

Members Newsletter



From the President

Robert Brokenshire

It's time for us to Sell the Facts.

Agriculture and especially Dairy are leading the way on emissions reductions and targets for 2030. We accept we have a part to play like all Industry sectors and Community, we are not the big polluters with **less than .5% of total emissions** from an overall Australian low emission rate compared to many other countries.

Dairy and all Australian Agriculture are sustainably clean and green and produce natural healthy food. Did you know there are 23 medical scientific reasons why we need three serves of Dairy a day.

It's time to push back and market the facts/truth compared to myths. With truth in labelling and our commitment to Animal Welfare. It time for Agricultural Advocacy across Australia to come together and market our record to consumers **\$100 billion by 2030.**

South Australian Agriculture has always played an important role in the South Australian economy that is why the State Parliament has a wheat sheaf

and wine grapes enshrined in the green carpet working with government and commodity partners we will continue to play a **significant role in South Australia's future** economic prosperity.

This month we've grabbed the opportunity to submit our opinion on the new **Biosecurity Levy for SA**, as well as the Federal Biosecurity Protection Levy. We've contributed to PPSA submission on the **Greater Adelaide Regional Plan**. Met with Minister Farrell to discuss Free Trade Agreement and Traceability for market access. Engaged with local Processors with support for industry growth projects. And submitted a project plan for an exciting new Virtual Fencing trial with SARDI at Struan. I particularly enjoyed attending the 61st AGM for the **Barossa Mid North Dairy Farming Group** and wanted to congratulate them on their long proud history. I welcome any Dairy Farming groups to invite myself or anyone from SADA to attend these auspicious meetings.

If I can again turn your attention to some communications that you have received on the **Dairy ManaJD program**.

As you may be aware moving forward the South Australian Dairyfarmers Association (SADA) will be maintaining the Johnes Disease Assurance program for the South Australian dairy industry. Please contact SADA for any questions regarding what this will mean for you. Importantly, your current SA JD Dairy Score will not change, but certification will be provided through SADA in future, and PIRSA will continue to provide technical assistance only during the transition period of this program .

To adhere to PIRSA's legislated responsibilities relating to personal and other information, written permission is required from participating producers to enable transfer the Johnes disease assurance program database information to SADA.



The South East is set to become the most connected region in the nation.

The State Government, Local Governments in the Limestone Coast, and Telstra are working together to deliver a Regional Connectivity Program.

“Black spots will soon be a thing of the past due to this co-investment, SADA is excited to see this regions connectivity deliver digital solutions for the dairy industry and the regional communities in the South East.

“Better connectivity improves regional equity, drives productivity and increases the resilience of communication services and public safety. This investment is bridging the gap between metropolitan and regional South Australia, and it will drive economic growth, social equity and ensure everyone in the region has access to information and digital opportunities”.

For dairy, connectivity and quick access to data will not just improve the productivity levels of the industry but will drive the next generation of technological advancement, whether that be in the ever fast growing robotic dairies or out in the grazing pastures.

The delivery of this Regional Connectivity Program will be a game-changer for the Limestone Coast region and the dairy industry is grateful for the investment and the advocacy of the State Government, namely the Minister for Primary Industries the Hon Clare Scriven .

Helping Regional Communities Prepare for Drought Initiative – Small Network Grants

Small Network Grants are now available to community organisations in regional and rural Australia to develop and deliver one-off events or initiatives to strengthen community networks and capabilities that build drought preparedness.

Through this initiative, with the support of the Australian Government, we are investing in the future by enabling agriculture-dependent communities to identify and act on their drought preparedness priorities at a grassroots level and in ways that best suit their communities.

The Small Network Grants will fund networks, community events, training initiatives, community infrastructure, development and learning initiatives that assist local people and communities to strengthen social capital and capability to prepare for future droughts.

Two streams of grants are available via two rounds:

- Up to a maximum of \$20,000; or
- Up to a maximum of \$50,000 (dependent on location).

Closes: 14 November 2023

Funding announced by: Early March 2024

A message from the Minister for Education, Training and Skills

This marks a historic milestone with the announcement of South Australia's signing of the National Skills Agreement.

The new five year Agreement will see a \$2.289 billion joint investment in training and skills for the state. This represents an increase of almost \$690m in funding, with \$440m from South Australia and \$250m from the Commonwealth over the life of the Agreement from 1 January 2024 to 31 December 2028.

This is the biggest increase in funding for skills in South Australia in our State's history.



UniSA study checks-in on farmers' wellbeing post flood disaster

Farmers rely on good weather to grow crops and sustain livestock, so when the Bureau of Meteorology issues an El Niño warning, it's a bitter pill to swallow given that so many farmers and rural communities across Australia are still reeling from recent floods.

Now, researchers at the University of South Australia are hoping to connect with farmers who have been affected by the 2022-23 floods to better understand their first-hand experiences and how they would like to be supported to regain optimal wellbeing.

This study, led by UniSA, is being conducted in partnership with Regional Development Australia Murraylands and Riverland SA and the National Centre for Farmer Health.

SADA has spent much of this year working across many policy and advocacy areas affecting all dairies across our great state.

Without your membership support this would not be possible.

Please ensure that your membership and supplier details are current and up to date.

Haystack Fires



Haystack fires can happen in any type of bale stored in a haystack. Even hay stored as single bales can spontaneously ignite under some conditions. Haystack fires can spread quickly into the surrounding area and often result in thousands of dollars of damage.

Why does hay heat?

If hay is too "green" (the internal plant moisture content is too high) or it gets damp before, during or after baling, a complex series of biological and chemical processes may cause the hay to heat.

This is because the plant material is still alive and using energy (respiration). This allows microorganisms, such as bacteria and fungi, to grow in the moist environment. These processes generate heat, which may result in the loss of dry matter, nutritive value, and reduced palatability and, if left unchecked, could result in ignition.

Once temperatures reach about 70°C, they may increase extremely rapidly to the point of spontaneous ignition (about 170°C). Spontaneous ignition may occur within two weeks of baling and may continue to pose a threat for well over three months.

Signs of heating hay

Use a temperature probe or a crowbar to regularly monitor all haystacks for signs that the hay is heating. Other signs of heating include:

- Steam rising from haystacks.
- Condensation or corrosion under hay shed roofing.
- Mould growth in or on bales.
- Unusual odours (burning, musty, pipe tobacco or caramel).
- Slumping in sections of the haystack.

For a full list of Fire Prevention measures visit the [CFS site](#).

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 to get the discounts.



FOOD & BEVERAGE DEVELOPMENT FUND

Applications now open for 2024 training.

The Food and Beverage Development Fund provides financial support of between **\$1,000 & \$10,000** per successful applicant to further skills and knowledge through training and education within South Australia's critically important food & beverage industries.

To support the learning of individuals in our baking, beverage, chocolate, food processing and meat industry sectors. To date the fund has provided in excess of \$1.1 M and assisted 250 people who are now a step closer to realising their aspirations and achieving their full potential. *You could be next.*

The application process is not difficult, you simply need to know what training you want to do, why you want to do it and how it is going to help you.

Applications are now open and will be accepted until 12 noon Friday November 3 2023 with shortlisted applicants expected to be interviewed before end of November and all funding offers finalised in December 2023.

Application forms can be completed online

www.foodandbeveragefundsau.com.au



Around the grounds

- SADA, in collaboration with SARDI and a range of commercial, government and institutional partners, is proposing a research trial to explore the practical applications of virtual fencing in improving milk yields in pasture-based dairies through enhanced pasture allocation management. This project aims to demonstrate at commercial scale, the potential through enhanced pasture allocation to address milk production disparities resulting from variations in the time cows spend away from pasture during milking. The trial will also monitor and assess animal welfare outcomes.
- Andrew met with Minister Don Farrell (Minister for Trade), and discussed EU ETA, Trade with China and opportunities in Vietnam, Indonesia and India. SADA Traceability project
- Andrew and Lachie met with Datahash David Travers, Woolworths and Fleurieu Milk at Connors to check out the robotic dairy and talk Traceability
- Elf assisted four farmers with effluent management issues. The first assessment plan is complete and delivered and currently two other farmers are having plans prepared. This has taken most of the week.
- Alison and Andrew attended the Ag Trade Apprenticeship Workshop conducted by Skills Insight. Where we workshopped the core functions requirements for a Dairy Production Cert 3 and Cert 4 qualification.
- SADA co-ordinated with Dairy SA and Dairysafe a new 2024 Internship for the Adelaide Uni Agricultural Student Compendium.
- Elf finalised first assessment for a Diploma in Effluent Management System Design. There is now one assessment to go. This will be graded on an actual farm project of which Elf is currently involved in assisting four farmers with their effluent management issues.
- SADA again reminds farmers that the EPA has amped up their regulatory expectations on dairy farmers and greater pressure will come to farmers to get their systems in order.



Australia's most sustainable cow

The Jelbert family in Leongatha, Victoria, are home to Australia's most sustainable cow – identified thanks to genomics. The National Sustainability Index measures feed efficiency. While cows may eat a similar amount of food and produce comparable methane levels, their level of output can be very different. Genomics is rapidly opening up new horizons for plant and animal breeders, including the breeding of more sustainable dairy cows.

[Watch the full report on ABC iView.](#)

Dairy navigates global market challenges

Strong farmgate prices persist despite a challenging global market, finds latest [Situation and Outlook report](#) from Dairy Australia.

Farmers turn to local training options to find skilled workers

Local education and training are front of mind for dairy farmers looking to employ skilled workers, with an increased demand for work-life balance and fostering local careers. Did you know that being able to easily source workers and providing a productive and rewarding work environment for all dairy workers is a key goal of the [Australian Dairy Sustainability Framework](#)



Dairy Australia



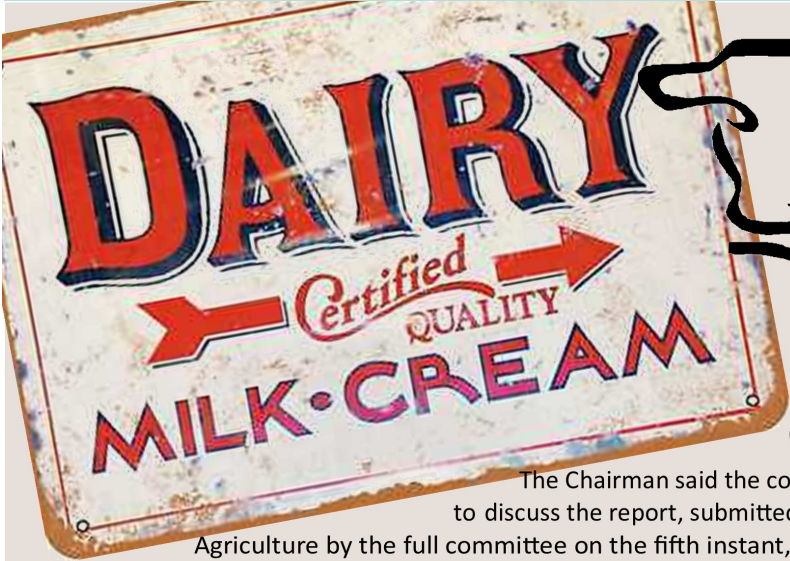
Australian Dairy Producers Federation Inc.



Australian Dairy Farmers



Australian Dairy Industry Council Inc.



October 1953

The Chairman said the conference was called to discuss the report, submitted to the minister of Agriculture by the full committee on the fifth instant, as additional facts have arisen, vitally affecting the position. Wholesalers had now been requested to by a solicitor (on behalf of a number of Vendors) to furnish Vendors with a Warranty in the matter of Milk Standards. Mr. McDonald said his Company had submitted the matter to their Solicitor who has now furnished them with his "Opinion".

This opinion clearly sets out that it is obligatory for wholesalers to issue a warranty, if requested by the Vendor. If the Vendors refuse because the Standard of 8.5% solids-not-fat -is below the Standard, then they can be prosecuted for not giving the Warranty and further prosecuted for having in their possession milk below the standard required even though the milk when received from the dairy farmers was below the standard.

In the discussion it was realised that Dairy Farmers could also be prosecuted if the wholesalers requested a warranty from them, and they refused to give it, notwithstanding that the milk as produced by the cow was below 8.5% solid-not-fat.

SADA Fresh

Celebrating 10 Years

\$2.1m Invested into the Dairy Industry

sadafresh.com.au

SADA Fresh is celebrating 10 years

The ground-breaking milk brand was launched by the South Australian Dairyfarmers' Association (SADA) in October 2013 to help secure the future of the State's dairy farmers and their industry. SADA was the first dairy industry association in Australia to launch its own brand, and the response from consumers has been overwhelming and sales continue to grow. Starting with a little over 1.1 million litres sold in 2014 to more than double that in 2023.

- Dairy Science Investigators
- Climate & Agricultural Support Biochar
- Constructive Energy Milking Renewable
- Dairysafe Business Continuity Tool
- Do Dairy
- Creating Care Dung Beetle project
- Forbes Primary School Breakfast Club
- Dairy Feedbase Initiative
- Kongorong Primary School Farm Day Sponsorship
- Limestone Coast Leadership Program
- Barossa Mid North Co-operative Dairyfarmers
- Mount Gambier Spring Show
- Operation Goose Drone
- Pasture Mapper
- Port Elliot Museum
- Pure Limestone Coast
- Quad Bike Rebate Scheme

Shortly after the launch it was recognised the need for a body to govern these funds to be distributed for the betterment of the dairy industry and The SA Dairy Industry Fund Ltd. was officially formed in October 2014.

That's **10 years** of support for SA Dairy Farmers and the industry. **2.1 Million** back into Dairy from **20c** of every litre going to the SA Dairy Industry Fund supporting more than **30 projects** over the past 10 years.

- RBS Dairy Connect 2019
- Rural Directions – Agribusiness Consultant
- SA All Breeds Youth Camp
- SADA Advocacy 2020 - 2022
- SADA Discretionary Funds
- Section 28 – Scholarship
- Solar Shade
- SA Dairy Industry Action Plan
- Traceability Scheme Support
- Wellbeing Project 2017
- Cows Create Careers since 2015
- Dairy SA Wellbeing 2023
- Methane Capture Study
- Nutrient Redistribution and Optimisation
- SADA Action Plan reset
- SADA National Policy

