



SA Dairyfarmers' Association Inc
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www.sada.asn.au

Or find us on Facebook

SADA NEWSLETTERS 2019





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SADA Newsletter

January 2019

From the President

The past months have seen climatic factors very much come to the fore across most dairying regions of South Australia. A very dry September across the state has been followed by good rains during October and November in some areas while others continue to miss out. Irrespective of rainfall, the impact of the policies employed in other jurisdictions is being felt across the industry. This relates to the costs of both grain and bought in fodder which has caused many members to reconsider their production targets for the 2018-19 season.

In addition to advocating on the impact of dry times on the South Australian Dairy Industry, key areas in which SADA has advocated for industry recently are:

- The management and structure of Australian Dairy Farmers and the re-establishment of the Policy Advisory Group structure.
- The application of the ACCC recommendation and the development of a mandatory code of conduct for producers and processors. The Department of Agriculture and Water Resources has recently developed draft clauses for a code and other documents for which they are seeking feedback. SADA is currently preparing feedback and will meet with DAWR officials in early February.
- We have advocated for the avoidance of gimmicks such as the proposed 10c drought milk levy and the need to focus on the main issues of ensuring fair and sustained returns to dairy farmers.
- SADA made a submission to the Parliamentary Inquiry into Livestock Industry highlighting the opportunities for our industry into the future.
- SADA has made submissions to both the parliamentary select committee and the PIRSA Inquiry into the SA Moratorium on GM Foods. We will now be appearing before the select committee in early February.
- Through the significant efforts of Warren Jacobs and Kate Bartlett, we have had great input into the ADIC Water Taskforce submissions regarding the Murray Darling Basin Plan and the opportunity for efficiency projects to again be available to dairy farmers seeking to develop their businesses and become less reliant of River Murray water.
- Following the official opening of the revamped Beston Pure Foods facility at Jervois, SADA has written to local members calling for an investigation into improved irrigation practices which may allow the expansion of dairying on the Lower Murray

To support our advocacy efforts, SADA personnel have engaged with a range of government members and Ministers, at both a State and National level including Ministers Whetstone and Littleproud and their respective Chiefs of Staff. We have also worked closely with senior leadership of ADF, the ADIC and NFF in progressing the claims of the SA dairy industry.

The office and administration functions continue to develop with Alison now having her feet firming under the front desk. Over the past three months we have also worked hard to be in contact, either in person or over the phone, with all current SADA members and have seen two new members join the association.

The further development of SADA Fresh brand has included the commissioning of a program on SA Weekender (Channel Seven) which will encourage consumers to support SA Dairyfarmers by drinking SADA Fresh milk and using SA produced dairy products. Dialogue with Coles regarding the further promotion and expansion of the SADA Fresh range has been held over to distance the discussions from current disquiet regarding drought levies being rolled out by major supermarkets.

2018 in Review

Mandatory Code

The dairy industry mandatory code continues to be developed by the Commonwealth Government. SADA representatives and board members have attended the Commonwealth Department of Agriculture's development meetings.

Both sides of politics had endorsed a mandatory code and Minister Littleproud has indicated that he will sign the code in to law prior to the next federal election in any instance. SADA has proudly held a leadership position in the development of the code and it is expected that it will be in operation before May 2018. While the code will not fix prices it will demand fair conduct by participants in the contracting environment.

Milk Price Index Flops

The much-vaunted Milk Price Index has failed to pass the credibility test with farmers. Nationally a total of 38 farmers have signed up to the index meaning that no useful information has been recovered from any jurisdiction in the nation.

The cost of the index to the tax payer has been \$2 million. SADA expresses its disappointment in the index failing as it would have, if properly subscribed, given farmers a good indication of prices in dairying regions across the country.

Essentially, an opportunity lost.

Murray Darling Basin Plan

The Royal Commission into the Murray Darling Basin plan continues utterly unnoticed. The Royal

Commission which was the product of pre-election hype seems to have failed to enliven much interest beyond its early days. While SADA was one of the only farming organisations in the country to attend the Royal Commission it was quickly clear that the Royal Commission's overly legalistic focus on the interpretation of the legislation has already been addressed by the Commonwealth.

Reminder for Irrigators to check their usage against their allocations. It is expected that top up water will be very expensive later this year.

Dry Times

SADA continues to work closely with Minister Whetstone from South Australia keeping an eye on the effects of the drought in South Australia. SADA will also keep an eye on the funds that have been raised by various institutions to seek to ensure as far as possible that contributions made in SA are held for SA farmers.

Action Plan to be Launched in early 2019

The SA Dairy Industry Action Plan is to be launched in late January 2019. We are still approaching some more farmers as well as processors to support the plan. The Action Plan will be a guide to government and industry as to the positioning of South Australia as a jurisdiction going forward.

SADA has already commenced elements of the plan by travelling with trade missions to the Middle East as well as meeting with Australian Ambassadors who work in those countries.

Do you A2?

SADA has been approached by a company looking to develop A2 Protein-Only milk products for both the domestic and export markets. They are seeking producers who may qualify or be interested in building up an A2 herd. In Particular, they are looking for supply partners who have been employing selective breeding to maintain and increase the percentage of A2/A2 genotype cows and are likely to have 95%+ A2/A2 Cows.

Testing methods are available to test milk samples taken from both on-farm storage and at the individual cow level. Farmers who are interested in participating would need to be willing to provide 3 days-worth of milk samples taken from their on-farm storage right before it is collected. The processor will get this tested at their expense and report on the results. If further testing is required at the herd level, this can be further discussed but, as a guide, can be done at roughly \$20/cow.

Recent data on the milk quality for each farm will need to be shared with respect to milk solids which will be key inputs in the pricing offered. We are sharing this, following initial discussions which suggest both the price on offer and the terms of supply may be very competitive for some farms.

SA Dairy Industry Fund



SADA Fresh has ramped up its contributions to the South Australian Dairy Industry. The board comprises Mr Will Rayner, CFO of Rural Bank (Chair), the Hon. Rob Kerin former premier of South Australia, Councillor Melissa Rebbeck, applied agricultural and climate scientist and Mr Nick Brokenshire SADA Vice President.

Quad Bike rebate scheme:



The Quad Bike rebate scheme is aimed at providing an \$800 rebate to any dairy farmer who purchases and approved roll over device on their farm quad as a farmer safety measure. The scheme has had a limited subscription at this point so it has been extended to make sure as many dairy farmers as possible take advantage of the offer.

Operation Goose Drone:

The Dairy Industry fund board has been prepared to be experimental in their approach. Recently a farmer has had an issue with migratory birds eating too much of his pasture. The board has been working with the farmer and has extended that work to include the trial of using drones to frighten off the birds. It turns out that this wasn't effective but at least we now know of something that doesn't work. Many thanks to the gents at Adelaide Drone Hire for their efforts.

The Well Being Project:

This project is a shared funding initiative between Dairy SA and Industry Fund to help farmers who are doing it tough. The project has been running for a number of years and the fund has committed funding for a further three years to support Rick Hinge's important work.

Port Elliot Mural:

The fund has supported the Dairy Industry Museum in Port Elliot in the past and they museum will soon sport a splendid SADA Fresh sign in recognition of the sponsorship.

Pasture Mapper:

This project supports research being done by a company called Dairy Explorer. Dairy Explorer are developing the Pasture Mapper, a pasture measurement and mapping solution for Dairy Farms. Pasture Mapper will objectively measure the on-farm dry matter growth and yield (biomass kg/ha) of ryegrass on a daily basis. The data will collected will

support on farm decisions such as maximising grazing efficiency (thereby reducing wastage), optimising fertiliser use, optimising water use and increasing the input-output yield curve by reducing the grain feed requirements.

Biochar project:

Biochar has been used a feed supplement for Beef and Dairy Cattle in Australia and Europe. To date it has been used as an integrated systems approach to have a secondary benefit on soil and pasture health. Observations and written evidence also suggest that by feeding biochar at less than 1% of intake can provide substantial improvements to the animal health, weight gain, milk quality, carbon sequestration, a reduction in methane outputs and better feed conversion.

This project aims to feed biochar to dairy cattle at up to 1% of feed intake mixed with a formulated feed supplement daily. The feed ration is provided in addition to the grazing diet. The ration will be provided at 2 different rates to individual cows in a rotary dairy to 2 x dairy herds via the Fleurieu Milk Company. The hypothesis is that feeding biochar in a mixed ration in addition to the dairy cows grazing diet will result in beneficial changes in milk quality and quantity, including improved somatic cell count, a reduction in the incidence of mastitis and a reduction in ammonia smell from the dairies.

Pure Limestone Coast:

This is a project aimed at supporting a start up project in the Limestone Coast to promote the dairy industry and dairy product from that area. The support is to help the proponents develop a

business plan which will support the area which has a rich dairy industry.

Cows Create Careers:

This is an ongoing project that sees nearly a thousand secondary school students every year across the state introduced to the dairy industry as part of developing the opportunities in dairy as a potential career path for those students. Funding has been offered for three more years. The fund is also considering a number of other projects that are still in the application stage.

Applying

You will be able to apply via email by contacting John Elferink at dairyindustryfund@sada.asn.au or

alternatively phone John on 0418 406400 or 82932399. Be prepared to provide the address of the farm and your Dairy Producer's Licence Number for verification purposes.



Are you paying too much for electricity?

We all aim to do as much as we can to reduce the cost of electricity bills. But with **90% of South Australian's** overpaying on the cost of energy in 2018, the goal for many seems to be getting harder to achieve.

At **SADA**, we understand the challenges our community face, and want to support the broader network of our member's in being able to help them identify cost reductions in 2019 without having to make any sacrifices to living conditions.

Through our partnership with energy specialist, **Make it Cheaper** we aim to provide you with a solution that potentially helps you lessen the impact high energy costs have on your cashflow.

Through three - **100% obligation free** - easy steps you can see if your current energy retailer is offering you a competitive rate, then switch and save if you choose; it's that easy.

Simply follow these three steps, or contact **(02) 8077 0006** to speak with one of Make it Cheaper's Energy Experts.

How Make it Cheaper makes it easy for you



Step 1

Upload your most recent energy bill and register for a **100% obligation free** bill comparison at bit.ly/SADA-MIC



Step 2

Compare the offer



Step 3

Make the switch & start saving

For more information, go to bit.ly/SADA-MIC or contact **(02) 8077 0006**.

*Analysis across 2,761 South Australian residential meters; Jan 18 - Dec 18.



make it cheaper
the saving experts

CHAIN OF RESPONSIBILITY... *Made Easy!*

THE CHAIN OF RESPONSIBILITY... *Made Easy!*

An initiative of GPSA through the Heavy Vehicle Safety Initiative NHVR program



Did you know regulations have changed under the Heavy Vehicle National Law? Not sure if your farm business is compliant? Find out what you need to do and get practical tips and advice!

GPSA are holding interactive, FREE and practical workshops for our members, and all Primary Producers SA commodity group members, in conjunction with industry experts Natwide Personnel.

The workshops will assist farmers in understanding their obligations and risks in the CoR chain, and help them implement plans and checklists to reduce the risk to their businesses.

SADA has secured extra dates for Dairy farmers;

- Mount Compass: 10am Friday 15 March, Mount Compass War Memorial Community Centre.
- Mount Gambier: 10am Wednesday 17 April, Mt Gambier RSL & Bowls Club.

This program has been made possible by support from the National Heavy Vehicle Regulator Heavy Vehicle Safety Initiative Program.

DATE	TIME	TOWN	VENUE
Monday 21 January	3pm	Loxton	Loxton Research Centre
Tuesday 22 January	9am	Kingston-On-Murray	Banrock Station Meeting Room
Thursday 24 January	3pm	Tanunda	CWA Hall
Thursday 31 January	2pm	Mount Barker	Auchendarroch House
Wednesday 6 February	9:30am	Murray Bridge	TBC
Tuesday 12 February	9am	Gladstone	Viterra
Tuesday 19 February	8am	Cleve	Ramsey Bros
Wednesday 20 February	8am	Cummins	Ramsey Bros
Thursday 21 February	8am	Wudinna	Ramsey Bros
Wednesday 27 February	9am	Maitland	Elders
Wednesday 13 March	9am	Loxton	Loxton Research Centre TBC
Thursday 14 March	9am	Lameroo	Lameroo Sports Club TBC
Wednesday 20 March	12pm	Wirrulla	Wirrulla Sports Club TBC
Thursday 21 March	1pm	Cowell	Cowell Football Club
Wednesday 27 March	9am	Roseworthy	Elders
Wednesday 3 April	8am	Riverton	Ramsey Bros
Wednesday 10 April	8am	Murray Bridge	Ramsey Bros
Thursday 11 April	9am	Bordertown	Tatiara Truck and Trailers
Tuesday 16 April	4pm	Penola	Chardonnay Lodge
Wednesday 17 April	6:30pm	Keith	Elders
Wednesday 1 May	4pm	Virginia	Virginia Horticulture Centre

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO REGISTER](#)

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Proud insurance
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At WFI, we take the time to thoroughly understand your business and how it operates. Because when we get to know a business, we can protect everything that matters.

We're available to meet with you face-to-face to discuss your insurance requirements. That's just one of the reasons why we're good people to know for insurance.

Need an insurance quote?

**Call your local WFI Area Manager on
1300 934 934 or visit wfi.com.au**

WFI Rural Plan consists of a range of different policies, covering a wide variety of risks. This approach gives you greater flexibility, and if circumstances change it is easy for you to add another policy.

WFI Rural Plan policies you can choose from:

-  Farm Property Damage
-  Farm Loss of Income
-  Farm General Property
-  Farm Transit
-  Farm Legal Liability
-  Farm Machinery Breakdown
-  Farm Electronic Equipment
-  Farm Burglary and Theft
-  Motor Vehicle
-  Personal Legal Liability
-  Domestic Workers (WA only)
-  Classic Home
-  Standard Home
-  Personal Valuables
-  Pleasure Boat
-  Personal Accident and Illness



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February 2019

SA Farmer Makes Headlines for all the wrong reasons

Our heart goes out to the Treloar family and their decision to walk off their farm. Just over a week ago, Casey Treloar made an impassioned Facebook post about the family's decision to shut up shop on the farm because circumstances have evolved to the point that there is no light on the horizon.

Suppressing tears, Ms Treloar said that this was the video she hoped that she would never have to post. "It breaks my heart, but the clock has run out and it's time to say goodbye" she said.

Ms Treloar said that the one-dollar milk price was an artificial price that was set by supermarkets which forced returns low and shifts in feed prices pushed the farm over the

edge. The prices being paid were simply not enough to keep going.

The Facebook post has received over one million views and led to a flurry of publicity around Ms Treloar. Sadly, to add insult to injury certain sectors of the community have celebrated the Treloar family's hardship.

We have been speaking with Casey and continue to offer any support that can be provided in responding to media and political enquiries.

What has not been widely reported is that this is not the only dairy farm to shut up operations in South Australia because of the marginal nature of dairy in this state.

Dollar Milk

It's time for the supermarkets to relent

The shutting down of the Treloar farm must be a signal to processors and supermarkets alike. The dairy industry in Australia is wilting at the hands of Dollar milk. This artificial impost has now been in operation for the best part of a decade and in that time in real terms the consumer is now buying milk for \$0.89. This is unsustainable and the supermarkets are placing pressure on the whole system. The time has come for sensible heads to prevail or there will be a



much smaller industry in Australia into the future. SADA calls on the supermarkets in particular to relent. While we appreciate that commercial imperatives exist there is now no rational public benefit in maintaining this pressure. If Coles and Woolworths want to loss lead that is up to them. But asking farmers to pay for their commercial ambitions with their farms and their livelihoods is not acceptable.

The Advertiser

Why supermarkets can't squeeze oil giants to cap fuel prices as they do with our farmers

Andrew Curtis, The Adelaide Advertiser
February 20, 2019 5:29pm



Compare milk to petrol, two staples of our lives where the supermarkets maintain an interest.

The suppliers of petrol are big enough to vary their prices and the supermarkets follow the lead.

There is no doubt supermarkets would become more popular if they changed the price of fuel to \$1 per litre and held it there for a decade. But they don't because they cannot bully BP and Shell.

Nothing prevents a supermarket from offering \$1 petrol, but what they cannot do is bludgeon international oil companies into a lower price as they do with processors and farmers.

The dairy industry doesn't mind if supermarkets make milk cheap. In fact the dairy industry wouldn't mind if the supermarkets gave the milk away for free if they still paid the processors and farmers a price that reflected the cost of production.

The problem is supermarkets artificially declare prices then expect to be subsidised by both processors and farmers.

To find the genesis of the milk crisis we need to go back to 2001. Then, the milk-pricing mechanisms were changed to allow the markets, not regulation, to set the price.

For a decade things ticked along and the market operated so that the milk price paid by the consumer was reflective of the whole supply chain, the supermarkets, the processors and the farmers.

In the middle of this world sat the farmer co-operative, Murray Goulburn. Everything orbited around MG.

MG represented both processors' and farmers' interests because it was a co-operative and a seller of milk. MG's size and broad representation meant it was mindful of the whole supply chain.

Then several things happened. MG lost its way as it sought to become a company rather than a co-operative. It failed to negotiate the challenges of the commercial world and it failed to balance the needs of farmers and processors.

In 2011, as MG commenced its metamorphosis, the major supermarkets, Coles then Woolworths, began their \$1 milk campaign. This campaign didn't focus on the cost of production, it focused on the retail price.

In its quest to be "commercial" MG played along and suddenly the power to set a price shifted. A few years later, MG collapsed.

Since that time there has been no single processor big enough to challenge the supermarkets, leaving the major retailers in charge of prices while demanding their \$1 milk continued to be profitable. By 2017 the distorting forces had become so pronounced the Commonwealth Government referred the industry to the ACCC.

The ACCC made many findings but basically laid the blame of farmers suffering at the feet of the processors. All that was needed was that when the cost of production changed, the processors exercise the price variation clauses in their contracts.

There is little evidence any of the major processors have exercised their options under their price variation clauses with the supermarkets. No processor is large enough to challenge the supermarkets with a price variation. To do so would be at the peril of their other products on the shelf.

While welcome, the Woolworths announcement of \$1.10 litre milk does nothing to address the artifice which is a milk price totally disconnected from the cost of production.

The South Australian Dairyfarmers' Association, supports a free market to set a milk price.

What is occurring isn't a free market. The supermarkets are setting a course and shackling farmers and processors to it.

The supermarkets need to be mindful they are placing demands that will break the system. The casualties are already real. Since the introduction of \$1 milk the number of dairy farms in SA have fallen from 286 to 228. They continue to walk away.

The supermarkets sell water which reflects the cost of production, which is why bottled water now costs much more than bottled milk. If processors cannot move on price it won't be long before some of them join Murray Goulburn as a memory and many more farmers go with them.



A series of fish kill events, an emotive report from the South Australian Royal Commission, and concerns about water theft have many Australians talking about how we manage irrigated agriculture in the Murray Darling Basin. But when such a complex issue makes headlines, the basic facts are often forgotten.

The Murray Darling Basin Plan is a bipartisan multi-jurisdictional collaboration a century in the making.

The aim of the Basin Plan is to bring the Basin back to a healthier and sustainable level, while continuing to support farming and other industries for the benefit of the Australian community. It is complementary to other water management arrangements, including natural resource management and other Commonwealth and state government policies.

Despite the political posturing's of some who purport to represent South Australia, the plan is good for dairy farmers, communities and the environment of the South Australian Murray Darling Basin.

It is a Plan, and there are still a range of parts of it that need to be enacted for us to reap its full benefits, but there is nothing that suggests the future parts of the plan will not become reality, except due to political manoeuvring.

One significant step forward with implementing the plan was the agreement reached by the Ministerial Council in December last year which will see Victoria and New South Wales participate in the full range of water saving projects which enables the delivery of an additional 450GL of environmental water for the system. Without such an agreement we would not see the Murray-Darling Basin Plan delivered in full.

It remains critically important to maintain community and industry involvement in designing and implementing the Basin Plan. It is heartening to see that the MDB Authority is committed to continued innovation and best practice engagement in Basin Plan implementation.

At SADA we support the comments of Minister Spiers when he stated that abandoning the Basin Plan and starting again would be a "reckless act – setting back progress towards a healthy and sustainable Basin and causing substantial uncertainty for Basin communities".

Information sessions for River Murray water users.

A series of information sessions is being organised by DEW For the lower Murray these 2 will be

Murray Bridge	Monday 18th March 10:30am
Langhorne Creek	Monday 18th March 2:30pm

Issues to be discussed include:

- water availability and outlook across the basin
- water policy changes since the last drought; changes to the Water Allocation Plan; carryover & allocation announcement process;
- understanding the water market and options available.
- Facilitated Q&A panel session (non-govt facilitator) – 15-30 minutes

There will also be the opportunity to discuss specific topics such as carryover, the WAP and allocation announcements.

Need insurance? You need WFI.

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At WFI, we take the time to thoroughly understand your business and how it operates. Because when we get to know a business, we can protect everything that matters.

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-  Farm Burglary and Theft
-  Motor Vehicle
-  Personal Legal Liability
-  Domestic Workers (WA only)
-  Classic Home
-  Standard Home
-  Personal Valuables
-  Pleasure Boat
-  Personal Accident and Illness

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Other current projects include:

- The Well Being Project
- Port Elliot Museum support
- Pasture Mapper
- Biochar project
- Pure Limestone Coast
- Cows Create Careers

If you're a farmer with a proposal that can demonstrate a benefit to the SA Dairy industry contact SADA and discuss the matter. SADA will be

only too happy to assist with a few pointers that will increase the likelihood of success for the applicant.

Applying

You will be able to apply via email by contacting John Elferink at or alternatively phone John on 0418 406400 or 82932399. Be prepared to provide the address of the farm and your Dairy Producer's Licence Number for verification purposes.

Churchill Fellowship

Every year more than 100 Australians are awarded a Churchill Fellowship so they can bring their ideas to life. This prestigious yet accessible award enables recipients to travel independently overseas, for four to eight weeks, so they can meet with leaders in their chosen field of endeavour to gain and exchange knowledge and experience. No prescribed qualifications are required to apply, the scope of projects people can propose is limitless, providing the applicant demonstrates a willingness to share the knowledge gained and there are evident benefits to their wider community, industry or profession.

While every applicant is considered for a general Fellowship, there are also dedicated sponsored fellowships for the agriculture and food sector, including the **Jack Green Fellowship** for a project relating to the Australian dairy industry; the **Ron Badman Family Fellowship** for a project with a focus on seed production, pasture development and irrigation; and the **Dr Susan V Nelle Fellowship**, for someone from South Australia who wants to investigate a topic that will advance the State's food and beverage industry.

People interested in applying for a Churchill Fellowship are encouraged to attend an Information Session being held in Mt Gambier next week, on Tuesday, March 5, at the Lakes Resort, from 5.30pm to 7.30pm. The session is one of 24 regional events being held around Australia this year, as part of a concerted effort by the Winston Churchill Memorial Trust to encourage more people from regional and rural communities to apply. A session is also planned for Adelaide on Thursday, March 14.

We hope that you and your colleagues will consider attending, and that you will help us to spread the word by sharing this email and the attached flyer with your members and wider industry networks. You can also share relevant posts from our Facebook page or find us on Twitter @churchilltrust. A media release is available if that would be of assistance.

For the full program of events and to register, people should visit www.churchilltrust.com.au/events.

Save on business energy costs and win

Through SADA's partnership with energy specialist, **Make it Cheaper** you have the chance to do just that.

For 10-years, **Make it Cheaper** have been helping Australian businesses reduce the cost of energy bills, and in 2018 alone identified and saved over **\$18.7m*** for their customer's. You could say 'helping their customer's save is what they do best.

The service is 100%:

Obligation Free

Secure

Fast

Unbiased

And now they want you to WIN!

As a promotional offer to SADA members, you can **win a \$1,000 VISA Card** by simply following the 3-steps below and uploading your farm's energy bill.

Make it Cheaper will compare your current bill against a panel of Australia's top energy retailers* to see if they can find you a saving on the cost of your energy. And, with the submission of your bill, you automatically go into the draw to win – it's that easy.



Step 1

Upload your most recent energy bill and register for a **100% obligation free** bill comparison at bit.ly/SADA-MIC



Step 2

Compare the offer



Step 3

Make the switch & start saving



So, upload your farm's energy bill through the secure link provided to win, or contact **(02) 8077 0006** to speak with one of **Make it Cheaper's Energy Experts**.

*Analysis across 47,802 Residential & Business meters; Jan18-Dec18. **Offer available through to Fri 15th Mar 2019.

*Make it Cheaper does not compare all energy offers in market.

Terms & Conditions available at https://www.makeitcheaper.com.au/bill_upload_competition_terms_conditions



make it cheaper
the saving experts



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Calling for Underpass Partners



SADA is looking for partners to participate in an application to the Regional Growth Fund to build underpasses to improve the commerciality of the South Australian Dairy Industry.

The Fund has been established by the South Australian Government with the aim *"to unlock new economic activity in our regions"*.

Essentially the fund is a \$150 commitment over ten years by the SA Government to enable businesses to come together and offer \$1 for \$1 infrastructure project that will be good for businesses that operate in SA. This includes farmers.

The fund requires that a lead entity should exist to enter into a contract with the government to get projects done. That lead entity can manage the application on behalf of a group or cluster of businesses.

For many years SADA has been aware of the challenges surrounding underpasses and the adverse effects the absence of underpasses can have on dairy farming.

SADA meets the requirements to be a project entity and we are calling for expressions of interest in a proposed underpass project/s.

Should sufficient interest be shown in this project SADA will co-ordinate the required work to have the project scoped out and prepared for submission to the SA Government. The fund is structured in such a way that multiple underpasses may be applied for. This means the application will not be limited to just one project but may cover multiple projects in different parts of South Australia.

Bridges have been specifically identified as appropriate projects.

Further information can be found on the PIRSA website at <http://www.pir.sa.gov.au/region/s/grants>

This update is being circulated to all members to gauge the level of interest amongst farmers and to discuss advancing the proposal.

If you and your neighbouring dairy farmers would be interested in a project of this nature or have any questions regarding this matter please contact John Elferink at the SADA office on 08 8293 2399 or 0418 406 400 or by emailing John on john@sada.asn.au.

We look forward to a positive response.

Need insurance? You need WFI.

Proud insurance
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Australian Dairyfarmers
Association.






At WFI, we take the time to thoroughly understand your business and how it operates. Because when we get to know a business, we can protect everything that matters.

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-  Farm Legal Liability
-  Farm Machinery Breakdown
-  Farm Electronic Equipment
-  Farm Burglary and Theft
-  Motor Vehicle
-  Personal Legal Liability
-  Domestic Workers (WA only)
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Milk Price Index ... a last gasp?

Thirty-eight. That's it. That is the number of farmers who have loaded their information onto the Federal Government's Milk Price Index. The MPI was announced by the former Deputy Prime Minister Barnaby Joyce as a response to the price crisis in 2017 as part of the federal Government's response to the ongoing problems in the Australian dairy industry.

The IMP was supposed to become a tool for farmers to be able to compare the prices that were being paid for milk in various geographical areas around Australia. The expectation was that making milk prices public would have the effect of putting pressure on processors in

particular to pay better prices for milk. The chasm between expectations and reality has been underwhelming.

It is clear that the IMP has not come within a country mile of the expectations that surrounded it and it is now under review. SADA remains of the opinion that the MPI could be a useful tool but it will not achieve anything while it remains so desperately undersubscribed. If farmers don't buy in with significant numbers then the whole edifice should be scrapped.

Unless this index is supported it will be lost.

If you want to have your say log into:

<https://haveyoursay.agriculture.gov.au/milk-price-index-review>

Mandatory Code Update

The Commonwealth Government is continuing to advance the Mandatory Dairy Code of Conduct following requests from key dairy farmer bodies last year.

The Minister for Agriculture David Littleproud said the code would outlaw several practices which have been used by milk processors in the past.

"The national dairy farmer group, Australian Dairy Farmers, asked for a mandatory code of conduct last September and we're delivering it," Minister Littleproud said.

"This won't fix the industry's structural problems but it's a good first step. The next step is to draft wording for the regulations for the mandatory code of conduct in consultation with industry."

The mandatory code of conduct will:

- Ban retrospective price cuts to dairy farmers;
- Ban mid-season price cuts except in exceptional circumstances;
- Ban exclusive contracts which stop farmers selling their excess milk to another company;
- Ban two tier pricing which allows processors to pay different amounts for milk supplied by the same farmer; and
- Ban processors withholding "loyalty payments" if a farmer moves to another processor, which removes the financial handcuffs from farmers and allows them to more easily sell their milk to the highest bidder.

The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) concluded in its 2018 Dairy Inquiry that the inherent bargaining power imbalance between processors and dairy farmers, combined with unequal availability of information between them, results in market failure in the Australian dairy industry. This led the ACCC to recommend that Government establish a mandatory code of conduct for the dairy industry.

Minister Littleproud said the mandatory code would help to manage the business and contractual relationship between farmers and processors.

"It will address the imbalance of bargaining power by establishing standard business practices for the dealings between processors and farmers and protect farm

businesses against egregious conduct by processors,” Minister Littleproud said.

“The code will also enhance pricing transparency in the industry and support improved confidence and decision making by dairy farmers.”

The mandatory code will work with the Food and Grocery Code to cover the supply chain. However, the Dairy Code will not regulate farmgate milk prices or set the price that dairy processors and retailers charge for their products.

The announcement by Federal Agriculture Minister declaring that the development of the mandatory dairy industry code is continuing is welcomed by SADA. The Code is long overdue and will go some way to addressing the power imbalance between

farmers and processors. The Code will not fix the industry, but it is a significant step in the right direction.

Industry has not yet seen the final version of the Code and so the statement indicates that a final version must be complete or near completion and the statements are consistent with draft versions of the Code that have been previously circulated.

SADA does not expect the final version of the Code to step away from the Minister’s declaration as to what is going to be in it.

Notably, however the Minister has remained silent on the principles of good faith, dispute resolution as well as not indicating a date commencement. It is important that the Minister reassures the industry that the code will contain these other earlier commitments.

Each of the points described by the Minister are welcomed by SADA and we now urge the Commonwealth to press on.

SADA looks forward to circulation of the final Code.



Working Visas in their new form

Recently the Commonwealth announced the new visas for foreign workers in Australia. SADA welcomes the announcement.

ANZSCO Dairy Cattle Farmer is on the Regional Occupation List, eligible for the 482 Temporary Skills Shortage 4-year visa and the 187 Regional Sponsor Migration Scheme visa (which is permanent).

The government has emphasised the point about the full program of effort the dairy industry undertakes to address skills

shortages – not just relying on immigration.

ANZSCO Dairy Cattle Farmer is at the highest skilled managerial level. These visas do not apply to low skill workers.

SADA thanks Minister Coleman for listening to concerns and acting to address them in a positive and timely manner. The dairy industry made comprehensive submissions both in writing and in person to the Consultation on The Skilled Occupation List in May 2018.

The dairy industry is grateful to Minister Coleman for restoring the position to what it was before April 2017 for the skilled occupation of Dairy Cattle Farmer – previously a 457 visa now called a TSS visa or 482 visa. The changes will allow for 4-year visas with the possibility of renewal and a pathway to permanent residency via the 187 visa. The changes also allow for a permanent 187 visa as direct entry.

This is a skilled visa for high level managers with a bachelor’s degree qualification or a minimum of at

Further details can be found here:

<https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/visas/working-in-australia/skill-occupation-list?srckeyword=dairy%20cattle%20farmer>

least 5 years' experience in the industry.

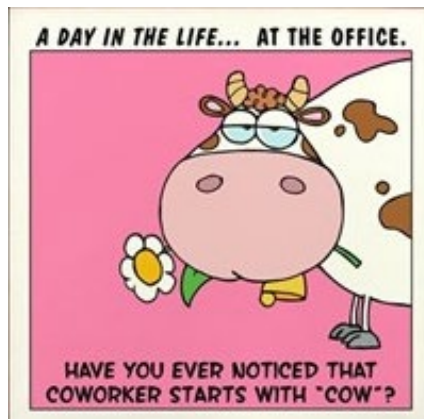
Practically speaking, these are the high-level managers who have responsibility for directing and overseeing farm activities and organising and conducting farming operations such as Dairy Farm Business Managers, Dairy Farm Herd Managers, Pasture Managers and Dairy Farm Production Managers.

The dairy industry is taking positive and comprehensive steps to address the widespread skills shortage in the industry.

The pathway to permanent residency is vital to ensuring Australian dairy farmers can attract skilled overseas workers

who will avoid Australia if they can obtain permanent residency in other countries.

The experience of regional communities around Australia is that immigrant farmers not only fill labour shortages, but they also bring with them new technological insights gained overseas to apply to Australian farming and revitalise local communities.



Working holiday subclass 417 visa rules have also been updated in November 2018

This visa is for young people who want to holiday and work in Australia for up to a year.

The purpose of the visa is to encourage cultural exchange and closer ties between Australia and eligible countries. Importantly, the visa now allows a maximum of 12 months' work with any one employer but can be extended through application for a second working holiday visa to allow for return to a previous employer under certain circumstances.

Follow the link for further details <http://www.thepeopleindairy.org.au/LiteratureRetrieve.aspx?ID=14238>

[Q](#)

SADA

Fresh

SA Dairy Industry Fund

SADA Fresh has ramped up its contributions to the South Australian Dairy Industry. The board comprises Mr Will Rayner, CFO of Rural Bank (Chair), the Hon. Rob Kerin former premier of South Australia, Councillor Melissa Rebbeck, applied agricultural and climate scientist and Mr Nick Brokenshire SADA Vice President.

The South Australian Dairy Industry fund remains active and has recently finalised negotiations with Dairy Australia to fund a research scholarship to the value of \$140,000 and also negotiations are nearly complete for research into a shade/solar device and monitoring program in the Mount Compass area.



Are you paying too much for electricity?

We all aim to do as much as we can to reduce the cost of electricity bills. But with **90% of South Australian's** overpaying on the cost of energy in 2018*, the goal for many seems to be getting harder to achieve.

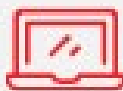
At **SADA**, we understand the challenges our community face, and want to support the broader network of our member's in being able to help them identify cost reductions in 2019 without having to make any sacrifices to living conditions.

Through our partnership with energy specialist, **Make it Cheaper** we aim to provide you with a solution that potentially helps you lessen the impact high energy costs have on your cashflow.

Through three - **100% obligation free** - easy steps you can see if your current energy retailer is offering you a competitive rate, then switch and save if you choose; it's that easy.

Simply follow these three steps, or contact **(02) 8077 0006** to speak with one of Make It Cheaper's Energy Experts.

How Make it Cheaper makes it easy for you



Step 1

Upload your most recent energy bill and register for a **100% obligation free** bill comparison at bit.ly/SADA-MIC



Step 2

Compare the offer



Step 3

Make the switch & start saving

For more information, go to bit.ly/SADA-MIC or contact **(02) 8077 0006**.

*Analysis across 2,761 South Australian residential meters, Jan-18 - Dec-18.



make it cheaper
the saving experts



SADA Newsletter

APRIL 2019

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Or [find](#) us on Facebook

Federal Budget Rap - Mixed news in SA

The Morrison Government's pre-election budget is unusual because it won't pass into law until after the 2019 election. This means if there is a change of government there will be capacity for the Labor Party to amend it should they be in power. The more likely approach, however, would be a mini-budget post-election. Given the time frames for passage it may be too difficult to amend the existing budget.

It is worth reviewing the position of SA as a whole, through the lens of the Federal Budget, the SA Budget and SA's economic performance.

But what's in it?

At a national level the budget has some good news for Australian farmers. At a state level there is one concerning outcome that may adversely impact on the rural sector in South Australia.

Nationally

At a national level the federal treasurer Josh Frydenberg has handed down a budget that does reflect positive outcomes for the rural sector.



Commitments of money include:

- \$34 million Agriculture Stewardship Package.
- Increased spending on regional roads and telecommunications infrastructure. This is a \$160 million commitment to round five and six of the Mobile Black Spots program. There is a further \$60 million commitment to the Sky Muster experience. These are positive amounts of money and amount to welcome commitments.
- Initiatives to supercharge trade and access new markets amounting to \$29.4 million toward creating new market opportunities for Australian farmers. This expenditure aligns with the SA Dairy Industry Action Plan which will be launched later this month.
- An increase in the instant asset write off to \$30,000. This will enable farms to spend on one off

capital items and write them off rather than depreciating them.

- An increased primary producer rebate for luxury car tax. *For all of you dairy farmers who drive 200 series Land Cruisers!*
- Ongoing funding for the ACCC Agriculture Unit. This unit will be encouraged by SADA to take a more active role in overseeing the dairy industry.
- Funding to expand and promote the Seasonal Worker Programme.
- Ongoing funding for drought response and preparedness, including \$4.2 million to improve the National Drought Map and development of drought indicators and improvements to the Farm Household Allowance.

The South Australian Budget



On the downside however, SA has been adversely impacted by the distribution of the GST. Over the past two years the GST

relativities have changed shaving \$517 million off the projected income of SA.

While not a decision of the federal government, as the GST distribution is carved up according to a formula agreed by the state jurisdictions. Nevertheless, the formula has fallen against SA over the past two years.

There is no doubt that the State Treasurer Rob Lucas, will be looking for places to shave spending. As it is early days yet there is no indication where the shaving is going to come from but it can be expected that services in regional and remote areas will be adversely affected.

In SA the final estimate for the 2019-20 year is \$20.1 billion. According to the 'Mid-Year' Report, the expected income for SA was \$20.4 billion. There is no doubt that figure will come down as the revenue projection shrinks slightly.

Having said that there is still a commitment from the Commonwealth to assist with major infrastructure projects in SA, including the completion of Adelaide's North/South corridor and major works in rural intersections such as the black spot which is the intersection of the Princes Hwy and the Copper Coast Hwy at Port Wakefield.

Overall Economic Position of SA

According to Comsec's State of the States report SA continues to plod along. Comsec stated: "South Australia retains fifth position on the performance

rankings ahead of Queensland. South Australia is third ranked on business investment and overall construction work done. But South Australia is sixth on three indicators."

If the states were to be rated from an overall economic position SA is the guy sitting at the bar still drinking the same beer he bought when he came in two hours ago, while NSW and Vic are jitterbugging on the dance floor. On the upside for SA we're better off than the NT which has collapsed and has fallen asleep in a toilet cubicle.

Animal Activism SADA moves swiftly

The rise of animal activism in Australia has seen SADA take a number of steps to be prepared for such activities in South Australia, should they occur. So far the general threat assessment for South Australia is low and there has been little to no chatter regarding activity in South Australia. That does not mean that it is not about to change.

Trespass itself

Recently farmers across Australia saw the arrival of the Aussie Farms animal activist website. A site that implicitly advocates for trespass onto your land by activists. This site has revealed shortcomings in the law of trespass that need to be attended to. Currently, trespass laws fall short of the mark and clearly can do with enhancement when sites like Aussie Farms are aiming to see farms attacked by the radical fringe.

It is clear, the site anticipates volunteers who are willing to break the law as it asks applicants about their willingness to be arrested or fined.

Livestock SA and the South Australian Dairy Farmers' Association (SADA), have called for an overhaul of the state's trespass laws to help defend farmers from unwanted intrusion.

Currently, the structure of laws surrounding trespass in SA are an amalgam of the common law and statute designed to attend to particular types of trespass captured in the Summary Offences Act. There is no comprehensive legislative structure around the general notion of trespass in South Australia and SA has no Trespass Act.

Animal welfare issues are at the heart of modern farming practices

and governments, representative organisations and farmers themselves come down very hard on farmers who don't meet high standards of practice.

Farmers should be allowed to issue banning notices to trespassers to ward them off the land for at least two years. Breach of such a notice should be treated as a crime.

Trespass laws should be strong enough to protect the farmers who are going about their job of feeding a nation. There is not even the slightest regard given for important issues such as biosecurity and other farm practices that are designed to protect tens of thousands of South Australian jobs.

Our society has all of the structures in place that enable people to talk about and bring about change. Breaking into farms, damaging or stealing property is not a legitimate pathway to those ends.

Over the next month SADA will have several local member briefing sessions to touch on a number of issues, not least of which will be how to manage trespass issues on your farm.

SADA has taken the following steps to address the issue in the short and long term.

1. A letter to the state Attorney General Vicki Chapman regarding changing the law to enable farmers to issue banning notices.
2. Letter to Police Commissioner and PIRSA re sharing intelligence.
3. Member update on Trespass and Day of Activism
4. Briefing with PIRSA and Security Intelligence Team SAPOL re day of Action.
5. Public lecture at Victor Harbor re trespass has already been delivered.
6. Preparation of comprehensive information leaflet re Trespass.
7. Discussion with NFF re a national position encouraging a nationally consistent approach.

Trespass Generally

Trespass is a very old concept in law. Generally, it comes in a number of forms including trespass against a person and trespass against property, particularly real property.

Trespass can be committed by a person or a thing under the control of that person. For the purposes of this paper the focus will be on trespass on a person's land by another person or an item under their control, such as a drone.

Trespass by people

The Summary Offences Act (SA) 1953 covers the notion of trespass by people in South Australia.

Section 17 deals with being on premises for an unlawful purpose. This means that a person who enters your land without a lawful reason to do so will be guilty of an offence. This is difficult from an evidentiary point of view as the prosecution has to prove an unlawful intent the proof of which is that the trespasser has committed some offence.

Section 17A deals with the general notion of trespass. In that instance the owner can tell the person to leave and if the person comes back within 24 hours they commit an offence.

It is noteworthy that the Summary Offence Act (SA) at 17B does make it an offence to tamper with gates. If someone tampers with a gate then they can be charged with a minor criminal offence.

Section 17C makes it an offence to disturb farm animals. The penalty for that offence, however, is very low and also amounts to a minor criminal offence.

The better offence to proceed with would be section 17.

Drones

Does it involve an actionable breach of an individual's right to privacy?

It's a fair bet that hovering a drone 30 metres above your farm is a trespass. Particularly if it is equipped with a camera and is observing/recording persons on the land below? Those are matters yet to be substantively settled in Australia.

Other rights might also be infringed. For example, the right to not be subjected to nuisance i.e. the right to not be stalked.

If a drone or its operator, is committing trespass, what can be done about it?

At law there are certainly actions that can be taken if you can identify the operator. The practicalities however potentially do make taking action difficult so the answer is probably not much as things currently stand.

Nevertheless, if you do see a drone and it can be followed to its pilot, record it all on your phone or take notes, particularly registration numbers and warn the pilot not to trespass.

Shooting them down is certainly not recommended.

While this newsletter describes a general outline of the law, it is also important to remember the best place to start is common sense. This paper should not be relied upon as legal advice. If there is an issue that you're seeking legal advice on you need to contact your legal practitioner.

Nothing prevents you challenging a person on your land and you may even use reasonable force to remove a person, however, such a pathway if fraught with danger, including possible physical danger if such a matter gets out of hand. Such an approach is simply not recommended.

By all means tell whoever is trespassing to leave your property and record yourself as you do it.

It is important to be aware of the need to make sure you act reasonably. If the matter escalates the risk of complaints of assault increase substantially.

Experience dictates that if you're confronting an activist, they will be recording you and they will be looking for your anger and response to post the footage on social media or to use against you if a matter goes to court.

In all instances remain calm. There is nothing to be gained from an angry response either from a media perspective or from a legal perspective.

If you do find yourself talking to any trespasser take the time to record the event on your telephone and let the person know your recording it. It will force them to modify their behaviour and recording is also a useful way to help you maintain your decorum as well.

It is much better to refer the matter to police to have them attend to it. If you tell a person to get off your land and they refuse, then the police can respond.





www.sada.asn.au

You're
Invited,

To attend an informal discussion with SADA President, John Hunt and members of the SADA Board around current issues in the dairy industry including , Activism and Trespass Laws, Private label Milk, Milk supply contracts, Water, Cost of Feed and drought impacts and any other issues you'd like to raise. We will also discuss the recently launched SA Dairy Industry Action Plan and the development of a national plan for the future of the industry.

At one of the following locations;

Choose your session – click on the glass



Tuesday 23 April 11am – 3pm
Mount Schank Bellum Hotel, Riddoch Hwy.



Wednesday 24 April 11am – 3pm
Glencoe Football Club, 19 Kirip Rd, Glencoe



Tuesday 30 April 11am – 3pm
Wellington Courthouse, 678 Mason St, Wellington



Wednesday 1 May 11am – 3pm
Angaston Hotel, 59 Murray Street, Angaston



Thursday 2 May 11.30am – 3.30pm
Mount Compass Tavern, 36 Victor Harbor Rd,

RSVP to the SADA Office on **8293 2399** for catering purposes, no later than 2 working days prior to the above events. For any further enquiries don't hesitate to give us a call.

South Australian Dairyfarmers' Association Inc

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SADA Newsletter

MAY 2019

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SA Dairy Industry Action Plan 2019 – 2024 Launched

A few weeks ago the South Australian Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development launched the South Australian Dairy Industry Action Plan 2019-2024.

The plan is the culmination of nearly two years of industry consultation by SADA talking to as many participants across the dairy supply chain as possible.

In launching the plan the Minister said,

“This Action Plan is a call-to-arms to all participants in the supply chain to work together towards a common goal to grow the dairy industry from the 500 million litres of milk produced by our farmers,”

“South Australia’s dairy products are becoming increasingly popular in markets across the world and we need to capitalise by continuing to supply a premium product.

“The adoption of new technology, value adding, greater market access, supply chain efficiencies and strengthening biosecurity are



elements which can support the state’s dairy industry to flourish.

“There are real opportunities to build on the dairy industry’s strengths as already the average milk volume produced per cow is higher than the national average.

“In recent years our dairy farmers have faced challenging times, however the Marshall Liberal Government is committed to working alongside the industry to drive productivity and growth.”

This plan is about galvanising the mindset of all who are in the dairy chain.

The chain is the producer, the processor, the wholesaler and the retailer each of which have a part to play in the process of getting milk from grass to glass or from paddock to plate.

Historically it has been too easy to segregate the dairy supply chain into its component parts with each component taking an insular position.

In difficult times that has meant that the relationship between producers and processors for example, has been eroded at the expense of the supply product overall.

An Action Plan is a vehicle by which all parts of the chain have a mind and a care about what they can do to improve the image and the performance of the dairy product in the journey from the paddock to the plate.

Businesses that galvanise their focus on the end result are businesses that thrive over time.

SADA President, John Hunt, has committed SADA to pursue the roll out of the plan and currently SADA is seeking input from government to assist in coordinating the roll out over the life of the plan.

Online Abuse

How to Respond

In recent times there has been an increase in activism among people who have taken on the self-appointed mantle of animal champions. While SADA supports the rights of people to lawfully protest in our society some of these activists have descended into unlawful and offensive behaviours. Fortunately, South Australia had been spared much of this activism, however, as your representative organisation we remain vigilant on your behalf.

Recently a number of farmers in the eastern states have received messages through various platforms which are offensive and threatening in nature. There are responses available and members should be aware of them.

The Commonwealth keeps and manages content oversight through the office of the eSafety Commissioner. This is the policing body that manages investigations into content breaches. The Commissioner maintains a relationship with every police force in the country. If a comment breaches state laws the police can respond accordingly. Threats of violence are treated differently in different jurisdictions.

From the Commonwealth's perspective there are a number of

things that are simply illegal to be online. These include:

- child sexual abuse material
- material that advocates the doing of a terrorist act
- detailed instruction or promotion in crime or violence
- instruction in paedophilic activity
- gratuitous, exploitative and offensive depictions of violence or sexual violence.
- A direct threat is also against the law

Should you be exposed to any of that sort of material by a third party it can be reported directly to the Commission at <https://www.esafety.gov.au/>.

Bullying, threats, harassment and offensive conduct

If you are exposed to people making threats or making offensive posts to you, you are still capable of reporting the matter to the Commissioner. However, in that instance you are still required to report the matter to the carriage service in the first instance. For example, Facebook maintains a "Help & Support" desk that enables you to "Report a Problem" to the carrier. For Facebook if you want to report a problem with a profile go to the offending profile and follow the links to report the matter to Facebook. If you're not satisfied with the response from your social media carrier, then within 48 hours you can report the matter to the Commissioner for eSafety.

Under Commonwealth law it is also an offence to use a carriage service (a provider of hardware

and software that enables communications) to extend to Facebook posts which use a carriage service to menace, harass or cause offence as well as using the carriage service to make a threat.

Evidence

If you are on the receiving end of any of this sort of material or comment it is important that it can be proved. If you have a screen open save it the image by way of screen capture. If there is any other evidence that is associated with the post or comment on line record it or take notes as best you can.

Responding to the abuser



The short answer is – don't.

"The strength of your argument has convinced me that I'm wrong." . . . said no internet troll, ever.

A response of any sort feeds the troll and only encourages more trolling. The guide is:

- If it's mild, ignore the troll
- If it's a threat tell police or report it to SADA.
- If it's abuse, contact SADA and we can assist with the appropriate and lawful response
- If you're not sure contact SADA.

Dairy Industry Association of Australia Gala Dinner

The Dairy Industry Association of Australia (DIAA) will be hosting the 2019 Dairy Awards Gala Dinner on 9 August 2019 at Adelaide Oval.

The Dairy Industry Association of Australia (DIAA) is a professional association for people working in dairy product manufacturing and allied trades. The DIAA was incorporated on 24 March 1986, following the amalgamation of the Australian Dairy Institute and the Australian Society of Dairy Technology.

The DIAA's mission is to provide a forum for communication, continuing education, professional growth, recognition and fellowship for all members, sectors and participant organisations involved with the dairy industry.

Every year, the DIAA National President selects a theme that is particularly relevant to the DIAA and the industry. The President's Theme sets the direction for the DIAA and is picked up by all DIAA State branches in their annual conferences and other DIAA events.

Consistent with the intent of the South Australian Dairy Industry Action Plan 2019-2024 SADA and DIAA have held a number of meetings to make sure that we're building a closer relationship between the two organisations to improve the outcomes for the industry as a whole.

Your processor will be there and you should get onto who you

supply and encourage them to invite you onto their table. If they value your work you can probably convince them to pay for your ticket.

In any instance nothing stops you from attending independently.

The cost of attendance hasn't been confirmed yet but as soon as we know, so will you.



SADA
Fresh
SA Dairy Industry Fund

Continues to support projects

SADA Fresh continues to ramp up its contributions to the South Australian Dairy Industry. The board comprises Mr Will Rayner, CFO of Rural Bank (Chair), the Hon. Rob Kerin former premier of South Australia, Councillor Melissa Rebbeck, applied agricultural and climate scientist and Mr Nick Brokenshire SADA Vice President.

Pasture Mapper:

Pasture Mapper will objectively measure the on-farm dry matter growth and yield



This project supports research being done by a company called Dairy Explorer. Dairy Explorer are developing the Pasture Mapper, a pasture measurement and mapping solution for Dairy Farms.

(biomass kg/ha) of ryegrass on a daily basis. The data collected will

support on farm decisions such as maximising grazing efficiency (thereby reducing wastage), optimising fertiliser use, optimising water use and increasing the input-output yield curve by reducing the grain feed requirements.

Biochar project: Biochar has been used as a feed supplement

for Beef and Dairy Cattle in Australia and Europe. To date it has been used as an integrated systems approach to have a secondary benefit on soil and pasture health. Observations and written evidence also suggest that by feeding biochar at less than 1% of intake can provide substantial improvements to the animal health, weight gain, milk quality, carbon sequestration, a reduction in methane outputs and better feed conversion.

This project aims to feed biochar to dairy cattle at up to 1% of feed intake mixed with a formulated feed supplement daily. The feed ration is provided in addition to the grazing diet. The ration will be

provided at 2 different rates to individual cows in a rotary dairy to 2 x dairy herds via the Fleurieu Milk Company.

The hypothesis is that

feeding biochar in a mixed ration in addition to the dairy cows grazing diet will result in beneficial changes in milk quality and quantity, including improved somatic cell count, a reduction in the incidence of mastitis and a reduction in ammonia smell from the dairies.



Are you heading to the DAIRYSA INNOVATION DAY Jump online and [register today.](#)

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/2019-dairysa-innovation-day-tickets-60246842929>

www.dairyplan.com.au

The dairy industry is one of Australia's cornerstone agricultural industries, with unique and valuable characteristics that benefit Australian society. Dairy is an important food, an important source of livelihood for people in farming, manufacturing, and service sectors, and a large export earner. The Australian dairy industry has innate strengths but faces significant challenges. The snapshot below highlights some of these challenges and opportunities. It aims to help you think about all aspects of our industry so that you can come to your local regional workshop ready to share your views and have a quality conversation about the future of dairy.

The future of dairy is in your hands

This is your chance to shape the future of Australian Dairy. We're starting a conversation right across the country about how we're going as an industry and how we can get to a better place. Your contribution will provide crucial input into the development of the Australian Dairy Plan which will deliver fundamental change to build a profitable, confident and united dairy industry.

5th June 10:00am - 2:30pm Mt Gambier [Register](#)

4th June 10:00am - 2:30pm Mt Barker [Register](#)

Water allocation drop-in sessions

Two drop-in sessions this May are available for irrigators to help prepare for the 2019-20 water use year. These drop-in sessions will include Department for Environment and Water staff available to discuss the current water resources outlook, the private carryover policy, water allocation projections and water licensing matters. Other service providers including water brokers and counsellors are being invited to provide further support and answer your questions.

The two drop-in sessions will be;

Monday 20th of May, 11-3 at the Loxton Research Centre

Wednesday 22nd of May, 9-12 at the Murray Bridge Golf Club.

RSVP is not needed, you can drop-in within those times when suits you.

For more information please contact Ms Peta Brettig, Senior Project Officer River Murray WAP on 8463 6877 or rmwap.feedback@sa.gov.au. Information about these sessions is also on the DEW website.

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-  Farm General Property
-  Farm Transit
-  Farm Legal Liability
-  Farm Machinery Breakdown
-  Farm Electronic Equipment
-  Farm Burglary and Theft
-  Motor Vehicle
-  Personal Legal Liability
-  Domestic Workers (WA only)
-  Classic Home
-  Standard Home
-  Personal Valuables
-  Pleasure Boat
-  Personal Accident and Illness

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SADA Newsletter

June 2019

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2019 / 20 STATE BUDGET

The Regions Recognised

SADA has welcomed the State Government's significant investment in the state's primary industries as part of the 2019-20 State Budget.

The 2019-20 State Budget recognises the importance of the regions as a key economic driver for the State – across primary production, tourism, fisheries and forestry – and invests a record \$1.1 billion over 8 years for regional road projects and infrastructure upgrades to help save lives on country roads.

This includes a record \$878 million of new funding for regional roads and infrastructure – the single biggest injection of new funding in a State Budget for regional roads in South Australia's history.

Some of the record \$1.1 billion in regional infrastructure projects over 8 years outlined in the 2019-20 State Budget include:

- Road upgrades, including additional overtaking lanes and shoulder sealing (\$143 million);
- Duplication of Victor Harbor Road between Main South Road and McLaren Vale (\$92 million);
- Princes Highway upgrade (\$250 million)
- \$14 million to support the construction of the new Thomas Foods Facility;

- \$14 million towards the Naracoorte and Kroemers Crossing roundabouts;
- \$11 million for increased Dublin Saleyards access; and,
- \$10 million over the next three years to blackspot communications funding
- \$15 million for the Regional Growth Fund

The 2019-20 budget also allocated \$37.5 million for biosecurity measures.

"Having a strong biosecurity framework is critical to our state's economic development, protecting our reputation for exceptional food and wine, and for maintaining and increasing access to international and domestic markets," said Minister Whetstone.

The Coalition has been returned so who's who?

The Federal Coalition has been returned to Government with an increased majority on the back of a relentless campaign by Scott Morrison and weaker-than-expected support for Labor in key seats. Over the next three years we will be keeping the pressure on Government to meet the commitments made to agriculture during the election. You can review

the NFF Commitment Tracker [here](#). While it is not fully clear what kind of government we can expect to materialise over the coming months, it is a safe bet that Scott Morrison's leadership will go unchallenged and that a very high priority will be placed on ensuring the promised budgetary surplus is achieved.

Key positions within the new Ministry are as follows:

- Deputy PM; Minister for Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Development – The Hon Michael McCormack MP
- Minister for Water Resources, Drought, Rural Finance, Natural Disaster and Emergency Management – The Hon David Littleproud MP
- Minister for Regional Services, Decentralisation and Local Government – The Hon Mark Coulton MP
- Assistant Treasurer – The Hon Michael Sukkar MP
- Minister for Agriculture – Senator the Hon Bridget McKenzie
- Minister for International Development and the Pacific – The Hon Alex Hawke MP
- Minister for Industrial Relations – The Hon Christian Porter MP
- Minister for Health – The Hon Greg Hunt MP
- Minister for Immigration, Citizenship, Migrant Services and

Multicultural Affairs – The Hon David Coleman MP

- Minister for Employment, Skills, Small and Family Business – Senator the Hon Michaelia Cash
- Assistant Minister for Vocational Education, Training and Apprenticeships – The Hon Steve Irons MP

National Dairy Plan under construction

The dairy industry is one of Australia's cornerstone agricultural industries, with unique and valuable characteristics that benefit Australian society. Dairy is an important food, an important source of livelihood for people in farming, manufacturing, and service sectors, and a large export earner. The Australian dairy industry has innate strengths but faces significant challenges. The snapshot below highlights some of these challenges and opportunities. It aims to help you think about all aspects of our industry so that you can come to your local regional workshop ready to share your views and have a quality conversation about the future of dairy.

Breakfast Club

at Forbes Primary School, SADA Fresh donated milk for their breakfast club. John Elferink was warmly invited to attend their breakfast club morning on Thursday 30 May. With an opportunity to sit have a chat with the local students and parents to talk about the importance of eating breakfast every day and including the goodness of milk.

Arson Attack

Just over a week ago there was an arson attack on the farm of Mike Boerema at Two Wells just north of Adelaide. This attack destroyed a shed and a tractor.

SADA has spoken to Mr Boerema and he has indicated that the police have confirmed the fire was deliberately set. This is a matter of great concern, not only to dairy farmers but farmers across the state.

There are serious concerns that fire may have been set by animal activists, however, evidence to support this at this point is limited.

Irrespective of who set the fire laws protecting farmers and farms are overdue for review.

In recent weeks SADA has been reminding government about the threats of farm invasions in the state and whilst there have been meetings progress has not been substantial.

SADA has again written to government seeking the actions agreed to from that meeting be attended to now as a matter of priority. Briefings by the police have been not been forthcoming and PIRSA has also not provided a comprehensive briefing to the farming community regarding the matter.

In recent months SADA has identified that there is a threat to South Australian dairy farmers. We have pointed out to government that the current trespass laws have been inadequate and in need of substantial reform.

While it is clear that a person who has their heart set upon arson will not be deterred by a trespass law, many people who do come onto

farms for unlawful purposes don't necessarily come to set fire to buildings.

SADA expects that the investigation of this matter to be investigated thoroughly.

Arson is a crime that carries a maximum penalty of life imprisonment. The crime that was committed against Mr Boerema is a serious indictable offence and SADA expects that police will exert every effort to bring the perpetrators to a court.

When an arrest is made SADA will make representations to the Director of Public Prosecutions indicating to the DPP that if a conviction is secured that two matters are applied for to the court. Firstly, that the principle of general deterrence be fulsomely argued to the court by the prosecutor so that the judge is encouraged to hand down a sentence that sends a clear message to others contemplating such actions that the full weight of the law be brought to bear upon them and secondly, that the court makes an order of full restitution to the farmer for his loss.

If the court does not make such an order SADA stands ready to assist the farmer with a civil action to recover losses from any person identified as being likely to have carried out the attack.

In the meantime, SADA will be asking government to expedite actions so that there can be an effective change the law, particularly trespass law, so that farmers receive as much protection as possible from their government.



Regional Development
SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Regional development in South Australia



Help us shape South Australia's Regional Development Strategy, which will guide our strategic approach to regional development across the state.

What is being decided?

We are preparing a Regional Development Strategy that will help grow our regional economies, support people in their choice to live in regional communities, and ensure regional South Australia is revitalised and prosperous. We are looking for fresh ideas and a local perspective to assist us in developing a strategy that will empower our communities. South Australia's regions and the communities that live and work in them are vital for the future prosperity of the state, and we want to make sure these communities continue to grow and thrive.

Once that is associated with the post or comment online record it or take notes as best you can.

Farmers commit to community conversation on glyphosate

4 June 2019

National Farmers' Federation President Fiona Simson said trust must be put in the regulator and the overwhelming, established science, in any legal matters considering the impacts of the use of chemicals including glyphosate.



Ms Simson said the independent, expert scientific advice from the regulator, the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA) confirmed that glyphosate, the active ingredient in products such as Roundup, was safe to use.

"The same conclusion has been made by every regulator in world. No other chemical compound has been studied to the degree that glyphosate has," Ms Simson said.

"There is an extensive, international body of scientific work – spanning 40 years and 800 studies that affirms that glyphosate is not a cariogenic, and more precisely, that it does not cause Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma."

"We simply have to base judgments on science and evidence and trust the regulator."

Ms Simson said many Australian farmers relied on safe tools such as glyphosate to produce healthy food and fibre, to control weeds, promote biodiversity and to nurture soil and water health.

"The NFF scrutinises the potential risks to farmers of any tool in the farm production cycle – whether it be it quad bikes, tractors or chemical tools such as glyphosate.

"There is not a more important priority for the NFF than the health and well-being of our farmers, their employees and the broader community.

broader community.

"As farmers we understand the concerns, we appreciate the questions, we have asked them ourselves, but we remain confident in the science and the ability of the regulator to make informed decisions based on facts.

"For many years, the NFF has put the safety of glyphosate under scrutiny and we are more than satisfied with the scientific rigour

confirming its continued application."

This scientific rigour includes the National Cancer Institute-supported 2018 Agricultural Health Study. The study followed more than 50,000 farmers who used glyphosate for more than 20 years. The work found no association between glyphosate-based herbicides and cancer.

In 2017, the United States' Environment Protection Authority's cancer risk assessment examined more than 100 studies and concluded glyphosate was 'not likely to be carcinogenic to humans,' – it's most favourable rating.

Ms Simson said the NFF was committed to sharing the facts about glyphosate, including its proven safety for human use.

"We understand that, although not based on objective evidence, some Australians have concerns about the popular herbicide.

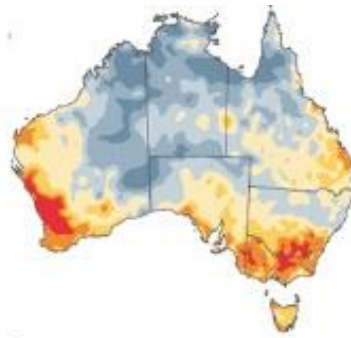
"As the peak body representing farmers, for which glyphosate is an indispensable tool, it is the NFF's role to have a conversation with the community about these concerns and to provide the objective-science based facts that confirm the safety of glyphosate.

"Farmers take very seriously their responsibility of producing safe food and fibre for the world. We want to have an open and clear dialogue with the community that puts at ease any concerns about how farmers grow what they grow."

Despite, recent disappointing legal decisions in the United States, Ms Simson said she had every confidence that, when considering the impact of glyphosate on human health, Australian courts and indeed those in other global jurisdictions would see that science prevailed.

"The evidence is just too clear and too compelling for any other outcome," Ms Simson said.

Climate change will impact agricultural



Productivity and practices from the farm gate to the global market, expose crops and animals to new disease and pest risks and impact Australia's water security. Do we have the systems in place to anticipate and mitigate these risks?

The AFI's mid-year conference on **Farming in a risky climate** will tackle these challenging issues;

- Climate risk and farm business.
- Changing biosecurity frontiers and managing water resources.
- How new risk environment will impact the business of farming, from global trade to farm succession.
- Amplified risks that climate change poses to biosecurity.

- Current policy settings for managing water resources reflect the predicted climate impacts - and look at what changes are being made to make Australian agriculture even more water efficient.



Nominations open for board members

South Australian Dairyfarmers are encouraged you to consider nominating for the SADA board.

There are two two-year positions up for election this year. To nominate, producers must be a member of SADA and must submit a nomination form on or before nominations close at 5pm on Friday August 9.

Successful candidates will be announced at SADA annual general meeting on September 5. The AGM will be held in conjunction with the Royal Adelaide Show.

SADA chief executive officer Andrew Curtis encouraged members to consider applying, "Being part of the SADA board is a wonderful opportunity for dairy farmers to contribute to the future of their industry, It's also a great opportunity on a individual level to gain an understanding of how the Association works in advocating for the Dairy industry."

Details: Nomination forms are available by contacting the SADA office on 08 8293 2399. Forms must be returned to SADA by either: Email: sada@sada.asn.au | Fax: 08 8293 8886 | Post: Unit 5, 780 South Road, Glandore, SA, 5037



Continues to support projects



SADA Fresh continues to ramp up its contributions to the South Australian Dairy Industry. The board comprises Mr Will Rayner, CFO of Rural Bank (Chair), the Hon. Rob Kerin former premier of South Australia, Councillor Melissa Rebbeck, applied agricultural and

climate scientist and Mr Nick Brokenshire SADA Vice President.

Watch this Space:

A few new exciting projects in the pipeline;

“Dairy Connect” Improve SA Dairy Farm Business Management Capability - The program will “connect” with 50 dairy families by re-engaging 30 families that participated in 2016 and 2017 and engaging 20 new families.

Each family will be assisted to undertake a Strategic Review through facilitated family discussions on farm, incorporating use of DairyBase and use of Dairy Farm Monitor data. Each family will be assisted to develop or update their Strategic Action Plan. An independent cost benefit report will be undertaken on behalf of the industry and funders.

Limestone Coast Leadership Program

The Limestone Coast Leadership Program’s (LCLP) aim is to ‘Unearth our treasures’ by supporting and building community capacity. This

leadership program is essentially about stretching the capabilities of our leaders and emerging leaders to ensure they have the relevant skills, emotional intelligence, cross-sector collaboration skills and abilities to work with, and influence others for the benefit of the region.

Three new dung beetle species for South Australia

Dairy farmers will be trained in on-farm dung beetle rearing and management, and in the process three dung beetle species which are new to South Australia, *Onthophagus vacca*, *Bubas bubalus* and *Copriss hispanus* will be established on pilot farms across the dairy regions of South Australia. South Australian dairy farms will be the first farms nationally to have these three new species. The project will also define the environmental conditions in South Australia that are best suited for these three new species to thrive, which will provide guidelines for the future successful distribution of these species.

In addition to Make it Cheaper providing free energy comparisons to you our members to save you time and money, they have a **prize draw to win \$500** running through winter.

Every member who uploads a copy of a recent energy bill between the 1st of June and the 9th of August will automatically go into the draw to win the \$500 gift card.

Don’t hesitate to give SADA a call if you need any further assistance with any services that you may require.



1599 License Number: L159180484
Full terms and conditions on www.makeitcheaper.com.au/2016/06/01/energy-comparison-and-prize-draw

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-  Domestic Workers (WA only)
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-  Standard Home
-  Personal Valuables
-  Pleasure Boat
-  Personal Accident and Illness



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July 2019

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SADA Meets Liberal Party at Parliament House

John Hunt, Andrew Curtis and John Elferink recently met with the Liberal Party's regional affairs committee at Parliament House. The committee is made up of those Members of Parliament who have an interest in rural and regional South Australia. The meeting also included the presence of Primary Industries Minister the Hon Tim Whetstone, Attorney General Vicki Chapman and Minister for Mining and Energy Dan van Holst Pellekaan.

A number of issues were raised with the parliamentary wing of the Liberal Party including the cost of water, the impact of the drought, the need for trespass law reform and the South Australian Dairy Industry Action Plan.

During the meeting Attorney General Vicki Chapman outlined the steps that the Commonwealth

Government is seeking to take to amend trespass laws relating to unlawful farm entry by animal activists in particular.

The Attorney General also indicated that state laws are actively under review and that government would be making announcements in the near future.

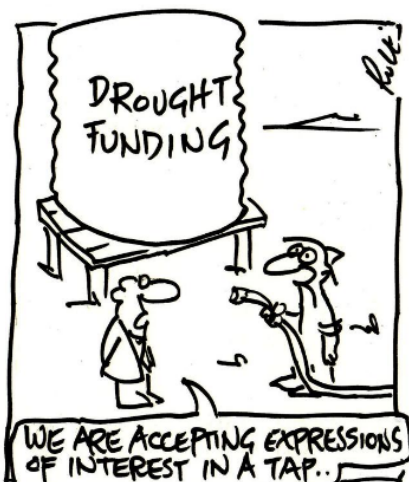
SADA continues to make representations to the South Australian Government regarding the inadequacy of the state's trespass laws when those laws were never designed to attend to the sorts of farm invasions that have been seen in recent times by animal activists.

John Hunt also raised the issue of the issue of water, particularly the cost of water, at some length. While the room was sympathetic the translation of that sympathy to activity by no means assured.

Feed still thin on the ground

Poor rainfalls continue to place pressure across the livestock sector and dairy is no exception. Lower than average rainfalls have meant that feed has been thinner on the ground and feed has been expensive to buy. SADA Vice President, Nick Brokenshire recently told media that grass growth was reduced to 2 tonnes per hectare down from an average of 3 tonnes.

While feed has still been available through suppliers it has been expensive and SADA continues to remain critical of interstate governments, particularly NSW, who do not comply with earlier agreements not to subsidise transport (and by proxy grain prices).



SADA acknowledges the efforts of South Australia's primary industries minister, the Hon Tim Whetstone for his effort in attempting to address these issues with his interstate colleagues however sadly his words seem to be falling on deaf ears.

In the mean-time recent rains have farmers crossing their fingers hoping for good follow up rain to see the season improve.

The message for farmers is that continued care and maintenance will have to be advanced to financial planning for the next year and budgets will doubtlessly remain tight for that time. Dairy SA do run programs in budgetary management and farm management. If farmers are interested in receiving further training in these areas they can contact Dairy SA directly or alternatively contact SADA and we'll make the connections for you.

Opening prices and the Mandatory Code

The opening prices posted by processors are a source of some rare optimism in the industry. Some processors have come out early and SADA welcomes that on behalf of its members, however, other processors have dragged the chain and waited to announce their prices. After a couple of hard years dealing with the collapse of Murray Goulburn, low prices, \$1 milk and drought the current round of pricing reflects improvement in the industry.

The Mandatory Code has not yet been released by the new government however, the commitment has been made to roll it out soon.

It is expected that the Code will contain a demand that processors will have to make their prices public by the 1st of June each year. That will enable farmers time to consider the terms of the contract, including price, that they are being offered by all processors in the marketplace. It is also expected that the processors will have to post their standard form contracts on their websites 30 days prior to the intended agreement term.

The effect of these changes on behalf of farmers should see a greater stability in forecasting for the industry as a whole.

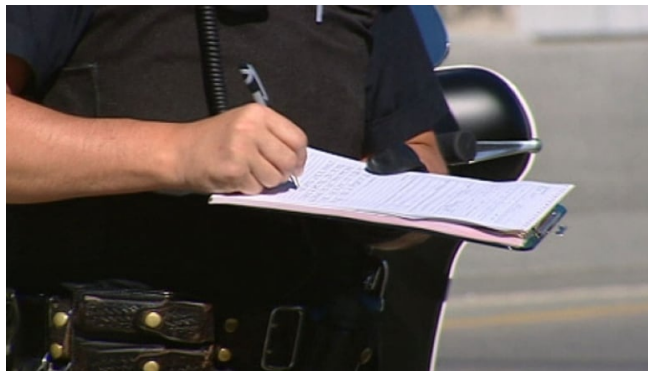
Farm Trespass legislation in SA

The issue of farm trespass has remained high on SADA's agenda and there appears to be some movement in government regarding changes to legislation that captures farm trespass in South Australia. As mentioned above Vicki Chapman, South Australia's Attorney General, has indicated changes to the legislation covering the field. The Government has acknowledged that there is a gap in the laws that seek to cover the field in the area of trespass.

While the nature of the changes have yet to be flagged and SADA intends to take an active role in describing what changes are expected by industry, not only in the

law but also with regard to procedures used by the Government in policing, the sharing of intelligence and the role of prosecutors in ensuring all efforts are made to make these laws serve the purpose for which they are designed.

New South Wales have responded to the issue of farm trespass by announcing legislation that will see on the spot fines of \$1,000, biosecurity breach fines of \$220,000 and corporate fines of \$440,000.



<https://www.msn.com/en-au/news/australia/trespassing-animal-activists-face-dollar440000-fines-jail-time-in-nsw/ar-AAEEDCp?ocid=spartanntp>

DIAA industry awards



The Dairy Industry Association of Australia (DIAA) are having a gala dinner on the 9th of August at the Ian McLachlan Room at the Adelaide Oval.

SADA has become a major sponsor of the dinner to enhance the relationship between processors and producers in this state. This approach is consistent with the intention of the Dairy Industry Action Plan 2019-2024 to create partnership relationships across the dairy sector in South Australia.

SADA will sponsor three awards on the evening focusing on Best Innovator, Best Relationship with a Processor and Young Farmer awards.

Tickets are \$120 and it promises to be a great evening. SADA encourages farmers to make the effort to be there.

The Murray Darling Scheme in the press again

The relentless media assault on the Murray Darling Basin Scheme was continued with the most recent attack coming from the ABC's Four Corners program 'Cash Splash', on the 8 July 2019. The Four Corner's program was branded as a "biased and one-sided agenda", piece by Luke Simpson, CEO of the NSW Irrigators' Council even before the program went to air. After the program went to air it was deeply criticised by a number of groups led by the NFF.

The subsequent Media Watch review of the program agreed that Four Corners failed to present a fair and balanced report.

After the report went to air clutch of around 20 senior academics and scientists with expertise have declared strong support for the Murray-Darling Basin Plan and accused the ABC's Four Corners of putting it at risk by



focusing on those holding very different views. The group's head, Robert Vertessy, a professor of water resources at the University of Melbourne School of Engineering and former public servant who was also chief executive of the Bureau of Meteorology for five years and the head of the CSIRO's Land and Water Flagship for three years lashed out at the report by 4 Corners saying that the program was superficial and sensationalist.

Sadly, it was.

There is a consistent demand from participants in the debate for decision making to be guided by science. The Vertessy group have stated:

"It troubles us that some in the community imagine that most scientists regard the Basin Plan as a mess. We worry that negative populist rhetoric may hold sway and derail the Basin water reform process entirely."

Moreover, the group also go onto observe that:

"Water entitlements yielding an average of 2000 GL/year have been acquired for the environment by the Commonwealth. This is a substantial transfer of water from the consumptive pool back to the environment. Indeed, it is the largest re-direction of water to the environment that has ever been made in any large river basin in the world."

"The Commonwealth Environmental Water Office, in concert with relevant State agencies, now routinely and expertly deliver these secure water entitlements, targeting critical places in the Basin where environmental water is needed. Much effort has been put into assessing the environmental benefits arising from those releases and it has been demonstrated that positive environmental benefits are being generated and more are to be expected over time."

They conclude:

"Calls for more detailed hydrologic audits have merit, but only if done systematically and patiently, becoming business as usual. In particular, the volume of extractions from floodplain harvesting must be better quantified. We would stress that substantive improvements in auditing water movement in the Basin will be technically difficult and costly, so there is a cost-benefit dimension to be considered."

This has been the position of SADA for a number of years and SADA's world view has not changed on this point.

However, it appears when scientists express an opinion that does not accord with the media villagers then the media are all too happy to grab torches and pitchforks to call for Royal Commissions and the suspension of the plan.

This approach of ignoring the science when it suits your story does not serve Australia well and the desire to tear down the only credible vehicle to protect the river system, without a plausible alternative, amounts to little more than vandalism.

Money for Dairy Industry Action plan



The Dairy Industry Action Plan 2019-2024 has now received financial support from the State Government and the South Australian Dairy Industry Fund so that the Action Plan will receive \$120,000 in current financial year to pursue its ambitions for not only supporting the South Australian dairy industry but also elevating South Australia into the premium dairy product producer that will be internationally recognised as a jurisdiction whose name is synonymous with quality.

The South Australian Dairy Industry Action Plan 2019-2024 was the product of two years of preparation by SADA and wide consultation within the industry. It was launched by Minister Tim Whetstone earlier this year and harbours the ambition to have South Australia become recognised as a premier jurisdiction for the production of the finest dairy product in the world.

The \$120,000 amounts to a substantial commitment to a position that will see a person dedicated full time to the ambitions of the plan.

This support, particularly from the South Australian Dairy Fund, is a direct return to the advancement of dairy farming in SA based on the sales of the SADA Fresh milk product through our partners, Coles.

SADA Fresh Cheeses trying to crack the export market

After the launch of the Dairy Industry Action Plan 2019 – 2024 SADA has embarked on its long-standing ambition to see SA dairy products sold for export in the premium marketplace.

In partnership with Beston Global, SADA introduces SADA Fresh Cheese products.

SADA Fresh cheeses recently went on display in Melbourne at the Australia China trade expo. The cheese attracted attention from the public and potential exporters alike.

The purpose behind the cheese is in line with the Industry Action Plan and uses South Australian milk for export. The effect of overseas sales will be two-fold.

Firstly, it is squarely aimed at the notion that more South Australian milk should be sold outside of South Australia.

Secondly, unlike the product which is sold through our industry support partner Coles, the income from SADA Fresh cheeses will be remitted directly back to SADA to enable SADA to lift levy pressures from members. The ultimate goal of this ambitious approach is to have an organisation that represents South Australian dairy farmers without having to levy and fees or ask for subscription payments.

The development of overseas markets isn't a walk up start however, and the international marketplace for dairy products remains highly competitive but SADA is becoming increasingly ambitious in support of its members and its members interest.



There are no guarantees of success but SADA believes that with the assistance of its SADA Fresh premium brand that South Australia will become the premium location that SA dairy farmers know it can be.

Levy Increases restrained to CPI



For the second year running the SADA Board had determined to restrain the annual fee review to an increase of CPI only. The CPI for 2018-2019 was 1.9% and the board has determined that accordingly a 2% increase will be the limit of the levy increases. Furthermore, SADA subscriptions will remain at \$187.50 representing no increase in subscriptions for the year. The levy (annual cap) will move from \$2,162 to \$2,205 and the levy rate per kilogram of protein (Inc GST) will move from \$0.02830 to \$0.0288. The amount per cow/per quarter (Inc GST) will change from \$2.09 to \$2.13.

While increases are never welcome the SADA Board has been particularly mindful of the financial pressures farmers have been facing in the past couple of years and have sought to keep the impact of those pressures to a minimum.

REMINDER: Please return your updated membership forms asap.

PM backs \$100 billion target for farm sector



Prime Minister Scott Morrison threw his support behind the National Farmers' Federation's (NFF) vision of a \$100 billion ag industry by 2030 in his address at the Bush Summit in Dubbo, NSW this week.

In a wide-ranging speech to the Summit, Mr Morrison addressed a number of burning issues faced by the agriculture industry and rural and regional communities.

He pledged to set up a new parliamentary committee to examine the future needs of rural and regional Australia and to pass the promised strengthened laws against on-farm intrusions within the fortnight.

The PM also highlighted his election commitment to provide \$10 million for ag education in urban schools, and strategies to boost economic resilience in drought-stricken communities.

In addition to Make it Cheaper providing free energy comparisons to you our members to save you time and money, they have a **prize draw to win \$500** running through winter.

Every member who uploads a copy of a recent energy bill between the 1st of June and the 9th of August will automatically go into the draw to win the \$500 gift card.

Don't hesitate to give SADA a call if you need any further assistance with any services that you may require.

**Upload your bill for a FREE
energy comparison &**

Be in to WIN a

\$500

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Full terms and conditions on www.makeitcheaper.com.au/500giftcardprizedraw

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-  Farm Machinery Breakdown
-  Farm Electronic Equipment
-  Farm Burglary and Theft
-  Motor Vehicle
-  Personal Legal Liability
-  Domestic Workers (WA only)
-  Classic Home
-  Standard Home
-  Personal Valuables
-  Pleasure Boat
-  Personal Accident and Illness

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SADA Newsletter

August 2019

SA Dairyfarmers' Association Inc

Unit 5, 780 South Road

Glandore SA 5037

Phone: 08 8293 2399

Email: sada@sada.asn.au

Website: www.sada.asn.au

Or [find](#) us on Facebook

SADA Congratulates the winners of the Dairy Industry Awards



The Winners of the SADA sponsored categories of the DIAA Dairy Industry Awards – South Australia.

SADA and the South Australian branch of the DIAA have committed to developing closer relationships between the producers of South Australian milk and the processors South Australian milk as part of the commitment to the South Australian Dairy Industry Action Plan 2019 – 2024 aimed at turning SA into the global jurisdiction in producing premier dairy products.

Best Innovation - Glen Dohnt. Glen's farm is located halfway between Murray Bridge and Jervois on the banks of the mighty Murray. Glen and his dad have turned their farm into a model of efficiency and production using a mixture of smart feeding, sound milking technology and herd management. Infrastructure on the farm reflects an expenditure commitment with the future in mind.

Best Relationship with a processor

The award was based on feedback by processor field officers from various processing firms who responded to SADA's enquiries as to who they had a good relationship with. The winner, no-nonsense **Brad Fischer**, who hails from the Meningie district is a farmer who has shown a passionate desire to succeed and this is reflected in every aspect of his approach to farming including his relationship with those who buy his milk.

Young Farmer

In this award Beston Global Foods and SADA came together to recognise a young farming team. **Angela and Ben Tweddle** reflect that passion for doing dairy right and stand as beacons to others in the dairy industry and reflect the reality that there is a future in dairy farming in our great state. Ben and Angela hail from the South East and are respected by many farmers in the district where they farm.

REMINDER: Please return your updated membership forms asap.

Why join SADA? South Australia has a long and proud history of producing **premium milk** and dairy products. Accounting for approximately five percent of Australia's milk and almost a **billion dollars** in generated revenue, the **South Australian dairy** industry is well positioned to target the premium end of the national and international marketplace.

Juice is not Milk

SADA has thrown its weight behind the ADF's call to ban the term "milk" being applied to nut juice. In June 2018 SADA wrote to ADF regarding this issue and recently it has percolated to the surface again.

At the core of the issue is the fact that the Food Standards Australia and New Zealand Code specifically allows for this to occur. The Code is the product of an Inter- Governmental Agreement or IGA. It was the product of an agreement where Ministers were asleep at the wheel when they agreed to this standard.

The Code enables the representation of certain products in the Australia Market place as "milk" or "milk products".

As a matter of general policy the IGA and the Code allow for the mislabeling of vegetable matter a milk is becoming a matter of increasing concern. Because of the construct of the Code, South Australia has been unable to respond to a complaint by SADA about mislabeling on South Australian shop shelves.

Supermarkets continue to have on sale products labelled 'Almond Milk', 'Soy Milk' and 'Rice Milk'. Nothing in this article is in anyway a reflection on the

supermarkets and the service they provide to the Australian community. Products of this nature are available in many supermarkets across Australia and should be available, they just shouldn't be called "milk".

The reason that these products can be labelled 'milk' is essentially because of the operation of clause 1.1.1-13 (4) of the Code which provides:

- *If a food name is used in connection with the sale of a food (for example in the labelling), the sale is taken to be a sale of the food as the named food unless the context makes it clear that this is not the intention.*
- *Example: The context within which foods such as soy milk or soy ice cream are sold is indicated by the use of the same soy, indicating that the product is not a dairy product to which a dairy standard applies*

This interpretation is, in the opinion of SADA, letting both the dairy industry and the consumer down.

There is also an inherent contradiction within the Code arising out of the definition of milk. Elsewhere in the Code is clear that the intent in the code with regard to the term milk there is a strong focus on milk being "the mammary secretion of milking animal"

The definition is very similar in terms to the definition provided by the European regulations particularly relating to the product being a "...mammary secretion of milking animals...".

With regard to products such as Cream and Butter Standard 2.5 is entitled "Dairy Products". Each of the Standards under the heading have definitions that refer directly to milk. For example, Standard 2.5.5.-2 defines butter to mean "a food that is derived from milk, and products obtained from milk..."

Similarly, cheese means "the ripened or unripened solid or semi-solid milk product"

Again, the reference is directly to 'milk'.

The European Court, a number of years ago ruled that nut juice is not milk and consequently the labelling of Almond and Soy type products cannot be sold as milk. It's time for Australia to catch up.



Free Trade Agreement with European Union.

As you may be aware, Australia is currently negotiating a free trade agreement (FTA) with the European Union. As part of the negotiations, it is anticipated that the EU will seek to restrict Australia's use of a number of cheese names that fall under Europe's Geographical Indications regime.

An agreement on Geographical Indications as part of the Australia-EU FTA could limit the ability of Australia's cheese manufacturers to call products by their common name. This includes cheese names such as feta, parmesan, halloumi, tallegio, and others.

A Geographical Indication (GI) identifies a good as originating in a specific region where a particular quality, reputation or other characteristic of the good is attributable to that geographic origin. This is best illustrated with an example from the wine industry, where champagne and burgundy are both now protected GIs. This means that Australian wine producers are not able to call wines by these names.

An agreement on GIs as part of an Australia-EU FTA could have two possible impacts:

1. Restricted use of common **food names**, including names of cheeses commonly produced in Australia.
2. Restricted use of **packaging and labelling** that are judged to evoke an image of a particular EU product in the mind of the consumer. E.g. flags, colours or images that evoke European nations.

The implications of a strict agreement on GIs has the potential to significantly impact Australia's dairy industry. Dairy Australia analysis shows that the

Australian cheeses that face the highest risk from GI implementation have average recorded domestic sales of \$180m per annum, and an additional \$55m per annum in export sales. Local cheese production of up to \$300m per annum could also face possible evocation issues. [The Australian Dairy Industry Council \(ADIC\)](#) has been vocal in its opposition to a strict GI regime.

We anticipate the Australian Government will undertake a public consultation process, at the request of the EU, including a call for submissions. In advance of this, we are looking to engage state farming



organisations, ADF, ADPF and specialty cheese manufacturers.

Next steps: Dairy Australia will engage early with SADA to discuss how we might work together to develop a range of outreach activities that aim to:

- (1) inform dairy industry participants and consumers of the *risks* associated with a strict GIs regime in any agreement with the EU.
- (2) recommend that all interested parties sign up for regular *updates* from Dairy Australia on GIs and the Australia-EU FTA
- (3) ensure that the industry is prepared for any *consultation* period.

Property Identification Code (PIC) biennial renewals online

Over the past few years, Primary Industries and Regions SA (PIRSA) has progressed with Digital Transformation initiatives, by identifying and developing services for clients and producers to register and transact electronically with PIRSA. I am pleased to advise that the latest initiative, designed to provide livestock producers with the convenience of processing their Property Identification Code (PIC) biennial renewals online, has been completed. The PIC online renewal application has been in use since January 2018, and all producers sent registration renewal letters since then have been invited to renew online and provide feedback on the process. Biosecurity SA has now been able to review and implement enhancements to the system as a result of this producer feedback. The online renewal option delivers the following benefits:

- Livestock producers can now renew their PIC registrations online at their own convenience
- Secure online payment processing
- Immediate return delivery by email, of PIC certificate, tax receipt, and online summary details
- Producers can update their information online at any time at no cost
- Notification of pending PIC expiry will continue to be advised

approximately 6 weeks prior to expiry, via email (rather than via Australia Post which can incur delayed delivery)

- Email Renewal documentation sent electronically conserves our natural resources
- Producers with slow/no Internet connections can request their renewal form be forwarded for manual processing

Future initiatives include the ability to apply online for a new Livestock PIC

SA Dairy Industry Fund



The South Australian Dairy Industry Fund in conjunction with SADA and Creation Care is funding a research

program attempting to establish the introduction of three new species of dung beetle on the Fleurieu. We are calling for expressions of interest for farmers who want to participate in this project.

Dung beetles offer substantial advantages to the industry of dairy farming. This program is intended to establish the viability of three new dung beetle species on dairy farms on the Fleurieu Peninsula.

The Purpose of the Project

Participating dairy farmers will be trained in on-farm dung beetle rearing and management, and in the process three dung beetle species which are new to South Australia, *Onthophagus vacca*, *Bubas bubalus* and *Copriss hispanus* will be established on pilot dairy farms across the Fleurieu Peninsula.

The project will also define the environmental conditions on the Fleurieu Peninsula that are best suited for these three new species to thrive. This will provide guidelines for the future successful

distribution of these species on other dairy farms throughout South Australia. Greg Dalton of Creation Care is co-ordinating the project and will select farms based on their distribution across the Fleurieu Peninsular and suitability for the project.

Eighteen (18) test sites across the Fleurieu will be required for best outcomes. For this the project will need nine (9) to twelve (12) participating properties. Participating farmers will need to comply with specific directions to ensure the integrity of the program. These demands will not be onerous.

Dung beetles offer substantial benefits to farmers if they can be established particularly in the areas of cattle health and nitrogen replenishment in the soil. Carbon sequestration is also a notable benefit of the presence of dung beetles. The need to be ready for spring is important to this project so please be quick.

If you are interested in participating in this project and you have a farm on the Fleurieu Peninsular please contact Greg Dalton from Creation Care via email gregdalton@creationcare.com.au or alternatively, **John Elferink at SADA on 0418 406 400** or by emailing John on john@sada.asn.au. We look forward to a positive response.

In addition to Make it Cheaper providing free energy comparisons to you our members to save you time and money, they have a **prize draw to win \$500** running through winter.

Every member who uploads a copy of a recent energy bill between the 1st of June and the 9th of August will automatically go into the draw to win the \$500 gift card.

Don't hesitate to give SADA a call if you need any further assistance with any services that you may require.

Upload your bill for a **FREE** energy comparison &

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Penalties for unauthorised take and use of water.

We recognise that most water users do the right thing by monitoring and managing their water use responsibly, supporting the sustainable use of our state's water resources.

Unfortunately, some water users take more water than they have been allocated. This behaviour reduces the security of supply for all other users.

If there is evidence of the taking water without an allocation or taking water in excess of available allocation then a penalty will issued.


Penalty rates are calculated with consideration of the level of risk that water theft poses to a particular resource and the value of water. These rates vary by water resource area and for severity of overuse. Some examples of the rates in effect for high use resources during the 2018-19 water year are shown in the table below.

Prescribed Water Resource	Penalty for overuse			Penalty for unlawful taking or use of water
	For first 10 per cent	Above 10 per cent and up to and including 25 per cent	Above 25 per cent	
Barossa PWRA	\$2.19/kL	\$5.11/kL	\$8.76/kL	\$12.14/kL
Eastern Mount Lofty Ranges PWRA	\$0.69/kL	\$1.61/kL	\$2.76/kL	\$3.91/kL
McLaren Vale PWA	\$1.74/kL	\$5.22/kL	\$9.57/kL	\$13.92/kL
Mallee PWA	\$0.39/kL	\$0.91/kL	\$1.56/kL	\$2.21/kL
Northern Adelaide Plains PWA	\$0.46/kL	\$1.38/kL	\$2.53/kL	\$3.68/kL
Western Mount Lofty Ranges PWRA	\$0.34/kL	\$1.02/kL	\$1.87/kL	\$2.72/kL


Penalty rates are published in the first half of the accounting period. For areas other than the River Murray Prescribed Watercourse, the accounting period is from 1 July to 30 June. As such, penalties for the current water year will be declared by 31 December or the penalty rates declared for the previous water year will apply. A quarterly accounting period now applies for the River Murray Prescribed Watercourse, as follows:

Quarter 1 accounting period	1 July to 30 September
Quarter 2 accounting period	1 October to 31 December
Quarter 3 accounting period	1 January 31 March
Quarter 4 accounting period	1 April to 30 June

This means that a penalty will apply to water taken in excess of available allocation at the end of each quarter. Excerpt from Waterfind Australia - www.waterfind.com.au



Australian Government
Department of Agriculture
ABARES




REGIONAL
OUTLOOK

Mount Gambier

25 September 2019

8:30am - 4:30pm
City Hall, The Main Corner Complex
1 Bay Road, Mount Gambier



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-  Farm Burglary and Theft
-  Motor Vehicle
-  Personal Legal Liability
-  Domestic Workers (WA only)
-  Classic Home
-  Standard Home
-  Personal Valuables
-  Pleasure Boat
-  Personal Accident and Illness



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SADA Newsletter September 2019

Every Australian deserves access to reliable, affordable, quality voice and data services, irrespective of where they live.

This is the message the Regional, Rural and Remote Communications Coalition (RRRCC) is delivering to Parliamentarians in Canberra.

Highlighting the opportunities that connectivity presents for regional Australia and the ongoing limitations that regional consumers face.

“The RRRCC was formed in 2016 when a group of like-minded organisations came together to advocate for improved connectivity in the bush.

“Since that time we have seen some significant progress, including higher data allowances and business services over Sky Muster, funding for mobile network expansion and a new program for digital literacy.”

Telecommunications is an essential service in a modern world, supporting social connectivity, business activity and the delivery of health and education services.

“The opportunities for connectivity to support economic development and service provision in regional Australia are significant.

The ongoing digital divide is holding us back from achieving our potential, including in agriculture where it's estimated that widespread digitisation could add more than \$20 billion to GVP,” Mr Thompson said.

“We recognise that since the RRRCC was established in 2016 there have been some great improvements and significant investment in regional telecommunications, and we want to continue the momentum and ensure regional telecommunications remains on the national political agenda and improvements continue to be made.”

ARE YOU COMPLIANT

CODE OF PRACTICE FOR OVERSIZE OR OVERMASS AGRICULTURAL VEHICLES:

<https://www.nhvr.gov.au/files/t119-sa-code-of-practice-oversize-overmass-agricultural-vehicles.pdf>

South Australia Class 1 Agricultural Vehicle Mass and Dimension Exemption Notice 2019:

<https://www.nhvr.gov.au/files/201902-1003-info-sheet-sa-class-1-agricultural-vehicle-rubber-tracked-tractor-mass-and-dimension-exemption.pdf>

For more information:

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In this issue:

- Access to reliable data services.
- Trespass: Government Announcement
- Farmers call for probe into water market
- ADF Update
- 2020 Science and Innovation Awards
- Limestone Coast Leadership Program
- Seasonal Outlook
- Glyphosate— Busting the myths
- Around the Traps

Why join SADA? As South Australian dairy moves into the future there are reasons to re-evaluate the systems and technologies that are new in all industries going forward.

Technology is changing at an astonishing rate and it is increasingly inserting itself into the dairy industry.

Trespass: Government Announcement Welcome, but....

Recently the South Australian Government announced its intention to amend the Summary Offences Act with regard to beefing up the state's trespass laws. This is welcome news and we congratulate the Attorney General Vicki Chapman and the Minister for Primary Industries Tim Whetstone for their leadership in the area.

That said however, SADA is of the opinion that more could be done in this space.

The proposed amendments

SADA admits that the proposed amendments do cover the field generally, however we have made the following observations regarding the proposed amendments and alterations which are being considered.

Exceptional Circumstances

The proposed bill suggests that a court may issue a restitution order for losses except where there are "*exceptional circumstances*". SADA does not agree with the exceptional circumstances provision which is contemplated by the proposed section. If a farmer has suffered a loss because of the unlawful actions of a trespasser SADA believes there should be no judicial discretion as articulated by the proposed sub section. It is not the expectation of SADA or its members that farmers should be precluded from recovering costs for losses under any circumstances be they exceptional or otherwise. SADA recommends that the words, "*unless exceptional circumstances exist*", be removed from the bill which will be introduced to the Parliament.

Lawful Excuse

SADA notes that the proposed section 17 (a1) offers the extra defence of "*lawful excuse*". SADA suggests that the Attorney General may want to consider referring to this getting rid of the notion of a separate defence of "*lawful excuse*" altogether. The criminal law already provides defences to various crimes all of which can apply to summary offences. SADA doesn't believe that there should be an extra defence created for farm trespassing.

Trespass Notices

SADA is of the belief that farmers should be able to issue a Trespass Notice similar to the notice which is contemplated by the *Northern Territory Trespass Act 2000*. SADA further recommends that such a similar notice should be able to be given by a farmer to any person the farmer has, or reasonably expects will, trespass on the farmer's property and that the notice should remain in force for a period of up to two years. Any legislation which empowers a dairy farmer will be supported by SADA. If a farmer warns a person or people from his/her property and the farmer is able to supply proof of the

lawful delivery of the warning, such as a recording placing the person warned clearly at the scene that that should be sufficient evidence to prove the person was warned.

Such a person when warned then commits an offence if they return to the property within a period of two years.

Expiation Notices

SADA welcomes the proposed use of expiation notices regarding the interference with gates.

Nevertheless, SADA is concerned that the use of expiation notices has not been sufficiently examined. Firstly, the use of such an offence should also extend to fences. If it is an offence to interfere with a gate then it should also be an offence to interfere with a fence.

A person, if they damage a fence will commit the criminal act pertaining to damage however, some protesters may by their actions interfere with a fence where they do not cause permanent damage to the fence but nevertheless render the fence incapable of functioning as it was designed to do. For example, a person may prop apart strands of a fence in such a way that livestock could pass through the fence. This should also be considered as being an offence for the purpose of the act.

SADA also believes that expiation notices could be extended to the operation of the simple trespass contemplated by the Summary Offences Act, namely, those trespass offences that do not amount to aggravated trespass as contemplated by the proposed section 17 (a1)(b)(ii). SADA recommends the consideration of an amount of \$2,500 for such an expiation notice.

Drones

The original common law concept was that a landowner's aerial rights extended indefinitely above the land holder's land and down to the centre of the earth. Needless to say, that is no longer without exception however, the common law in Australia isn't absolutely clear on this point. There is an opportunity for the South Australian Government to provide certainty in SA at least.

If a drone or its operator, is committing trespass, there is an opportunity for the law to describe what amounts to a trespass by a drone operator. Currently, at law there are actions that can be taken if an operator can be identified. The practicalities and uncertainties of the current law however potentially will make taking action difficult. Amendments to the law of South Australia should describe what amounts to a trespass by a drone operator and what actions can be taken should the pilot of such a vehicle be able to be identified.

Monday September 16 2019

MEDIA RELEASE

Dairy gains crucial support to reclaim milk label

DAIRY farmers have gained crucial political support to reclaim the word “milk”, with the Nationals voting at their Federal Council meeting this weekend to push for a ban on alternative and plant-based products using the term in labelling and marketing.

Peak dairy farmer group Australian Dairy Farmers (ADF) praised the move as a vote of confidence in the industry’s efforts to ensure honest product labelling.

“We are pleased to see that the Nationals are on our side in wanting to ensure more transparency in food labelling,” ADF President Terry Richardson said.

“The dairy industry has long been fighting against the dishonest labelling and marketing of plant-based alternatives that are co-opting the look and feel of dairy and giving the misleading impression that these products are nutritionally equal to dairy.”

A 2017 survey by Dairy Australia showed 54 per cent of respondents bought plant-based milk alternatives because they perceived them to be healthier than dairy milk, while market research firm IBIS-World estimates Australia’s plant-based “milk” product industry has grown at an annualised rate of 4.1 per cent over the five years to 2018-19, to \$165.8 million today.

ADF previously wrote to Nationals deputy leader and federal agriculture minister Bridget McKenzie, arguing for a review of the Food Standards Australia -New Zealand and the development of regulations to prevent plant-based alternatives from ‘evoking’ the qualities and values of dairy.

“We are calling for changes to the food standards so that consumers trying to make a healthy choice at the supermarket have the benefit of transparent and accurate product labelling,” Mr Richardson said.

“We’re pleased Minister McKenzie has expressed an interest in attending November’s meeting of the Australia and New Zealand Ministerial Forum on Food Regulation to receive and consider advice on how terms could be better defined or enforced.”

A ban on plant-based products using the “milk” label would bring Australia into line with other countries, after the European Court of Justice in 2017 mandated that dairy terms could not be used on plant-based products, even with clarifying terms.

A petition by the dairy farmer group has also gained more than 2,000 signatures. The survey is still active and can be signed at: <http://farmers.org.au/campaign/reclaimmilk/>.

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Tailem Bend information session

A free information session on the upcoming season will be held in Tailem Bend for local residents. The Murray Darling Basin Authority, the Bureau of Meteorology and the Commonwealth Environmental Water Office will be presenting:

- Climate outlook for the upcoming season
- River Murray operations and
- Water for the environment activity in the Southern Basin

The Department of Agriculture will be present for questions.

9.30am - 1.30pm 2 October 2019 Rydges Pit Lane Hotel

Bookings essential. Email seasonaloutlook@mdba.gov.au. (First 100 accepted)



2020 Science and Innovation Awards for Young People in Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry



The Australian Government Department of Agriculture has announced the next round of funding for the 2020 Science and Innovation Awards for Young People.

The 2020 Science and Innovation Awards for Young People in Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry is a competitive grants program that supports young people to undertake a project on an innovative or emerging scientific issue, including bio-physical and social sciences, which will contribute to the ongoing success and sustainability of Australia's agriculture, fisheries and forestry industries.

The Awards aim to encourage science, innovation and technology in rural industries and help to advance the careers of young researchers, scientists, producers and innovators through national recognition of their research ideas.

The Science Awards are coordinated by the Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics and Sciences (ABARES), in the Australian Government Department of Agriculture.

There is a number of Award categories on offer, each with a grant of \$22,000 inc GST to fund innovative projects. More information can be found at: <http://www.agriculture.gov.au/abares/conferences-events/scienceawards/info-applicants>

We suggest you read this overview prior to completing the 2020 application form. More detailed information is available in the grant opportunity guidelines. Contact the Science Awards team if you have any questions via email at scienceawards@agriculture.gov.au or phone 02 6272 2260.

Save on business energy costs and win

Through SADA's partnership with energy specialist, Make it Cheaper you have the chance to do just that.

For 10 years, Make it Cheaper have been helping Australian businesses reduce the cost of energy bills, and in 2018 alone identified and saved over \$18.7m* for their customer's. You could say 'helping their customer's save is what they do best.'

The service is 100%:

Obligation Free Secure Fast Unbiased

And now they want you to WIN!

As a promotional offer to SADA members, you can win a \$1,000 VISA Card by simply following the 3-steps below and uploading your farm's energy bill.

Make it Cheaper will compare your current bill against a panel of Australia's top energy retailers* to see if they can find you a saving on the cost of your energy. And, with the submission of your bill, you automatically go into the draw to win - it's that easy.



Step 1

Upload your most recent energy bill and register for a 100% obligation free bill comparison at bit.ly/SADA-MIC



Step 2

Compare the offer



Step 3

Make the switch & start saving

So, upload your farm's energy bill through the secure link provided to win, or contact (02) 8077 0006 to speak with one of Make it Cheaper's Energy Experts.

*Analysis across 47,802 residential & business energy bills Dec 18. **Offer available through to 31/10/2019.

Terms & Conditions available at <http://www.makeitcheaper.com.au/bill-upload-comparison-terms-conditions>



make it cheaper
the saving experts



Please return your updated membership forms asap.

Thank you to those that have returned their updated forms, regularly updating our database helps SADA to plan for best outcomes for our Dairy Industry, helping to serve our members the best possible way forward.

Thank you from the SADA Team.

Limestone Coast Leadership Program



In partnership with the Limestone Coast Economic Development Group, the South Australian Dairy Industry Fund is proud to support the Limestone Coast Leadership

Program (LCLP). The program's aim is to 'Unearth our treasures' by supporting and building community capacity including in the dairy industry. This leadership program is essentially about stretching the capabilities of community leaders as well as emerging leaders to ensure they have the relevant skills, emotional intelligence, cross-sector collaboration skills and abilities to work with, and influence others for the benefit of the region.

This program, delivered throughout the region by the Leaders Institute of South Australia, will be open to individuals, in the dairy industry as well as elsewhere, who are ready to broaden their leadership capabilities and impact through personal growth, self-empowerment and relationship building.

The program intends to:

- Support the development of emerging leaders to effect change
- Invest in the leadership of a more diverse cohort in our community
- Foster greater collaboration across business, industry, government & the community
- Develop strong networks with the ability to influence
- Build a culture of active citizenship, shared purpose & community action
- Provide insights into the issues that are important to the region's economy, communities & environment
- Enable participants to explore how they fit within their organisations and broader community
- Develop self-awareness among participants, while challenging their ideas, assumptions & thinking
- Enhance the capacity of the community to identify opportunities and address challenges

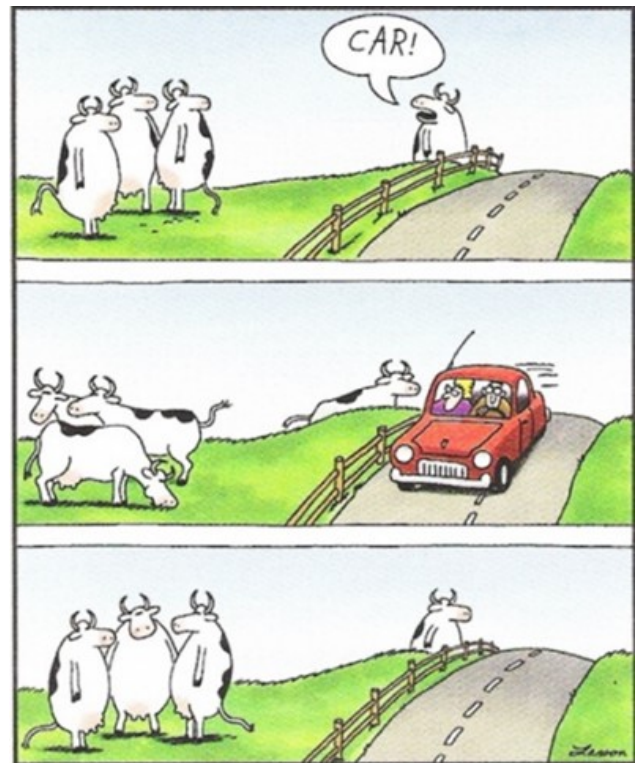
A framework has been developed that enables delivery of a long-term sustainable leadership program, supported by business, community, government and philanthropic organisations in the

Limestone Coast with regional economic and social benefits for dairy as well as other industries in the region.

The Limestone Coast Economic Development Group (a formal sub-committee of the Limestone Coast Local Government Association LCLGA) identified 'mobilising regional leaders' as one of its priority projects, with the objective of establishing a highly regarded regional leaders program that caters for emerging and existing leaders, supported by an active alumni network and regional business and industry.

Many rural, regional and remote communities struggle to develop and retain leadership capacity both in quantity of leaders and extent of their skills. Extensive research has evidenced a demand for a regional leadership program in the Limestone Coast and that such a program would benefit business, the broader economy and communities in our region. Ongoing sustainable regional leadership programs of this quality have shown to create significant economic and community benefits in other states.

<http://www.lclga.sa.gov.au/limestone-coast-leadership-program>



Around the Traps

- John and Andrew participated in a One Biosecurity strategic planning workshop.
- SADA board hosted a BBQ at the Royal Adelaide Show for families of the Junior Handler Competition.
- SADA Board held it's September quarterly Meeting.
- Andrew and John E attended a meeting with the SA Attorney General and officer from SAPOL to discuss Trespass legislation.
- John attended a PPSA Council Meeting.
- John met with High Commissioner of Pakistan to talk about opportunities within the SA Dairy Industry.

Busting the myths on glyphosate

GET THE FACTS AT FARMERS.ORG.AU



Glyphosate causes cancer.



MYTH.

Independent, science-based regulators around the world, including the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority has approved glyphosate as safe to use. A longitudinal study in the US, published in 2017, followed 57,000 registered users of glyphosate over 20 years and found no connection between cancer and glyphosate. The findings of a study by the World Health Organisation's International Agency for Research on Cancer, identified exposure to glyphosate, drinking hot drinks, frying food, and hairdressing, as 'probable carcinogenic' activities. In 2016, the APVMA evaluated the IARC report and other contemporary scientific assessments as part of an established chemical review nomination process. The APVMA concluded that glyphosate did not pose a carcinogenic risk to humans and that there were no grounds to place it under formal reconsideration. In April this year the United States Environment Protection Authority declared glyphosate was not a carcinogen.

Food grown in farming systems where glyphosate is used, is safe to eat.



FACT.

Glyphosate is typically not applied directly to food crops. Nevertheless, as with all other agricultural chemicals, farmers must adhere to maximum residue limits (MRLs) for glyphosate. In May 2016, the Joint World Health Organisation (WHO)/Food & Agricultural Organisation (FAO) Meeting on Pesticide Residues concluded that "glyphosate is unlikely to pose a carcinogenic risk to humans from exposure through diet".

Australian farmers could use an alternate herbicide.



MYTH.

Currently, there is no product approved for use in Australia that is as safe or as effective as glyphosate for weed control.

Glyphosate is good for the environment.



FACT.

Glyphosate allows farmers to control weeds from above the ground, doing away with the need to plough fallow paddocks in preparation for a crop. This practice minimises soil disruption and maximises soil health and water use efficiency. Less tillage, means less machinery operation and therefore less emissions generation. Glyphosate is also used by farmers to control aggressive, noxious weeds such as serrated tussock and African lovegrass.

Products containing glyphosate should be used according to the directions on the label.



FACT.

In the same way it is recommended users observe the directions for use on the labels of household products, users of glyphosate products should always follow directions for use. It is important to note that there is no level of exposure to glyphosate that has been deemed to be dangerous to human health.

Australian farmers could produce the food and fibre they do today, without using glyphosate.



MYTH.

Through better weed control, improved soil health and water use efficiency, the addition of glyphosate has allowed farmers, in particular cotton, cereal, oilseed and pulse growers, to greatly improve their productivity per hectare. Australian farmers are trusted across the world for producing safe sustainable food and fibre – glyphosate plays an important role in making this possible.

National Farmers' Federation 14-16 BRISBANE AVE, BARTON, ACT

 www.nff.org.au  02 6269 5666  www.nff.org.au  @nationalfarmers

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National Farmers'
FEDERATION



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P: 8293 2399 E: sada@sada.asn.au
www.sada.asn.au
Or [find us on Facebook](#)

October 2019

SADA NEWSLETTER

South Australian Dairy Summit

The SA Dairy Summit 2019 will take place in Adelaide on 14 November 2019. This event is being driven by SADA the SA Government and the Dairy Industry Association of Australia, (DIAA). In March 2019 the *South Australian Dairy Industry Action Plan 2019 - 2024* was launched and in July 2019 the SA Government committed itself to increasing overall Gross State Product by 3%.

The Dairy Industry Action Plan is the base document for the summit.

The purpose of the summit is to examine all elements of the dairy industry value chain to improve the performance of the dairy industry in South Australia. This includes regulatory arrangements which may improve the SA dairy product.

The summit will bring all players in the dairy industry in South Australia together to identify pathways to achieve the aims of the Dairy Industry Action Plan and highlight industry's contribution to the Government's ambition for a 3% increase in Gross State Product.

The summit will operate under the provision of the Chattem House Rules and all topics are up for discus-

sion with the aim of improving the SA dairy industry and its products.

Mark this day in your diary as this is a once in a decade opportunity for industry to influence government and for farmers and processors to find better ways of working in tandem.

Please turn your mind to what can be done on your farm, by a processor or by Government which can improve your productivity and bring those ideas to the Summit. Discussion points for consideration may include, but are not limited to;

- Policies and Economic
- Science and Technology
- Marketing and messaging
- Nutrition and Health
- Animal Health and Welfare
- Providence and Geographic indicators
- Food Safety / Risk Management
- Environment / Climate Change
- Farm Management / drought

**To secure your seat,
please ring the SADA office on 8293 2399
or [register here](#)
prior to the 7 November 2019.**

South Australian Dairy Summit 2019
The Chifley, 226 South Tce, Adelaide
Thursday 14 November 2019— 10am to 2pm

SADA—Power Purchasing Group Proposed

SADA is looking for members who are interested in saving tens of thousands of dollars on power bills each year. In a proposal which will be exclusive to SADA members, SADA is seeking to form a collective purchasing group to enter the large energy marketplace.

Generally, a single farm does not consume the required number of megawatts of power required to enter the large energy marketplace which means the savings in bulk purchasing power are not available to most farms. In SA the large energy market place entry price point starts at the purchase of 160 megawatts. Most dairy farms consume a little less than that. However, if a number of farms form a power purchasing collective then it is possible to enter the large energy marketplace and better prices can be negotiated.

SADA has already spoken to two businesses who provide these services and based on general estimates an average farm may save as much as **\$15,000** per year on power bills if the power is being purchased in bulk.

(Assuming that approx 20 farms are in the purchasing group).

The SADA board has authorised a call for nominations from farmers to express their interest in nominating to participate. To be part of this group you must be a SADA member. If you are interested in being part of this group please contact John Elferink at SADA on 8293 2399 or via email john@sada.asn.au John will then co-ordinate the group and prepare to enter into final negotiations to select the best broker or supplier.

Indicating an expression of interest at this point will not commit a farmer to the program. It is impossible to give any certainty to the magnitude of the savings at this point. However, once the size of the purchasing group is known and the amount of power which is being purchased is known an accurate projection model will be provided to each farmer before they enter into any contract.

**If you're interested
in being part
of this group
please contact
John Elferink at
SADA: 8293 2399
or via email
john@sada.asn.au**

SAVE THE DATE: Wednesday 13 November



SADA AGM @ The Chifley

Please join us for our Annual General Meeting starting at 9am. Held at the Chifley Hotel, 226 South Tce, Adelaide. A great opportunity to catch up on what's happened over the past 12 months. We will report against our Strategic Plan, provide an update on members services and what's been happening around the traps.

Trust in Ag Workshop

With an increasing gap between city and country and increasing scrutiny of farming, society is already determining the right to farm.

SADA will be one of the first groups in Australia to participate in this new training program focused on giving people in agriculture the skills, knowledge and confidence to engage with people outside of our industry. The training has been brought to Australia by 2019 SA AgriFutures Rural Women's Award winner Deanna Lush as part of her project to establish a network of 'trust in ag' champions in SA. **Limited places available.**

MYLK BAR
57 FLINDERS ST. ADEL

Cocktail Party

Join us for an informal Cocktail Party at the MYLK Bar, 57 Flinders St, Adelaide at 6pm.

**Please RSVP by
Friday 8 November 2019.**

**To the SADA Office:
E: sada@sada.asn.au
Ph: 8293 2399**

In this issue:

- South Australian Dairy Summit.
- SADA Power purchasing group proposed
- SAVE THE DATE: AGM—Trust in Ag—Cocktail party
- Backing the Murray Darling Basin Plan
- Notice of Meeting—Annual General Meeting.
- Feds will legislate to demand roll over protection
- Climate outlook overview
- ADF update
- 2020 Agrifutures Rural Women's Award

Backing the Murray Darling Basin Plan

The Murray Darling Basin Plan is the worst plan: except for every other plan. There is no viable alternative proposal or idea which relates to the Murray Darling River system in existence today.

The Murray Darling River system is Datsun 120Y being asked to do the work of a prime mover and therefore it is a system that knows stress towing the loads of economic, social and environmental expectations.

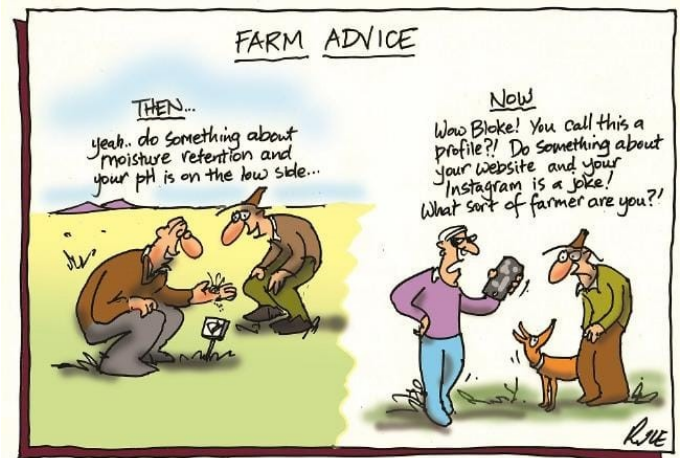
In the current time of drought there is no doubt that people are hurting. The year to come offers little in the way of comfort for people who are adversely impacted by the drought.

Through that pain there are increasing calls to scrap the plan but in demanding the plan be blown up there is nothing being offered by its critics that will attend to the challenges that saw the plan come into existence in the first instance.

Moreover, by destroying the plan the investment of billions into water savings will dry up quicker than a puddle in the middle of NSW.

SADA continues to support the plan because the alternative is bad, not only for South Australia but Australia as a nation.

The impact of no plan will hurt this nation, irreversibly and with the expectation that there will be a dryer climate into the future that pain will be amplified.



Save on business energy costs and win

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Step 2
Compare the offer

Step 3
Make the switch & start saving



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*Analysis across 47,802 Residential & Business meters; Jan 18-Dec 18. **Offer available through to 31 15th Mar 2019.
*Make it Cheaper does not compare all energy offers in market.
Terms & Conditions available at <https://www.makeitcheaper.com.au/files/upload-competition-terms-conditions>



Notice of Meeting

Annual General Meeting of
SA Dairyfarmers Association.
Wednesday 13 November 2019, 9am.
Chifley Hotel, 226 South Tce Adelaide.

In accordance with clause 2 of the SADA Constitution two positions on the board will be declared to be vacant. Board membership is comprised of two members from the South East and three members from Central Region.

The positions up for election, two members from the South East. Applications are invited from all eligible members. Eligibility requirements are that you are a financial SADA Member.

Expressions of interest are to be forwarded to the SADA Office in writing or by email by the close of business Wednesday 6 November 2019.

Feds will legislate to demand roll over protection



SA Dairy Industry Fund

SADA welcomes the announcement by the federal government that all new quad bikes will need to have roll over protection fitted as standard.

Lives will be saved with the Federal Government mandating a new safety standard for the manufacture of all new quad bikes.

The change is the result of a high-profile campaign led by the National Farmers' Federation compelling the Government to accept recommendations to improve quad bike safety by the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission.



"The announcement is nothing short of life-saving," SADA President John Hunt said.

"Quad bike accidents have already claimed nine lives this year and 230 since 2011, about half from roll overs."

The new safety standard requires that within 12 months all new quad bikes display a warning label alerting riders to the risk of roll over; and within 24 months all new quad bikes must be fitted with an operator protection device (OPD) at the point of sale.



"OPDs have been proven time and time again to shield riders in the event of a rollover preventing life-ending or life-altering injuries."

Mr Hunt acknowledged the Government for officially making the change, and thanked all Members and Senators who listened to the NFF's concerns and put the safety of farmers first. Lives will be saved with the Federal Government mandating a new safety standard for the manufacture of all new quad bikes.

The change is the result of a high-profile campaign led by the National Farmers' Federation compelling the Government to accept recommendations to improve quad bike safety by the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission.

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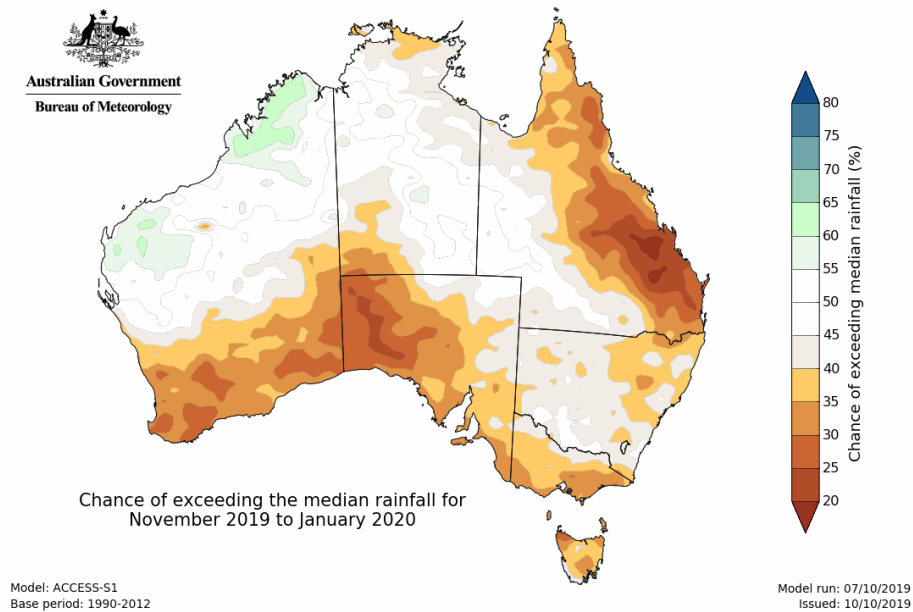
The Dairy Industry Fund has been encouraging farmers to place these protection devices on quads for over a year offering a \$800 subsidy to anyone who wanted to fit the devices on their farm quads.

This decision by the Commonwealth reflects what SADA and the Industry Fund have known for years.

The SA Dairy Industry Fund is a fund created from the sale of the SADA Fresh Milk Products of which The Crash Prevention Device Scheme is one of these projects, you can find our more [here](#)

And now for the forecast...

Dairy Farmers are encouraged to consider preparing for another hot summer and making plans for feed requirements for the season. The outlook for weather across the country is for a warm and dry summer.

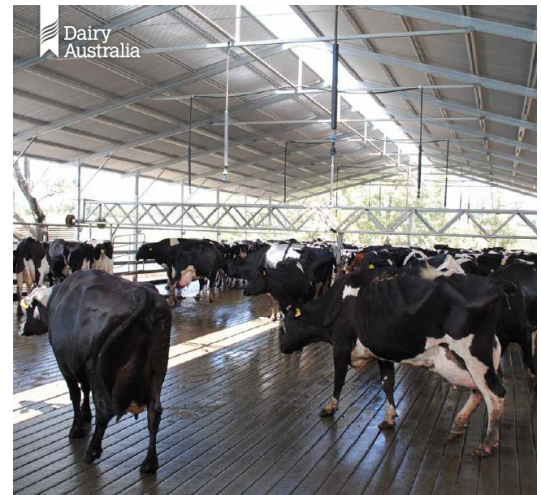


Climate outlook overview

- Rainfall is likely to be below average across most of the country, excluding northern WA, for the remainder of October and November. The dry outlook for southern and north eastern Australia continues into December.
- Daytime temperatures are likely to be above average across Australia for all outlook periods, with a spell of hot weather likely in mid-to-late October for most areas.
- Nights are likely to be cooler than average for the remainder of October in the far north, and parts of the northeast and southeast during November. Elsewhere, nights are generally likely to be warmer than average.
- The positive Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) is likely to remain the dominant climate driver for Australia until early summer.

A prolonged period of negative SAM (Southern Annular Mode) may also contribute to the dry and warm outlooks for eastern Australia during October and November.

[Dairy SA](#) has a range of tools available to assist with feed budgeting for the coming season.



COOL COWS

STRATEGIES FOR MANAGING HEAT STRESS IN DAIRY COWS

Cool Cows - Dairy Australia has recently released The Cool Cows resources. These have been updated to a refreshed (both content and look) booklet and an action plan. These latest resources will complement the [Cool Cows website](#), which has also been updated.

Need insurance? You need WFI.

Proud insurance partner of South Australian Dairyfarmers Association.



At WFI, we take the time to thoroughly understand your business and how it operates. Because when we get to know a business, we can protect everything that matters.









We're available to meet with you face-to-face to discuss your insurance requirements. That's just one of the reasons why we're good people to know for insurance.

Need an insurance quote?

Call your local WFI Area Manager on 1300 934 934 or visit wfi.com.au

WFI Rural Plan consists of a range of different policies, covering a wide variety of risks. This approach gives you greater flexibility, and if circumstances change it is easy for you to add another policy.

WFI Rural Plan policies you can choose from:

-  Farm Property Damage
-  Farm Loss of Income
-  Farm General Property
-  Farm Transit
-  Farm Legal Liability
-  Farm Machinery Breakdown
-  Farm Electronic Equipment
-  Farm Burglary and Theft
-  Motor Vehicle
-  Personal Legal Liability
-  Domestic Workers (WA only)
-  Classic Home
-  Standard Home
-  Personal Valuables
-  Pleasure Boat
-  Personal Accident and Illness



backed by 

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Murray Darling Basin Plan

The situation facing farmers in the Murray Darling Basin must be addressed before we lose more farmers. Fodder and water are trading at untenable prices and we recognise the impact at the family, farm and community level.

Indonesian and Hong Kong FTAs

For many years we have been advocating for open, competitive and free trade, including ratification of these agreements. Most recently in August we made submissions and presented to Joint Standing Committee on Treaties' (JSCOT) requesting this recommendation. In particular, the Indonesia - Australia IA-CEPA will have good benefits for dairy.

Applications for 2020 AgriFutures™ Rural Women's Award close in 2 weeks

Inspiring women who want to shape, innovate and make a difference to rural and regional Australia are encouraged to apply for the 2020 AgriFutures™ Rural Women's Award before applications close on Thursday, 31 October.

For more information and to apply visit
www.agrifutures.com.au/rwa



December 2019

SADA NEWSLETTER

2019 Year in Review from the President

Reflecting on the past year I always try and measure our relevance in the **advocacy** space and what benefits we are delivering to our members. We have reporting measure to gauge the performance of the organisation, though sometimes hard to explain to members our door is always open.

The season itself has been challenging for some in the north and **drought** has taken its toll. Great to see Government offering some relief by releasing the water for fodder scheme, also council rates and pastoral rent reductions and more funding for rural business support to help farmers make decisions around their future.

The **GM debate** did not go as planned when politics got in the way of an outcome for farmers.

With the **Federal Election** we managed to get our lobbied election package which included 10 million energy grants, 500k to Dairy Australia to extend financial literacy for farmers, 150k to ADF to help develop code of conduct, 300k to explore and develop block chain technology, 3m to assist farmers in setting up cooperatives and other businesses, 8.1m into ACCC agricultural unit and also a specialized Dairy specific person to oversight the dairy industry which is something we stated in our submission is that we needed the ACCC to act as the policeman on the beat, not the ambulance at the bottom of the cliff. ACCC has expanded on this further by setting up a dairy specific committee to oversight the code of conduct implementation.

On top of this a **Drought relief package** has been rolled out including 2m interest free loan for 3 years, 100 GIG water buy back scheme for fodder, 15m for schools and families, 180m into councils, 138 into road infrastructure, 200m into community projects, 100k for families over 3 years for farm hold allowance packages, 4B fund which Australian Government can access the interest.

The reason for explanation of above is that we do communicate with **Minister McKenzie's** office, we also work with ADF and PPSA on advocacy matters and explain exactly what farmers are going through in these tough times and also what opportunities there are, sometimes you come out of these meetings and think did we get through, though when you see some of the packages come through it does give you comfort that you are being heard, all the while acknowledging what Government can and can't do.

Dollar Milk was great to see the back of, took a lot of work over years to get a result. After a tele conference with Woolworth's with all States they were the first to lift, which was a big call as they look at the whole trolley of groceries they could lose if people don't want to pay the extra 10c for milk, Coles & Aldi took a bit more to convince

though after they were made aware of a media campaign targeting their lack of empathy they soon changed their mind. Must be stated ADF had a big contribution along with our other state organisation

Trespass has been an emotional issue for a lot of farmers, great to see all states working through, our peak body ADF were able to get sentences increased and make sure there was a conviction which will impact criminal's ability to travel. Farm Maps lost their non charity status by encouraging people to break the law and their CEO fired from her role, how you measure this outcome I am not sure, other than farmers knowing we won't stand for that sort of behaviour.

Mandatory Code of Conduct has taken a lot of consultation from all states to make sure all concerns addressed, have managed to come to a consensus of what all believe needs to be in the code. Politicians have used this as a bit of a football but we assure you all states have come to an agreement and ACCC will oversight.

Dairy plan was the chance for all farmers to have their say about the industry, managed to come to a consensus of the key points farmers believe industry needs to address, which will come out for consultation, great to see the turn out of SA Farmers who were very measured and forward thinking.

Murray Darling Basin has taken a lot of working through, our main concern if they revisit the plan farmers could be a lot worse off. Warren Jacobs Andrew Curtis and Michel Conner went to Northern Victoria to get first-hand the concerns of farmers in that region and found most farmers were keen on getting outcomes that will benefit all on the river as well as environment.

SA Action plan has been developing nicely with the dairy summit in November being a great success. Was great to be in a room with all industry concentrating on what opportunities are out there for SA, positivity and willingness to grow was the key things I took away as well as processors and farmers working together for mutual benefit. Our relationship with DA, ADF & DSA continues to grow with a common theme that we will do what we can to make sure our farmers businesses can benefit by the work we put in.

Congratulations must go to **Rick Gladigau** for being elected onto the ADF board, Rick has a wealth of experience but more importantly a clear vision for our industry which he states "need us all to unite and work as a team to get the outcomes required".

Also **thanks to our team** in the SADA offices, we are very fortunate to have Andrew Curtis, John Elferink and now Ash Pulford on board who have the same passion for the dairy industry as we do as farmers. Please feel free to call into our office for a chat, Alison, Kelly or Joe will welcome you with a coffee and steer you in the right direction, Alyssa will help you with numbers or just about anything. Our office

In this issue:

- 2019 Year in review from the President
- The whole milk and nothing but the milk.
- South Australian Dairy Summit Wrap Up
- Trust in Ag Wrap Up
- SA Dairy Farmer elected to ADF Board
- Bushfire Plan
- Dairy outlook brings mixed picture as domestic value rises
- SADA visit to World Export Trade Fair
- Radical group stripped of charity status
- Dairy numbers drop across SA

The whole Milk and nothing but the milk . . .



SADA expresses its thanks to Senator Pauline Hanson for her concerns regarding the dairy industry in Australia by recommending a floor price however, her concern if enacted, would do more harm than good to dairy in Australia. The Australian Senate was asked to vote on her proposal but it was defeated.

Ms Hanson's approach would have the effect of increasing prices for Australian milk opening Australia even further to imported milk products and cheese. New Zealand produces substantially more milk than Australia and it is not inconceivable that a floor price would even open up Australian markets to imported drinking milk from New Zealand.

Much work has been done in Australia to gain access to other markets for Australian exports. By way of example China is Australia's largest market for dairy exports, which was worth \$905 million in 2017 and growing. Australia's main competitors are New Zealand, the EU and the US.

The China Australia Free Trade Agreement or ChAFTA is closing the competitiveness gap with New Zealand. Tariffs will be progressively eliminated across all Australian dairy products. Notably, New Zealand's FTA with China contains restrictive safeguard measures on a wide range of dairy products, including liquid milk, cheese, butter and all milk powders (where China raises the tariff back to the higher normal rate when New Zealand exports exceed a certain volume).

By contrast, under ChAFTA, Australia only faces a discretionary safeguard on whole milk powders, with the safeguard trigger volume set well above 2017 trade levels and indexed to grow annually. For all other dairy products under ChAFTA Australia will receive unlimited preferential access. Given time the advantages of ChAFTA will tend to favour Australia.

Key outcomes under ChAFTA included:

- Elimination of the 15 per cent tariff on infant formula on 1 January 2019.
- Elimination of the 10 to 19 per cent tariff on ice cream, lactose, casein and milk albumins on 1 January 2019.

New Dairy Code of Conduct is Law

A 'Historic Day' as the Mandatory Code is released to benefit dairy farmers.

The final version of the Dairy Code of Conduct has been released by the Federal Government months ahead of schedule. The announcement by the Federal Agricultural Minister Bridget McKenzie was to help "level the playing field".

Its implementation is based on recommendations to the ACCC which found that in 2018 especially, significant and "unacceptable" imbalances in power ran throughout the supply chain.

The code will operate to govern the relationship between the milk processors and the dairy farmers, as processors will now be required to tell farmers how much they are going to be paid over the time frame of their contracts.

The code will come into effect from 1 January 2020.

A huge win for the farmer is the banning of retrospective step-downs as well as the banning of prospective step-down except for in exceptional circumstances.

The ACCC has updated and improved its dispute resolution process and will now have the power to issue fines to processors if the code is breached.

Australian Dairy Farmers CEO David Inall said; "*Farmers really want to know someone has got their back. They want to know there is somewhere to go if there is a problem. They didn't previously have that overseeing cop and [now] there is.*"

For more information on the Mandatory Dairy Code of Conduct, or if you have any questions, don't hesitate to call SADA or John and they'll be happy to help.

- Elimination of the 15 per cent tariff on liquid milk by 1 January 2024
- Elimination of the 10 to 15 per cent tariff on cheese, butter and yogurt by 1 January 2024
- Elimination of the 10 per cent tariff on milk powders by 1 January 2026.

The effect of a protected Australian market would be to invite China to respond by restoring their tariff walls and retarding access to an increasingly lucrative market for Australian farmers.

The defeated bill was unlikely to deliver any benefit to the parts of the industry that the Senator seeks to protect as a floor price could only be applied generally. Cost of production changes depending on geographic location and with a reduced demand, production would be centered on low cost regions such as Tasmania and Victoria.

SADA has responded to challenges in the dairy industry by developing the South Australian Dairy Industry Action Plan

2019-2024 which seeks to capitalise on the opportunities for the SA industry to grow into the premium export space. SADA, processors and the SA Government have brought a Dairy summit together last week to explore what can be done to advance the premium SA dairy product. A floor price of the nature proposed by Ms Hanson would threaten years of work by SADA and many in the dairy industry in making SA and Australian dairy products internationally competitive.

South Australian Dairy Summit Wrap Up

In November 2019, Innovative Influences facilitated the Dairy Industry Summit initiated by South Australian Dairyfarmers Association in collaboration with PIRSA and DTTI. The purpose of the summit was to seek direction from the industry on how to achieve the aims of the South Australian Dairy Industry Action Plan and increase growth in the Dairy Sector across the supply chain in support of the Government's Growth State initiative.

Specifically, the Summit sought to deliver the following outcomes.

- Identification of blockages, barriers and limiting factors across the supply chain
- Identification of actions to overcome blockages, barriers and limiting factors
- Clarity around which initiatives are most impactful
- Identification of lead organisation for actions
- Determination of next steps and accountability.

The South Australian dairy industry is one of South Australia's major agricultural industries. Dairy products are sold locally in South Australia as well as interstate and exported overseas. Dairy is now Australia's third largest agricultural industry, with South Australia producing nearly 10% of Australia's total production. Compared to the national averages South Australia has outperformed all other states in its production including the fat and protein delivered. South Australia's dairy industry consistently produces product which is demonstrably of a higher standard than the rest of the country.

The Dairy Action Plan identifies the following areas of focus and key objectives for 2019-2024.

- The development of the South Australian product as a premium product.
- A strong focus on the export market dovetailing on Australia's excellent reputation as the best clean green natural supplier of dairy products, while positioning South Australia as being recognised as the best of that best.
- Demonstrating that South Australia has the highest animal welfare standards. Improved communication across the supply chain.
- Working with the strategic direction of South Australia as a jurisdiction.
- The dairy industry takes a more aggressive posture in dairy related issues.
- Development of training models and succession plans for the future of the industry.
- Promoting the industry as an industry with prospects.

The State Government is implementing Growth State: its plan for prosperity, which outlines four key enablers to grow the state's competitiveness and attract investment. PIRSA has subsequently developed its Corporate Plan with these four enablers in mind and which highlights eight priority areas for action. In 2019, the South Australian Dairy Industry developed its Action Plan. The Action Plan is a vehicle by which all parts of the industry supply chain can see what they can do to improve the image and the performance of the dairy product in the journey from the paddock to the plate.

Trust in Ag Workshop Wrap up



With 16 attendees across our network attending this informative and engaging workshop, the state now has a group of well resourced individuals better equipped to fill the decreasing gap between city and country. Better focused on giving

people in agriculture the skills, knowledge and confidence to engage with people outside of our industry. This training has been brought to Australia by 2019 SA AgriFutures Rural Women's Award winner Deanna Lush as part of her

project to establish a network of 'trust in ag' champions in SA.

After a day of developing trust, we shared a drink with some 50 plus influential people within our state, Agriculture Minister Whetstone among them.





SA farmer elected to ADF board, thwarting QDO bid for seat.

South Australian dairy farmer Rick Gladigau was elected to the Australian Dairy Farmers board, thwarting a bid to get a Queensland representative onto the board.

Four candidates stood for the vacant director position - Mr Gladigau, Queenslanders Ross McInnes and Joe Bradley and NSW Riverina farmer Malcolm Holm.

Mr Gladigau, from Mt Torrens, was elected to the five-member board for a three-year term.

He joins Victorian dairy farmers Terry Richardson and John Verstedden, former Fonterra executive and Tasmanian dairy

farm owner Bruce Donnison and independent director Victoria Taylor, who was re-elected on Thursday for a two-year term. Mr Gladigau has been a board member of state dairy farmer organisation South Australian Dairyfarmers Association since 2007 and is the organisation's treasurer.

He also sits on the National Farmers' Federation's trade committee and the ADF markets, trade and value chain policy advisory group.

Mr Gladigau was a SA representative on the Dairy Farmers Co-operative Board from 2013-2016 and was chair of the company's milk pricing committee during his tenure.

He told [Stock Journal](#) in his time in the dairy industry there had been many changes.

"My Dad always said to me, 'there's no point in whinging about things if you're not willing to be involved and make a difference' and that's why I nominated for this position," he said.

It was important to be part of the national policy leadership in the dairy industry.

"Dairy has certainly gone through a tough time, but I feel it is coming out the other side," he said.

"Strength in policy and direction is what we need as a business and we have one go with the Australian Dairy Plan, I see that as the base to grow the industry."

South Australian Dairyfarmers' Association Annual General Meeting

[Download Annual Report here.](#)

The SADA AGM was held on 13 November before the Trust in Ag Workshop, the President presented the Annual Report and Financial statements for the 2019/20FY.

Mr John Hunt was re-elected as President with Nick Brokenshire as Vice President and Rick Gladigau as Treasurer. Sharon Joppich as our south east representative and Ben McHugh for central. Leaving a vacancy for the South East area, if joining a board is something that you've thought about, please get in contact with the President or the office for more information. Joining a board can be a very rewarding job with great benefits to gain from the industry while making positive effects for yourself and everyone in the dairy industry.

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Upload your most recent energy bill and register for a **100% obligation free** bill comparison at bit.ly/SADA-MIC



Step 2
Compare the offer



Step 3
Make the switch & start saving

So, upload your farm's energy bill through the secure link provided to win, or contact **(02) 8077 0006** to speak with one of **Make it Cheaper's Energy Experts**.

*Analysis across 47,802 Residential & Business meters, Jan18-Dec18. **Offer available through to 31/10/2019.
*Make it Cheaper does not compare all energy offers in market.
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Dairy outlook brings mixed picture as domestic value rises



AUSTRALIAN milk producers are receiving farmgate prices at record high levels but analysts warn most of this rise is being eaten by increased input costs, such as feed.

The Dairy Australia October Situation and Outlook report for the season's first quarter shows a warm and dry winter had impact on feed cost and availability.

SA senior industry analyst John Droppert said production would continue to contract due to high production costs and warm and dry weather.

Australian milk production declined 6.9 per cent in the season to August as a result of cost pressures, low rainfall in some regions and reductions in herd numbers.

DA forecasts a 3pc to 5pc decrease in national milk production to 8.3 billion litres to 8.5bL for the full season.

"The DA report shows while domestic milk sales have dropped 1.3pc in volume, they have grown 3pc in value, while cheese sales were up 0.9pc in volume and 3.4pc in value.

Dairy spreads and yoghurts lifted 0.9pc and 0.1pc in volume and 2.8pc and 2.1pc in value.

But while, these are positive, DA warns feed prices and availability will be difficult in the coming months.

"There is a mixed picture across the country," Mr Droppert said.

"For many farmers in Southern Australia, good early season rainfall has provided a head start on pasture growth and fodder conservation, but those in drought affected areas further north are facing a second season with few palatable options."

SADA visit to World Export Trade Fair

SADA Fresh

SADA Fresh continues in its efforts to expand the SADA Fresh brand internationally. Recently John Elferink attended a trade show in Shanghai in an effort to sell more SADA Fresh milk. Selling milk in China is always challenging as the price on the shelf turns out to be \$12 per litre. Nevertheless, we still sell between 3,500 and 5,000 litres into the Chinese market per week. Naturally SADA Fresh wants to expand into the market place even further and that means being there and promoting the milk product. SADA wants to grow and capture more of the premium market.

The China International Import Expo (CIIE) trade show in China was something to behold. It was not open to the public but nevertheless, 600,000 traders, vendors and other participants were there and the show was opened by China's leader Xi Jinping, so it was a big deal. While General Secretary Xi didn't actually visit the SADA Fresh stand there was still interest from many other Chinese potential purchasers and SADA Fresh is currently following up contacts made in China to expand the SADA Fresh footprint.

Fingers crossed.



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-  Farm Transit
-  Farm Legal Liability
-  Farm Machinery Breakdown
-  Farm Electronic Equipment
-  Farm Burglary and Theft
-  Motor Vehicle
-  Personal Legal Liability
-  Domestic Workers (WA only)
-  Classic Home
-  Standard Home
-  Personal Valuables
-  Pleasure Boat
-  Personal Accident and Illness



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Radical group stripped of charity status

Earlier in the year, the Government responded to NFF's calls for changes to ensure Aussie Farms is subject to the Commonwealth Privacy Act. The Parliament also supported changes to the Criminal Code to make it a criminal offence to use online means to incite trespass, theft or damage on agricultural land.

Just last week, a senior Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade employee, Julie Delforce, was stood down due to her connection with the organization. The decision came following a month-long investigation by DFAT which was reported on by The Weekly Times.

Minister for Drought, David Littleproud, welcomed the decision saying that it was a 'win for common sense.' "Charities do not invade people's privacy and en-

Dairy numbers drop across SA

AS MANY as 5 per cent of the state's dairy businesses have left the industry in recent months, with Dairysafe reporting 220 registered dairies.

In April, this was as high as 233 - an increase on the 2018 figures, with two old cow dairies recommissioned. There are 212 cow dairies, five goat, two sheep and one buffalo dairy.

SA Dairyfarmers' Association president John Hunt said he was aware of some dairies, in the South East, being transformed into beef operations.



Mr Hunt said there were a combination of reasons why dairyfarmers might be leaving the industry, including poor returns and increased input costs, but for some it might have simply been the right time to step back.

"The dairy industry of the past four or five years has not been much fun so this is a good time to assess," he said. "The interest in land is giving people an exit opportunity."

He said milk prices had increased in recent months, on the back of strong demand.

Mr Hunt said this did raise questions about how sustainable these prices were but in the interim provided a "bit more optimistic frame of mind".



FARM TRESPASS – ANIMAL ACTIVISTS

Livestock businesses and processing facilities may be targeted by animal activist groups. Unauthorised entry to your property can create a risk of personal injury, property damage, harm to livestock, loss of production or biosecurity breaches.

How to protect your property

- Restrict access points - fit gates and keep them secure.
- Lock all buildings and vehicles.
- Install a CCTV surveillance system.
- Display clear signage identifying no unauthorised access, any workplace safety requirements or biosecurity issues.
- Photograph and date-log all advisory signage to assist any police investigations.
- Display your RMB number and business name clearly for emergency services.
- Report to police any suspicious activity, unfamiliar vehicles, persons or drones being flown.

If a trespass occurs

Livestock businesses are often family operated and animal activist trespassing can make you feel vulnerable, fearful and angry. This can lead to confrontations between parties. If you find yourself in this situation, it is important to act rationally, and focus on remaining calm and keeping yourself and your employees safe. Your priority is to avoid confrontation, be sensible, and manage the situation safely.

Emergency police assistance: Call Triple Zero (000)

Non-urgent police assistance: Call 131 444

Please advise police to record your report as suspected animal activism.

How to manage the situation

Only owners/managers/supervisors should engage with trespassers. All other staff should be requested not to engage with them.

- Use consistent, clear and calm communication.
- Explain they are compromising biosecurity, their own safety and the well-being of livestock.
- Tell them they are trespassing and ask them to leave.
- Tell them that the police have been contacted.
- Do not threaten harm.

If you do not feel confident telling them they are trespassing and requesting they leave, refer this to the police.

More information about rural and farm security is available at www.police.sa.gov.au/safety-and-security-tips

FARM SECURITY

