



*Represents and empowers the producer*

**11 November 2016**

## KZN farmers engage with government at waste water compliance workshops

Milk producers in the Ixopo and Estcourt regions of KwaZulu-Natal (KZN) attended workshops on how to manage waste water in terms of the requirements of the National Water Act (Act 36 of 1998) and the Waste Act (Act 59 of 2008) on 8 and 9 November 2016. The workshops were well-attended and a high level of interaction took place between dairy farmers and government officials. Officials from the Department of Water and Sanitation and the KwaZulu-Natal Department of Environmental Affairs informed producers about legislative requirements and the process involved with the registration and authorisation of effluent dams for the storage and discharge of waste. The interactive workshops provided the platform for dairy farmers and government to raise important issues which will be addressed in the near future. Developing and distributing a simplified list of requirements dairy farmers have to comply with are some of the action steps identified during the workshops. The MPO and officials from both departments emphasised their commitment to support dairy farmers in being informed of requirements, understanding what is expected by government and assisting them with the registration and authorisation processes.

## Lessons learned at the World Dairy Summit

MPO CEO Dr Chris van Dijk spoke to Lise Roberts about the lessons learned at the recently held IDF World Dairy Summit in an interview on RSG Landbou. To listen to this interesting interview, click [HERE](#).

## Where milk comes from!

Many pupils at Oranje Meisies, Eunice Primary and Martie du Plessis School in Bloemfontein laid their eyes on a cow and calves for the first time during MPO Free State's School Milk Day celebrations on 28 October 2016. Milk producer Henco Frylinck's Jersey cow Blommetjie and two calves travelled from school to school to show pupils where milk really comes from. The children had lots of fun petting Blommetjie and giving the calves some water with some being brave enough to test their milking skills. Dairy Corporation sponsored the milk distributed to all the pupils by their human cow!

MPO Free State regional coordinator Izette Louw said the support and participation of both milk producers and processors made these events special and memorable. MPO Free State thanks all sponsors, dairy farmers and others who made these events possible.

## Please complete MPO survey

Milk producers are requested to complete the MPO's electronic questionnaire that was sent to them recently. According to MPO economist Dr Koos Coetzee the MPO uses the information on milk production and herd numbers to give members timely and accurate statistics on the primary dairy industry. The MPO administers a statutory measure in terms of the Marketing of Agricultural Products Act (Act 47 of 1996), which requires milk producers to register with the organisation and provide it with records and returns. Since the MPO collects and assimilates the information, its confidentiality is guaranteed. No individual information will be supplied to

anyone.

The MPO wishes to thank producers who have already completed and returned the questionnaire. Producers who have not yet completed the questionnaire are urged to do so as soon as possible. If you require more information, please contact Dr Koos Coetzee at 012 843 5600 or email him at [koos.coetzee@mpo.co.za](mailto:koos.coetzee@mpo.co.za).

Producers can use the following link to complete the survey:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SJM53FH>

## International market

### No more predators

"No more possums, rats or stoats!" says New Zealand who wants to create a predator-free zone in the country by 2050. The predator-free initiative was recently launched by the New Zealand government which set a goal to get rid of non-native predators to protect the native fauna and flora. Fonterra has welcomed this announcement and says the dairy industry is on board with them accomplishing this hugely significant goal. To read more, click [HERE](#).

### Black future for ice cream

The world's first black ice cream makes waves in the UK as Rossi Ice cream shifts our perceptions of ice cream into a whole new direction. They are in the process of finalising a black ice cream that will be taken to the market soon. The ice cream is not only black but it also changes colour when it lands on the consumer's tongue. It will taste like vanilla and coconut shell is used to create the colour. To read more, click [HERE](#).

## Training

### Become a dairy farming mentor

The MPO Institute annually engages in programmes, coordinated by various agricultural colleges and universities and the AgriSeta, to help agricultural students gain experiential learning on dairy farms for a period of **one year**. These students are usually in their final year of Animal Production or Agricultural Management and need proof of experiential learning before they can be awarded their official qualifications.

Dairy farmers who agree to act as mentors for a student or students are expected to:

- provide accommodation for the student on the farm;
- ensure that the student get exposure, mentoring and supervision in any of the following dairy disciplines:
  - calf and heifer rearing
  - reproduction
  - dairy feeding and health
  - milk harvesting;
- write two **AgriSeta reports**: one after six months of internship and a final report at the end of the internship (12 months') period.
- The format of the report includes a rating of the student on the various learning areas and general performance. The report will be emailed to the mentor for completion, and must then be returned to the MPO for further distribution.
- Students also need to compile two **reports** for their respective **university/college**. However, it is the student's responsibility to discuss the requirements of the learning experience and reports with the

mentor. The mentor should monitor the student's work progress, sign off the student's report and also submit two reports on the student's performance during the training period.

- The MPO will pay monthly stipends of **R3 150** to the student.
- The mentor should be in possession of an equivalent qualification, with five years' experience, or higher qualification in the same field that the student is studying. The MPO will act as the master mentor, should the mentor not have the required qualifications. The MPO will therefore sign off all the reports before they are submitted to the university/college.
- Note that experiential learning can also be used as a skills development element in BBBEE scoring.
- Experiential learning will take place from February 2017 to Jan 2018.

Kindly contact Helene Pheiffer (079 528 1394 / 012 843 5749 / [helene@mpo.co.za](mailto:helene@mpo.co.za)) if you are interested in mentoring a student for experiential learning and any further enquiries.

## The Dairy Mail

### Turn your farm into a well-oiled machine

Farms are normally big, complicated systems with lots of potential speed bumps. If you can get your farm to run like a well-oiled machine, then you are going to start making money. My best mornings as a farmer were when everyone arrived for work and I didn't have to talk to anyone. Everyone already knew the plan, the machinery and equipment all worked and the jobs got done. Turn to page 42 of the November issue of *The Dairy Mail* for an interesting article by Aidan Bomford at Intelact. To read the digital copy of TDM, go to [www.agriconnect.co.za](http://www.agriconnect.co.za).

## Events

### How to manage waste water

Milk producers in the Western Cape have the opportunity to find out how to manage waste water in terms of the requirements of the National Water Act, Act 36 of 1998 and the Waste Act, Act 59 of 2008. Following successful workshops held in the Eastern Cape last year the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) and the MPO decided to roll out the workshops to other provinces. Workshops will be held in the Western Cape on 15, 16 and 17 November. The interactive workshops will focus on the registration and authorisation of effluent dams for the storage and discharge of waste. Officials from the DWS and Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) will make presentations and address dairy farmers' concerns in this regard. The departments are eager to explain the requirements of the two Acts to dairy farmers so that the farmers can comply with them. The workshops are scheduled to take place at various venues in the following towns from 10:00 to 14:00.

#### Western Cape

Date	Town	Venue
15 Nov	George	Outeniqua Experimental Farm
16 Nov	Swellendam	SSK Lecture Room
17 Nov	Malmesbury	Laerskool Swartland Sports Centre

The MPO supports the departments' efforts and encourages farmers to attend the workshops. For more information contact Barbara Bieldt, MPO manager: market protection and development at 083 235 2629 or send an email to [barbara@mpo.co.za](mailto:barbara@mpo.co.za).

*Disclaimer: The MPO Milk Bulletin is compiled from sources deemed reliable. However, the publisher accepts no responsibility for any errors or the effect of any decisions based on this publication.*

**Links**

**Milk Producers' Organisation  
The Dairy Mail**

**Contact us**

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*Please take note that this e-mail is not spam. It is a newsletter sent from the MPO to you as valuable milk producer.*

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