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## SADA NEWSLETTER JULY 2021

# SADA - overjoyed with underpasses

The South Australian Dairyfarmers' Association (SADA) expressed its delight at the announcement by the Hon David Basham, Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, at an underpass subsidy scheme to assist South Australian Dairy Farmers.

The government today announced \$3 million over two years' worth of subsidy. The scheme will extend up to \$70,000 per installation on a dollar-for-dollar basis.

SADA has been lobbying for a number of years in this space and the Government has seen the wisdom of these simple but important items of infrastructure.

Many dairy farms must move their herd across roads on a daily basis. These movements present several issues for farmers and road users alike and road accidents have been a consequence in the past. Moreover, because

of the uric acid dropped by cows the road surfaces are also adversely affected by accelerated deterioration.

The installation of such underpasses will not only make the motoring public safer, but they will also improve the productivity of farms as bisected paddocks will now become single paddocks.

This will have a substantial impact on farm productivity as part of the SA Dairy Industry Action Plan and the Government's growth state plan moving forward.

"We thank Minister Basham and the SA Government for their foresight in this announcement." SADA President John Hunt said.

"SADA is ready with 10 projects in the pipeline to start off with and we expect to have the application in for those projects within the next week."

"The Dairy Industry Action Plan, has set an ambitious target for the future



in developing the dairy industry in this state and this is an excellent example of what can happen when industry and government work together in a common goal."

Those dairy farmers who wish to take advantage of this offer can contact the department directly, or alternatively speak to John Elferink on [ohn@sada.asn.au](mailto:ohn@sada.asn.au) or alternatively call the office on 8293 2399.

"We thank Minister Basham and the SA Government for their foresight in this announcement." SADA President John Hunt said.



## Media release from the Minister



## Review of the Dairy Code

The Commonwealth Department of Agriculture is now reviewing the Competition and Consumer (Industry Codes – Dairy) Regulations 2019 (the Code).

SADA was instrumental in the development of the code and many of its provisions are a direct result of SADA's input.

The Code has been operating for just over a year.

This first review is critical to assessing the Code's role, impact and operation since coming into force.

You can now provide feedback on the effectiveness of the Code and the terms and conditions it entails. The Department wants to hear from stakeholders in the dairy industry, including farmers, processors, industry representative bodies, government agencies, and consumer organisations.

Your feedback will inform the review and help determine the effectiveness of the Code.

The department has prepared a [discussion paper](#) to inform and encourage comments on the Code.

The paper includes:

- Introduction
- Background
- Review procedures
- Discussion questions
- Other relevant reading for the review.

How to have your say: [read the discussion paper](#)

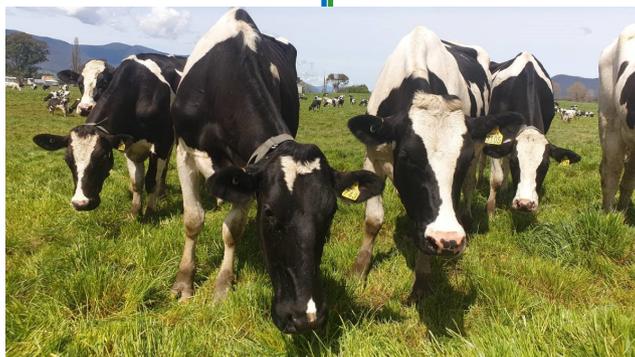
- Submit your feedback or upload a document.
- Submit your feedback by 15 August 2021.

### Next Steps

The Department will analyse submissions and other contributions to the review. We will then draft a report for the Agriculture Minister. The Agriculture Minister must ensure that a copy of the review report is provided to the Treasurer by 31 December 2021.

If you don't want to communicate directly with the department, SADA is preparing a submission on behalf of SA Dairy Farmers, and feel free to talk to John Elferink at SADA on 0418406400.

The report will include recommendations about the future role and operation of the Code.



## Farmers voices sought on the dairy service levy

Dairy Australia's Levy Poll Advisory Committee (LPAC) has recommended a poll be conducted of all dairy farmers to determine the future level of the dairy service levy.

Earlier this year, dairy farmer and industry representatives were appointed to an independent committee set up and conduct the levy review.

Ron Storey, Chair of the Levy Poll Advisory Committee, is leading the review and commented:

"It's time for the dairy farmers to vote on the levy; twelve out of the fifteen LPAC members are dairy farmers and the decision was unanimous."

"The last levy poll was almost ten years ago. A lot has changed during that time for farmers and the industry looks quite different. There are challenges, but there are also great opportunities."

"It's important that the Australian dairy industry has the right settings for future investment so that it can develop and realise its full potential. This poll puts that decision in the hands of those with most at stake, the dairy farmers."

LPAC will now develop the voting options which will go on the ballot, including LPAC's recommended option, expected to be available for consideration by September 2021. LPAC and its members will continue seeking input and feedback from farmers in the coming weeks to determine the voting options, including the preferred LPAC option.

Further communications and engagement will follow as the LPAC leads into the poll which will take place in March 2022. The results are expected by April 2022.

To view LPAC's full report on the decision around moving to a levy poll and more on the Dairy Levy Review visit: [dairylevyreview.com.au](http://dairylevyreview.com.au)

Alternatively, please contact the office on 8293 2399 or [sada@sada.asn.au](mailto:sada@sada.asn.au) if you require more information.

# SA DAIRY AWARDS Nominations are now CLOSED

The South Australian Dairy Award Nominations have been overwhelming, thank you to all that took the time out to share your best farmer stories. We will refer this to the selection panel and be in touch with the lucky winners.

SADA will present 3 awards

**Best Innovation,  
Young Farmer of the Year,  
Best Relationship with a Processor**

This is an important event for the South Australian Dairy Industry and continues to strengthen our relationship across the supply chain, recognising the work and

products of both farmers and processors in SA. Collaboration and communication is highly important for the future of the industry and events such as this demonstrate this.

SADA looks forward to working with the DIAA and seeing the dairy industries progression into the future.

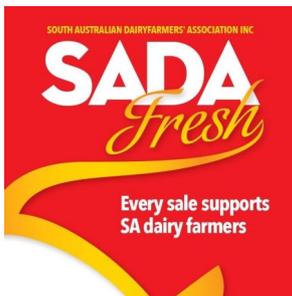
If you have any questions or would like to make a comment, please feel free to contact Ashleigh at [ashleigh@sada.asn.au](mailto:ashleigh@sada.asn.au) or alternatively contact reception at [sada@sada.asn.au](mailto:sada@sada.asn.au) or via telephone 08 8293 2399.

## Heritage Agreement Small Grant OPEN until 2<sup>nd</sup> August



Applications for grants up to \$10,000 are now being taken for current & aspiring Heritage Agreement owners to assist in the protection and management of native vegetation in SA. Eligible activities include weed and feral animal control, management of grazing impacts, repair to damaged areas and much more. Guidelines and applications can be found at [www.revitalisingconservationsa.org.au](http://www.revitalisingconservationsa.org.au)

For more information contact the team on 0436 431 660 or email us on [rca@naturefoundation.org.au](mailto:rca@naturefoundation.org.au)



The SA Dairy Industry Fund has had a successful financial year on the back of strong royalty contributions. As supermarkets have experienced waves of locked down shoppers, the numbers show that SADA Fresh Milk has been flying off the shelves at Coles.

The SA Dairy Industry Fund is currently funding fifteen projects ranging from small sponsorships to larger scale activities.

The most notable is the SADA Fresh **Cows Create Careers** Program. The fund has become the major sponsor for the program after Dairy Australia stepped back from the role. The Program has wrapped up for the year and was delivered in 37 schools to 1,380 students from Primary to Senior years. The program introduces students to the dairy industry by bringing farmers and industry advocates together to share information about working on dairy farms.



## TRACEABILITY



### The SA Dairy Traceability

**Trial** is in full swing and we are pleased to announce the Golden North Ice Cream has joined the trail. Having gone through tours of processing plants and farms, the technology is just about ready to follow milk from the farm to the consumer.

**On farm**, there has been an outstanding response to the technology with many farmers seeing it's future potential, including herd management data, vaccination and drenching times and even the potential to individually gauge milk production using milk cup flow meters.

**Off farm**, as the manufacturing plants begin to implement more technology and machinery, huge cost saving and time efficiencies are seen throughout. As well, farmers will be able to see what their milk is transformed into, something that until now hasn't been possible.

With everything running on track, SADA along with its traceability partners and Minister Basham will launch the traceability trial in the coming month.

For more information or if you have any questions, please contact Ashleigh at [ashleigh@sada.asn.au](mailto:ashleigh@sada.asn.au) or alternatively the SADA office at [sada@sada.asn.au](mailto:sada@sada.asn.au).

### COVID-19 UPDATE JULY 2021

#### Reasons to Leave Home:

Authorised Worker (otherwise known as an essential worker)

A person is permitted to leave home to undertake duties as an authorised worker.

IMPORTANT the list of authorised workers has been updated since this morning. For the full [list of authorised workers](#).

**Please note however that if activities can be postponed, they should be.**

## Around the grounds

- Ash and representatives from across the supply chain attended the inaugural Workforce Committee meeting. Karen Hunt was nominated as chair of the committee. Key outcomes of the meeting were to investigate opportunities for education and upskilling, including the newly developed Micro credentials courses by the Department of Innovation and Skills.
- Warren Jacobs represented Dairy at the PPSA NRM Committee meeting. Topics under discussion included the State Landscape Strategy, prescribed burning and the NFF Water Committee. The NRM Committee also welcomed two guest speakers, Ellen Litchfield from Farmers for Climate Action and Jen Barwick from PIRSA who talked about carbon farming.
- Elf visited a number of farms on the banks of the Murray River meeting with members and non-members alike to discuss issues with farmers. As a general response, farmers are expressing satisfaction with current prices and a number are investing into their properties.
- Andrew and Don together with Jordan Brooke-Barnett (SA Horticulture Coalition) met with Minister Basham to discuss aspects of the proposed Biosecurity Act. It is anticipated that early consultation on a draft Bill may occur later in the year.
- Andrew and Don participated in a Dry-times working group meeting where the key topics for discussion were the weather forecast for the coming season and the application of the Future Drought Fund in South Australia.
- John H, Andrew and Don attended an 'extraordinary' meeting of the PPSA Council to discuss the recruitment of the PPSA Chair and CEO Positions. It was recognised by the Council that with the investment by the government in PPSA strategic policy development and the need to support action across the identified cross-sector issues, it important to fill both roles and move away from the current Executive Chair position.
- Ash and Kelly made 150 promotional packs for future events. The packs are a great way of showing the benefits of a SADA membership along with a few other goodies. We will be looking at using the packs at the upcoming dairy events and to hand out to non-members as an initiative to join the association.
- Ash attended the NGTAG Steering Committee Meeting to discuss some upcoming events in the traceability space including a Global Trade Event next Tuesday afternoon. Other topics included the upcoming distribution of the National Traceability Accords and the possibility of a National Traceability Congress in either April or May next year. Here solution providers will be able to pitch their products to industry associations and government. It will also be an opportunity for state and federal governments to allocate future funding to AgTech opportunities.
- Ash attended the PPSA Educating Kids about Ag Steering Committee meeting to discuss what the skills, career needs and work force opportunities are needed in school. An update was also provided regarding some of the programs already underway including the George the Farmer program.

WFI, proud alliance partner of the South Australian Dairyfarmers' Association



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Good people to know.



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