

Co-operatives discussed with dti

Mr Bertus de Jongh, MPO CEO, Dr Koos Coetzee, chief economist, and Ms Barbara Bieldt, manager of market protection and development, met with representatives of the Department of Trade and Industry's co-operative development division on Friday to discuss the amendments to the Co-operative Act, 2005 and the implications for the dairy industry. The MPO representatives were informed that contentious issues such as membership of juristic persons and 'one member, one vote' are addressed by the Co-operatives Amendment Bill. Furthermore, the dti is eager to partner with the MPO in a process to create awareness of the benefits of the Act amongst milk producers, to assist with the creation and registration of co-operatives and to provide training and mentorship. Financial assistance to co-operatives through the existing Co-operative Incentive Scheme (CIS) and the development of tailor-made incentive schemes were discussed at length. Mr de Jongh said the MPO is excited about the assistance offered and will explore the opportunities for growth and development through the creation of co-operatives as a matter of priority.

School milk pilot project kicks off in Qwa Qwa

Phase 2 of the school milk pilot project which is funded by the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries and managed by the MPO kicked off on Tuesday, 15 November. Five hundred and twenty three learners from Katleho Public School now receive milk supplied by four developing farmers and processed and packed by Mountainview Dairies, on school days. The developing farmers are under mentorship managed by the MPO's Cendel.

70% already agreed to membership fee increase

Mr Philip Swart, member services manager of the MPO, said that more than 70% of milk producers nationally have already signed the new membership form, which gives milk buyers permission to deduct the planned increased MPO membership fee. The MPO wishes to express its gratitude to these milk producers. The MPO plans to only implement the increased membership fees when expected producer price increases are announced early next year. Milk producers who have not yet signed the new membership form are urged to do so as soon as possible. To download the form from the MPO's website, <[click here](#)> or, alternatively, contact Yolanda Strydom on 012 843 5600 or send an e-mail to yolanda.s@mpo.co.za.

Increase in international prices

Dairy product prices at the bi-weekly Fonterra *GlobalDairyTrade* sale held on 15 November were, on average, 2,6% higher than at the previous sale. Prices of all products increased, with the exception of rennet casein. The sharpest increase was the price of milk protein concentrate (+11,3%) followed by anhydrous milk fat (+8%) and cheddar cheese (+3,7%). According to MPO economist Dr. Koos Coetzee, higher global prices as well as the weaker rand continue to put upward pressure on the import parity price.

Movements in Free State producer prices

Two Free State milk buyers, Montic and Douglasdale, have informed producers that their milk price will be reduced by 10 cents per litre with effect from 1 November until 31 December. Dairybelle has announced an increase of 20 cents per litre in the price paid to producers in the Bloemhof area with effect from 1 January 2012. Dr Koos Coetzee, MPO economist said that preliminary information indicates that milk production in October may be lower than October 2010 and that high input costs and low milk prices will result in further production decreases. Milk buyers should take note that continuation of this situation could have a negative impact on milk supply in the short and long term.

Master Dairyman Western Cape



Mr Philip Blanckenberg, milk producer on the farm Klipheuwel and MPO Western Cape (WC) chairman, was crowned Master Dairyman WC at a function held at Sandringham Estate on 4 November. Mr Johannes Loubser is the runner-up and Mr John Walker is in third place. The awards were handed over by Mr Gerrit van Rensburg, (second from left), WC minister of agriculture. The MPO congratulates these gentlemen on their respective achievements.



Milk producers excel

Three of the eight finalists of the Agricultural Writers SA's Farmer of the Year competition were milk producers. Mr Horst Hellberg of KwaZulu-Natal, Mr Johannes Loubser of the Western Cape and Mr Anton Homsek of the Free State each received the award for provincial Farmer of the Year in their respective provinces. Mr BP Greyling, sheep and grain producer from Mpumalanga, was announced national Farmer of the Year winner during an awards function on 11 November 2011. MPO CEO, Mr Bertus de Jongh said the fact that three of the eight finalists of the competition were milk producers signifies the high level of skill and technology prevalent in the industry. The MPO congratulates Messrs Hellberg, Homsek and Loubser on their achievements.

MPO visits Southern Cape producers

Mr Philip Swart, member services manager of the MPO, visited 30 producers in the Southern Cape during the past week. Producers in the George, Albertinia, Wilderness and Knysna areas are still experiencing difficult financial circumstances owing to the drought in 2009 and 2010, high input costs and low milk prices. In spite of this, producers in general appreciate the services rendered by the MPO and encourage the organisation to continue promoting the interests of milk producers.

MPO to verify request for information

The MPO was notified that a number of its members received a phone call from a person claiming to be conducting a survey on behalf of KPMG with regard to the creation of an umbrella organisation for the livestock industry. The MPO could not establish the legitimacy of the survey as there was no reply when calls were placed to the number supplied. Milk producers are under no obligation to supply any information and are advised to refer calls of this nature to the MPO.

Dairy boom in India and China sustainable

According to *Dairyreporter.com*, Mr Henry van der Heyden, chairman of Fonterra, is of the opinion that the current dairy boom in China and India will continue quoting the growing middle class that drives increased consumption in both countries. He said: "India's middle class is growing rapidly and this is a country that has always consumed dairy and is now finding it difficult to fulfil demand, so there are opportunities there." Mr van der Heyden also expects the boom in China to continue, since dairy is rapidly becoming part of local diets and the government is backing dairy products because of the nutritional value and generation of revenue in rural areas. To read more <[click here](#)>.

MPO Free State golf day

Mr Bernard Maree told Ms Lise Roberts of RSG about MPO Free



Om te adverteer of op die tydskrif in te skryf, klik hier

INTRODUCING
ESTROTECT id™
High Visibility
Where it Matters Most

Common uses for ESTROTECT id™

- Reproduction Management
- Medical Treatment
- Dry Cow Identification
- Lame Cows
- Sorting/Culling
- Other uses requiring marking animals

For more information, contact
AgHold Animal Products
033 330 4445 • Cell: 083 400 4055 or 071 390 4941
• info@aghold.co.za

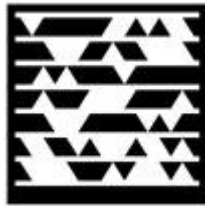
UBISI MAIL

Om te adverteer of op hierdie tydskrif in te skryf, klik

Cendel
Centre for Producer Development
Sentrum vir Produisente Ontwikkeling

Tel 012 843 5600

State's golf day, which takes place on 6 December this year. Use the tag below to **listen** to this interview.



(This tag can be scanned from your computer screen.)

Comfy cows boost production

"There are many factors that influence milk production in dairy cattle, including breed, herd composition, stage of lactation, age, nutrition and udder health, as well as environmental factors, such as heat stress." Turn to page 53 of the November issue of *The Dairy Mail* to read more on this topic.

Important dates

- **Judges' course for milk goat farmers:** 21 and 22 November on Mr Poena van Niekerk's farm in Brandfort. Theoretical and practical aspects of animal selection are included. The cost to attend is R300 per person. For more information and to register, please call Mr van Niekerk at 082 893 2783.

Links

Milk Producers' Organisation
The Dairy Mail

Contact us

Bertus de Jongh – Chief executive officer

Barbara Bieldt – Manager, market protection and development

Dr Koos Coetzee – Economist

Philip Swart – MPO member services

USE THE NEW TAG READER



There is a **new way** to get more from the MPO newsletter. Use your cell phone with in-built camera to scan the icons and receive more information through a sound bite or video on the subject, sent directly to your phone.

HOW TO USE THIS FREE FEATURE:

Download the tag reader. There are two ways to do this:

- On your phone's internet browser, go to <http://www.get-tag.mobi> and click on 'download'.
- If you have a smart phone, you can download the tag reader from your phone's App store.

SCANNING

Depending on the make and model of your phone, you can either scan or photograph the icon.

- Go to the tag reader on your phone and open it.
- Hold your phone over the icon as if you are going to photograph it. Depending on the type of phone you use, it might scan the icon automatically or require you to take a photograph of the icon.

LOOK AND LISTEN

- Most smart phones

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



PRINT | DIGITAL | MOBILE | RADIO | EVENTS | BRANDED CONTENT

AgriConnect
Your communications partner
in the agricultural industry

Published by Agri Connect