Targets and metrics for the Australian Dairy Sustainability Framework



Dairy Industry Sustainability Webinar The future of work

Against the backdrop of global talks to save the planet, few are talking about what the future of work means to people. Business needs people and the planet to be sustainable. People are at the heart of the Australian dairy industry. But how do you know if you have the right people and workplace to meet the emerging challenges of a changing world? In recognising the role of people in producing sustainable food, the dairy sector is exploring what the future of work looks like in Australian agriculture

The webinar was a panel session examining the future workplace experience with the following panel of experts;

Opening: Rick Gladigau, Chair, Australian Dairy Industry Council
"We want dairy people who respect the past, learn from it, yet live for the future."

Moderator: Cynthia Mahoney, author, speaker, facilitator: how to support rural leaders to thrive
"Leadership for sustainability is essential in a modern Australian agricultural workforce."

Speakers;

Purpose/values: [Bernard Salt](#), Demographer,

*What is the mindset that the workers of the future will bring to the workplace?
"The workers of the future see the world differently; they want to drive change."*

Resilience/change: [Sally Murfet](#), [InspireAG](#)

*What can employers do to sustain the resilience of workers in a changing world?
"A new generation with more uncertainty ahead is set to enter Australian agriculture."*

Skills/succession: [Michael Gliddon](#), [Aurora Dairies](#)

*What does a sustainable workforce in the agricultural value chain look like in 2030?
"We need people who love agtech/digital, who inhale data to make smart decisions."*

Closing: Janine Waller, ADPF Exec Director and Chair of the Dairy Human Rights Working Group

*What key priority areas for people are emerging for Australia's dairy value chain?
"Dairy companies are expanding their work on human rights and reporting progress."*

The Australian Dairy Sustainability Framework (ADSF) has included the care of dairy animals as a key priority since its inception in 2013.

The Framework is owned by the Australian Dairy Industry Council (ADIC), who have tasked the Sustainability Steering Committee (SSC) with the responsibility for developing and implementing the ADSF.

(See Australian Dairy Sustainability Framework - Dairy Australia)

<https://www.dairy.com.au/sustainability/australian-dairy-sustainability-framework>

SADA has a copy of the slides if you missed this very informative session.



Australia's first Annual Climate Change Statement

1 December 2022

Minister for Climate Change and Energy, Chris Bowen, has delivered the Australian Government's first [Annual Climate Change Statement](#) to Parliament, outlining:

- Australia's progress to achieve our 2030 and 2050 emissions reduction targets
- the economic, environmental and social impacts of climate change
- Australia's action in the context of global efforts
- Australia's domestic policies to mitigate and adapt to climate change.

As required under the *Climate Change Act 2022*, the Statement also responds to the independent advice received from the Climate Change Authority.

Minister for Climate Change and Energy Chris Bowen said the first Annual Statement showed Australia has much work to do to reduce emissions by 43%.

"The first-ever Annual Climate Change Statement shows we are on the right track, but it is also a wake-up call for the nation to do more," Minister Bowen said.

"Reducing emissions by 43% is an ambitious target and we are going to need a collective effort and determination across all of the economy to meet our goal."

Future Statements will evolve as our capability to measure and report on climate action improves and the CCA implements its methodology to assess our progress in transitioning to net zero emissions.

The [Climate Change Authority's first Annual Progress Report](#), the [2022 Emissions Projections report](#) and the latest [Quarterly Update of the National Greenhouse Gas Inventory](#) and the [Minister's speech to Parliament will be tabled alongside the Annual Statement](#).

Read the Minister's media release: [First Annual Climate Change Statement](#).

<https://www.dcceew.gov.au/about/news/australias-first-annual-climate-change-statement>

Ministers must make sure energy projects don't diminish food production

📅 8 December 2022

The National Farmers' Federation (NFF) is calling on Australian energy ministers to make sure the transition to renewable energy is overseen by a national code, so we don't sacrifice food security for energy security. The NFF has written to the ministers ahead of their meeting on Friday, outlining agriculture's priorities, backed by the Energy Policy [...]

<https://nff.org.au/media-release/ministers-must-make-sure-energy-projects-dont-diminish-food-production/>

Around the grounds

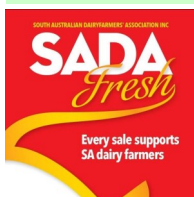
- Andrew attended the Primary Industries School Engagement Workshop with PPSA. Key topic of discussion was strategies & initiatives to engage students and address challenges & barriers in 2023.
- Elf reviewed the proposed national traceability strategy circulated by ADF. This strategy will outline the requirements of traceability moving forward. SADA's current traceability project aligns with the strategy as expected.
- Elf attended the Adelaide International Airport to tour and inspect the biosecurity processes in place to combat the threat of Foot and Mouth and Lumpy Skin. The tour included reviewing the passenger announcements, foot baths, declarations, sniffer dogs, signage and observation of incoming flights at the airport. AQIS reports high levels of passenger compliance with requirements.
- Andrew attended the Murray Darling Basin Authority Dinner meeting with new MDBA CEO Andrew McConville and his management team. Water policy and management was recognised as really complex. It was acknowledged that although some of us may have different views about how the Basin should operate or what it could look like — we do share a goal to create and maintain a sustainable, healthy river system.
- Andrew attended the Limestone Coast Jobs and Skills Showcase with DSA, this gave SADA the opportunity to promote the opportunities that exist to work in the industry and also to meet with various employment and training providers in the region.
- Have Your Say survey on the draft National Agricultural Traceability Strategy here: haveyoursay.agriculture.gov.au/national-agricultural-traceability
- The ADF National Council Zoom met to discuss the report from the Surplus Calves task force which has been investigating the issue and options over the past six months.
- Elf spent the first three days of the

week attending to stepping into the role of Executive Officer of the South Australian Dairy Industry Fund. This role was recently vacated by Tom Consentino and the hand over process was being managed by Elf in receiving briefings and directions in the management of the fund. Exchanges of correspondence have been completed and a number of matters have been referred to the SADA Board.

- The SADA Board ratified an application to SADIF to seek support for the proposed Methane Capture study. SADIF have written the letter of support.
- Andrew represented PPSA at a meeting of the NFF Workforce Committee. Topics for discussion included the recently established Ag workforce Tripartite Working Group, a recently released Agrifutures study report - Community Perceptions and Worker Experiences, proposed changes to Industrial Relations laws, overseas workers and migration, pensioners in the workforce and FarmSafe Australia.
- Elf attended the PPSA Taxation reform task force, which was formed after SADA raised tax issues, particularly Stamp Duty, prior to the last SA, election. SADA will continue to represent the interests of dairy farmers on that committee.
- Andrew attended an AICD update – key issues identified by the speakers that will impact / continue to impact on business in the coming year are Culture, Climate Change Governance, Cyber security, and Technology & Innovation.
- Andrew met with Melissa Hunter and Geoff Raven for their fortnightly catch up. Among the matters discuss was the opportunity to promote the DairySafe business continuity tool and opportunities to align with the Our Farm Our Plan program.
- Elf also met with the EPA regarding issues impacting the dairy industry moving forward. The EPA remains in contact with SADA to ensure the rules around the intensification of dairy in SA is properly managed within the terms of the Environmental Protection Act.
- Andrew attended the Dairy Australia

Annual General Meeting. Two new board members were elected to replace retiring members. James Mann remains as DA Chair.

- Elf began organising the larger cheese blocks to go into Foodland under the SADA Fresh brand. These blocks have now been measured and costed for labelling and supply purposes.
- Andrew attended the Australian Dairy Farmers AGM. Rick Gladigau was re-elected as a Director of ADF following a vote of Business Members. Rick was a clear preference in a field of three candidates. Rick was subsequently re-elected as President of ADF at a meeting of the Board and National Council.
- Elf attended the Foodland business conference held at the Adelaide Convention Centre. This conference is designed to brief suppliers of products to Foodland the information that are needed to supply product to their outlets.
- Elf assisted a farmer with advice on a potential contract dispute. Matter resolved with advice only.
- Elf assisted the EPA with some information regarding the management of milking shed effluent and odours. SADA and the EPA continue to maintain a good working relationship with each other with a view to meeting the EPA's legislative expectations while minimising the impact of regulation on farmers as they are brought into EPA compliance.
- Andrew met with Melissa Hunter and Geoff Raven. Major topic for discussion was the potential impact of floods on lower Murray dairy businesses.
- Andrew attended a PIRSA Update regarding the impact of the Floods on Primary Producers. Topics covered included Flow Levels, Government Assistance Grants, Power, Generator Grants, Japanese Encephalitis. We continue to work with impacted dairy businesses and communities.
- Tracey Cowey, together with Graeme Hamilton, met with David Speirs (Opposition Leader) to discuss a range of industry and regional issues



Did you miss any of our updates?

[Register Here](#)



Good people to know.

1300 934 934