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SADA NEWSLETTER JULY 2022

SADA over the past six months.

The first six months of 2022 have been full of questions:

- Who will form government in South Australia?
- What would you like the Dairy Services Levy to be set at?
- Who would you like to be Prime Minister of Australia?
- What is Lump Skin Disease and what does it mean to my farm?
- What will milk be worth in 2022-23 and who should I supply?
- Is inflation real?

and now we know ...

SADA was pleased to welcome Minister Clare Scriven as the incoming Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development. Minister Scriven is well known to us, having held the shadow portfolio in the lead up to the election. We have been pleased to meet with and have constructive dialogue with a number of Ministers in the Malinauskas Government. Topics including workforce, climate, water, underpasses, trade, education 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.

The Dairy Services Levy poll concluded in late March. It was pleasing to see such a strong voter turnout in comparison with other industry polls of this type. (*The wool industry has a vote every three years which is a bit demanding*). The vote outcome has provided surety for Dairy Australia and in recent times SADA, together with ADF and its

members, has been in discussions with Dairy Australia regarding its Annual Operating Plan which has been shaped with a clear understanding of the levy pool available to support dairy services.

The Change of Government at a national level has also had an impact on the work of SADA. While the Ag Minister may still be from Queensland, the Trade, Foreign Affairs and Health Ministers are all from South Australia, providing a great opportunity for SADA to support ADF in its national engagement.

Lumpy Skim Disease, and more recently Foot & Mouth Disease have been the talk of the town. SADA will continue to provide targeted Updates on this topic however the message remains the same - **Be Alert, Not Alarmed**. Dairy Australia has recently established a dedicated website which all dairy producers are encouraged to visit - www.dairyaustralia.com.au/eadpreparedness

With all the concern regarding FMD, the discussion of opening milk prices has quickly faded. This doesn't change the fact that we are in uncharted territory regarding the value of milk and a far cry from the situation the industry was in five years ago.

It seems that inflation is real as is likely to have some impact on what would otherwise be very buoyant times. We are unsure yet about the colour of the tint on the Federal Treasurer's glasses, however it is comforting to note that the inflation rate (and corresponding interest rate) is expected to return

back to "normal" in the coming two years.

Over the coming six months the SADA team is keen to move forward and we need the input of all members so that we can engage with the new governments to support the development of the industry and address issues that are holding us back, engage with Dairy Australia to support the strategic investment of the dairy services levy, engage with biosecurity agencies to ensure FMD & LSD preparedness and response is properly defined, targeted and proportional, and engage with the community to highlight the nutritious and sustainable product that is South Australian Dairy.

[We would love to hear from you.](#)

In recent times.

EU GI demand

The ADIC has calculated that the EU's demand to restrict many cheese and dairy product names in Australia could put at risk Australian products with an aggregate sales value of more than \$650 million. The potential direct impact on Australian dairy manufacturers from lost sales and increased marketing costs caused by the strict enforcement of GIs could range from a staggering \$70-90 million per year in the early stages of the FTA. While these are national figures there will be a corresponding impact in SA. SADA supports free and fair trade and it looks forward to continuing to work with government on this deal, to achieve a win-win outcome in the best interests of the South Australian and Australian dairy story.

Virtual Fencing

One of the areas of substantial expense to farmers are the erection and maintenance of fences. SADA supports the investigation of new technologies that may enable cost savings to be achieved as well as deliver better environmental and social outcomes. Virtual fences can be supported by several technologies including GPS location devices and Wifi. SADA is working with the SA Government to ensure Animal Welfare legislation which was enacted before virtual fencing "was a thing" does not hamper its adoption.

Fractures Trial

The University of Melbourne identified the benefits of increased dairy intake on the health of elderly Australians, and in particular the significant wellbeing improvements through reducing fractures as a result of falls. SADA is working in developing the awareness among older Australian and Aged Care providers on this profound study.

Skilled Worker Shortages

The dairy industry, like many others is experiencing skilled worker shortages, ranging from relief milkers to "second-in-charge" and farm management, exacerbated by restrictions on the entry of backpackers due to COVID, noting that backpackers from a range of European countries such as Germany and Ireland often have dairy farm skills and experience not available in pacific islander cohorts.

One issue continually raised both on farms and by supply chain members is that of workforce. Our key priorities are;

- To attract support and funding in the development of micro-credentials for critical skill sets required in the dairy industry. This might include the accreditation of courses recognised in other Australian jurisdictions. Micro-credentials would support the need for flexibility of training delivery and the need to be integrated with work practices and work requirements. SADA would like support and funding

to develop and align with industry specific micro-credentials.

- To understand how to access the Skills Shortage Funding (Budget Initiative) to fund courses where industry has reported shortages, and the Skills and Training System (Budget Initiative) in skills outcomes for individuals, businesses, and industry.
- To promote the inclusion of agriculture into the school curriculum, whether this be through additional teaching staff and a dedicated subject or integrating agriculture into STEM subjects in both primary and secondary schools.

To ensure the recognition and inclusion of agricultural apprenticeships and vocational pathways in the five new technical colleges. With the government's commitment to new technical colleges across the state, SADA would like to see pathway opportunities available for students and staff wanting to pursue agriculture and more specifically dairy and dairy related courses.

Mislabelling of Nut Juice

SADA maintains its concerns about the Food Standards Australia and New Zealand Code regarding the representation of certain products in the Australia Market place as "milk" or "milk products". Under intergovernmental arrangements regarding the Food Standards Code, enforcement of the Code is the responsibility of each signatory jurisdiction.

As a matter of general policy, the Inter Governmental Agreement and the Code allow for the mislabeling of vegetable matter as milk is becoming a matter of increasing concern. Because of the construct of the Code, South Australia was unable to respond to a complaint by SADA about mislabeling. The manufacturers of plant based 'milks', rely on the title 'milk', to promote their products as being an alternative to dairy and their marketing is critical of dairy but still embrace the dairy related title of 'milk' because they know that it is an important to remain linked with the name milk.

SADA's and ADF's position is that it is

time that Australia aligned itself with the European standard for what milk is and more importantly what it isn't.

Water

Water is generally prescribed in South Australia and is administered through the nine Landscape Boards which have been established. The Landscape Boards cover the state however, SADA's interest originates from four of the board's areas of influence, namely, The Hills and Fleurieu, the Limestone Coast, Northern and Yorke and Murraylands and Riverland regions. Each board is responsible for the development and review of a Water Allocation Plan (WAP) for their prospective area ensuring they step through the correct stages:

1. A risk assessment is undertaken to identify risks to the water resource and water users, including the environment.
2. The community is given opportunities to provide input into the content of the water allocation plan, based on the risks it is aiming to manage.
3. Based on the decisions made about the risks to the water resource, the environment and water users, a draft water allocation plan is prepared.
4. A consultation process is undertaken to seek community input and views about the draft water allocation plan.
5. The regional landscape board takes the community feedback into account when making decisions on any changes to the draft before submitting a final water allocation plan to the Minister for Environment and Water for adoption.

The adopted water allocation plan is reviewed within 10 years to ensure it is still effectively managing the risks to the water resource, the environment and the community.

Each of the areas are going through their 10 year review process in the near future.

Foot and Mouth Disease

A letter to the media from Beck Burgess:

I have met and spoken to some quite concerned farmers over the past week in regards to the FMD (Foot & Mouth Disease) risk to Australia's livestock industries along with any supporting providers. We are seeing a plethora of fantastic information flowing through from industry on what farmers can do to prepare and minimise risk and I highly encourage them to implement these practices in their businesses - who arrives on farm, biosecurity plans, where stock is moved, the national response plan etc. But lets not look beyond the people factor. People are centric to the agricultural landscape, & they are stressed. Frightened at what FMD may mean for them, their families and their livelihoods and I feel the current approach from the media is fuelling this. Your 'shock' media approach simply doesn't

work. It isn't working, and it's stressing people out! In the '30 second reel' world, your headlines are misleading, falsifying and you are losing credibility.

The term medium (the singular form of media) is defined as "one of the means or channels of general communication, information, or entertainment in society, as newspapers, radio, or television." So on behalf of Agriculture Australia I encourage this; Communicate, Inform and Entertain.

To farmers reading this - focus on what you can control, implement your plans and measures but also look after yourself, reach out and chat with fellow farmers / industry people (share your frustrations). Put boundaries in place to limit your media (both print & online) & fact check EVERYTHING.

@beckburgessconsulting

Beck may have moved on from DairySA but she certainly remains within the industry!!

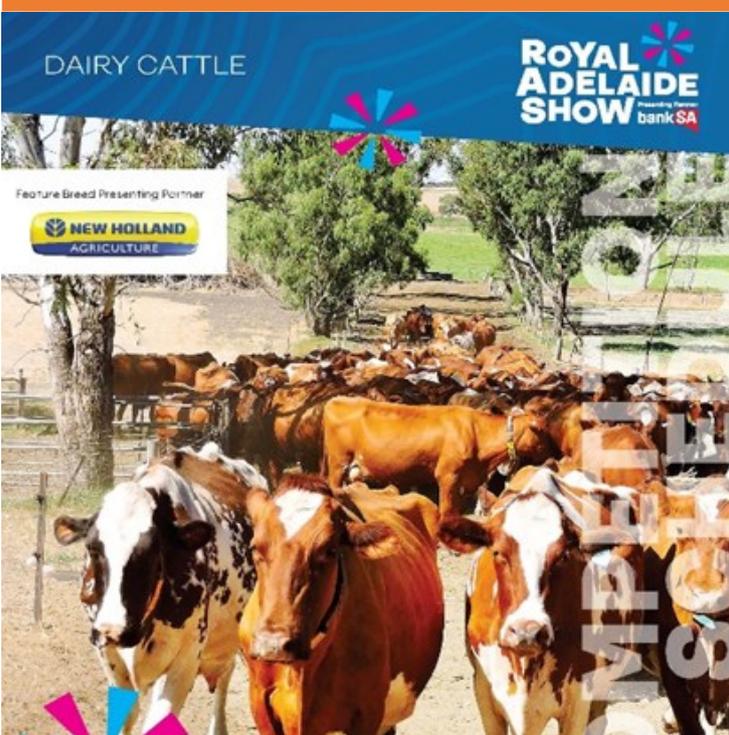
SADA Updates [Click Here](#)

Industry is urged to be alert but not alarmed by the recent outbreaks of LSD and FMD in Indonesia. SADA will keep members apprised of developments as further information comes to hand. If you wish to discuss these issues at any time, please call us.



NFF Updates [Click Here](#)

On Wednesday 20 July, the NFF hosted an industry webinar to discuss Australia's FMD response so far, firsthand insight into what is happening in Indonesia, Australia's preparedness efforts and response plan in the event of an incursion.



JUDGING/TIMETABLE

Monday 5 September

Holstein & Jersey 9.00 am
Ayrshire & Guernsey 1.30 pm

Tuesday 6 September

Young Handlers Workshop
9.00 am
Junior Show Competition
11.00 am
State Young Handlers Championship 4.00 pm
SADA Barbecue 7.00 pm

Wednesday 7 September

Illawarra - Feature Breed 9.00 am

Inter Supreme Champion Female 11.30 am

Interbreed Supreme Judging 2.00 pm

Thursday 8 September

State Young Judges Championship 9.00am

Dairy Day 11.00 am (for a 12 noon start)



The Sunday Mail of 27 May 1934 contained an article on the River Murray Dairymen's Association. "The article stated, the organisation was a very lively body, holding frequent meetings and displaying great enthusiasm. Also, they had a long record of achievement's which had benefitted the river dairymen."

At the meeting dated 16 August 1935, discussion focused on a membership drive, in an attempt to increase participation by local dairy farmers. Mr. Dodd was appointed organiser for the River Murray and that he be paid two shillings for each member he enrolls from today's date 16 August 1935.

At the same meeting a suggestion was made for something to be done to improve the quality of our butter! No suggestions were offered from the floor!

For the record, the following were amongst those involved with the River Murray Dairymen's Association.

- o Mr. L. J. Calles. President.
- o Mr. R. W. T. Osbourne. Secretary.
- o Messrs. J. Gormlie and J. C. winter.
- o Mr. Cailles and Mr. Gormlie were also President and Vice-President respectively of the Amalgamated Dairy Council.

Mr. Gormlie was one of the dairymen's representatives on the Australian Stabilisation Committee.



PPSA NEWS

Water

The water policy workshop resolved three broad themes relating to water access and quality, robust monitoring and allocation frameworks, and the greater recognition and understanding of cultural water. The NRM Committee will be asked to consider the draft set of water policy principles, and background relating to WAPs and the Murray Darling.

Taxation Reform

Specific initiatives promoted by PPSA members in advance of the 2022 State Election included calling on the South Australian Government to:

- Commit to a 50 per cent Stamp Duty rebate for the purchase of commercial agricultural land in South Australia (GPSA).
- Reduce red tape and costs for retiring farmers to subdivide productive farmland for sale, while continuing to live on part of the property (GPSA).
- Introduce a Stamp Duty Rebate Scheme for the dairy industry (SADA).
- SADA has recommended that land that is purchased and returned to commercial production within a year of purchase, or which is purchased and generates a 10%

increase in farm income from the date of purchase; be granted a compete stamp duty rebate two years after purchase. In such cases the land must remain in primary production.

Review land tax and stamp duty exemptions to ensure that they are available to all businesses that grow, process and market horticultural produce – including packing facilities, nursery structures and wholesale markets – and any transactions related to horticultural production, processing and marketing, particularly in situations where transactions are within family businesses. (HCSA).

Council rates

Council rates are continuing to cause angst among South Australia’s producers, especially with continuing increases to land values. PPSA has examined past approaches to this issue in South Australia and in other jurisdictions. We have also made contact with former Tumby shire Mayor and President of the Eyre Peninsula LGA, Sam Telfer. Mr Telfer is undertaking a review of each non-metropolitan Council Annual Business Plan and identifying how agriculture is being treated, and what options Councils are utilising to ensure that council income is fairly sourced from across all sec-

tors of the community. PPSA will remain engaged in Mr Telfer’s review, providing input and support where needed and appropriate, and will report to Council upon completion of the review.

New legislation

PPSA CEO Caroline Rhodes has met with both the Minister and PIRSA executives to provide initial guidance and input into the consultation program for the development of a new Biosecurity Act later this year. PIRSA is yet to establish a work program or project manager. No further detail is available at this stage.

Following the drafting of a private members Bill by Fraser Ellis MP, to progress findings of last year’s select committee on Mining on Agricultural Land, PPSA has sought advice from the Department of Energy and Mining (DEM) on how best to progress our policy positions. DEM have informed PPSA that the new Minister intends to reopen the Mining Act for review and this will be undertaken later this year, with a view to producing a white paper and identifying areas for additional improvement since the former Labor Government’s review.



SOUTH AUSTRALIAN DAIRY AWARDS 2022

BEST OF THE BEST

CELEBRATING OUR UNITED DAIRY INDUSTRY

FRIDAY, AUGUST 5 | ADELAIDE OVAL

JOINT PREMIER PARTNERS:



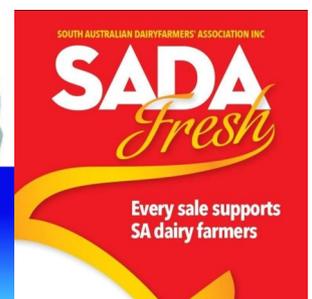


SADA will be celebrating with industry peers and friends at the South Australian Dairy Awards for 2022. This is an important event for the South Australian Dairy Industry and continues to strengthen our relationship across the supply chain, recognising the work and products of both farmers and processors in SA. Collaboration and communication is highly important for the future of the industry and events such as this demonstrate this.



SA CATTLE INDUSTRY FUND

The revised management plans will be available on the respective [Sheep Industry Fund](#) and [Cattle Industry Fund](#) pages of the PIRSA website.



SADA Fresh

Every sale supports SA dairy farmers



Good people to know.

1300 934 934

Around the grounds

- Andrew met with Chief Veterinary Officer, Mary Carr to discuss a number of biosecurity issues but primarily the current situation regarding Lumpy Skin Disease and Foot and Mouth Disease.
- SADA extends its congratulations to Shannon Logan for joining the dairy industry with Dairy SA.
- Elf assisted another three farmers/processors with questions arising out of milk supply contracts. The inquiries are not unusual at this time of the year and more are expected.
- Andrew met with officers from the Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry to discuss engagement for two projects funded through the Future Drought Fund, the Drought Resilience Self-Assessment Tool (DR.SAT) and the Climate Services for Agriculture platform.
- Elf brought to conclusion an effluent management plan for a member to the satisfaction of the EPA. The expansion of the farm in question will now be ready to proceed.
- Andrew/Ash/Elf met with Foodland and the DIAA regarding a sustainable future for the South Australian Dairy Industry. The conversation was broad ranging and a number of follow up actions have arisen from the meeting which SADA will complete in the coming weeks.
- Elf attended the PPSA taxation policy meeting. This meeting was called to establish a policy framework on taxation reform in SA to meet the needs of the primary sector. The policy meeting was drawn together in part because of SADA's advocacy on tax reform prior to the election. Elf has prepared a letter and terms of reference to be considered to by PPSA members for transmission to the State Treasurer.
- Andrew joined ADF President Rick Gladigau in meeting with Member for Barker, Tony Pasin. Issues discussed included Labour (including Seniors, visas and up skilling), Biosecurity (Lumpy Skin Disease / FMD), Water and the Murray Darling Basin Plan, Traceability, Costs of doing business and Dairy in the diet (Aged care).
- SADA prepared letters to Senator Farrell (Trade) and Senator Wong (Foreign Affairs), regarding the imposition of Geographic Indicators in any Free

- Trade Agreement which may be reached between Australia and the European Union. SADA continues to argue that the position of the ADF is correct and that GI's represent a risk to SA Dairy Farmers and their products.
- Ash worked with the University of Adelaide to organise for an intern to join the SADA team. Expression of interest are now open to applicants. We hope they can assist SADA in researching and relaying information of some of the biosecurity threats that Australia is facing at the moment, especially FMD and LSD
 - John Sharp is working with SADA to review the Association's records from its foundation years. This is providing fascinating insights into the establishment of SADA. To some extent, the more things change, the more they stay the same!
 - SADA prepared a letter to the Hon Dr Susan Close MP, regarding the amendment of animal welfare legislation to enable the operation of virtual fencing technology to occur on farms in SA, particularly dairy farms. Dr Close raised the issue of virtual fencing in a meeting with the President and the letter flows from her comments encouraging the legalisation of the use of the technology in the primary sector.
 - Andrew attended the launch of the Rural Business Support Relief Fund. As well as congratulating RBS on the establishment of the fund, the event provided an excellent networking opportunity with guests including Minister Scriven and Shadow Minister Centofanti, PIRSA senior management and a range of industry leaders.
 - Ash spoke with Belinda to organise a dairy activity with some of the art and design students at Urrbrae. The concept is for the students to create a label for a new dairy product that could be used by a processor. During the design process students will learn about the dairy supply chain, the importance of nutritional labelling information and traceability through barcodes.
 - Elf assisted two farmers with potential issues of conflict regarding the operation of contracts in one instance and a local government related issue in another instance.

- Andrew, Elf and Alison participated in a Rural Media and Communicators webinar with Hon Clare Scriven, Minister for Primary Industries.
- Ash attended the BAHWAC meeting where the main topics were the selection of the Sheep Traceability Steering Committee as well as providing an update on the Foot and Mouth and Lumpy Skin Disease outbreaks.



Dairysafe is farewelling two of its valued and long-standing employees – Fiona Little, our Food Safety Officer, and Rocco Galluccio, our Dairysafe Accountant. Fiona and Rocco have delivered outstanding service to the organisation and to industry over many years, and both are very well known. “The knowledge that Fiona and Rocco hold will be sorely missed, however they’ve shared much of their critical information and wisdom with the team,” said Geoff Raven, CEO of Dairysafe. “Congratulations Fiona and Rocco – thank you from the Dairysafe team past and present and enjoy your retirement.”

Could you be a SADA Board Member?

To find out more about joining the SADA Board, visit www.sada.asn.au
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