

Members Newsletter



The year that was 2022

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

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

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

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

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

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

We would love to hear from you.



Board and Committee Updates -

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

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

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

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

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

What's coming in 2023

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

Read the full story on the SADA Webpage

Thriving Regions Fund

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

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

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

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

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

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



TAFE Cert II in Agriculture

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

2023 Churchill Fellowship
information session on
Agriculture/ horticulture
1 FEB 5:15 - 6:30pm AEST
with guest host
Leigh Radford

multi-award winning broadcaster, “Captain Rural”



Winston Churchill Trust
Learn globally, inspire locally.



A message from Minister Scriven

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

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

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

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



Water Allocation Plans

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



Learn globally,
inspire locally.

DairySA 2023 Central Conference

WEDNESDAY 22 MARCH 2023

Bridges Event Centre
Murray Bridge Racing Club



Save the Date.

The inaugural Ag Tech
Field Day & Careers Expo

Fleurieu AG FEST

Monday 20 March at Yankalilla.

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

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

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

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

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



this question in its Inquiry into Food Security.

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

The submission identifies various actions to ensure this continues long into the future. As a good source of many nutrients, including calcium, protein, iodine, vitamin A, vitamin D, riboflavin, vitamin B12 and zinc, dairy foods can support food security.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



17 January 1939

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

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

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

Around the grounds

Flood stuff ...

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

Other stuff ...

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

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

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

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

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

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

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

[Fleurieu AgFest - March 20](#)

[DSA Central Conference - 22 March](#)

Did you miss any of our updates?

[Register Here](#)

