



MPO Newsletter / Nuusbrieff

Represents and empowers the producer
2011

29 July

Pilot school milk project kicks off

The pilot school milk project which is funded by the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (daff) and managed and coordinated by the MPO kicks off today when 1 100 learners at 8 schools in Alice district in the Eastern Cape will each receive 250 ml long life milk. The milk is supplied by emerging farmers to Clover where it is processed and packaged. The project will be expanded to Qwa Qwa as soon as the required structures are in place. The MPO's management of the project will include facilitating the measurement of the impact of milk consumption on the children's physical development (growth), school attendance and scholastic performance. Furthermore, the MPO will be responsible for the improvement of the dairy farming skills of emerging farmers through appropriate training and technology transfer which will also increase their profitability. Dr Nico Schutte of the MPO's Cendel said the successful implementation of this project could form the basis for the establishment of a national school milk scheme which will have a major impact on the growth of the industry.

Trade of analogue cheese investigated

Various issues of importance to the dairy industry was discussed at the quarterly meeting of the Dairy Classification and Technical Liaison Committee held on 22 July 2011. Subsequent to a complaint by the MPO with regard to imitation cheese (analogue cheese) which is marketed as a genuine dairy product the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (daff) embarked on a national investigation including imported and locally processed analogue cheese. While on-site investigations, including product analysis, are conducted daff's Food Safety and Quality Assurance (FSQA) directorate restricted the sale and distribution of the imported products since the composition and labeling are in contravention to South African requirements. Ms Bieldt, chairperson of the committee said the MPO is grateful for the support from the authorities in this regard.

Snow disrupts MPO roadshow meetings

The inclement weather and heavy snowfalls that reigned across much of the country this week, resulted in some disruptions of the MPO roadshow meetings in KwaZulu-Natal. Foul weather and snow also hit parts of Mpumalanga, the Free State and the Eastern Cape. Mr Bertus de Jongh, chief executive of the MPO, says that three meetings were cancelled as a result of the weather conditions. In spite of inaccessible roads and farmers' responsibilities on their farms, the other meetings were well attended, says Ms Debbie Thompson, regional coordinator of MPO KZN. Two new branch chairpersons, Trace Prite More at Himeville and Dylan Eaglestone at Donnybrook, were elected. Mr De Jongh says that producers who could not attend the recent roadshows can look forward to the MPO KZN's annual general meeting, as well as the MPO's national AGM, congress and gala dinner at the Fern Hill Hotel in the Midmar/Howick region on 21 September.

MPO North visits farmers

Ms Alta van Zyl, regional coordinator of MPO North, visited farmers in Bronkhorstspuit, Cullinan, Rayton, Henley-on-Klip, Meyerton, Fochville, Carletonville and Magaliesburg this week. These visits form part of the MPO's efforts to get to know its members better and to confirm renewed membership. Producers in Gauteng, Mpumalanga, Limpopo and North-West, who would like to know more about the new membership fees and forms, can contact Ms Van Zyl on 082 569 1409 or send an e-mail to alta@mpo.co.za. General enquiries on membership matters can be addressed to Philip Swart at 082 462 1712 or by e-mail to philip@mpo.co.za.

MPO North and Master Dairymen gathering

The MPO North invites all milk producers in this region to the annual general meeting and congress to be held from 08:30 on Thursday, 25 August just outside of Pretoria. Kyknet Landbousake's Derich Gardner will be the master of ceremonies and speakers include Joubert Fourie (chairman of MPO North), Dèan Kleynhans (MPO chairman), Hannes Neethling (Master Dairymen North), Prof André Jooste (National Agricultural Marketing Council) and motivational speaker, Dr Arnold Mol. The Master Dairymen North awards function, including various awards, as well as that of farmer of the year, will follow the congress. Lunch will be served after 12:00 and the Master Dairymen North's annual general meeting will take place at 15:00. This event will be hosted at Isiphiwo, east of the N1 North on the Cullinan road (R513). Attendance is R120 and R200 for two people. For more information, contact Alta van Zyl, regional coordinator of MPO North, on 082 569 1409 or send an e-mail to alta@mpo.co.za.

Diarise Agri SA congress

This year's Agri SA congress will revolve around the political and economic dimensions of change with which the sector is confronted, according to Hans van der Merwe, executive director of Agri SA. Pertinent attention will be given to aspects of property rights, such as mineral rights and the effect of mining on agricultural resources, water rights, redistribution, nationalisation and related environmental concerns. The New

THE LEADER
IN SPECIALISED
ASSET & CROP
INSURANCE

www.santam.co.za

Santam is an authorised financial services provider. Licence number: 34101



Santam
agriculture

Neem asseblief kennis hierdie e-pos is nie gemorspos nie. Dit is 'n nuusbrieff van die MPO aan u, die gewaardeerde melkprodusent. www.mpo.co.za / 012 843 5600



Hierdie nuusbrieff is aan u gebring deur [The Dairy Mail](#) in samewerking met die [MPO](#)