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Dairy Pulse 185th Edition (1st to 15th, July 2023)



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Mr. Pawan Agarwal
CEO, Food Future Foundation;
Senior Advisor, IFAD; Ex CEO,
FSSAI

SPEAKER



Mr. R. S. Sodhi
President, Indian Dairy
Association; Chairperson-
Board of Governors, NIFTEM-
Thanjavur; Ex MD, AMUL

SPEAKER



Dr. A.K. Srivastava
Vice Chancellor, DUVASU,
Mathura, UP; Ex Vice Chancellor,
NDRI Karnal

SPEAKER



Mr. Ranjith Mukundan
CEO & Co-Founder,
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SPEAKER



Mr. Kuldeep Sharma
Founder, Suruchi Consultants;
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Indian News

Maharashtra fixes Rs 34/ litre procurement price for cow's milk

JUL 15, 2023

<https://dairynews7x7.com/maharashtra-fixes-rs-34-litre-procurement-price-for-cows-milk/>



The Maharashtra government on Friday announced a minimum procurement price of Rs 34 per litre for cow milk. This is the lowest rate which dairy firms must pay to farmers to buy milk. The earlier rate was approximately Rs 32.

The state plans to revise rates every three months. Consumers fear this could raise milk prices periodically. However, Jayen Mehta, managing director of Amul, India's largest dairy, informed TOI Friday, "No. There is no plan to increase Amul milk prices in Mumbai or any other market." Other national and state dairies deferred comment.

State minister for dairy development and animal husbandry Radhakrishna Vikhe Patil said the move was aimed at ensuring farmers' welfare. He also urged fodder manufacturers to reduce prices. Vikhe Patil recently met with milk farmers and fodder manufacturers, where cooperative and private unions discussed spiralling operational and production costs. The government then formed a committee to determine a revised minimum procurement price, and followed its recommendations.

The committee has been asked to monitor milk prices in national and international markets and recommend a procurement rate at an interval of three months. In exceptional circumstances, the committee can suggest price revision sooner. Local dairy commissioners and district dairy development officers have been instructed to report monthly implementation.

Increasing cost of fodder and other overheads had prompted milk farmers to appeal for Rs 40 per litre. But leading private and cooperative dairies say they already pay fairly, given fierce competition among buyers.

Consumers fear that the new mandate may prompt milk producers to increase the rate of milk in retail markets. Weighed down by unprecedented food costs and overall inflation, salaried households are struggling to cope.

Shirish Patil, a retired government servant said, "Already families are paying Rs 60-70 for a litre of cow milk and Rs 95-100 for buffalo milk. The price of dal has risen by Rs 20-30 per kg over the past month. Tomatoes are off the menu. It would help if some state or Central government would form a committee to solve the problems of middle class citizens too."

Milk price to be Increased by Rs 3.5 Instead of Rs 5 in Guwahati

JUL 15, 2023

<https://dairynews7x7.com/prices-of-milk-to-be-increased-by-rs-3-5-instead-of-rs-5-in-guwahati/>



The hike in the rates of milk comes as the rates of fodder for the cows have also seen a spike recently.

However, the dairy farmers' association decided to increase the price of milk by Rs. 3.50 instead of Rs.5. With this hike, per litre milk will be sold at Rs. 56.50.

With the conclusion of 15-day discussion on the price hike of milk, the Greater Guwahati Dairy Farmers' Association has decided to increase its price by Rs. 3.50 instead of Rs. 5 on Thursday.

The Greater Guwahati Dairy Farmers' Association and Brihattar Guwahati Go-Palak Sanstha held a 15-day discussion on the latter's proposal to increase the price of milk by Rs. 5, sources informed.

Earlier, following the reports of milk to be increased by Rs. 5, the wholesale suppliers denied purchasing milk.

The Greater Guwahati Dairy Farmers' Association then claimed that if the wholesale suppliers do not buy their milk, they would start selling the milk to consumers directly.

Shah asks NABARD to fix targets for financing rural farm sector

JUL 14, 2023

<https://dairynews7x7.com/shah-asks-nabard-to-fix-targets-for-financing-agriculture-sector-and-rural-development-for-next-25-years/>



Addressing the 42nd Foundation Day of NABARD in New Delhi, Mr Shah said, a country that has

A more than 65 percent rural population cannot be imagined without an institution like NABARD. The Cooperation Minister said, for the last four decades, NABARD has proved to be the backbone of this country's rural economy, infrastructure, agriculture, and cooperative institutions. He said, it has been the backbone for self-help groups for over one and a half decades. Mr Shah said, today villages are becoming self-sufficient and

at the same time agriculture, the soul of the rural economy, is making its mark in the whole world.

He said NABARD has a huge role in making every person in the village self-reliant especially the women, through self-help groups and establishing them in society with self-respect. The Cooperation Minister said, NABARD has successfully increased the work of refinancing and capital formation. He said, so far eight lakh crore rupees have been injected into the rural economy through NABARD for capital formation. He said, to meet the various needs of agriculture, NABARD has refinanced 12 lakh crore rupees in the rural agricultural economy. Mr Shah said, in 42 years, NABARD did the work of refinancing 20 lakh crore rupees in the rural economy with a growth rate of 14 percent. Calling it a big achievement in the rural economy, he said, no one except NABARD can do the work of strengthening the country's rural economy, strengthening finance in the country's cooperative system and increasing rural infrastructure in the Amrit Kaal of Independence. The Cooperation Minister said, NABARD has provided financial assistance to one crore Self Help Groups. He said, it is the largest programme of microfinancing in the whole world and the country achieved this feat through NABARD.

He said, District Cooperative Bank has initiated the service of providing Rupay credit cards along with debit cards. Mr Shah said, under the co-operative scheme, the bank accounts of members of all co-operative societies have been transferred to the district co-operative bank and all the milk producer societies have been included as Bank Mitra. He said, if we move ahead with the concept of 'Cooperation among Cooperatives' in the cooperative system of the country and if the entire money

from PACS to APACS remains within its fold, then the cooperative system will require no money from anybody.

The Union Minister said, under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the period of nine years, from 2014 to 2023, is historic across many fields especially in eradication of poverty and development of agriculture. He said that whenever the history of the country will be written, the 9 years of governance of Prime Minister Narendra Modi will be etched in golden letters. Mr Shah said, due to lack of timely changes in the laws, the cooperative system had deteriorated over time as it could not synchronize itself with the modern changes taking place in society and the field of finance.

He said, Prime Minister Narendra Modi formed the Ministry of Cooperation to revive this entire cooperative system and made the lives of crores of people prosperous. The Cooperation Minister said, in the past two years Government has made many changes in PACS. With NABARD as nodal agency, computerization of 63 thousand PACS is being done, under which, the entire system from PACS to NABARD, including banking, auditing, will be made online through software. He said, the government has also changed the bylaws of PACS and made them multi-dimensional. Mr Shah said, now, PACS will also engage in the work of storage, open Jan Arogya Kendra, run Fertilizer shops, become part of PDS system, and will be provided the work of petrol pump and gas agency.

On this occasion, Mr. Shah also distributed Micro-ATM cards to milk societies and RuPay Kisan Credit cards to the members of these societies.

Government may reduce gst in ghee and butter to 5%

JUL 14, 2023

<https://dairynews7x7.com/government-may-reduce-gst-in-ghee-and-butter-to-5/>



The government may propose reducing goods and services tax (GST) on ghee and butter to 5% from the current 12%, according to government documents reviewed by Mint.

The plan comes as retail milk prices have risen by 10.1% in a year and 21.9% over the past three years due to higher feed and fodder costs for cattle.

“If you put ghee under the luxury product category, under a 12% GST slab, it pinches pockets of consumers as well as farmers. India is meeting 70% of its edible oil consumption by importing palm oil, which is placed under a 5% GST slab,” said Indian Dairy Association president Rupinder Singh Sodhi. “A 12% GST translates to ₹70 per kg, and to make a kg of ghee, it requires 12-14 litres of milk. Where farmers

could get ₹5-6 more on milk price, they end up spending more because of the 12% GST on ghee. The government is basically taxing not only consumers but also farmers.”

Queries sent to the spokespeople for the ministries of animal husbandry and dairying, finance, and the GST Council remained unanswered.

In July last year, the GST Council withdrew exemptions granted to certain dairy products to rationalize the levy and prevent tax leakages. While pre-packaged and labelled milk products, including paneer, curd, lassi, and buttermilk, levy a 5% GST, condensed milk, cheese, butter, and ghee are taxed at 12%.

“The GST on ghee and butter should be equal to cooking oil, which is 5%, so that farmers get the right price for their agricultural produce,” Sodhi said.

Lowering GST on ghee would not only benefit farmers but also help arrest the upward trend in inflation. A reduction in ghee prices would also help curb adulteration and allow farmers to reduce retail prices for milk.

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2023



Vipul Chaudhary sentenced to 7 years in prison for graft

JUL 14, 2023

<https://dairynews7x7.com/ex-gujarat-minister-vipul-chaudhary-sentenced-to-7-years-in-prison-for-graft/>



A Gujarat court on Thursday sentenced former minister Vipul Chaudhary, 57, and 14 others to seven-year imprisonment after convicting them in the case related to siphoning off ₹750 crore from the Mehsana District Milk Producers Federation, popularly known as Dudhsagar Dairy.

The dairy is India's largest co-operative dairy and part of the Gujarat Co-operative Milk Marketing Federation, which markets its products under the Amul brand name. Chaudhary was the dairy's chairman between 2005 and 2016 when the scam occurred.

The Mehsana district court acquitted four accused due to lack of evidence. The case dates back to 2014 when 22 people were accused of financial irregularities. Three of the accused

passed away while 19 faced the trial. Testimonies from 23 witnesses were considered during the proceedings.

Chaudhary was a minister in chief minister Keshubhai Patel's government in the 1990s. In 1996, he sided with Shankersinh Vaghela when he rebelled against Patel and formed the government with Congress's help. Chaudhary served in the Vaghela government as a minister as well.

Chaudhary, who returned to the Bharatiya Janata Party in 2001, formed a socio-political outfit in 2022. Gujarat's anti-corruption branch arrested him in September last year for the irregularities when he headed Dudhsagar Dairy.

In February 2015, the state cooperative registrar ordered his removal from the Mehsana District Cooperative Milk Producers Union Limited over alleged financial irregularities. He was accused of taking unfair decisions as the chairman and supplying cattle feed to Maharashtra, causing losses.

Chaudhary was booked for breach of trust, cheating, forgery, producing forged documents as genuine, and criminal conspiracy, and under the Prevention of Corruption Act.

KRRS urges Karnataka govt. to increase milk price to ₹60 per litre

JUL 14, 2023

<https://dairynews7x7.com/krrs-urges-karnataka-govt-to-increase-milk-price-to-%e2%82%b960-per-litre/>



Karnataka Rajya Raitha Sabha has urged the State government to fix the price of milk at ₹60 per litre and do away with the support price of ₹5 per litre being given to milk producers.

In a press conference in Shivamogga on Thursday, July 13, H.R. Basavarajappa, State president of the Sangha, said the milk producers had been spending about ₹50 per litre of milk, considering the prevailing rate of cattle feed and other costs. However, the milk unions had been procuring milk producers by paying around ₹28 per litre.

“What is the point in giving a support price of ₹5 per litre when you are purchasing the commodity at half of its production cost? Fix ₹60 per litre of milk and do away with the support price. Rather, give it to the consumers,” he said. As it had been done in the case of rice or

other commodities, he said, let the government provide milk for the consumers at a subsidised price.

Other demands of the sangha include, withdrawal of amendment to the Land Reforms Act that allowed non-farmers to purchase agricultural land. The previous BJP government passed the amendment, and the Congress had promised that it would withdraw it. However, the party, after coming to power, tabled the Bill to withdraw the amendment to the APMC Act, not the Land Reforms Act, he said.

Mr. Basavarajappa, referring to the dip in the price of ball copra, said the government should purchase copra from farmers at ₹15,000 per quintal. He also suggested procuring coconut from the growers and distributing the same along with rice and other food grains through the fair price shops.

Martyrs' Day

The State president said the sangha would hold the martyrs' day at Naragunda in Gadag district on July 21. The programme would be held to remember the sacrifice of farmers who were killed in police firings 43 years ago. He appealed to farmers to take part in the programme in large numbers.

Leveraging livestock to double farmers' income

JUL 13, 2023

<https://dairynews7x7.com/leveraging-livestock-to-double-farmers-income/>



According to the recently released Basic Animal Husbandry Statistics 2022, the livestock sector had a share of 30.13 per cent in agriculture, at constant prices. India has the largest population of livestock and is a world leader in production of milk, meat, eggs, etc. But it lags in terms of productivity and exports.

By leveraging livestock, small and marginal farmers can add value to crops through manure, increase their incomes significantly irrespective of the season, and ensure sustainable agricultural practices. Further, doubling of farmers' income may be achieved through the following policy measures:

Sustainable agri-business models: Farmer can look at secondary agriculture, by using their own raw material/resources to create a value added product, for instance, jaggery making unit run by a sugarcane cultivator.

Alternatively, farmers may follow the successful 3-tier co-operative model of AMUL (integrating production and collection of milk at village level, storage at district level, and processing, marketing & distribution at state level). Further, farmers may adopt hub and spoke model for decentralized production and centralized on-line marketing of meat and sea foods.

Integrated livestock farming: By opting for integrated livestock farming (two bullocks, one

cow, one buffalo, goats, poultry, and ducks of 10 each, along with cultivation of crops), farmers in a tribal area in Gujarat had a cost-return ratio of 1:2.40 times and generated gainful employment of 316 days in a year. This model not only provides nutritional bio-security but also facilitates bio-diversity wherein dung and urine of animals become manure for soil fertility.

Export orientation: India exported livestock products of ₹30,953 crore in 2022 as against ₹7,547 crore in 2010 with a CAGR of 9.42 per cent. The share of buffalo meat was 80 per cent of these exports, as it has robust demand in the global markets due to its lean in character and near organic in nature. However, India does not figure among the top exporters of livestock products mainly due to high cost of logistics, limited value addition, non-tariff barriers, issues related to quality, sanitary and phytosanitary standards.

Therefore, the farmers need to team up with Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) and use quality testing services and residue monitoring done in the 220 recognised labs spread across India.

The government can synergise the collaborative efforts of various Ministries, APEDA, National Dairy Development Board, Food Safety and Standards Authority of India, Export Promotion Councils, commercial banks, etc. to boost export of livestock and its products, especially organic produce. Going forward, livestock farmers should create an export basket of low volume and high value commodities with Geographical Indication tag such as Kadaknath chicken, wool from Angora rabbit and Osmanabadi goat's milk as health elixir. Special efforts are required to develop breeding centres, cold storage chain infrastructure, and packaging and labelling agencies to effectively compete in the international markets.

Assam: Sale of sophisticated powder to make artificial milk

JUL 13, 2023

<https://dairynews7x7.com/assam-sale-of-sophisticated-powder-to-make-artificial-milk-on-rise-in-dhubri/>



There have been reports of rise in the sale of sophisticated powder to manufacture artificial milk in Assam's Dhubri district, calling for immediate action against businesses involved in the adulteration.

After a sting operation, it was discovered that few businessmen in Dhubri were selling a sophisticated powder used to manufacture artificial milk. As a result, the Food Safety Department's attempt to assess milk quality, which is actually a farce, became the subject of public discussion in Dhubri.

It is also worth mentioning here that for a long time, IndiaTodayNE reporter in Dhubri has been suspecting that unscrupulous milk traders are selling a special powder product in place of milk.

Following which in a secret camera, when asked about the powder to a person pulling a hand cart (thela wala), who was transporting a few sacks of 'Skimmed Milk Powder' to a ghat along with other items, he said that the majority of the milk people drink and the tea sold by vendors are made up of this powder. He also mentioned that where the powder is being sold and who deals with it.

Every day, hundreds of litres of cow and buffalo milk are brought into the city by numerous milk vendors from the various char areas surrounding Dhubri. However, neither the district administration nor the Food Safety Department have ever checked the milk's purity.

Accordingly, the milk is sold in a variety of marketplaces across the town of Dhubri, while some milk vendors selling it door to door. Additionally, the majority of the city's small and large tea-and-sweet stores, restaurants, etc. purchase milk from milk vendors which come from char areas.

However, since there is no minimum equipment to determine the quality of milk, informed the food safety department's authorities which has actually emerged among the public as a vacuum.

The question that now needs to be answered is if the administration or the food safety department has taken seriously note of a serious problem like the dishonest milk vendors who sell in the city without any restrictions by blending different chemicals and powders or not.

It may be recalled that on July 2, a milk vendor was found to be mixing chemicals in milk on the roadside in front of Kachari Parghat in Dhubri. The incident triggered widespread reaction among people from all walks of life in Dhubri over what is being sold in the name of milk.

Modi Inaugurates 4000 Cubic Mtr Dung-Based Biogas Plant

JUL 13, 2023

<https://dairynews7x7.com/prime-minister-inaugurates-nddb-4000-cubic-mtr-dung-based-biogas-plant-at-varanasi-milk-union/>



Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated NDDB's 4000 cubic mtr (per day) capacity cattle dung-based biogas plant at Varanasi on 7 July 2023 in the gracious presence of Anandiben Patel, Hon'ble Governor of Uttar Pradesh, Yogi Adityanath, Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh and other eminent dignitaries.

Terming it as a pathbreaking step leading to sustainable dairying, Dr Meenesh Shah, Chairman, NDDB said that the Dairy Board has taken several strides towards realising our Hon'ble Prime Minister's vision of "Waste to Wealth" and also taking it forward to "Waste to Energy", which meets the energy requirements of the milk processing plant. This plant is a unique model, wherein thermal and electrical energy needs of a dairy plant is being met by dung purchased from dairy farmers and the slurry produced is utilised as organic fertilisers.

Country's first-of-its-kind dung-based biogas-based plant has been funded, installed and

commissioned by NDDB at the premises of NDDB-managed Varanasi Milk Union, which has processing capacity of about 2 lakh litres per day.

The 4000 cubic mtr/day digester capacity plant run by NDDB Mrida Ltd is meeting the energy needs of the dairy plant. Procurement of 100 MT cattle dung/day is also providing additional income to the district's dairy farmers. Biogas produced is utilised as fuel in the boiler of the dairy plant fulfilling steam requirement for milk processing. Further, available biogas after steam generation is used for power generation. Generated electricity is used for dairy and biogas plant operations. Overall, fuel cost per litre of milk processed will be reduced by almost 30%. It is also estimated that the plant will avoid 21,000 tCO₂ equivalent emissions by use of biogas as fuel.

Substituting Light Diesel Oil (LDO) with green energy will contribute in reduction of crude oil import. Production of good quality slurry-based organic manure will also reduce input cost on fertilisers, boost agricultural productivity and improve soil health. NDDB Mrida Ltd will collaborate with Gujarat State Fertiliser Company (GSFC) and supply organic fertilisers to the farmers of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar.

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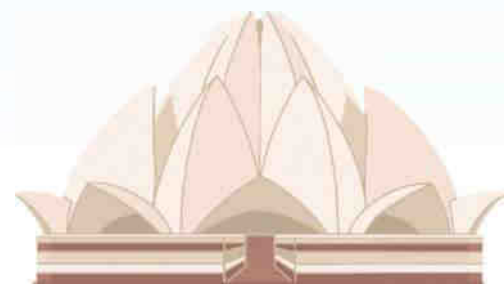


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2023



Punjab to impart free dairy training to sc farmers-Minister

JUL 13, 2023

<https://dairynews7x7.com/punjab-to-impart-free-dairy-training-to-sc-farmers-says-gurmeet-singh-khudian/>



In order to increase the income sources of Scheduled Castes (SC) farmers and give them opportunity to adopt dairy farming, Chief Minister S Bhagwant Mann led Punjab Government has decided to impart free dairy farming training to SC Candidates.

Disclosing this here today, Punjab Animal Husbandry, Dairy Development and Fisheries Department Minister Mr. Gurmeet Singh Khudian said that Punjab Dairy Development Board will impart free dairy training to SC Dairy Farmers, besides providing them a stipend of Rs. 350 per day during the training.

During the training, he said that candidates would be trained in purchase & care of milch animals, breed improvement, making products from the milk, seasonal diseases in animals, cattle feed preparation at home, growing green fodder throughout the year etc.

Mr Gurmeet Singh Khudian said that the training will be conducted at nine training centers situated at Chatamli (Rupnagar), Bija (Ludhiana), Phagwara (Kapurthala), Sardulgarh (Mansa), Verka (Amritsar), Gill (Moga), Abul Khurana (Sri Muktsar Sahib), Tarn Taran and Sangrur. The training will be imparted in three batches under this scheme. First Batch has been scheduled from July 24 to August 4, 2023 and counseling for the same will be held on July 17. The second batch will be organised from September 25 to October 6, 2023 and counseling will be held on September 18 and the third Batch will be held from November 28 to December 8, 2023 and counseling will be on November 20.

Divulging about the eligibility criteria, the Cabinet Minister said that candidates aged between 18-50 years (male and married female) can apply for the training and they must be 5th pass, besides belonging to rural areas. One day exposure visit and training kit will also be provided to them.

He asked the eligible beneficiaries to contact their nearest Office of Deputy Director Dairy Development. For further any enquiry, aspiring candidates can contact Dairy Development Department, Punjab at phone no. 0172-5027285.

A.P.'s Shreeja dairy turns ten years old

JUL 12, 2023

<https://dairynews7x7.com/a-p-s-shreeja-dairy-turns-ten-years-old/>



Shreeja Mahila Milk Producer Company (SMMPC), the world's largest women-owned and women-managed dairy that has helped lakhs of women achieve social and economic empowerment, has turned ten years old.

Started with just 27 members, it has reached the stage of being proudly owned by 1.09 lakh women, all of them cattle-rearing women from the countryside.

Chairperson S. Sridevi and Chief Executive Officer Jayateertha Chary announced a bonus of

₹10 crore to the shareholding women, at the tenth anniversary celebrations held here on Monday. "Since its inception, Shreeja has disbursed ₹30 crore as bonus and dividend, along with an impressive ₹3,600 crore towards milk bill payments," Mr. Chary added.

The company's operations are spread across Rayalaseema and Nellore districts, and it has received an invitation to expand into Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Telangana. In recognition of its outstanding achievements, Shreeja has been selected as the implementing agency for a prestigious sex-sorted semen project in Rayalaseema region, under the Rashtriya Gokul Seva Mission, which is all set for launch on August 15.

With 200 milk parlours in the region, the company is planning to set up 600 more parlours in the next three years.

Bain Capital in talks to buy controlling stake in Vadilal: Report

JUL 11, 2023

<https://dairynews7x7.com/bain-capital-in-talks-to-buy-controlling-stake-in-ice-cream-maker-vadilal-report/>



Private equity firm Bain Capital is reportedly in talks to buyout home-grown ice-cream maker Vadilal. Bain Capital is eyeing a controlling stake in the combined entity of Vadilal Industries, Vadilal Enterprises and Vadilal brand.

According to a report in Moneycontrol, Arpwood Capital has been in talks to buy a stake in Vadilal and had given an offer to the promoters of the ice-cream maker.

Vadilal has been valued at over Rs 3,000 crore as per the deal.

Shares of Vadilal Industries jumped 10.87 per cent to hit a high of Rs 3,076.95 on BSE. Shares of Vadilal Enterprises closed at Rs 3,805.10, down 1.67 per cent, following the buyout reports.

This is not the first time the promoters of Vadilal have explored a stake sale. Arpwood Capital had earlier offered to buy a stake in the company. The sale was delayed due to a promoter dispute.

According to the report, Vadilal Industries had taken shareholder approval in December 2022.

The food and beverage company had humble beginnings in 1926 with the first outlet in Ahmedabad. Its origins can be traced back to the Vadilal Soda Fountain outlet in 1926.

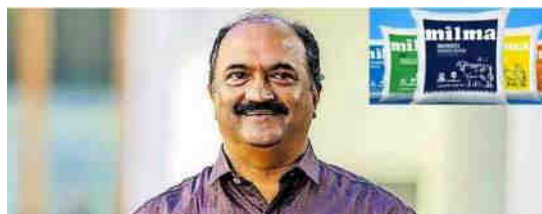
Vadilal manufactures ice-cream, flavoured milk, frozen dessert, other dairy products, as well as processes and exports processed food products such as frozen fruits, vegetable, pulp, ready-to-eat and ready-to-serve products etc.

The company has two ice-cream production facilities – one in Gujarat and the other in Uttar Pradesh.

Dairy sector in Kerala is exemplary: K.N. Balagopal

JUL 11, 2023

<https://dairynews7x7.com/dairy-sector-in-kerala-is-exemplary-k-n-balagopal/>



The functioning of dairy sector in Kerala is exemplary, Finance Minister K.N. Balagopal has said.

Inaugurating the headquarters of the Vendar dairy cooperative, he added on Sunday that the government had been implementing many programmes for the welfare of dairy farmers. “Through the newly launched mobile veterinary units in the State, services can be provided at the doorsteps of farmers. The government is making various interventions to help the farmers take on the challenges in the dairy sector. More timely development projects will

be implemented in animal husbandry and dairy development sectors,” he said.

Deputy Speaker Chittayam Gopakumar, who inaugurated the Automatic Milk Collection Unit of the cooperative, said that the government had been devising and implementing many schemes to achieve self-sufficiency in milk production.

“Mobile veterinary units will be helpful in identifying and curing diseases at the earliest. The government will take all necessary steps are taken to ensure the welfare of dairy farmers,” he said. Kulakkada grama panchayat president-in-charge Kottayil Raju presided over the function while district panchayat member R. Rashmi, cooperative society president B. Harikumar, and Deputy Director Dairy Development B.S. Nisha, were also present on the occasion.

Milk procurement price to increase by Rs 5/lit in Karnataka

JUL 10, 2023

<https://dairynews7x7.com/milk-procurement-price-to-increase-by-rs-5-lit-in-karnataka-says-minister/>



The state government is contemplating increasing the procurement price for milk by Rs 5 per litre, said cooperation minister KN Rajanna on Saturday.

At a review meeting of Mysuru region, the minister said that the farmers were facing issues due to high production costs. In an effort to bring down the cost and the competition from neighbouring states of Kerala and Tamil Nadu, the state government was in discussion with the officials to increase procurement price. A decision on this will be taken soon in the next cabinet meeting.

When asked about the possible merger of KMF with Amul, Rajanna said that there was no such proposal with the government and added that Nandini would be further strengthened to compete with private companies.

Rajanna also said that the cooperative department would also work towards starting Primary Agriculture Cooperative Societies at the village panchayat level to help farmers. The minister also suggested the cooperative department officials take initiatives to open hostels for girl students to facilitate their higher education and added that measures would be taken to open Jan Aushad Kendras by the cooperative department for the benefit of the general public.

Speaking about the proposed repeal of the Anti-Cow Slaughter Bill, Rajanna said that there was a need to bring a law that would be beneficial for the farmers and added that you can't stop or compel a person from consuming non-vegetarian food.

KN Rajanna took a dig at H D Kumaraswamy stating that the former CM had no strong evidence against the government in the alleged cash-for-transfer scam. "Just by displaying a mere pen drive, Kumaraswamy cannot prove anything. If the former CM has any proof let him release it in the public domain. By not releasing, is he trying to negotiate a deal?", he questioned.

Ramp up production of Nandini ghee, says Minister

JUL 10, 2023

<https://dairynews7x7.com/ramp-up-production-of-nandini-ghee-says-minister/>



Minister for Cooperation K.N. Rajanna has urged dairy farmers and Karnataka Milk Federation (KMF) to ramp up production of ghee as there is demand for it in Tirupati.

The Minister, who reviewed the functioning of the cooperative banks and cooperative societies and institutions in the city on Saturday, said Nandini brand ghee, produced and marketed by KMF, was used for the preparation of the famous Tirupati ladoos and hence there was scope for shoring up production to meet the demand.

Mr. Rajanna also urged the dairy farmers to increase milk production to cater to the rising demand. Noting that the fodder and feed for animals had increased, the Minister said the subsidy amount should be credited directly to the account of farmers regularly.

The Minister also took stock of the irregularities and complaints in the cooperative department and the number of civil and criminal cases pending in the court. Noting that the number of unresolved cases was high, the Minister directed the officials to expedite the inquiry into them or submit relevant documents to court to bring the guilty to book.

He also cautioned the officials of cooperative banks and institutions against any misuse of funds and warned of stringent action in case there were any such reports or complaints against them. Representatives of cooperative societies from eight districts attended the review meeting.

With respect to the extension of financial advances to farmers, bank officials were asked to ensure scrutiny of applicants before sanctioning loans. With respect to the recovery of loans, the authorities should follow the prescribed rules and abide by them, Mr. Rajanna added.

Registrar of cooperatives Rajendra and officials from various cooperative banks and institutions were present.



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Ksheera Santhwanam insurance for dairy farmers to be revived

JUL 6, 2023

[HTTPS://DAIRYNEWS7X7.COM/KSHEERA-SANTHWANAM-INSURANCE-FOR-DAIRY-FARMERS-TO-BE-REVIVED-SAYS-MINISTER/](https://dairynews7x7.com/ksheera-santhwanam-insurance-for-dairy-farmers-to-be-revived-says-minister/)



The comprehensive insurance scheme for dairy farmers, Ksheera Santhwanam, will be revived soon with the State Government approving it, said Minister for Animal Husbandry and Dairy Development J Chinchurani.

The Minister said this while launching the official website and e-commerce portal of Trivandrum Regional Co-operative Milk Producers Union (TRCMPU), enabling customers to make online purchases of Milma's products.

Speaking at the launch function, the Minister said the insurance scheme, shelved recently, offered health and life insurance for dairy farmers and their families, besides cover for livestock. The Minister congratulated TRCMPU on creating the website <https://milmatrcmpu.com/>, enabling Milma's consumers to order dairy products from anywhere.

Chinchurani said although the State Government has limitations in curtailing the influx of

milk from other states, it has taken effective measures to check aggressive cross-border sales by other state brands violating the cooperative principles.

She emphasized increasing milk production in the State by increasing the interval between two milkings, bringing more people to dairy farming and ensuring the supply of good quality cattle feed at affordable prices.

The Minister said the government is planning to extend the Milma @school projects to colleges also.

Chinchurani also felicitated the recently-retired 36 secretaries of milk cooperative societies of four southern districts in 2022-23 on the occasion. Noting that the service of the employees of primary dairy cooperatives is commendable, she said by conducting such a farewell for them, TRCMPU has set a model which can be emulated.

Convener of TRCMPU Administrative Committee, N Bhasurangan, said TRCMPU is the first of the three regional unions of Milma to launch its own e-commerce portal. Apart from giving a comprehensive overview of Milma and TRCMPU, the website offers a range of products that can be purchased from any part of the world.

How quick commerce is revolutionising India's dairy cooperatives

JUL 6, 2023

[HTTPS://DAIRYNEWS7X7.COM/CHAMPIONING-THE-NEW-MILKY-WAY-HOW-QUICK-COMMERCE-IS-REVOLUTIONISING-INDIAS-ENORMOUS-DAIRY-COOPERATIVES/](https://dairynews7x7.com/championing-the-new-milky-way-how-quick-commerce-is-revolutionising-indias-enormous-dairy-cooperatives/)

It is a matter of great pride for the quick commerce sector that it is providing meaningful support to the dairy sector, which brings more than two crore farmers from more than two lakh Indian villages into its fold, in its journey of manufacture and distribution

Earlier this month, when the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) observed “World Milk Day”, India, which contributes almost a fourth of the world’s milk production, deservedly held center stage. India’s success story as a leader in milk production is a beautiful mosaic of the success of various cooperative dairy brands across the country, each enjoying immense trust amongst the producers (farmers) and consumers in its State. Some brands even have a pan-India appeal. However, owing to distribution challenges and supply chain constraints, the unorganized sector continues to account for almost one fourth of total milk distribution. This leads to problem of milk contamination and debasement – a concern that has been highlighted previously by Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI).

The fast-emerging “quick commerce” sector has the potential to address this problem and yield other benefits for dairy cooperatives and consumers. Quick commerce is presently a \$700 million market in India, and almost a fourth of all orders placed daily have a milk component – a milk pouch, a milk carton, or a dairy product such as cheese, curd, or ghee. Almost all the milk produced comes from the organised sector, a bulk of it from cooperatives. In less than three years since it came into being, quick commerce has become a highly effective distribution channel for dairy cooperatives. Products from cooperatives are some of the highest-selling items on quick commerce platforms. In some cases, quick commerce companies are the biggest business to consum-

ers (B2C) distribution channel for milk cooperatives. This trend is already showing an immense promise of improving the distribution and reach of dependable brands and helping reduce a consumer’s dependency on unorganised sector – where several instances of spurious milk have been found.

Many of the quick commerce companies have seen their dairy business grow by almost 100 percent in the past year alone. The cooperative dairy brands, on their part, have seen their e-commerce sales increase by 25-30 percent on these platforms. It is easy to understand why. Consumers tend to be in a hurry in the mornings and late evenings (which incidentally are the peak hours for quick commerce orders), and quick commerce offers them a way to order doodh, dahi, ghee, paneer, makhan, ice cream, and other products from trustworthy brands at reasonable prices.

The other benefit of quick commerce is that it boosts the visibility and sales of milk-based products of dairy cooperatives. While these cooperatives are known, trusted, and preferred for their milk and curd, the other products they offer – such as chocolates, sweets, processed cheese, and more – compete against the distribution and promotional might of competing brands offered by FMCG behemoths.

Quick commerce helps them overcome this disadvantage online. It has become an equaliser by providing detailed catalogues for each product category and improving visibility, recall and orders for the dairy products of cooperatives. Amul Chocolates, for instance, are one of the highest-selling stock keeping units (SKUs) in the Indian quick commerce sector, as are milkshakes, lassis, and cheese slices offered by dairy cooperatives and upcoming private dairies.

Many years ago, the great Dr. Verghese Kurien said that a successful consumer product is an object of thousands of transactions every day, where the brand name serves in lieu of a social contract – a contract that is renewed daily. The consistency of this renewal, he observed, was based on three things: quality of produce, value for money, and availability. Over the years, India's dairy cooperatives have done an

exemplary job in ensuring the first two. Quick commerce is now strengthening the third. It is a matter of great pride for the quick commerce sector that it is providing meaningful support to the dairy sector, which brings more than two crore farmers from more than two lakh Indian villages into its fold, in its journey of manufacture and distribution.

Amul caught in a fresh row over new AP dairy project

JUL 5, 2023

<https://dairynews7x7.com/amul-caught-in-a-fresh-row-over-new-ap-dairy-project/>



Co-operative giant Amul is trapped in a fresh controversy. This time trouble is brewing around its new dairy project in Andhra Pradesh. The dairy major, owned by Gujarat Milk Marketing Federation, is investing ₹385 crore to revive the Chittoor Co-operative Dairy.

While it is geographically a strategic investment for Amul as it is close to the lucrative Tamil Nadu and Bengaluru markets, it is being seen as a political move by the YS Jagan Mohan Reddy Government. The Opposition says it is a ploy to target Heritage, a leading dairy player promoted by Telugu Desam Party leader Chandrababu Naidu's family.

What started as the State's first milk chilling unit in 1969 with just 6,000 litres a day, Chittoor Cooperative Dairy had seen ups and downs, reaching a processing capacity of two lakh litres a day at the time of its closure in 2002. It was referred for liquidation in 2003,

the process for which was never completed. In its bid to revive the dairy, the State Government agreed to pay dues to the tune of ₹180 crore.

Charges against former CM

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Jagan Mohan Reddy broke the ground on Tuesday for the revival of the dairy. Amul has agreed to revive it with an investment of ₹385 crore. In the first phase, it would invest ₹150 crore and would process 1 lakh litres of milk a day over the next few months.

Addressing a gathering later, he alleged that the then Telugu Desam Government had conspired against the Chittoor dairy as it came in the way of Heritage Foods' growth. "Naidu was the main reason for pushing the dairy into losses. It was very obvious that the Heritage group started making profits and the Chittoor

dairy went into losses around the same time,” he said.

The YSRCP Government signed a memorandum of understanding with Amul in 2020 as part of *Jagananna Pala Velluva* (milk flood) to revive the dairy sector in the State. In the last two years, Amul procured 8.78 crore litres of milk in different parts of the State.

He said the prices of cow milk went up to ₹89.76 a litre from ₹32 when the scheme was launched.

Opposition’s stand

The Opposition, however, flayed the government for depending on a Gujarat dairy in the guise of reviving the co-operative sector. The

CPM has asked the government not to hand over the lands belonging to Chittoor dairy to Amul. They objected to handing over 28 acres of land to Amul on a 99-year-old lease.

Citing the examples of Karnataka and Tamil Nadu, CPM State Secretary V Srinivasa Rao asked the State government to strengthen the co-operative sector without the support of outsiders.

Jana Sena Party leader Nadendla Manohar, however, hoped that the move won’t end up just as a lip service. “There is no second opinion that the co-operative dairy sector needs to be strengthened. We need to wait and see whether it will really help the dairy farmers and consumers,” he told *businessline*.

Devoting 14-17 % of land for fodder cultivation will be ideal

JUL 4, 2023

<https://dairynews7x7.com/devoting-14-17-of-land-for-fodder-cultivation-will-be-ideal/>



Currently, India is staring at a fodder crisis with a daunting challenge of producing adequate feed and fodder for its livestock from an already shrinking land resource. In addition, erratic fodder supply during summer/ drought creates a gap in the supply chain. The recent estimated deficit in green fodder is 11.24 per cent, and the country is facing a 23.4 per cent shortage in dry fodder and around 29 per cent in concentrates.

According to some reports, devoting 14-17 per cent of land for fodder cultivation will be ideal for meeting the current fodder shortage. Fodder is being cultivated on 8.4 million hectares

(nearly 4 per cent of gross cropped area) in the last few decades. Sparing more area for fodder is challenging given the intense competition for additional land from commercially important crops. Therefore, there is an urgent need to have practical and meaningful strategies for enhancing feed and fodder resources for sustaining as well as transforming the Indian livestock sector.

Various State research institutions have developed a number of fodder crop varieties and technologies that can ensure year-round availability of quality feed/ fodder for increasing animal productivity. However, their adoption has remained limited. Lack of awareness and knowledge is hindering the maintenance of fodder balance in the country.

Capacity building of farmers is often overlooked in the rush to push the results of research and development products. Most of the farmers in India are poor and face resource

constraints. Agriculture and allied departments are already pressured by their regular activities and often fail to focus on strengthening the skills of farmers. It is well-established in recent years that apart from natural resources and physical capital, human capital is becoming important for agricultural and rural development. Studies have indicated that the education and skills of farmers are significant factors in explaining inter-farm differences in agricultural productivity, along with the more conventional factors such as availability of land and water resources, inputs, credit, etc.

The Agriculture Skill Council of India has launched programmes on animal husbandry and fodder production. The Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying has also initiated the National Livestock Mission to foster entrepreneurship in fodder production and offer incentives for the same. Currently, there are 731 Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) serving as agricultural extension centres, transferring new technologies and research outcomes to farmers. Mandating KVKs to showcase the benefits of cultivating high-yielding fodder crops can bring desired changes in farmers' perceptions on fodder.

Perennial fodder

Small farmers can be motivated to grow perennial fodder grasses like Bajra-Napier hybrid on *bunds* without impacting their cropped area. For large and medium-sized landholders, intercropping grasses with legume fodder can provide a balanced ration. Farmers should be made aware of the advantages of high-density planting of perennial grasses.

Adaptive research on fodder production technology must be encouraged by providing feedback from the farmers' field.

Moreover, imparting knowledge on alternative land use methods like combining trees with pasture (silvi-pasture) and incorporating horticulture into pasture (horti-pasture) have the potential for improving both the quality of depleted habitats and the production of forages. Woody perennials, preferably of fodder value, can be introduced and managed scientifically.

Under poor soil, water and nutrient situations where cropping is not possible, such systems can serve the twin purposes of forage and firewood production and ecosystem conservation. Additionally, the concept of horti-pasture, which utilises degraded lands, is gaining popularity among farmers. The introduction of these systems would alleviate grazing pressure and yield important environmental benefits.

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CM to lay stone for Amul Dairy unit in Chittoor on July 4

JUL 4, 2023

<https://dairynews7x7.com/cm-to-lay-stone-for-amul-dairy-unit-in-chittoor-on-july-4/>



Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy is scheduled to lay the foundation stone for an Amul Dairy unit here on July 4 (Tuesday).

The Gujarat-based cooperative dairy, which took over the defunct Chittoor-based Vijaya Dairy through a 99-year lease, will be investing ₹385 crore, which includes setting up an ice cream plant with ₹150 crore, in the first phase.

District Collector Sagili Shan Mohan, who on Sunday inspected the arrangements for the Chief Minister's visit to Chittoor, said that the operations of Amul Dairy as part of the Jaganna's Pala Velluva scheme would generate 5,000 jobs, apart from empowering several lakhs of dairy farmers in the combined Chittoor district.

Revival after four decades

The cooperative dairy's history in Chittoor district dates back to 1945, when it was established as a milk collection centre. In 1969, it became a cooperative factory, with procurement

of 6,000 litres. In 1988, the unit in the name of Vijaya Dairy expanded its business to 2.5 lakh litres. However, it started witnessing huge losses from mid-1990s with the entry of private dairies.

Eventually, Vijaya Dairy was closed and kept under liquidation with ₹48 crore debts. In 2002, its operations came to an end.

After two decades, the cooperative dairy sector in Chittoor is set to be revived.

Amid protests of the opposition Telugu Desam Party leaders in Chittoor against handing over the dairy to Amul, some farmers maintain that the entry of Amul has brought them good prices. "Compared to five years ago, the price of both cow and buffalo milk saw an increase of ₹10 per litre," Animal husbandry officials said.

CMC HOSPITAL

Mr. Jagan Mohan Reddy will also lay the stone for the construction of a 300-bedded hospital of Christian Medical College at Cheelapalle village, on the outskirts of Chittoor. It was in 2006 during the Y.S. Rajasekhara Reddy government that the Vellore-based college was allocated 640 acres of land to for a medical college and hospital.

From deficit to surplus India's spectacular milk production journey

JUL 4, 2023

<https://dairynews7x7.com/from-deficit-to-surplus-indias-spectacular-milk-production-journey/>



In India, milk is more than just a drink, a staple that never goes out of style. Consumed hot and cold and in all seasons. The country's favourite refreshment and source of nourishment, milk is a dietary delight for Indians across the country. From individuals producing their own milk to mega dairy cooperative brands catering to the calcium cravings of hundreds of millions of Indians, the Indian milk industry has emerged as 'the biggest' and 'the best' in the world.

CEO of Lakshya Food India LTD, Ankit Redhu, from Jind, has prioritised profitability and aims to create more job opportunities on the back of innovative methods used to enhance milk production in the country. There are many individuals like him who have revolutionised the operational landscape of the Indian milk industry, leading to its current status as the best in the world.

As per the sources, India's milk production today surpasses that of the United States by 50 per cent and is three times greater than that of China. Formerly a milk-deficient country that would produce a little over 55 million tonnes of milk during a fiscal year in the 90s, India is now home to 23 per cent of global milk production. Multiple factors including innovation, robust research, technological advancements and government support have enabled India to optimise its milk production.

Director of Sumul Dairy in Surat, Jayesh Patel, tells about the Journey of the Dairy which started with just 200 litres of milk and is now

processing 22 lakh litres (2.2 million) of milk every day. "It has benefitted all, especially the tribal people and as many as 250,000 women who are associated with us. It is because of this that today we are able to supply milk from Kolhapur in Maharashtra and to Goa," Patel said.

Surat-based Shakuntala Ben, a small dairy farmer is a living example of the empowerment of women in India's dairy industry. Shakuntala, who has six cattle, has successfully established her business and is contributing to the larger picture of India's milk industry. The government, cooperative societies and milk processing units in the country are encouraging dairy farmers by providing easy loans, high milk-producing cow breeds and other technical assistance.

As per the sources, India, which produced 116 million tonnes of milk just a decade ago, has almost doubled its production capacity, producing 221.1 million Tonnes of milk in 2021-22. "If the dairy industry of any country is contributing this big to its GDP then it is the Indian dairy industry, which is contributing 10 lakh crore to India's GDP. Dairy has contributed majorly to the Indian economy," said Union Home Minister Amit Shah.

India, a country that produced 210 MT of milk in 2020-21 now has set its eyes on surpassing its own record by implementing the National Action Plan for Dairy Development. The plan aims to achieve a milk production target of 300 million tonnes by 2023-24. It also aims to enhance the per capita milk availability from 444 grams per day in 2022 to 592 grams per day by 2023-24.

The action plan is the result of great government efforts coupled with the high ambitions of the individuals and industry players that have kept the Indian milk industry thriving. The milk consumption levels of the country have

witnessed a substantial rise from 214 grams per day in 2000 to almost double to 427 grams per day. The harmonious cooperation and healthy competition between various stakeholders along with effective policy formation

at the centre has resulted in India achieving the current standing of 'the best' in the global dairy market.

Amul to add 80 lakh litres of milk processing capacity

JUL 4, 2023

<https://dairynews7x7.com/amul-to-add-80-lakh-litres-of-milk-processing-capacity-to-the-existing-420-lakh-litres/>

Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation, which sells milk products under the Amul brand, will invest Rs 4,000-5,000 crore over the next two to three years, largely into milk processing plants across the country. "We would be adding about 15-16 new plants, as we plan to go closer to the consumers," said Jayen Mehta, managing director at Amul.

"We would be adding about 15-16 new plants, as we plan to go closer to the consumers," said Jayen Mehta, managing director at Amul.

The country's largest dairy brand is building a modern facility in its home state Gujarat's Rajkot district, which will produce 20 lakh litres of milk a day, Mehta told BQ Prime. It also plans to set up a plant each in two cities of Uttar Pradesh—Varanasi and Baghpat—to produce 10 lakh litres a day. "We are also looking at setting up new, modern plants in Kolkata and Pune," he said.

In all, it plans to add 80 lakh litres to its existing capacity of 420 lakh litres.

Of the total investment, Mehta said, the company has set aside Rs 1,000 crore for its ice-cream business, part of which is under the government's production-linked incentive scheme. The remaining will be utilised for capacity expansion, new products and upgrading of existing facilities.

The Gujrat-based dairy cooperative collects 300 lakh litres of milk every day, processes it through 98 dairy plants and then markets the

product with the help of its 15,000-odd distributors and a million-plus retail outlets.

Even as the first quarter sales came in double-digits, it was short of expectations, Mehta said. "Consumption of summer products such as beverages, ice-creams, buttermilk were impacted during the quarter."

The company has increased retail prices by 5-6% in the last one year, as against an overall inflation of 8-10%, the MD said. The situation, however, is "pretty good" now, with milk production on the rise. "If the current situation persists, then we don't see any reason for more price hikes going ahead."

Mehta expects demand to remain "steady" during the rest of the year. "We are confident of growing at 18-20% in the ongoing fiscal too," he said.

The company has set a sales target of Rs 66,000 crore for FY24. At a group level, Mehta expects sales to cross Rs 80,000 crore by the end of the fiscal.

Besides, the huge expansion plan that is already underway will take care of GCMMF's anticipated growth target to achieve Rs 1 lakh crore turnover in the next couple of years, according to Mehta.

In FY23, the company registered a turnover of Rs 55,055 crore, indicating a growth of 18.5% over the previous year. The growth is attributed to higher demand for branded con-

sumer products like curd, cheese, paneer, butter, cream, beverages and ghee. The group turnover of the 18-member union of Amul has crossed Rs 72,000 crore during the year ended March 2023.

Fresh milk consumption is increasing dramatically, especially post Covid, as health-conscious consumers shift from loose to branded products.

Besides, Amul is scaling up its non-dairy portfolio, eyeing every item in a kitchen. Its plan to build a consumer goods empire offers stiff competition to behemoths like Nestle, ITC Ltd., Britannia Industries Ltd., Coca Cola and even Reliance.

The company has identified a few new categories to fuel its next phase of growth. These are probiotics, proteins and organic food products.

Amul has already launched a few probiotic products such as ice-creams and yogurt and

Mehta said that the company has now also converted its entire range of buttermilk pouches—30 lakh litres produced across its dairy plants every day—into probiotic buttermilk, to make it available as a mass market product. “One can get the benefits at Rs 30 a litre, which is otherwise available in expensive packs,” Mehta said.

“We are already India’s largest manufacturer of cheese and paneer. Now, we are in the process of launching more protein-rich products like yogurt, ice-creams, cookies, milkshakes, snacking items, cereals, among others.”

The company has also entered the organic food space last year and has launched a few products like organic atta, rice and pulses. “We also plan to launch sugar, jaggery, tea, among others,” said Mehta. The idea is to have every item found in a kitchen to be in an organic form.

Greater Guwahati Dairy Farmers’ raises milk prices by Rs 5/ltr

JUL 2, 2023.

<https://dairynews7x7.com/greater-guwahati-dairy-farmers-association-raises-milk-prices-by-rs-5-per-litre/>

In a recent development, the Greater Guwahati Dairy Farmers’ Association has announced a substantial increase in milk prices in Guwahati, India. According to reports, the decision to raise the prices by Rs 5 per litre was driven by the surge in fodder costs, posing challenges for dairy farmers. Consequently, the new rate for a litre of milk stands at Rs 58, up from the previous price of Rs 53.

The association has highlighted the escalating prices of fodder as the primary factor behind this decision. They argue that the increased expenditure on cattle feed has strained their operations, necessitating a revision of milk prices. However, this move has not been well received

by wholesale suppliers who are now reluctant to purchase milk at the new rates.

Wholesale suppliers, facing the burden of the elevated purchasing price of Rs 58.60 per litre, are opting out of buying milk from dairy farmers. This development further exacerbates the challenges faced by farmers who are left with surplus milk and dwindling avenues for selling their produce.

In response to the resistance from wholesale suppliers, the Greater Guwahati Dairy Farmers’ Association has threatened to bypass them and directly sell milk to consumers. This course of action, if implemented, could potentially

disrupt the established distribution network and lead to a direct farmer-to-consumer model.

It is worth noting that this is not an isolated incident of milk price hikes. In early 2023, the renowned Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation Ltd, popularly known as Amul, announced a similar increase in milk prices by up to Rs 3 per litre. The revised rates set Amul Gold at Rs 66 per litre, Amul Taaza at Rs 54 per litre, Amul cow milk at Rs 56 per litre, and Amul A2 buffalo milk at Rs 70 per litre.

Amul's decision to raise prices was attributed to escalating input costs. In the previous year, Amul had already increased milk prices three times in response to higher production expenses experienced in March, August, and October. Similarly, Mother Dairy, a leading milk supplier in the Delhi-NCR market, also implemented multiple price hikes in 2022, citing rising input costs. In December of the same year, Mother Dairy raised milk prices by Rs 2 per litre in the Delhi-NCR market.

The company highlighted the need for the price adjustment to offset increased input

costs. These recurring price hikes indicate the challenges faced by the dairy industry, grappling with rising expenses and seeking to maintain sustainable operations. Also Read – Chaff cutter machines distributed in Chilabandha Agricultural Development Circle The situation in Guwahati highlights the growing tensions between dairy farmers, wholesale suppliers, and consumers.

The price hike imposed by the Greater Guwahati Dairy Farmers' Association in response to mounting fodder costs has strained the existing supply chain. The reluctance of wholesale suppliers to buy milk at the increased rates poses significant challenges for farmers, leading them to consider alternative avenues such as direct sales to consumers. The decision by the Greater Guwahati Dairy Farmers' Association to increase prices has created a rift between farmers and wholesale suppliers.

The farmers' threat to sell directly to consumers signifies the potential for a significant shift in the market dynamics. It remains to be seen how this situation will unfold and the impact it will have on both the dairy industry and consumers in Guwahati.

Global News

Hunger and Dumping Milk Highlight Global Food Injustice

JUL 15, 2023

<https://dairynews7x7.com/hunger-and-dumping-milk-highlight-global-food-injustice/>



Source: USDA

To borrow the title of Raj Patel’s book, the world is ‘stuffed and starved’ at the same time — and this week served as a stark reminder of the inequalities in the global food system.

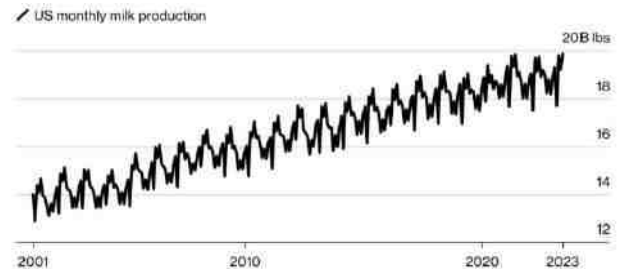
In one example, there’s more milk than ever in the US but nowhere left to process it, so farmers across the Upper Midwest are being forced to pour the excess dairy down the drain.

Unlike other supermarket staples that can halt the factory line when the market shifts, cows can’t just turn off their udders. Milk is highly perishable and needs expensive transportation, and farmers don’t have room to store it all themselves. And most large-scale dairy operations aren’t set up to process their own milk or sell it directly to consumers, resulting in the difficult decision to dump it.

America’s Milk Output Is at a Record High

Farmers keep producing more, even as prices come under pressure

On the other hand, the battle to end hunger in the coming years continues, and so far we’re

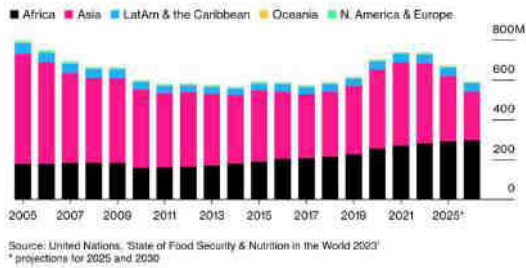


losing it.

The lingering fallout from the pandemic and Russia’s war in Ukraine means about 735 million people — almost a 10th of the global population — were undernourished in 2022, according to United Nations agencies. It looks as if the world will fail to meet its zero-hunger target by the end of the decade. Far too many people simply don’t have adequate access to food.

Chronic Hunger

The number of undernourished people is projected to stay



Source: United Nations, 'State of Food Security & Nutrition in the World 2023'

* projections for 2025 and 2030

And while there are signs inflation in more countries is cooling, worries remain about food supplies especially with heat waves and drought further threatening crops.

Top rice shipper India is considering banning exports of most varieties as the disruptive El Niño weather pattern returns. Such a move could further push up prices that are already at a two-year high. Many importers would likely turn to Thailand and Vietnam, with the former already set to harvest only one crop this season instead of the usual two.

Analyzing the Dairy Industry's Imbalance Issue in USA

JUL 15, 2023

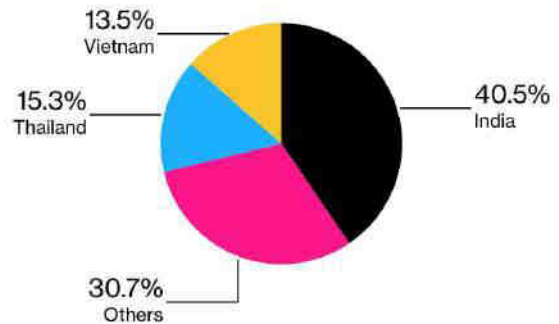
Demand for fluid milk continues to drop, forcing dairy farmers to dump milk, some of it winding up in the Milwaukee sewer system.

Food processing recently reported truckloads of milk were dumped into the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District because demand for fluid milk has fallen. Ninety percent of Wisconsin milk is made into cheese, but there's a lack of cold storage facilities to handle the surplus.

The report said sewer district officials did not reveal how much milk was dumped or how long the dumping had been going on, but the amount likely was in the hundreds of thousands of gallons. A spokesman told reporters the dumping had declined to five truckloads a

India Is the World's Biggest Rice Exporter

Share of global trade in 2022-23



Source: USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

There's also continued uncertainty over the Ukraine grain export deal, which is up for renewal in a matter of days.

Moscow has repeatedly threatened to exit the crucial accord that has helped crop cargoes head to countries in Europe, Africa and Asia. The UN Secretary-General said there hasn't yet been a reply to a letter sent to Russia outlining a proposal on the deal.

week, with each truck carrying as much as 7,000 gallons.

The milk had to be treated by Earth Environmental to bring the effluent up to Environmental Protection Agency standards before it could be released into Lake Michigan

The Wisconsin Cheese Makers Association called the dumping unfortunate. Association executive director John Umhoefer told WITI the following:

"This is perfectly good milk. We do believe this will come to an end swiftly, but right now we are in an imbalance. It's a shame."

The dumping is not exclusive to Wisconsin. Wisconsin State Farmer recently reported more than 60 members of Associated Milk Producers

Inc. were told to dump their milk. The Association has members in Iowa, Minnesota and Wisconsin. The report said it appeared the co-op was rotating which members were being told to dump their production.

Sarah Schmidt, AMPI vice president of marketing, said there are at least two factors involved: Schools are closed for the summer, and milk from outside the Upper Midwest is working its

way into the region. Additionally, one creamery in Minnesota was ordered closed for 30 days to make repairs.

Wisconsin State Farmer reported that milk prices are much lower than anticipated. Wisconsin produces about 14% of U.S. total production, the second largest producer behind California.

Human Breast Milk Compound Alters Brain Growth in Mice

JUL 15, 2023

<https://dairynews7x7.com/human-breast-milk-compound-alters-brain-growth-in-mice/>



Human breast milk is a nutrient-rich mix that helps nurture newborns through an essential period of development. New evidence suggests that one particular compound derived from breast milk, the sugar *myo*-inositol, might play an important role in the maturation of the newborn brain.

The research was published in *PNAS*.

A vital period for the developing brain

Human milk helps the human body develop through a period of unrivalled change. Over the first year of life, babies usually triple their body weight. To encourage this growth, milk contains proteins and important fats and carbohydrates, alongside a rich cocktail of immune-boosting molecules like cytokines and antibodies .

The first 12 months of an infant's life is also a transformative period for the brain. Researchers have noted that in this early stage of life, the barriers between the gut, bloodstream and brain are unusually fragile, suggesting that what babies consume is [likely](#) to have an outsize impact on how their brains develop.

In a new study, a multi-institution team analyzed the rich milieu of breast milk stored during the Global Exploration of Human Milk study. Using samples from Mexico City, Shanghai and Cincinnati, the team looked at how molecular contributions to breast milk changed over the first year of life, with the aim of analyzing the ingredients that might be most prominent during important periods of infant brain growth. During the first few weeks after birth, the human brain starts rapidly forming neuronal connections, imprinting circuits that will serve the brain throughout life.

In breast milk sampled from mothers while their infants were in this early stage of life, the team noted that levels of the sugar *myo*-inositol were consistently high, before dropping off towards the end of the first year, a change which mimics the density of synaptic connections in the growing brain. Similar levels of the sugar were seen across all three sample sites.

Milk for mice

The team decided to assess *myo*-inositol's effect on the brain using a handful of different lab techniques. First, they showed that human neurons exposed to *myo*-inositol exhibited higher levels of a marker called Homer, which is linked to the development of post-synaptic connections. No such effect was seen for an equivalent pre-synaptic marker called Bassoon.

The effects appeared to be stronger in mouse neurons exposed to *myo*-inositol – these cells showed increases of roughly 40% in levels of both Homer and Bassoon.

The researchers then took their work a step further, by feeding newborn mouse pups a *myo*-inositol supplement everyday from birth

to postnatal day 35. At this point, their visual cortexes, a region of the brain that rapidly develops after birth, were examined for markers of synaptic growth. While the density of these markers did not change in *myo*-inositol-fed pups, the size of each marker seen increased. This, say the authors, further supports the theory that *myo*-inositol can increase branching in the developing brain.

Excitingly, a final experiment showed that *myo*-inositol is also able to exert its effects on mature brain tissue samples. The authors want to further explore their findings in future research, writing, "it will be of interest to determine whether *myo*-inositol's effects on synapses in the maturing cortex are sustained over time."

IDF World Dairy Summit Heads to US-Be Dairy

JUL 13, 2023

<https://dairynews7x7.com/idf-world-dairy-summit-heads-to-us-be-dairy/>



Hundreds of dairy industry professionals from around the world will gather in Chicago this fall for the International Dairy Federation [International Dairy Foundation](#) World Dairy Summit.

Shawna Morris, senior vice president of trade policy for the National Milk Producers Federation and the U.S. Dairy Export Council, says the time is right to bring the summit to the U.S.

"We had a record year in exports last year, we're very well-poised to continue to grow in the years to come, and we're leading on so many of the sustainability fronts that are such

an increasing focus for international markets and a lot of the other policymaking developments that our sector globally is working to contend with,” she said. “Those attending are a pretty broad mix across the dairy industry. Normally we see farmers, farmer organizations like cooperatives or farmer groups like those I represent on the National Milk Producers and U.S. Dairy Export Council side, a number of processing company representatives, and then others throughout the supply chain. Take advantage while it’s here in our backyard.”

She says the summit will feature sessions on a number of topics.

“Things like looking at what the situation is in global dairy markets, views on some of the trade issues that are becoming contentious

and how to deal with those better looking forward, and taking a look at how we promote sustainability more effectively to today’s global consumers. Also, a number of things at the farm level side, such as how to provide farmers with more support and advance sustainability practices, how to make that more commercially effective for them, and how to deal with heat-stress issues,” she said. “A lot of those attending are from both developed and developing countries, so, it’s a bit of a mix of topics to span that full spectrum.”

Previous locations for the summit include India and Turkey.

The IDF World Dairy Summit is October 16th through the 19th.

New regulations to promote transparency for dairy sector

JUL 12, 2023

[HTTPS://DAIRYNEWS7X7.COM/NEW-REGULATIONS-TO-PROMOTE-FAIRNESS-AND-TRANSPARENCY-FOR-DAIRY-SECTOR/](https://dairynews7x7.com/new-regulations-to-promote-fairness-and-transparency-for-dairy-sector/)



The government has today (11 July) outlined more detail on regulations set to come into force later this year which will ensure supply contracts in the dairy sector are fair and transparent, with farmers being paid a fair price for their produce.

Delivering on a key commitment set out at the Prime Minister’s Farm to Fork Summit earlier this year, the regulations will help establish stability and accountability across the dairy supply chain by enabling farmers to challenge prices, stopping contract changes being imposed on farmers without agreement, and ensuring farmers are able to more easily raise concerns.

The development of the regulations has been supported by detailed discussion with key industry players including the NFU and Dairy UK, and the government has listened to feedback from farmers and processors to ensure the new regulations address previous concerns and provide tailored support for those in the industry.

Farming Minister Mark Spencer said:

Farmers must be paid a fair price for their produce and these regulations will provide price certainty and stability for farmers by establishing written milk purchase agreements with clear and unambiguous terms.

This represents a key milestone in our commitment to promote fairness and transparency across food supply chains to support farmers and build a stronger future for the industry, and will be followed by reviews into the egg and horticulture sector supply chains this Autumn.

The regulations will mean:

- Farmers have clearer pricing terms, with contracts setting out the factors which generate the milk price and allowing farmers to challenge prices if they feel this process isn't being followed. This is a major advance in transparency, which ensures fairer pricing and addresses historical discrepancies in the dairy industry.
- Changes to contracts can't be imposed on farmers without their agreement. This will encourage dialogue between the parties where changes do need to be made – improving trust within the supply chain.
- Farmers' contracts will all include a straightforward way to raise concerns about their contracts, promoting accountability and timely issue resolution.
- There will be clear rules put in place on notice periods and contractual exclusivity, protecting the rights of both

buyers and sellers. This will remove any ambiguity from contracts and protect the rights of both buyers and sellers.

- An enforcement mechanism is created to guarantee the regulations are followed, ensuring a fully fair and transparent dairy industry on a solid foundation to thrive in the future.

The upcoming dairy regulations are part of a series of supply chain interventions confirmed by the government at the Farm to Fork Summit. New reviews will also begin this Autumn to help establish fairer supply chains in the eggs and horticulture sectors, and we announced in April that we will also be developing regulations to improve relationships in the UK pig supply chain.

These regulations have been developed using new powers under the Agriculture Act 2020, and there will be continued engagement with industry to ensure that they meet the needs of the sector and properly address the challenges the sector faces.

NFU dairy board chair Michael Oakes said:

These new regulations mark a significant step forward in the government's efforts to increase fairness and transparency in the dairy supply chain.

For a long time, unfair milk contracts have held British dairy businesses back, and these changes will give dairy farmers much needed business security and confidence, as well as helping to share risk along the dairy supply chain.

This announcement signals that we are on the right path to building a stronger, more resilient future for the British dairy sector. We will continue to work with the government and wider industry to not only benefit farm businesses and the supply chain, but the millions of people who value access to quality, sustainable, nutritious British milk.

A Dairy UK spokesperson said:

Dairy UK has always believed that this regulation should strike the right balance between greater transparency and maintaining the flexibility the industry needs to compete in a volatile and increasingly competitive marketplace.

We've appreciated the engagement provided by Defra during the development of the regulation. We look forward to seeing the final SI and to continuing to work with Defra on the implementation of the regulation.

The regulations form part of the government's wider strategy to grow a thriving British food and drink sector which will put

more British produce on supermarket shelves in the UK and around the world.

It comes alongside wider support for the agricultural sector, with £2.4 billion per year being invested in farming for the rest of this Parliament. This includes support for farmers through our new environmental land management schemes, with an expanded and improved Sustainable Farming Incentive 2023 offer announced last month, as well as enabling the sector to harness new opportunities for the development of automatic and robotic technologies on farms as part of our [£270 million Farming Innovation Programme](#).

Who Will Solve Israel's Milk Crisis? Not Bezalel Smotrich

JUL 12, 2023

<https://dairynews7x7.com/who-will-solve-israels-milk-crisis-not-bezalel-smotrich/>

The neosocialists are in shock. They don't understand how it's possible that there's no milk in the stores. After all, the milk cartel is their ultimate dream. Everything there is planned and orchestrated from above in true North Korean style, so how is it possible that there's a shortage of milk?

No other place in the Western world has a milk market like Israel's. It's a cartel run by the Israel Dairy Board, comprised of dairy farmers, who set the price of raw milk for themselves, which is why it's so high. The price is set on the basis of the Bolshevik system of cost-plus, and the results are predictable – inefficient dairies and milk prices that are 30 percent higher than in Europe.

The dairy board also determines how much milk each farm will produce, and the farms are forbidden to produce more. And obviously, when the price for raw milk is so high, prices for dairy products will also be sky-high (aside

from price-controlled products). The cartel suffers from other problems as well – mediocre product quality and not much variety, as befits a socialist economy.

To maintain these outrageous prices, the state imposes high protective tariffs that prevent the import of milk and other dairy products (aside from small, temporary quotas). That enables the dairy farmers to celebrate all the way to the bank, while the public pays and weeps.

A few days ago, after consumers' cries had reached the heavens, [Finance Minister Bezalel Smotrich](#) graciously took a brief break from his important business regarding the settlements and the government's planned legal overhaul to deal with what finance ministers are supposed to deal with. He announced, very belatedly, that he was canceling the tariff on milk (40 percent) for three months to allow cheap imports from Europe.

Smotrich doesn't understand that the chances of milk actually being imported are very small. It doesn't pay to sign an import contract for just three months. It doesn't pay to invest in logistics and kashrut certification (a major obstacle, and an expensive one) when the business will last for only 90 days.

Smotrich also forgot to mention that he is the person primarily to blame for the shortage. For a year and a half now, dairies have been arguing (correcting) that production costs have increased, so making price-controlled milk no longer pays. But Smotrich violated a written agreement with them and, with typical arrogance, let them raise prices by just 9.3 percent instead of the 16 percent they needed.

The dairies, unwilling to lose money, then slashed their production of price-controlled milk and switched to making enriched or lactose-free milk, which aren't price-controlled. And thus a shortage was created.

The story is remarkably similar to the butter crisis of 2021, when the dairies stopped making butter, creating a shortage, because the prices of the price-controlled product hadn't been updated. The shortage continued until

tariffs were canceled, imports began and the shortage disappeared.

Smotrich is a particularly bad finance minister. He is working the equivalent of a quarter-time job. He shows up at the ministry only twice a week, and even then just for a few hours in the evening. His office isn't functioning, and ministry staffers say they've been taken prisoner by a minister who isn't carrying out reforms.

The milk crisis could be solved, but doing so would require abandoning the neosocialist model in favor of a competitive model. We need to abolish the cartel, close the dairy board, remove all tariffs on imported milk and other dairy products and open the market to free competition. Once this happens, dairy farms will become more efficient, prices will fall, quality will improve, variety will increase, exports will begin and the dairy farmers will earn even more than they do now.

But for this to happen, we need a serious finance minister who understands economics, not a delusional extremist like Smotrich, whose performance to date makes him a serious rival to Yisrael "Herod" Katz for the title of "worst finance minister in history."

Need for Lab-Based Beverage Action as Clear as a Milk Label

JUL 11, 2023

<https://dairynews7x7.com/dairy-defined-need-for-lab-based-beverage-action-as-clear-as-a-milk-label/>



It's the difference between:

"Water, animal-free whey protein (from fermentation), sunflower oil, sugar, less than 1% of: vitamin A, vitamin B12 (cyanocobalamin), vitamin D2, riboflavin, citrus fiber, salt, dipotassium phosphate, acacia, gellan gum, mixed tocopherols (antioxidant), calcium potassium phosphate citrate, natural flavor," ...

and this:



We've warned FDA of the problems resulting from this fabrication, and we hope our warning doesn't fall on deaf ears. After more than four decades of plant-based imposters using dairy terms that violate the agency's Standard of Identity for milk, lab-

based fermenters of single dairy proteins are trying to mislead consumers in the exact same way – by creating a false impression that their slurries of highly processed ingredients are equivalent to dairy.

They're not. And consumers shouldn't be led to believe otherwise.

In a letter to FDA asking the agency to take action against the brand Bored Cow, which is marketing its beverage as "animal-free dairy milk" because it uses a single fermented whey protein (real milk has dozens of protein variants and literally hundreds of different fatty acids), the National Milk Producers Federation notes that "it is baseless, preposterous and absurd" to call such a product milk.

"In the interest of public health, the misleading labeling charade must end before it gets out of hand," NMPF writes. "FDA must act, and must do so now."

Will it? While FDA’s proposed guidance on the naming of plant-based beverages finally admits a problem, the lab-based conundrum shows how its purported solution – allowing imitators to use the term “milk” if they disclose nutritional differences – falls short. It’s not just about the limited nutrition knowledge we have. It’s about the substance itself, and the complex interaction among naturally-occurring ingredients that any honest marketer, scientist or regulator knows we don’t fully understand. That humility, and the need to protect against consumer confusion that’s been acknowledged by the last three FDA

commissioners , is more than enough reason to take action now.

Because without it, the imposters will proliferate, the headaches will grow, and the marketplace will only become less transparent, in yet another abandonment of FDA’s mission to protect consumers. FDA must enforce its Standard of Identity rules on lab-based dairy labeling now. The need is as basic as the ingredient listing on a bottle of milk. FDA can’t let that clear principle be dragged through the mud – or whatever substances these fake “milks” are made of.

PR firm to fight ban on vegan brands using dairy terms

JUL 11, 2023



Food sector public relations firm Palm PR has launched a campaign which aims to stop new guidance effectively banning the use of dairy-based terms on dairy alternatives.

The Grocer reported in May that new draft guidance from the Food Standards & Information Focus Group was being prepared to help Trading Standards officers interpret and enforce laws on how dairy alternatives are described in packaging and marketing .

As well as preventing use of the word ‘milk’ for plant based products, the updated guidelines suggest also banning brand names and product name descriptors such as ‘mylk’ and ‘m*lk’, plus statements such as ‘not milk’, marketing

images that invoke milk, and use of terms such as ‘an alternative to x’ or ‘yoghurt-style’.

Such a move has been branded potentially “devastating” by plant-based brands, which lead Palm PR, which represents several such businesses, to launch a campaign and a petition on change.org in a bid to retain the status quo.

Palm said it had already garnered support from The Vegan Society and vegan charity Viva, along with “multiple businesses and key opinion leaders in the category”, Nush Foods, Moving Mountains and One Planet Pizza.

Imposing the new guidelines would “prevent there being a level playing field between categories, instead dampening innovation and adding costs to businesses already battling rising prices”, the agency said.

“People have understood plant-based terms for centuries, with the earliest mentions of soya milk in written text dating back to 1365 and almond milk in a 13th century cookbook,” it added.

Plant-based brands raise alarm over alt-dairy marketing guidance

“It’s clear consumers are well-versed in plant-based dairy terminology, and Palm PR’s petition demonstrates that Trading Standards’ guidelines only create limitations for the sector.”

In addition to halting the issuing of the guidelines, Palm said it also hoped the campaign would encourage Trading Standards to evolve its overall guidelines “to better fit a modern and dynamic food and drink industry”.

“We believe the vegan sector can live in harmony alongside the rest of the food and drink

industry, that it’s possible to support both the plant-based and non-vegan parts of the market and that the plant-based industry’s success reinforces the success of all of the UK’s food and drink economy ,” said Palm founders Emily and Liam Keogh.

“We also believe the UK’s vegan food industry is an incredible part of the economy and should be celebrated – it’s a world-leader, generates millions of pounds of revenue a year and promotes more choice for consumers.”

There was “no evidence” consumers were confused when buying plant-based dairy alternatives, and to argue that terms such as “not milk” and “sheese” are confusing and should be banned was “ridiculous”, said Vegan Society CEO Steve Hamon.

“This proposed measure is based on outdated regulations and appears to be driven solely by commercial interests rather than consumer interests. Instead, it would actually limit consumer choice and work to suppress innovation in the green plant-based industry, where the UK should be a world leader.”

Milk and other dairy products may benefit people with gout

JUL 11, 2023

<https://dairynews7x7.com/milk-and-other-dairy-products-may-benefit-people-with-gout/>



Milk and other dairy products may benefit people with gout. The proteins in dairy products can help the body get rid of uric acid and may help lower uric acid levels to prevent gout crystals.

A diet high in purines may lead to excess uric acid in the body. Purines occur in certain animal and plant foods. If uric acid builds up, it can lead to deposits of sharp crystals that cause gout.

According to the Arthritis Foundation, consuming low fat dairy products may help lower uric acid levels and reduce the risk of gout flares. Milk also contains proteins that can help the body get rid of uric acid through urine.

This article looks at how milk may affect gout, which types of milk may be best to consume with gout, and the effects of other dairy products on gout.

How can milk help with gout?



Maria Korneeva/Getty Images

A 2018 systematic review [trusted source](#) suggests dairy products may help reduce uric acid levels in the body and reduce the risk of gout. Milk is low in purines. It contains casein, whey protein, and calcium, which may help the body excrete uric acid in urine.

A 2021 research article examined the prevalence of gout in Japan and its potential link to diet.

The article author suggests that skim milk powder containing G600 milk fat extract and glycomacropeptide, a type of protein, improved joint pain and reduced gout flares over 3 months.

Can milk make gout worse?

Rather than worsening gout, milk may be beneficial for people with gout. Certain dairy products may reduce the risk of high uric acid levels and gout.

The Arthritis Foundation advises people with gout to drink low fat milk. Proteins in milk can help the body to get rid of excess uric acid, which may help lower uric acid levels in the blood and lessen the risk of gout flares.

The foundation also suggests following the [Dietary Approaches to Stop Hypertension \(DASH\) diet](#) [Trusted Source](#). This diet advises people against consuming full fat dairy products.

However, the [2021 article](#) looking at gout in Japan suggests all types of milk and dairy products are associated with lower uric acid levels, although low fat versions are preferable.

Other foods that can make gout worse

Foods high in purines can lead to a build-up of uric acid in a person's body, which can cause gout flares.

According to the [Arthritis Foundation](#), cutting out high purine foods from the diet may prevent gout flares in some people.

Some high purine foods to avoid [include](#):

- organ meat, such as kidney and liver
- sugary drinks
- candy and sugary desserts
- alcohol
- high fructose corn syrup, which may be found in highly processed foods, such as fast food
- red meat

Some foods, such as types of seafood and some fruits, may increase uric acid despite other health benefits they can offer.

People with gout can talk with a healthcare professional to weigh the benefits and risks of including these foods in their diet. Some doctors may recommend limiting these foods to smaller portions.

How much milk should a person with gout drink?

Some experts [recommend](#) the Mediterranean and DASH diets as the best for gout and overall health.

According to a [2020 review](#), the Mediterranean diet includes moderate portions of low fat dairy products each day or week, in which a portion equals one glass of milk or yogurt.

The DASH diet includes [2–3 servings](#) of low fat or fat-free dairy product each day.

What type of milk is best?

Low fat dairy or nonfat dairy may be the [most beneficial](#) type of milk to consume for people with gout, particularly in people who also have high blood pressure.

According to the Arthritis Foundation, non-dairy milk options [are suitable](#) for people with gout, such as:

- lactose-free milk
- nut milks
- other nondairy alternatives, such as cashew cheese

Soy milk may also be beneficial for people with gout. A [2018 systematic review](#) found that soy products had a negative link to high uric acid levels and gout risk.

The [2021 research article](#) looking at gout and diet in Japan associates soy products with a lower risk of high uric acid levels. The article author suggests that soy products are essential for gout prevention in Japan.

How do other dairy products affect gout?

Other dairy products [may also be beneficial](#) for gout due to the proteins they contain, such as casein and orotic acid. These proteins may help lower uric acid levels in the body.

Certain dairy products, such as cheese, are high in [saturated fats](#). High fat intake [may be associated](#) with certain health conditions, such as [cardiovascular disease](#) and cancer.

According to the [Arthritis Foundation](#), a nutritious, balanced diet, such as the Mediterranean or DASH diets, may be best for managing gout. This [may include](#) daily servings of low fat or fat-free dairy products but may require avoiding full fat dairy products.

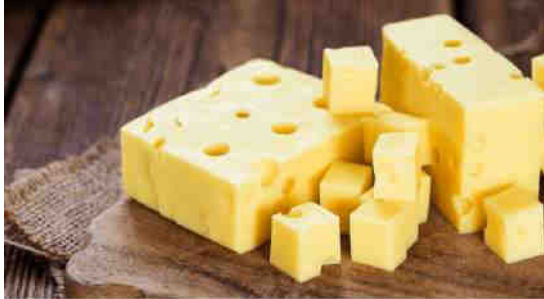
Summary

Diet can play a role in gout due to the purine content in foods. Substances high in purines may increase uric acid levels in the body. High uric acid levels can cause gout.

Milk and other dairy products may help reduce the risk of high uric acid levels and gout flares. Milk contains proteins that help the body get rid of excess uric acid.

Overall, eating a balanced, nutritious diet containing low fat dairy may benefit people with gout.

Switzerland to become a net importer of cheese this year



Switzerland will import more cheese than it exports this year for the first time, according to the head of the country's dairy association.

The opening up of the Swiss milk market has put a squeeze on domestic producers in recent years, prompting some to give up, Boris Beuret told Geneva-based newspaper Le Temps in an interview published Saturday.

Beuret said measures need to be taken to ensure Switzerland — famous worldwide for high-quality cheese varieties such as Gruyère and Emmentaler — can continue to produce for its own population.

“If not, then we will end up importing (cheese), which would be absurd economically, socially and ecologically,” he was quoted as saying.

A third of vegan products contain milk or egg, shock findings show

JUL 10, 2023



More than a third of foods labelled [vegan](#) have been found to contain [animal products](#), leaving

shoppers with allergies potentially facing “tragic consequences”.

Inspectors from Hampshire and Kent Scientific Services found that 39 per cent of [dairy](#) and meat alternative products contained [egg](#) or dairy.

They found 90 per cent of the products marked as vegan to be unsatisfactory as they failed their tests for traces of dairy or had inaccuracies in their labelling.

They included vegan alternatives for chocolate truffles, pizzas, burgers, muffins and wraps.

According to a recent poll by the Chartered Trading Standards Institute (CTSI), 76 per cent of 2,000 people believed products advertising themselves as vegan were free from animal products.

John Herriman, the chief executive of the CTSI, told *The Guardian* that the ambiguity from the “lack of legal definition” of vegan could be “exploited” by food businesses.

He said: “Perhaps of greater concern is that this ambiguity can have disastrous and sometimes tragic consequences for those with allergies to animal-derived products, like [milk](#) and eggs.

“We are aware that people have sadly lost their lives because of this and are therefore calling for more clarity on what can and

can’t legally be described as vegan and plant-based food.”



Over a third of foods labelled [vegan](#) have been found to contain [animal products](#) (Getty Images/iStockphoto)

In 2017, Celia Marsh, 42, who had an acute dairy allergy, ate a super veg vegan wrap contaminated with milk from Pret a Manger’s [Bath](#) store.

The yoghurt dressing in the wrap was later found to be contaminated with traces of milk protein stemming from a starch manufactured in a facility handling dairy products.

In 2022, Maria Voisin, senior coroner for [Avon](#), made several recommendations in a report following an inquest into Mrs Marsh’s death, including improved reporting of anaphylaxis incidents and a robust system to ensure food labelling is current

Two servings a day of whole-fat dairy, makes a healthy diet

JUL 8, 2023

<https://dairynews7x7.com/two-servings-a-day-of-whole-fat-dairy-makes-a-healthy-diet/>



A whole fat diet is not unhealthy and may help avert cardiovascular disease (CVD) and premature death, according to a global study conducted in 80 countries, challenging the recommendation to limit high-fat dairy foods.

The study, published in the European Heart Journal Global study, showed that fruit, vegetables, dairy (mainly whole-fat), nuts, legumes and fish were linked with a lower risk of CVD and premature death in all world regions. The addition of unprocessed red meat or whole grains had little impact on health outcomes.

“Low-fat foods have taken centre stage with the public, food industry and policy-makers, with nutrition labels focused on reducing fat and saturated fat,” said Dr Andrew Mente of the Population Health Research Institute, McMaster University in Canada. “Our findings suggest that the priority should be increasing protective foods such as nuts (often avoided as too energy dense), fish and dairy, rather than restricting dairy (especially whole-fat) to very low amounts.

“Our results show that up to two servings a day of dairy, mainly whole-fat, can be included in a healthy diet. This is in keeping

with modern nutrition science showing that dairy, particularly whole-fat, may protect against high blood pressure and metabolic syndrome,” Mente said.

About 147,642 people from the general population in 21 countries were tested on “healthy and longevity” diet including 2-3 servings of fruit per day, 2-3 servings of vegetables per day, 3-4 servings of legumes per week, 7 servings of nuts per week, 2-3 servings of fish per week, and 14 servings of dairy products (mainly whole fat but not including butter or whipped cream) per week.

The results showed the diet was linked with a 30 per cent lower risk of death, 18 per cent lower likelihood of CVD, 14 per cent lower risk of myocardial infarction and 19 per cent lower risk of stroke.

Associations between the healthy diet score and outcomes were confirmed in five independent studies including a total of 96,955 patients with CVD in 70 countries.

“The associations were strongest in areas with the poorest quality diet, including South Asia, China and Africa, where calorie intake was low and dominated by refined carbohydrates. This suggests that a large proportion of deaths and CVD in adults around the world may be due to undernutrition, that is, low intakes of energy and protective foods, rather than overnutrition. This challenges current beliefs,” said Professor Salim Yusuf, senior author and principal investigator.

Will Consuming Dairy Help You Sleep Better?

JUL 8, 2023

<https://dairynews7x7.com/will-consuming-dairy-help-you-sleep-better/>

Review published in *Advances in Nutrition* finds “a positive relation between dairy product consumption and sleep quality,” but evidence is limited.

Poor sleep quality, defined as having trouble falling and staying asleep, needing medication to sleep, or having difficulty staying awake during the day, is a risk factor for the development of various cardiometabolic diseases, including obesity and cardiovascular disease. Emerging research suggests that for some people changes in diet could improve sleep quality. In particular, dairy products may hold a key to better sleep quality.

Dairy products are notably rich in tryptophan, a key compound needed for serotonin and melatonin production, which in turn are instrumental for facilitating our bodies’ ability to fall asleep and stay asleep. In addition, dairy products provide a range of micronutrients that are needed for the synthesis of melatonin, which could also contribute to their sleep-promoting effects. Despite some promising research, however, the strength of the relationship between dairy consumption and sleep quality remains unclear.

In response, the authors of [Exploring the Role of Dairy Products in Sleep Quality: From Population Studies to Mechanistic Evaluations](#) set out to determine the strength of the association between dairy consumption and sleep quality as well as to evaluate causality by examining the results of relevant epidemiological studies and

clinical trials. In addition, the authors explored the potential mechanisms by which dairy products might affect sleep quality.

According to the authors’ findings, “existing observational and experimental data are limited, yet tentatively support a positive relation between dairy product consumption and sleep quality.” Although more clinical trials are needed to support the review’s findings, the authors believe that supplementing the diet with dairy proteins, micronutrient cofactors in melatonin synthesis, or fermented dairy products confers favorable effects on sleep quality. This is likely achieved through two key pathways: (1) increased tryptophan availability for conversion to melatonin and (2) improvements in the gut microbiome.

Interestingly, the authors found some evidence indicating that the timing of dairy intake may also influence its effect on sleep quality. In one study, for example, consuming a tryptophan-rich breakfast during bright-light daytime conditions led to greater overnight melatonin levels than did consuming the same breakfast under dim-light conditions. According to the authors, “it makes sense that timing of intake could affect changes in sleep in response to dairy protein intake because absence of sunlight is the primary catalyst for melatonin production and secretion from the pineal gland.” As more data on the effects of dairy and dairy proteins on sleep become available, the effect of timing will be an important factor to consider to ensure that recommendations maximize melatonin synthesis and, consequently, sleep quality.

“Although the available evidence points towards a beneficial role of dairy products in

sleep quality,” the authors acknowledge that “several limitations preclude the development of firm conclusions.” For example, few clinical intervention studies have been conducted. The authors therefore believe that “additional studies with larger samples are needed to confirm the causal effect of dairy products and their constituents on sleep quality and to elucidate the effect of dairy products in different participant groups such as male and female par-

ticipants, younger and older adults, athletes and nonathletes, and, importantly, poor and good sleepers.”

Overall, the authors believe that “the studies appraised in this review provide preliminary evidence on which to build the research base needed to make recommendations targeting dairy product consumption to promote sleep quality.”

The Dutch are drinking less milk and eating more cheese

JUL 7, 2023

<https://dairynews7x7.com/the-dutch-are-drinking-less-milk-and-eating-more-cheese/>



In the course of the first two decades of the 21st century, the Dutch were drinking less milk but eating more cheese. This is shown by an overview of per capita consumption figures of dairy products and eggs during 2005-2022, made by Wageningen Economic Research on behalf of Wakker Dier. Consumption figures for butter (oil) and eggs show less pronounced changes over the same period.

Discussions about a less animal and more plant-based diet often focus on the (excessive) consumption of meat and its reduction. But the consumption of animal-based proteins in the form of milk and milk-based foods is also important here. While 21st century meat consumption figures for the Netherlands as a whole show relatively little change so far ([Dagevos et al., 2022](#)), consumption figures for dairy products are

more dynamic. The figures for milk and milk products show a clear decrease in consumption over time: a reduction of about 20% in volume between 2005 and 2021. This downward trend is offset by an upward trend for cheese and quark cheese products: an increase by about 40% over the same period. Apparently, many Dutch people find it easier to forgo a glass of milk or drinking yoghurt than a block of cheese or a tub of quark cheese.

From liquid to solid form

Based on these changes, it can be seen that a relative ‘de-milking’ is taking place in the Netherlands without there being any direct ‘de-dairyfication’. After all, milk is the basic ingredient of cheese and quark cheese products. Dairy is and remains an important product category in the Dutch diet. This does not alter the fact that the total amount has decreased over time. Milk (products), cheese/quark cheese and butter (oil) added up to almost 129 kilograms per person/per year in 2005. For 2022, the counter currently stands at around 110 kilograms per person/per year. This is a decrease of about 19 kg (about 15%).

Methodology

The methodology used to determine per capita consumption for dairy products amounts to deriving consumption in a

given year from the production of drinking milk, drinking milk products, cheese and butter (oil) in that year. Production figures are combined with import and export figures to arrive at consumption per capita.

Economics of direct and indirect approaches to reduce methane

JUL 7, 2023

<https://dairynews7x7.com/economics-of-direct-and-indirect-approaches-to-reduce-methane/>



Dairy farmers are increasingly challenged by consumers, processors, and regulators to reduce the carbon footprint of dairy farming. Targets to reduce enteric methane emissions (carbon footprint) are typically in the order of 25-30%, prompting milk producers to seek strategies for reducing their herds' methane emissions while maintaining an acceptable level of profitability.

With these challenges in mind, efficiency must be prioritised at every link in the supply chain, beginning with the farm. One effective strategy to consider is the use of an independently verified feed additive to assist with the reduction of the cow's carbon footprint.

Nutritional strategies

Nutritional strategies to reduce the cow's carbon footprint can act directly or indirectly within the cow, while presenting different economic considerations for pro-

ducers. Considering direct nutritional strategies, there is a group of feed additives available that exert a direct effect on methane emissions via their ability to directly influence fermentation processes in the rumen. While such feed additives have the proven ability to reduce the cow's carbon footprint by more than 12-15%, they do not appear to increase milk production. As such, direct-effect interventions to reduce the cow's carbon footprint via a feed additive may increase the cost per kg of milk produced on the farm.

In contrast, feed additives that function indirectly focus first on improving the productivity/efficiency of the dairy cow. By increasing energy-corrected milk production while not increasing the cow's carbon footprint, the cow is able to significantly reduce its carbon footprint per kg of energy-corrected milk.



Replacing a sulphate trace mineral source with

Selko IntelliBond offers the potential to reduce the cost per kg of energy corrected milk produced, while also assisting with the reduction of the cow's carbon footprint. Photo: Trouw Nutrition

Indirect strategies to reduce the cow's carbon footprint do not typically increase the cost per kg of milk produced on the farm. Trace minerals provide a good example. As essential nutrients, zinc, manganese, and copper must be included in the ration to support cow productivity and longevity. Replacing a sulphate trace mineral source with Selko IntelliBond – an effective trace mineral source proven via multiple studies to optimise cow productivity and well-being – offers the potential to reduce the cost per kg of energy-corrected milk produced while also assisting with the reduction of the cow's carbon footprint. Multiple studies have shown that this trace mineral source can support optimised fibre digestibility and improved milk production.

Reducing emissions while preserving economics

Given the increasing pressure that dairy producers are under to lower the carbon footprint of dairy farming, replacing sulphate trace minerals in the ration with Selko IntelliBond offers a practical and cost-effective indirect strategy for meeting lactating cows' essential trace mineral needs, while reducing the carbon footprint of dairy farming.

Independent ISO (14040 /14044) verification of any feed additive (direct or indirect) claiming to reduce the cow's carbon footprint is an absolute necessity. A dossier of

5 independent studies was submitted to an ISO-compliant reviewer for verification. The review evaluated the impact of replacing sulphate trace minerals with Selko IntelliBond trace minerals on the cow's carbon footprint per kg of energy-corrected milk. [COWS AND CLIMATE](#) | From the environment and emissions to welfare and feed. Many factors play an important role in how to better manage dairy cows in order to farm sustainably. Here we look at everything from ammonia to carbon emissions and methane.

The review resulted in an independent verification confirming a reduction of a cow's carbon footprint by up to 2% via an ISO compliant model. The verification makes the product the world's first trace mineral source verified via an ISO-compliant review to assist with the reduction of cow's carbon footprint per kg of energy-corrected milk.

Meeting the carbon footprint reduction targets established by authorities and regulatory bodies without raising production costs is challenging. Achieving these targets will require more than switching the source of trace minerals, although this is a positive and cost-effective step toward lowering carbon emissions.

An integrated approach combining improvements in nutrition, cow management, cow comfort, cropping systems and manure management must be part of the solution. Collectively, these approaches can help dairy farms meet challenging targets for reducing methane emissions, while supporting the herd and preserving the economics of dairy production.

Securing a sustainable future-Showcasing Irish Dairy industry

JUL 6, 2023

<https://dairynews7x7.com/securing-a-sustainable-future-showcasing-irish-dairy-industry/>

Crowds were welcomed back to Moorepark today, July 4th, to see the research being conducted and to meet the Teagasc teams and industry stakeholders present.

Laurence Shalloo, Head of Animal & Grassland Research and Innovation Programme, Teagasc, Moorepark, welcomed those attending Moorepark '23, while also highlighting many current and future challenges in the piece below. He explained that farmers who are informed and embrace new technologies will be in a better position to deal with those challenges as they arise.

Securing a sustainable future

The Irish dairy industry has undergone a transformational change since the removal of the EU milk quota in 2015. Since the Irish dairy industry began to prepare for EU milk quota removal in 2007-2009, milk solids output has increased by over 96%.

This increased output has been achieved through increased cow numbers, increased milk yield per cow, increased fat and protein percentages, increased grass growth, increased stocking rate and additional land entering the dairy industry.

Looking ahead, it is clear that the phase of rapid expansion that occurred after 31 years of milk quotas has now passed, and the industry is in a different phase of development. When the removal of milk quotas was first signalled, there were many questions and challenges facing the dairy industry

including the level of expansion expected, the most appropriate milk production systems, developing and funding processing capacity, and identifying and securing markets for increased milk production.

These challenges were addressed by farmers, industry and stakeholders working together. The collective investments made at farm and processor levels have transformed the dairy industry, and were achieved with little increase in overall debt levels across the industry, even though the industry has doubled in size. As we look forward, there are immediate and future challenges to be addressed. A similar positive attitude towards these new challenges is now required to allow the dairy sector move forward in a sustainable manner. These challenges include competitiveness, greenhouse gas emissions, water quality, biodiversity, people, food security and dairy-beef.

Competitiveness

Although there has been significant investment at both farm and industry levels, overall debt levels have remained relatively static at farm level, while debt levels per kg of milk solids produced have reduced significantly.

The largely grass-based systems of milk production have resulted in a low cost production system that has provided a comparative advantage for the Irish dairy industry within a seasonal profile of milk deliveries. Recently, published research studies indicate that Ireland's competitive advantage has increased since milk quotas were removed. This was achieved through a constant focus on grazed grass in the

diet, which will continue to be the key factor driving the competitiveness of milk production system, especially in the face of severe input price inflation as seen in 2022.

The benefits of the system have been further enhanced through the developments within the Economic Breeding Index, which have focussed on selecting a dairy cow with suitable attributes for the system (robust, high levels of fertility and survivability, ability to convert forage to milk, ability to withstand changes in feed supply).

The changes in the cost base observed at farm level in 2022 need an urgent focus at both farm and industry levels to ensure the cost increases can be reversed. Recent geo-political events have exposed the need for increased feed, fertiliser and energy security. Systems of milk production that rely less on purchased feed, fertiliser and energy are more resilient in these challenging times.

The industry must refocus, optimise pasture inclusion in the dairy cows' diet and closely control costs at farm level. At industry level, efficiencies that facilitate cost control must be reviewed, and the additional processing capacity in the industry used to maximise industry returns and milk price. It may be time to review the A+B-C calculations (the C portion in particular) and evaluate whether the volume related processing costs should be increased to reflect increases in energy and other costs.

Greenhouse gases

The biggest and most serious challenge of our time is Climate Change. The Irish government declared a climate and biodiversity emergency in June 2019. Since then policy initiatives regarding climate have been developed, culminating in the Climate and Low Carbon Bill.

In July 2021, the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021 was signed into law. The Act commits the Government to moving to a climate-resilient and climate-neutral economy by 2050.

The required reduction in emissions from Ireland is 51% by 2030 relative to 2018 across society, with an emissions reduction target for agriculture of 25%. These requirements are onerous, and only time will tell if they can be achieved and the implications that will arise if they cannot be achieved.

Clearly, the industry must now focus on the technologies that are currently available for implementation to reduce emissions. These include using EBI, reducing chemical nitrogen fertiliser use through the adoption of clover and better soil fertility, movement away from CAN based fertilisers to protected urea, drainage of mineral soils, etc.



These technologies will be published in a new Marginal Abatement Cost Curve (MACC) for agriculture in the second half of 2023. These currently available technologies can bring the industry on a significant part of the journey to achieve the sectoral targets, but there is also a requirement to develop new farm level technologies, which is a significant focus of current research investment.

Investment in research to develop country specific emission factors will ensure that the national inventory emission factors are

accurate and robust. These include agriculture-based emissions (such as enteric methane across livestock classes) as well as land use and land use change based emissions.

Designing policy where these emissions and emission factors are not robust could result in that policy becoming outdated very quickly. After 2030, when we move to a climate/temperature neutrality goal, there will be a different set of metrics required that reflect the additional warming impacts of the various gases. This will be particularly important when it comes to short-lived gases like biogenic methane, where current metrics do not appropriately reflect the additional warming impact.

Water quality

The competitive advantage of pasture-based systems are based on maximising grass utilisation. Where stocking rate is not high enough to utilise the pasture grown on a farm, pasture utilisation and quality will be reduced, resulting in reduced animal performance.

Reducing the maximum stocking rate from 250 kg organic nitrogen per ha to 220 kg organic nitrogen per ha may tempt some farmers to move away from a pasture-based system in Ireland towards a European model of forage maize/high concentrate feeding system to increase output per cow when stocking rate is restricted.

International evidence indicates that these high input systems are more detrimental to the environment than pasture-based systems. It is anticipated that nitrogen losses from Irish grassland farmers will reduce significantly over the coming years. This will be achieved through significant reduc-

tions in chemical nitrogen fertiliser application (the Food Vision Dairy Group target to reduce chemical N by 27-30% by 2030), precision nitrogen fertiliser application, changes to slurry management and soiled water storage, higher livestock nitrogen excretion rates plus banding, and the extended closed period for chemical nitrogen fertiliser, as outlined in the 5th Nitrate Action Programme.

Better soil fertility, increased use of white clover, better grassland management practices and improved nitrogen management will minimise the impact of reduced nitrogen fertiliser application. It is estimated that these new regulations will result in a reduction of between 5.9 and 9.0 kg/ha of nitrate-N leached to one metre level on a grass-only based system. While this reduced loss at one metre level is not the same as reduced loss to rivers (the lag time can be from months to decades), it can be anticipated that the reduced loss will have a significant impact and will contribute to reduced N loads at the catchment levels over time.

Biodiversity

The Nature Restoration Law aims to restore ecosystems, habitats and species across the EU's land and sea areas. The law will enable long-term and sustained recovery of biodiversity and promote resilient nature.

It will also contribute to climate mitigation and climate adaptation, as well as helping Ireland and the EU to meet international commitments. Restoring the agricultural ecosystems will include positively managing existing farm habitats and landscape features such as buffer strips, hedgerows, stone walls, field margins, woodland, trees, archaeological features, drains/ditches and ponds.

Existing schemes such as ACRES and EIP can help to contribute to restoring ecosystems. A large amount of research is required to identify the most appropriate solutions and their implementation on farms to enhance the quantity and quality of biodiversity.

People

The availability of people to work in the dairy industry is probably the biggest challenge on dairy farms today. Greater efforts are required to demonstrate the types and opportunities of jobs/careers that are available on dairy farms. This is particularly important given the current scenario where there is full employment within a buoyant economy.



The People in Dairy Initiative was launched in 2017 and identified a number of key focus areas that are still relevant today. It is necessary to develop long-term strategies around training, creating career pathways at all levels, providing appropriate farm facilities for staff, investing in farmer HR skills and implementing appropriate practices at farm level.

Developing seasonal business models that allow people to move between industries and creating a culture of awareness that dairy farms are rewarding and positive work places is required. Investing in technologies and practices that reduce the demand for labour will help address the supply/demand balance from both sides.

Food security

When milk quotas were introduced in the EU in 1984, the global population was 4.8 billion; in November 2022, the global population exceeded eight billion for the first time. As the global population grows, there is a corresponding requirement for more food. As population wealth increases, there has generally been a historic trend for increased demand for animal sourced proteins.

In recent years, there has been a significant scientific debate regarding the benefits of animal-based proteins in the human diet. A recent report by the FAO identifies the important contribution of animal source food (milk, meat, eggs) to healthy diets for improved nutrition and health outcomes. How that animal sourced protein is produced, and in particular, the overall impact on net human edible protein production, is an important consideration.

Several metrics have been developed to measure the net contribution of livestock to the supply of human digestible protein (HDP). The edible protein conversion ratio compares the amount of HDP in animal feed with the amount of HDP in the animal product.

The land-use ratio (LUR) compares the potential HDP from a crop grown on the land used to produce the livestock feed versus the quantity of HDP that livestock produce. For both metrics, Irish dairy performs well.

Irish dairy is providing a positive contribution to global HDP production, even where the opportunity costs of the land used for dairy are taken into account (LUR). In the context of global food production, two key questions arise: (1) does it make sense to feed animals food that humans could eat? (2) Should land be used to grow crops to provide food for humans rather than animals?

There is also a related question as to whether or not more of the ruminant products consumed globally should originate from regions and countries where ruminants do not compete for land use (land not suitable for growing crops, climate that better supports grass growth) for human edible crop production, such as in Ireland.

Dairy Beef

There is a significant opportunity associated with dairy beef in Ireland. There has been substantial growth in dairy calf-to-beef production since milk quotas were removed. Financial returns from the Dairy-Beef 500 Campaign suggest that there is potential to generate a net profit of greater than €1,000 per hectare (excluding a land and labour charge).

In this context, the dairy industry must embrace technologies like sexed semen and

the Dairy Beef Index to deliver profitable genetics for both the dairy and beef farmer. There is an urgent need for joined-up strategies between the beef and dairy industries to develop profitable beef systems based on early-maturing animals (lower emissions) and can provide a reward to both the dairy and beef farmers, while helping to decarbonise agriculture.

The live export of calves is extremely important to satisfy a market demand, as well as alleviating a supply/demand imbalance within the Irish calf market associated with the seasonal nature of the dairy industry. A key component of calf transport centres on achieving satisfactory animal welfare, which must be underpinned by scientifically proven strategies that minimise animal discomfort and stress. Policies introduced at a national and EU level must be underpinned by science.

Global dairy growth slumps to record low-IFCN

JUL 6, 2023

<https://dairynews7x7.com/global-dairy-growth-slumps-to-record-low-ifcn/>



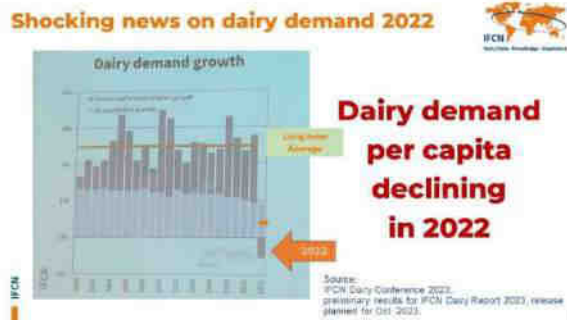
Milk production had been growing steadily at around 2.5% per year but this fell to 0.4% in 2022. This was despite a large number of European and North American dairy farms making a profit in 2022, according to IFCN's provisional results* from typical farms around the world.

Dairy experts at this year's IFCN's Researcher Conference raised concerns about the sustainability of sector and how it will meet dairy demand in the long-term. More than 210 dairy specialists from more than 60 countries attended the conference, held in Latvia and live-streamed around the world.

Challenges facing the dairy sector varied between regions. Developed areas are grappling with environmental and animal welfare challenges, as well as shortages of labour, land and willing successors to take on family farms. Less developed nations are concerned about uncertain economic

and political conditions and a lack of infrastructure to support dairy growth.

The conference's conclusion was that farmers should aim to 'think global but act local' by considering where they fit in the global picture and seeking solutions that work in their own region.



During the IFCN Dairy Conference 2023 in Riga Andrea Lendewig – senior researcher at IFCN shared this shocking number which is still under validation.

1. Despite record milk prices and very good farm economics milk supply grew in 2022 to only 0,4% which is much lower than the normal rate which is ca. 2,5%.

2. World population grew in 2022 by 0,9% and with 0,4 % milk production growth we have per person 0,5% less milk than in 2021.

3. Question: So is this is signal that people move away from dairy products and dairy alternatives will take over the dairy sector?

4. Answer: No this demand decline is NOT a result of consumers' preference shift. It was simply not enough milk available in 2022. People can only consume what is produced.

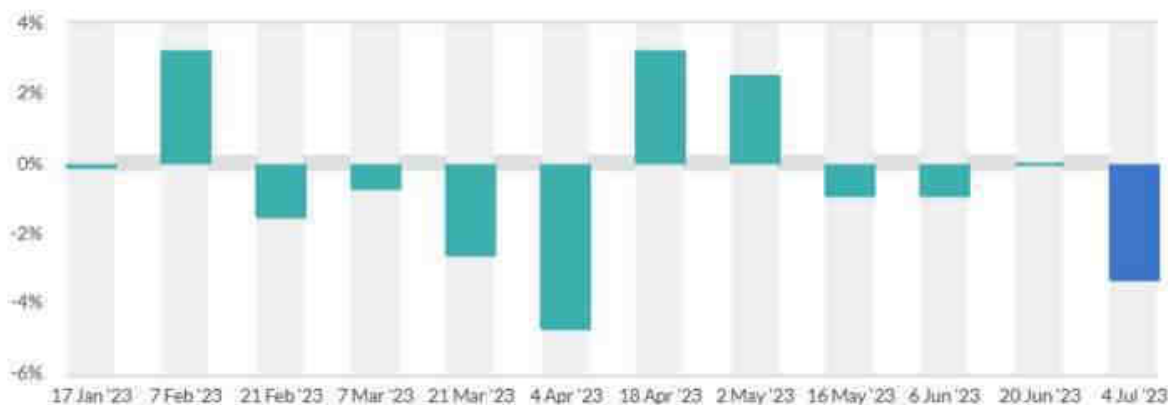
*Based on preliminary analysis available to date, finalised data expected autumn 2023.

GDT price index down over 3% and butter crashed by over 10%

JUL 5, 2023

<https://dairynews7x7.com/gdt-price-index-down-over-3-after-latest-auction/>

Change in GDT Price Index



The Global Dairy Trade (GDT) price index has dropped by 3.3% following the latest trading event held earlier today (Tuesday, July 4).

The price index now stands at 969, a level last seen in November 2020.

Following the previous auction on June 20, the index remained unchanged from the preceding event on June 6, at 1,002.

During today's auction, which involved 140 bidders, the average price for products sold was \$3,334/MT.

In total, 24,837 MT of produce was sold over 14 bidding rounds lasting just over two hours in total,

All of the dairy products offered for sale during the trading event saw decreases in average price.

Butter milk powder (BMP) saw the most significant fall in average price dropping over 11% to \$2,189/MT.

Butter dropped by just over 10% to \$4,842/MT, while the average price of skim milk powder (SMP) decreased by 6% to \$2,525/MT.

Cheddar was down by 3% to an average of \$4,386/MT and whole milk powder (WMP) slipped marginally (-0.4%) to \$3,149/MT.

Anhydrous milk fat (AMF) was down by 3.4% in today's auction to \$4,579/MT.

Sweet whey powder (SWP) was not offered for sale and an average price for lactose was not provided.

Processor

In recent weeks, GDT announced that a Belgian processor is set to join the GDT trading events.

Located in the Ardennes in the southeast of Belgium, Solarec has 58 years' experience in the milk sector, and processes more than 1.5 billion litres of milk each year.

The processor is 100% owned by five cooperatives and operates two production sites supplied by over 2,100 farmers.

Each year, Solarec produces 110,000t of milk powder, 50,000t of butter, and 190 million litres of UHT milk which is sold in 80 countries in all five continents.

The company recently added mozzarella to its product range, with a potential annual production of 32,000t.

Solarec will offer a range of dairy ingredients for at GDT auctions including: Butter; SMP; WMP; and mozzarella.

Link exist between Low Dairy Consumption and Child Stunting

JUL 5, 2023

<https://dairynews7x7.com/research-finds-link-between-low-dairy-consumption-and-increased-child-stunting-rates/>



A recent study has shed light on the potential consequences of low dairy consumption, revealing a correlation between inadequate dairy intake and higher rates of child stunting. The research underscores the importance of dairy products in providing essential nutrients for proper growth and development in children. By examining the relationship between dairy consumption and child stunting, the study highlights the significance of incorporating dairy foods into balanced diets to combat this critical issue.

The Study: Conducted by a team of researchers, the study investigated the dietary patterns and growth outcomes of a large sample of children. The researchers analyzed the data collected from diverse

populations and found a noteworthy association between low dairy consumption and an increased risk of child stunting. Stunting, characterized by impaired growth and development, can have long-lasting effects on a child's physical and cognitive well-being.

Importance of Dairy Consumption: Dairy products, such as milk, yogurt, and cheese, are renowned for their nutrient-rich profile. They are a significant source of essential nutrients crucial for healthy growth, including high-quality proteins, calcium, vitamins, and minerals. The absence or insufficient intake of these nutrients during childhood can hinder proper bone development and overall growth. Inadequate dairy consumption has been linked to an increased

susceptibility to stunting, which can hinder children’s overall health and future potential.

Addressing the Issue: The findings of this study underscore the importance of promoting adequate dairy consumption as part of a balanced diet, particularly in regions where stunting rates are high. Nutrition education programs and awareness campaigns can play a pivotal role in informing caregivers and parents about the nutritional benefits of dairy products. Collaboration between health organizations, governments, and dairy industry stakeholders can facilitate the development of targeted interventions aimed at addressing this issue and reducing child stunting rates.

Diversifying Dairy Options: In regions where dairy consumption may be limited

due to cultural or dietary preferences, efforts can be made to diversify dairy options and promote alternatives that align with local traditions. For example, incorporating fermented dairy products, plant-based milk substitutes fortified with essential nutrients, or introducing dairy-based recipes that suit regional tastes can help increase dairy consumption and address nutrient deficiencies.

Conclusion: The research highlights the concerning link between low dairy consumption and increased child stunting rates. Ensuring adequate dairy intake as part of a balanced diet is crucial for children’s growth and development. By promoting nutrition education, fostering collaborations, and diversifying dairy options, stakeholders can work together to address this issue and improve the long-term health outcomes of children.

Qatar’s Baladna buys more shares in Egyptian dairy peer Juhayna

JUL 2, 2023

<https://dairynews7x7.com/qatars-baladna-buys-more-shares-in-egyptian-dairy-peer-juhayna/>



Baladna, the Qatar-based dairy group, has acquired another tranche of shares in Egypt’s Juhayna Food Industries.

In almost two years, Baladna has built a shareholding in Juhayna of more than 15%. Its latest purchase – of 600,000 shares on 26 June – took its stake from 10% to

15.03%. The shares cost E£7.4m (\$239,000).

In a stock-exchange filing today (30 June), Baladna said it wanted to grow within Qatar and overseas.

“Investment decisions are based on very detailed analysis of the market,” the filing read. “[The] Egypt market, with a population [of] more than 100 million, is a large and promising food and beverage market. Being the market leader, Juhayna is expected to benefit most from the market growth with a strong distribution network.”

According to data from GlobalData, *Just Food*'s parent, Egypt's market for dairy and soy food is forecast to be worth \$5.07bn, up from \$3.56bn in 2022.

Publicly-listed Juhayna produces and markets dairy and juice products.

The company, set up in 1983, has four production facilities.

In 2022, Juhayna generated revenue of E£11.36bn, up 29% on a year earlier. The company's net profit stood at E£638m, 21% higher year on year.

In the first quarter of 2023, the group booked a 42% jump in revenue to E£3.4bn. Its net profit more than doubled to E£339m.

Baladna, based north of Doha, has three factories making dairy products, juices and packaging.

It posted a 27.5% increase in revenue to QR985.6m in 2022. However, the company's net profit dropped almost 40% to QR80.6m.

In the opening three months of 2023, Baladna saw its revenue rise 6.3% to QR254.4m. Its net profit of QR20m was down more than 20% on the corresponding period a year earlier.

During the quarter, Baladna [announced a deal](#) to make The Laughing Cow cheese in Qatar for brand owner Groupe Bel.

Four supermarkets confirm 10 cent price drop on own-brand milk

JUL 2, 2023

<https://dairynews7x7.com/four-supermarkets-confirm-10-cent-price-drop-on-own-brand-milk-but-farmers-concerned/>

Four Irish supermarkets have announced reductions on the retail price of own-brand milk products by up to 10 cent.

This is the second cut to the price of milk which the competing retailers have announced since May.

Aldi said it will reduce the cost “all its own-brand milk products by an average of 10 cents”, but the date for when cost savings will be passed on shoppers has yet to be confirmed.

Lidl has also confirmed that a 10 cent reduction in the price of its two-litre carton

of milk from, €2.19 to €2.09, has been implemented from today.

Meanwhile, Tesco said its own-brand two-litre fresh milk will be priced at €2.09, down 10c, from Monday, July 3.

And Supervalu confirmed it would implement a similar cut from Monday, according to PA.

Lidl said the move will see “€3 million in savings passed directly” on to its shoppers in Ireland.

Chief Executive Officer of Lidl Ireland and Northern Ireland JP Scally said the company is “very conscious of the cost-of-living challenges facing our customers”.

“We have dropped the prices of hundreds of household staple items in recent weeks, and we will continue to drop prices on the items that matter most to our customers.

“We were the first retailer in Ireland to drop the price of milk in May and we’re proud to be leading the way once again with this latest price cut,” he added.

Group Managing Director at Aldi Ireland Niall O’Connor said: “We review the market on a daily basis to ensure we remain the best value retailer. Our real-time focus means we can respond quickly.”

Meanwhile, Tesco Ireland Commercial Director Joe Manning said the company will “continue to work closely with our suppliers to pass on price cuts to our customers whenever we can”.

Independent.ie has contacted Dunnes Stores and Supervalu’s parent company, the Musgrave Group, for comment.

In May Tesco, Aldi, Lidl, Supervalu cut the price of staple products including milk, bread and butter.

At the time, farmers warned that a supermarket price war on milk could be highly damaging for them.

The Irish Farmers Association (IFA) today said the latest cuts are also worrying.

“IFA would be concerned that a price war on milk could do serious damage to those farm families who specialise in producing fresh milk rather than milk which is converted into products with a longer shelf life,” an IFA spokesperson told *Independent.ie*.

“Farmers have faced huge increases in production costs. However, those who specialise in fresh milk produce all year round, including over the winter months, have even higher costs. If these farmers do not get a return to cover the extra costs involved, they will change to producing milk for manufacturing.”

The spokesperson said the number of farmers who are committed to supplying milk all year round has “declined significantly” and while consumers might see price cuts as a positive development, “it risks the medium to long term sustainability of local fresh milk producers”.

Last month, Minister for Finance Michael McGrath said that a move by Tesco Ireland to reduce prices on 700 items by an average of 10% “could be a significant turning point”.

The Government has been put under pressure by opposition parties to take action on ensuring high grocery costs are not fuelling supermarkets’ profits, after major retailers

announced reductions in the cost of milk, butter and bread in May.

At a meeting of the Retail Forum, Minister of State Neale Richmond said that retailers had committed to reducing costs of products where their input costs had reduced.

Bridge the Gap with Dairy Consumers Via Social Media

JUL 1, 2023

<https://dairynews7x7.com/bridge-the-gap-with-dairy-consumers-via-social-media/>

Even if you do not sell directly to consumers, you need to learn how to communicate effectively with dairy consumers and potential dairy consumers.

That was the overarching message of the webinar “Lost in Translation: Communicating Agriculture to Consumers,” held June 16 and sponsored by American Dairy Association North East.

Hosted by Dairy Girl Network Partners, the webinar was led by Emma Andrew-Swarthout, director of Dairy Industry Image, and Kelsey O’Shea, industry relations specialist.

“Communicating ag to consumers is a journey,” O’Shea said. Unfortunately, using social media platforms can feel intimidating to a lot of farmers. “It feels like we get new instructions every day,” O’Shea added.

To communicate effectively, O’Shea said it’s vital to tune in to consumers, translate shared values and tailor your delivery.

From left, webinar co-hosts Kelsey O’Shea and Emma Swarthout pictured touring DeBoover Farms in Phelps, New York. Submitted

“People need to eat, so in our minds, people should go to farmers,” Swarthout said.

But these days, people don’t go to farmers for food or for information about their food. And a lot of farmers are not sure what consumers want, what they want to know or what they need to know about food.

Swarthout said providing context and story to the data makes it easier to understand. That begins with understanding consumers and the stories they want to hear.

Most farmers live in rural areas and already understand how raising food works. While the majority of farmers are still men, among food shoppers, it’s 50/50 between genders.

Although most food shoppers range mid-20s to 65 years old, “It’s really (important) to capture the youth now, even though they’re not the biggest (target) age range,” O’Shea said.

For example, winning a dairy customer while young can mean many more years of choosing dairy.

How people get their food differs from even a few years ago. O’Shea said half of consumers have purchased groceries online for delivery or pickup. This affects dairy purchases.

“Some people never go into the grocery store,” she said. “How do we influence them where they live?”

Social media provides the answer. Millennials, Generation Z, and to an extent, Generation X are active on social media and rely on it for purchasing decisions.

O’Shea added that Gen Z and millennials want immediate answers, expect full transparency and require proof to weed out promotional “noise.”

Where each generation obtains information online differs. The younger the consumer, the more they rely on social media networks in lieu of search engines.

Roughly 58% of consumers have purchased goods online. It may seem easy to dismiss Generation Z’s share of the market. However, O’Shea said they have nearly \$100 billion in purchasing power.

“Gen Z is also a very fiscally responsible group,” Swarthout said. “They’re not willy-nilly spending their money. It will be hard for us to tap into that.”

Plus, by 2030 half of consumers will be millennials or younger. Gen Z begins buying at younger ages through Alexa and Venmo. That is part of the reason why it is essential to tap into this segment of consumers through social media marketing.

Saturation of ‘Milk’ Products

Many farmers wonder why people aren’t buying as much milk. Swarthout said part of the reason is they have so many choices. Bottled water is also taking up a lot of space in that category.

“I know there are times I feel like consumers straight up speak a different language,”

O’Shea said. “They’re on a different planet and don’t lead similar lives (as farmers).”

She added, “How do we find common ground? We want to see where our differences are and leverage them in a different way.”

Inviting consumers to visit farms may provide transparency, but O’Shea said few will come. It’s easier to reach them on social media.

Kelsey O’Shea, industry relations specialist, says hello to a Holstein at Mapleview Dairy in Madrid, New York. Submitted

“Pick a device and the platform that works for you and share your story,” Swarthout said. “Sharing stories that relate your values is the best way to start. Who has sat through a presentation and remembered something because someone shared a story?”

O’Shea added, “Shared values build trust and create loyal consumers. Farmers make up only 2% of the population. But responsiveness is something we have in spades. You can’t send Coke a text message and get a personal response.”

While O’Shea said one person’s personal purchasing habit won’t change the price of milk, that person will talk with someone else. “You speaking with one person has a ripple effect. We need to translate our shared values,” she added.

That’s where it’s important to tailor the message.

“I want to start with making them know who we are, then move them into the consideration stage,” O’Shea said. “How do they feel about us? Then (there is a) conversion. They may feel differently, they

may like it and buy it. Then (comes) loyalty. They want real dairy every time.”

The webinar explained social media messages should be 12-15 words and in language understandable for a 12-year-old. The messages should reinforce the concepts important to your brand and embrace positive language.

Make Messages Engaging

Farmers should communicate their values in fun, shareable content with the key messages laced in it.

O’Shea offered as an example, “Farmers work every day to be the best stewards of the land, the animals and the people (because) it gives a sense of environment (to) the animals and the people.”

This reflects the values of the target market. “In this phase (of the customer journey) we want people to say, ‘I only want real milk because of my experience with a dairy farmer.’”

O’Shea provided a few more tips. “Be timely and relevant as possible. Take them on that journey so they know what’s going on (in a farmer’s world). Everyday tasks and chores may sound dull to you. However, to non-farmers they’re often fascinating,” she said.

Swarthout also encouraged interacting with the audience by liking comments and responding. It’s also helpful to share others’ content, since that helps reach more people.

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