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SADA NEWSLETTER MAY 2022

2022 SA Dairy Awards

SADA is pleased to announce that it will again be the Premier Partner of the South Australian Dairy Awards for 2022. This is a tradition that SADA has maintained for many years and would be proud to continue into the future.

This year SADA will present 3 awards;

1. Best Innovation
2. Young Farmer of the Year
3. Best Relationship with a Processor

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

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

Below are links to our nomination forms, we ask all farmers to participate.

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

If you have any questions or would like to make a comment, please feel free to contact the office on Ph: 8293 2399 or email: sada@sada.asn.au

Innovative Farmer
of the Year

Young Farmer
of the Year

Best Relationship
with a Processor



Media Release

Federal Election: Labour remains dairy's most immediate priority



AUSTRALIAN Dairy Farmers (ADF) is again reminding all political parties and independents that labour shortages must stay high on the agenda post this weekend's Federal Election.

ADF President Rick Gladigau says as in many other sectors in the Australian economy, dairy is experiencing a chronic shortage of labour as a consequence of the full employment rate and the slow opening of international borders post COVID.

"The situation is desperate. Although exacerbated by COVID, this is not a new challenge and while we have made progress in advocating for an improved labour strategy and policy over the past 18 months, labour needs to be a priority for any incoming government.

"In particular we need to see the ALP increase it's offering to Australian dairy farmers and the wider dairy industry. In the final days leading up to the election, we remain unclear how an Albanese-led Government will assist."

He says there are still levers available that would further assist dairy farmers day-to-day labour challenges.

"The call from Seniors Australia to exempt employment income from the Age Pension means test to boost workforce participation is one example that would help dairy farmers and must be supported.

The current means testing for the age pension discourages many older Australians from working. Exempting work income from means testing, means pensioners can return to work and help meet critical labour shortages across dairy, and many other industries.

"Dairy regions have retirees, many who wish to work; however, are not incen-

tivated to do so due to the means test. And with many retirees already residing in dairying regions, some of the current accommodation challenges are mitigated with this proposal. It would be another proactive step in overcoming this labour hurdle. Dairy would welcome the opportunity to work with Seniors Australia and run a trial using our industry as a test case, as we need workers today."

Mr Gladigau says the government's National Agricultural Workforce Strategy and \$30 million implementation commitment in the 2021 budget was a good start to addressing the sectoral challenge. but further investment is needed.

"At least \$300 million would enable the establishment of a large-scale workforce capability fund to resolve worker shortages and build capabilities needed for the future."

Mr Gladigau cites the review of [ANZSCO](#) (the Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations) and via this an upgrade of occupations and skills on a dairy farm, as well as updates to the Dairy Industry Labour Agreement which makes it easier for farmers to source staff from overseas, as progress in the last 18 months.

"We have several members who currently have applications lodged, and with the easing of COVID travel restrictions, it is hoped application processing times are prioritised and this option becomes a viable option for an increasing number of dairy farmers."

He said the Agriculture Visa was another significant step forward, and while it has been designed and is ready for trial, there have been some difficulties commencing this trial, although Vietnam

has now signed up its support.

"Ensuring this Visa is working efficiently is a top priority for the dairy sector, as we've specific skills shortages in areas such as AI technicians, which international jobseekers could help address."

Mr Gladigau said despite these wins, ADF would continue to push for further support.

"Our successful launch of the national Pathway for People in Dairy and the Dairy Passport, supported by securing a \$715k grant from the Victorian Government as part of the government's \$50m Agriculture Workforce Plan, demonstrates the value of both our NFF membership, and direct lobbying."

ADF chief executive David Inall said labour shortages are being amplified by increased pressure in the housing market. Rental prices have surged, and housing prices are growing steadily. Dairy regions are often sought after for sea-or tree-change destinations. This means housing accessibility is especially constrained for dairy workers.

"To help alleviate these issues, ADF welcomes government investment for building dairy capabilities and increasing housing initiatives for regional areas – especially those that can deliver medium-density options which is the most underserved type of housing for dairy regions."

[Deloitte Access Economics](#) estimate that a 5% increase in workforce participation from Australians over 55 would result in a \$47.9bn increase to GDP.

-ends-

These are the issues that ADF have raised as Federal Election issues. SADA supports these policy principles;



Employment

450k jobs in the regions over the next five years

Education

\$3.7b to support 800k new training positions

465k fee-free TAFE places for Australian students studying in industries with a skills shortage

\$2.2b for university innovation and industry collaboration

Establish Jobs and Skills Australia

Small business

Tax incentives to embrace the digital economy and staff training

No new taxes

Cut red tape

Reduce red tape

Guaranteed payment within 30 days

Transport

\$3.8b Roads of Strategic Importance Initiative (regions)

\$2b Roads to Recovery Program

\$481m Black Spot Program

\$465m Bridges Renewal Program

\$308m Heavy Vehicle Safety and Productivity Program

\$250m Local Roads and Community In-

frastructure program

\$180.1m Regional Australia Level Crossing Safety Program

\$65.3m Heavy Vehicle Rest Areas Program

Mandatory repair information sharing scheme for agriculture machinery

Communications

\$1.3b for regional telecommunications

\$200m for place-based regional telecommunications projects

Mobile Black Spot Program

\$400m fund to expand multi-carrier mobile coverage

90% of Australia will have access to world-class gigabit speeds by 2025

Expand full-fibre access for 660k homes and businesses in the regions

Water

\$7.4b water infrastructure plan

\$34m to establish a National Water Commission

National Water Grid

Energy

\$22b in renewables and low-emissions energy technology

\$20b to rebuild and modernise the grid

\$60m Powering Business program

\$17.9m Business Energy Advice program

National Gas Infrastructure Plan

\$1.5b to develop hydrogen hubs across regional Australia

Industry

\$2.5b Modern Manufacturing Strategy

Digital Economy Strategy - top 10 data and digital economy by 2030

Expanded Instant Asset Write Off

\$750m for six National Manufacturing Priorities (includes food)

Regional Health

\$146m for more doctors and allied health professionals

Change the rules to allow regional areas recruit more doctors

Regional Housing

Provide 10,000 low deposit guarantees each financial year

Help 10,000 first home buyers a year via the Regional First Home Buyer Support Scheme

Science

\$2.2b University Research Commercialisation Action Plan.



SADA hosted a policy forum in conjunction with Dairy Australia. A number of dairy farmers together with representatives from Dairy SA, Dairy-Safe, PIRSA, DIAA and PPSA joined the SADA Board and staff and officers from Dairy Australia. Themes for discussion included Market Information and Insights, Natural Resource Management, International Market Support, Workforce, Biosecurity and Human Health and Nutrition.



2022



DairySA Innovation Day

Wednesday 1 June, 9.30am
The Barn, Mt Gambier, SA

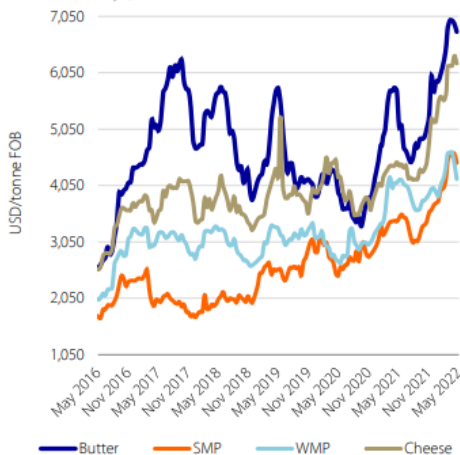
The 2022 DairySA Innovation Day on Wednesday 1 June which also happens to be World Milk Day!

Delegates will hear how research plays a pivotal factor in the future of dairy, current projects and most importantly application to your dairy business.

Milk Production Remains a Mixed Bag



Global dairy prices, 2016-2022



Source: USDA, Rabobank 2022

Production growth key exporting regions

	Latest month	Last three months
EU	0.5% (Feb 22)	-0.3%
US	-0.5% (Mar 22)	-1.0%
Australia	-6.1% (Feb 22)	-4.3%
NZ	-3.8% season-to-date (to March 2022)	

Source: Rabobank 2022

Record Price Signals for New Season

Rabobank's initial modelled farmgate milk price for southern Australia in 2022/23 stands at AUD 8.40/kgMS. Published milk price signals for the 2022/23 season in southern Australia are around this level. This means there will be little room for error. With dairy farmers facing a jump in their cost base in 2022/23, farm profitability is still within reach, but margins will be lower in 2022/23 versus the current season. As a result, appropriate cost control and risk management strategies are needed.

Global dairy commodity prices presented a mixed bag in April 2022, as weaker demand has begun to appear. Export returns for Oceania butter and cheese prices remained at or near record levels but softer powder prices crept through as price resistance started to appear. WMP prices slid over April with main buyer China impacted by lockdowns and additional products offered on the Global Dairy Platform. SMP prices nudged past WMP in April, despite prices softening by the end of April.

The milk supply situation in export regions continues to underwhelm, but with subtle signs of recovery. New Zealand March milk supplies were lower by almost 2% YOY, turning the run of weaker milk supply growth into an eight-month streak, as a result of weather challenges across most of the season. EU-27 milk production for February moved into positive territory at 0.5% YOY. US March milk collections dipped 0.5% behind YOY, while the US dairy herd increased by 15,000 head.

Tips to make tax time a breeze

Lodging your tax return doesn't have to be hard yakka. The Australian Taxation Office (ATO) has a range of resources and tips to make tax time a breeze and help you understand what you can and can't claim this year.

Top tips

1. Check out the ATO's [work-related expenses guide for agriculture](#) to find out what deductions you can claim if you work in Agriculture. The guide has also been translated into [other languages](#).
2. If you're lodging online, the best time to lodge is from late July. By then, all your information from employers, banks and health funds will be automatically included in your tax return. All you need to do is check the information and add anything that's missing.
3. Once you've lodged, you can check the progress of your return online by logging into ATO online services through myGov or using the [ATO app](#). Remember, most tax returns lodged online take about two weeks to be processed.

For more information, visit ato.gov.au/agriculture.

COVID-19 Vaccinations for individuals who are not eligible for Medicare

COVID-19 vaccines are free for everyone in Australia, regardless of Medicare or visa status. This includes refugees, asylum seekers, temporary protection visa holders, bridging visas and those whose visas have been cancelled. Non-citizens who have overstayed their visas can also access the COVID-19 vaccines for free. When people in the Australian community are vaccinated, no information about their immigration or citizenship status is collected.

The National COVID Vaccine Taskforce has also engaged with the Department of Home Affairs on responses to concerns related to detention and deportation for people with an insecure visa status. The Department of Home Affairs considers public health to be paramount during the COVID-19 pandemic. Everyone in Australia, including people who do not hold a valid visa, is encouraged to get vaccinated against COVID-19. People who do not hold a valid visa are encouraged to contact the Department of Home Affairs to talk about how to resolve their immigration status. The Department of Home Affairs' Status Resolution Service can be contacted on 131 881.

The COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic Finder has a tool to help users find services that provide COVID-19 vaccines to people without Medicare: [COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic Finder | Australian Government Department of Health](#).

If you are not eligible for Medicare, general practice providers can still supply COVID-19 vaccines to you, but cannot bill you for this service (Medicare or otherwise). Your GP may ask you to get your vaccination at a Commonwealth Vaccination Clinic, a state-run or territory-run vaccination clinic, or a pharmacy.

The Department of Health website has information about getting COVID-19 vaccination when you are not eligible for Medicare: [COVID-19 vaccination if you don't have a Medicare card | Australian Government Department of Health](#).

The Services Australia website has information about getting proof of COVID-19 vaccination when you are not eligible for Medicare: [Getting proof of your COVID-19 vaccinations if you're not eligible for Medicare - Seeking medical help - Services Australia](#)

Around the grounds

Traceability

- Ash attended the GS1 Open Event – Traceability in the Grape and Wine Industry focusing on cross border trade. Opening remarks were made by the Hon. Mary-Anne Thomas MP, Minister for Agriculture and the Minister for Regional Development, Victoria State Government. Guest speakers and panel member include Caroline Bartlett, Agriculture Victoria and Martin Cole, CEO Wine Australia. The session highlighted key market drivers and challenges for the wine and grape industry, how traceability supports business to deliver these challenges, how global data standards assist in sharing traceability information through the supply chain and some of the barriers that exist for cross border trade.
- Andrew, Ash and Elf attended a meeting with our traceability project partners – Datahash. There appear to be a number of national and international opportunities emerging through collaboration. More information and clarity to come in the following weeks.

National Issues

- Elf met with PPSA representatives to discuss SA Dairy's position on **national water issues**. Elf/Jacobs currently represent the PPSA on the NFF Water Committee to look after the interests of SA farmers at a national level.
- Hunt and Curtis attended the Q4 **PPSA Council Meeting** which was held at the GPSA offices in Adelaide. The Council discussed the PPSA Strategic Plan (which is nearing completion) and this year's operating plan and a number of administrative matters. Activities of the Transport and Supply Chain Committee and the Natural Resource Management Committee were noted. The Council will next meet in mid July.
- Andrew and Ash met with the Telstra Regional Manager for South Australia and a number of "Team Telstra" members to discuss **regional connectivity** for both voice and data in dairy regions.
- Elf had an electronic meeting with AMPI to discuss the advancement of the **milk spot market** on a national

level. AMPI is currently expanding its reach and developing its marketplace to make it more accessible for farmers nationally.

- The SADA Team attended the **Pre-2035 Oceania Summit** in Hahndorf. The key outcomes of the day were to assist in supporting farmers and growers reduce their greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to a changing climate by underpinning this work with **AgriTech solutions**. The forum highlighted a number of the region's most innovative and potentially disruptive early stage AgriFoodTech companies whose principal focus is on enabling producers across the world, address climate and sustainability related challenges.
 - Ash/Elf/Andrew met with **Section 28 cheeses** to discuss the development of premium cheese products in South Australia and the opportunities that affords SA under the SA Dairy Industry Action plan 2019-2024.
 - Andrew participated in a Focus Group facilitated by Deloitte who are seeking to develop a **Drought Resilience Self Assessment Tool (DR.SAT)**. This work is being funded out of the Future Drought Fund. A dairy focused tool will be released as part of the third phase of the DR.SAT roll out. Future discussions with the developers in the coming week will focus on the need to link with Our Farm Our Plan and the Dairy-Safe Business Continuity Tool.
- ### Education
- Ash presented at the SA Ag Hub and Urrbrae Agricultural High School Careers in Agriculture – Teacher Professional Development Day. This was the launch of the new **SA Ag Careers Hub** which aims to get school students interested and into the agricultural sector. Talks on the latest technology in the agricultural industry opened up much discussion and questions from teachers on how best to educate and guide students.
 - Andrew attended a meeting of the Agribusiness, Food & Wine/Beverages **Industry Skills Council**. Key items discussed were the development of the SA Skills Commission strategic plan and the South Australian Skills Com-