

Media Release

Dairy Industry welcomes trade deal with Peru

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For Immediate Release

The Australian Dairy Industry Council (ADIC) has welcomed news this week that the Australian Government has successfully negotiated a new trade deal with Peru.

The deal will see Australia receive improved market access for dairy in the form of an export basket quota of 7,000 tonnes of dairy product in the first year of implementation, rising by 300 tonnes per annum and peaking at 10,000 tonnes in the 10th year.

ADIC Chair, Terry Richardson, said the new agreement was a positive step forward for the industry and will provide greater opportunities for Australia to expand its export capacity.

"This is a good outcome for Australian dairy farmers and the industry in general. Historically, Peru has been a sensitive market for dairy imports, so this is a positive achievement," Mr Richardson said.

"The Australian dairy industry is recognised worldwide for producing sustainable, premium quality products and we're excited that this new deal will provide access to a growing market."

Mr Richardson noted that the initial Country Specific Quota (CSQ) volume exceeds recent trading volumes, which have varied considerably over the past two decades from a high of 5,931 tonnes of dairy products exported in 2002 to a low of 92 tonnes in 2014.

All Australian dairy exports to the emerging South American market will be subject to a CSQ, in line with similar agreements Peru has in place with the EU and United States.

The new agreement will provide a greater degree of certainty for Australian exporters and ensures they will have improved access to a highly competitive market place, as well as placing Australia on a more even playing field with international competitors.

"International trade is essential for the growth of our industry. Increased market access promotes stronger demand for Australian products, which helps underpin local farmgate milk returns and provides a framework for profitable industry growth," Mr Richardson said.

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The Australian Dairy Industry Council (ADIC) is the dairy industry's peak policy body. It co-ordinates industry's policy and represents all sectors of the industry on national and international issues through its two constituent bodies, Australian Dairy Farmers Ltd (ADF) and the Australian Dairy Products Federation (ADPF). It aims to foster, promote and protect the interests of the Australian dairy industry by driving a whole of industry approach to dairy policy and the development of the dairy industry.