



MPO Newsletter / Nuusbrief

Verteenwoordig en Bemagtig die Produsent / Represents and Empowers the Producer

8 October 2010

Journalists honour farmers

The MPO's vice-chairperson and chairperson of MPO North, Joubert Fourie, was voted Farmer of the Year (Limpopo) by die Agricultural Writers SA North last Friday. The competition is held annually. A national winner will be announced on 12 November and Joubert will be judged along with winners from all over the country. It is the first time that a dairy farmer wins this coveted title in Limpopo. Members of the Agricultural Writers may nominate candidates and Joubert was nominated by *The Dairy Mail*. The glamorous event was sponsored by Absa.

Breakthrough for farmers who mix own feed

After numerous meetings and submissions, the Department of Agriculture, Forests and Fisheries (DAFF) acknowledged the livestock industries' legitimate concerns about the proposed new Feed Bill. At a meeting between DAFF officials and representatives of livestock industries on Monday, government officials assured the meeting that regulations proposed in the new Bill will take practical aspects into consideration and will address the livestock industries' concerns. Farm mixers will not be subject to the same regulations that are applicable to feed manufacturers. A document that confirms this will be provided to industry. According to Dr Koos Coetzee, who represented the MPO at this and many previous meetings, this is good news for milk producers, as they will not have to comply with all the regulations applicable to feed manufacturers – a step that could have added a lot to their total cost.

SLA between MPO and Agricultural Product Inspection Services

The MPO recently met with the directorate: Agricultural Product Inspection Services (APIS) to formalise cooperation and mutual support regarding import monitoring and management with a service level agreement. The agreement will map out the role of the MPO and APIS, create clear communication channels, assign specific responsibilities and accountability to appointed positions and map out the procedures to be followed in the event of a suspected import deal being identified. Ms Barbara Bieldt, manager: Market Protection of the MPO, said this agreement is seen as a crucial step towards facilitating improved service delivery from government. A draft service level agreement will be discussed during a workshop on 14 October 2010.



Tel 012 843 5601
www.agribonus.co.za



AGRI TRAVEL & TOURS (Pty) Ltd
AGRI REIS & TOEGRE (Bpk) Ltd



Tel 012 843 5601
www.agrivia.co.za



Instituut vir Suiveltegnologie
Institute for Dairy Technology

Tel 012 843 5601
www.mpo.co.za

MPO technical committee meeting

The MPO's dairy classification and technical liaison committee comprising representatives from various directorates of the department of agriculture, SARS, the Dairy Standards Agency, the MPO and Agri Inspec met on Tuesday. The Department of Agriculture's directorate: Food Safety and Quality Assurance has not yet circulated the draft amended regulations for dairy product standards among stakeholders, as findings of the free-range pilot project and comments of dairy processors still had to be incorporated. Significant amendments were made in order to make the regulations consumer friendly and bring them in line with changing technology. The draft regulations are likely to be published in January for public notice and comment whereafter it will be submitted to the World Trade Organization. Stakeholders discussed possible action against an importer of process cheese who committed customs fraud, which was exposed by Agri Inspec. A possible service level agreement between the MPO and SARS was addressed and it was decided that the topic will be discussed further at the end of October. Agri Inspec indicated that they are ready to supply comprehensive information with regard to imported dairy products to SARS. Ms Barbara Bieldt, chairperson of the committee, said the MPO is doing pioneer- work in the field of import monitoring and control, and is the first producer organisation to create formal structures to protect producer markets.

IDT extends a helping hand

The MPO's Institute for Dairy Technology (IDT) offers several programmes to dairy producers to help them improve profitability on the farm. Mr Jas Wasserman of the institute says they can help producers with aspects such as herd composition, quality, milk production, reproduction, calf health and nutrition. Producers who have already used the service, will bear witness to a significant improvement in profitability. Dairy farmers who wish to make use of the IDT's advice, can call Jas at 012 843 5600 or e-mail <jas@mpo.co.za> for the applicable form you need to fill in and send to Jas.

Farmers in Western and Southern Cape expect roughage shortage

Farmers in these drought-stricken regions have requested that producers who have roughage available elsewhere in the country and are prepared to donate it, contact them. Please call Liana Stroebel at 084 264 1422, who will finalise arrangements.

Prices slightly down at Fonterra sale

Dairy product prices were 1,3% down at Fonterra's latest *globalDairyTrade* sale held on 5 October. All contracts traded at lower prices than at the previous sale. However, prices are still much higher than during 2009. Figure 1 indicates the movement in international prices as reflected in Fonterra's trade-weighted price index. Fonterra's two-weekly internet sale of dairy products is a good



Cendel
Centre for Producer Development
Sentrum vir Produisente Ontwikkeling

Tel 012 843 5600



Agri Inspec

Tel 012 843 5600
www.mpo.co.za



Agri Connect
Agri Connect (Pty)

Tel 012 843 5600
[www.agricconnect.co](http://www.agricconnect.co.za)



Agri Bonus

Tel 012 843 5600
[www.agribonus.co](http://www.agribonus.co.za)



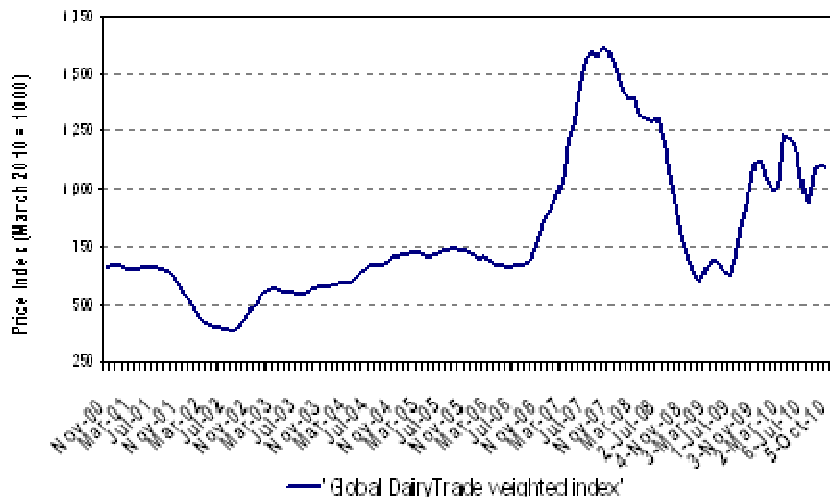
Agri Trade & Tours
AGRI TRAVEL & TOURS (Pty)
AGRI REIS & TOEGE (B) (Pty)

IATI

Tel 012 843 5600
[www.agrivia.co.:](http://www.agrivia.co.za)

indication of international price trends and price levels. Click here for the complete sales data <http://www.globaldairytrade.info/public/english/Trading%20Events%20Historical%20Data.xls?TE28>

Figure 1: Fonterra *globalDairyTrade* price index, 2000 – 2010



Information day at Outeniqua Research Farm

The Institutes for Plant and Animal Production and the Department of Agriculture in the Western Cape, will present an information day on 19 October at the Outeniqua Research Farm in George. Farmers interested in attending may phone Dr Philip Botha at 044 803 3712 for more information.

DeLaval AMR™ wins top EuroTier innovation award

DeLaval has been awarded the EuroTier Gold Medal for its industry-first automatic milking rotary, a revolutionary automatic milking system for large herds based on a central computer using a number of robots to perform teat preparation, milk cup attachment and teat spraying. The new DeLaval system will be flexible enough to operate in different farming practices, from free stalls and loose housing to pasture based dairying. The DeLaval AMR™ will be available in selected markets in 2011. The innovative DeLaval AMR™ will make its world debut at the [EuroTier 2010](#) show in Hannover, Germany (November 16-19).

Around 1 700 exhibitors from 46 countries will be present at EuroTier 2010.

Important dates

11 and 12 October: School Milk Day in Gauteng, Mpumalanga,

mpoist
 Instituut vir Suiweltegnol
 Institute for Dairy Techno

Tel 012 843 5601
 www.mpo.co.za

Cendel
 Centre for Producer Development
 Sentrum vir Produisente Ontwikkeling

Tel 012 843 5601

agrinspo

Tel 012 843 5601
 www.mpo.co.za

AgriConne
 Agri Connect (P)

Tel 012 843 5601
 www.agricconnect.c

AGRI
BONUS

Tel 012 843 5601
 www.agribonus.c

Limpopo, Kwa Zulu Natal and Free State
13 to 15 October: School Milk Day in North West
11 to 15 October: School milk week in George
13 October: National school milk day in the Paarl
19 October: Information day Outeniqua Research Farm. Phone Dr Philip Botha 044 803 3712
14 to 16 April 2011: Agri Cape Week, Paarl
14 to 16 September 2011: Agri Mega Week, Bredasdorp

Links

[Milk Producers' Organisation](#) – [The Dairy Mail](#)

Contact us

[Bertus de Jongh](#) – Chief executive officer

[Barbara Bieldt](#) – Manager: Market Protection

[Dr. Koos Coetzee](#) – Economist

[Philip Swart](#) – MPO member services



Please take note that this e-mail is not spam. It is a newsletter sent from the MPO to you as valuable dairy producer. www.mpo.co.za / 012 843 5600

Compiled by Agri Connect in conjunction with the MPO