



MPO Newsletter / Nuusbrie

Represents and empowers the producer
September 2011

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Clover profits treble

Boosted by good sales performance, Clover's full year profit for the year ending 30 June 2011 is more than three times higher than that of the previous year. The company's revenue over the period also improved by 6,1% to R6,5 billion. According to Clover, this positive performance can mainly be ascribed to an increase in sales volume and a reduction in restructuring costs. The company further states that it has raised R575 million in new capital since its listing on the JSE in December 2010 and will utilise it to fund, among others, Project Cielo Blu, which involves moving production facilities to coastal areas. However, Clover is concerned about increasing input costs, which would impact on its performance in the next year. To read more, <[click here](#)>.

Memorable AGM's, national congress and gala dinner

The KwaZulu-Natal annual general meeting (AGM), MPO AGM, national congress and gala dinner took place at the Fern Hill Hotel in the Howick region on 21 September 2011. The formal events were preceded by visits to the farms of Messrs Walter and Bruce McKenzie and René Stubbs on 20 September. The approximately 30 visitors from the North and KZN were surprised and particularly impressed by the high level of the calf rearing and housing systems utilised on these farms. The congress was attended by more than 130 delegates, which is a record for this event in recent times. Presentations by the speakers at the congress were of a high standard, and both informative and inspirational. Delegates agreed that the overall message was one of hope and positive future prospects, in particular for agri-business in South Africa and Africa. The gala dinner was a relaxing, enjoyable event with guest speaker, Mr Gary Teichman adding a special touch.

MPO chairman re-elected and new vice-chairman elected

On Wednesday, the members of the MPO board unanimously re-elected Mr Dèan Kleynhans to serve as chairman of the MPO for another term. Mr Joubert Fourie stepped down as vice-chairman and Mr Tom Turner, president of MPO KZN, was elected as the new vice-chairman. Messrs. Edsel Hohls and Gareth (Tigger) Bryden

of MPO KZN were elected to the MPO board in place of retiring directors Messrs. Horst Hellberg and Mike Black. The MPO congratulates these gentlemen on their election to their respective positions and lauds them for their willingness to contribute to the growth and well-being of the primary dairy industry. The MPO also paid tribute to retiring board members, Messrs. Koos Pienaar, Mike Black and Horst Hellberg, for the devotion with which they have made a substantial contribution to the promotion of the South African dairy industry.

Mr John Bredin honoured for lifelong contribution to industry

Mr John Bredin, who took over the family dairy farm, near Ixopo at 22 years of age on the death of his father in 1969, received the coveted MPO merit award for lifelong contribution to the dairy industry at the gala dinner following the MPO national congress held on 21 September. Mr Bertus de Jongh, MPO CEO, said Mr Bredin is a stalwart in the dairy industry and inspires fellow milk producers and other role-players in the industry with his dedication and commitment. In addition to being an active milk producer, Mr Bredin represented the primary dairy industry at various national and international events and serves on several boards and is currently the chairman of Clover SA.

Mr Jeff Every crowned as Newsmaker of the Year

Mr Jeff Every, chief executive of Amadlelo Agri, received *The Dairy Mail* Newsmaker of the Year award at the MPO gala dinner held on 21 September. Ms Liza Bohlmann, editor of *The Dairy Mail*, said Mr Every made a newsworthy contribution to the dairy industry by making a significant difference to the lives of milk producers and building a future for new entrants to the primary dairy industry. Numerous articles highlighting Amadlelo's successes and partnership with Fort Hare University have raised the profile of the dairy industry's contribution to nation building.

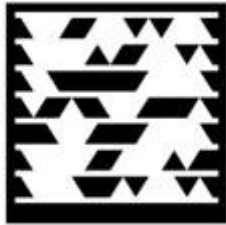
Report from the MPO board meeting

The board of the MPO held its last meeting for 2011 on Wednesday, 20 September. Several important issues were discussed such as the restructuring of the MPO in line with the changing needs of the primary dairy industry, the reduction of the national dairy herd by as much as 10% through slaughtering resulting from low producer prices, the high cost of inputs like electricity, dairy meal and maize and the effect of animal disease outbreaks on the profitability and sustainability of the industry as a whole. Furthermore, in-depth discussions took place regarding the justification of ongoing membership and support of Milk SA by the MPO. A committee was appointed to conduct an investigation in this regard and report back at the next board meeting scheduled for 23 February 2012.

MPO Western Cape promotes school milk at Mega Week



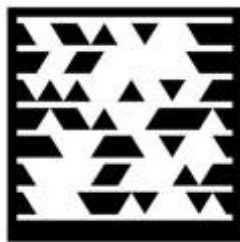
A very successful school milk programme was arranged by the MPO Western Cape in cooperation with Parmalat and the Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University (NMMU) during Mega Week 2011 which was held in Bredasdorp from 14 to 16 September. Ms Maryna Lehmann-Maritz from NMMU made age-appropriate presentations to learners in the Parmalat school tent informing them about the dairy value chain, the health benefits of dairy products and career opportunities offered by the industry. About 1 200 learners each received a colouring book and flavoured milk sponsored by Parmalat. The MPO's school milk activities are successful and popular and all role players are looking forward to the week of 17 to 21 October during which School Milk Days will be arranged at schools throughout the country. **Listen** to an interview by Ms Lise Roberts of RSG with Ms Liana Stroebel regarding MPO Western Cape school milk activities by using the tag below.



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

Reduce energy costs by using 'scrap oil'

On Tuesday, Ms Lise Roberts of RSG conducted an interview with Mr Wayne Swart, Jersey-farmer in North West, about a way to reduce energy and get rid of 'scrap oil' at the same time. Use the tag below to **listen** to this interesting interview.



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

MPO statutory measures published

The MPO administers a statutory measure that requires milk producers to register with the MPO and provide records and returns to the organisation in order to ensure continuous timeous and accurate statistics with regard to the primary dairy industry. The current statute lapses on 1 November 2011 and the MPO has applied for the continuation thereof for the next four years, until 1 November 2015. A notice in this regard was published by the National Agricultural

Marketing Council in the government gazette on 16 September 2011. To read the notice, <[click here](#)>. For more information, please contact Dr Koos Coetsee on 012 843 5600 or send an e-mail to koos.coetsee@mpo.co.za.

Leasing: An alternative growth option

If you are interested in leasing cows as an option to extend your dairy farming business, turn to page 41 of the September edition of *The Dairy Mail* for information on this topic.

IDT to introduce holistic extension services in Western Cape

The MPO's Institute for Dairy Technology (IDT) is on its way to the Western Cape to introduce the holistic information/extension services and milk recording offered to milk producers. Three information days will be held in Malmesbury, Caledon and Riviersonderend on 11, 12 and 13 October respectively, from 09:30 to 13:30. The holistic extension and milk recording services include assistance with regard to financial evaluation, strategic planning and business plans. Mr Theuns Duvenhage, techno-economist, will highlight these aspects, while Dr Faffa Malan will discuss animal health issues that impact on the profitability of dairy farming. For more information, please contact Dr Jan du Preez at 083 656 3638 or send an e-mail to jan.dupreez@mpo.co.za.

Important dates

- **Eskom workshops on energy efficiency and funding options:** 13 to 27 September at various venues in the Northern region. For more information, send an e-mail to mareey@eskom.co.za and for full programme details, please <[click here](#)>.
- **World Dairy Expo:** Madison, Wisconsin, USA, 4 to 8 October 2011. If you are interested in attending this event, please contact Sarine Wolmarans on 012 843 5600 or send an e-mail to sarine@agrivia.co.za.
- **Farm managers' course:** 5 to 7 October 2011, University of Pretoria's experimental farm. To register, <[click here](#)>. For more information, contact Julie McLachlan on 083 740 2720 or send an e-mail to julie@cendel.co.za.
- **International Dairy Federation (IDF) World Dairy Summit** in Parma, Italy, from 15 to 19 October 2011. Please <[click here](#)> for more information. For all travel and accommodation requirements, contact Sarine Wolmarans of Agri Travel on 012 843 5600 or send an e-mail to sarine@agrivia.co.za.

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SCANNING

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