

Members Newsletter

November 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.



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 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.

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!



WORLD WITHOUT COWS



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:

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.

