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## FORTNIGHTLY NEWSLETTER

DAIRY PULSE 197<sup>th</sup> EDITION (01<sup>st</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> January 2024)



### CATEGORIES OF THE EDITION

- ★ Dairy News 7X7 Blog: Uncovering the Dairy Landscape
- ★ Indian News
  - Animal Health/Protection
  - Marketing
  - Dairy Policy
  - Regulatory/Legal
  - Survey/Report
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**Dairy Pulse 197<sup>th</sup> Edition**  
**(01<sup>st</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> January 2024)**

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## ATTENTION DAIRY FBOs

FSSAI has mandated all FBOs to upload the 6-monthly lab testing reports in the FoSCoS Portal, or link it through Infolnet Portal.



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## I LIKE THE DREAMS OF THE FUTURE BETTER THAN THE HISTORY OF THE PAST



“I find inspiration in Thomas Jefferson’s quote, ‘I like the dreams of the future better than the history of the past.’ It encourages me to embrace a forward-looking mindset and actively contribute to positive change. Now, let’s delve into the potential double whammy in the weather forecast and its implications for India’s climatic conditions.”

In 2023, global temperatures soared to record highs, solidifying it as the warmest year since 1850. With a global average temperature of 14.98°C, it surpassed the previous record in 2016 by 0.17°C. The year was 0.60°C warmer than the 1991-2020 average and a striking 1.48°C warmer than the pre-industrial level of 1850-1900. Alarming trends continue as it is anticipated that a 12-month period ending in early 2024 will likely exceed the critical 1.5°C above the pre-industrial level. Furthermore, 2023 saw an unprecedented milestone: every day throughout the year surpassed 1°C above the pre-industrial level, with nearly half of the days exceeding 1.5°C, and two days in November reaching an unprecedented 2°C above pre-industrial levels.

After the La Niña phenomenon ended in early 2023, the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) declared El Niño’s onset last July. WMO secretary-general Petteri Taalas notes that El Niño’s global temperature impacts usually manifest the following year, as in 2024. Taalas warns that this year could be even warmer, attributing it unequivocally to rising concentrations of greenhouse gases from human activities.

A rare combination of a strong El Niño in the Pacific Ocean and a significant temperature shift in the Indian Ocean may intensify heat and drought in Australia and Southeast Asia, along with causing flooding in East Africa.

### What if El Niño extends a bit this year?

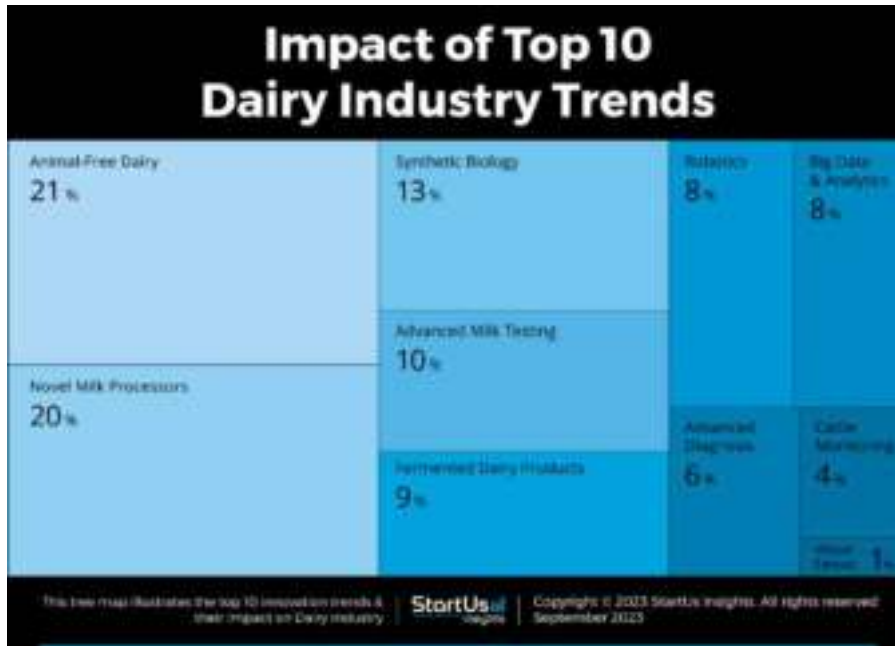
If El Niño persists through 2024, it may weaken the Indian monsoon, causing less rain.

Experts emphasize that each event is unique, and climate change introduces uncertainty about how this combination might compare to past occurrences. However, occurring in a warmer world, any associated rainfall or drought has the potential to be more extreme.

Anticipating a warmer 2024 in India offers a glimmer of hope for dairy processors, potentially boosting demand for fermented milk products, beverages, and ice creams. This could also lead to a more pronounced lean with milk shortages, presenting a valuable opportunity to address the accumulated surplus of milk powders and butter in the country. However, it’s crucial to note that global markets

may not align with the price expectations of Indian Skimmed Milk Powder (SMP), at least in the first half of the year, making domestic demand particularly significant.

Shifting focus to global trends in the dairy industry, it's worthwhile to explore the top 10 trends that have not only gained traction globally but are also making inroads in Indian markets. Start us Insights has conducted insightful research, encapsulating these trends in a tree map to illustrate their impact on the dairy industry.



### Top 10 trends in dairy sector in 2024

The Dairy Industry Innovation Map showcases the impact of the Top 10 Trends in 2024. Innovations include animal-free dairy producing milk proteins without direct animal involvement and synthetic biology engineering organisms for essential dairy components. Technology adoption extends to big data and analytics, optimizing operations and streamlining supply chains. Real-time cattle monitoring and virtual fences redefine grazing practices, preventing overgrazing and ecosystem degradation.

### Highlights of top 10 trends in dairy innovation in 2024

#### 1. Animal-free Dairy:

- Utilizes biotechnology to replicate cow's bodily processes.
- Cultivates cells to produce milk without traditional animal farming.
- Examples include microbe and millet-based products.

#### 2. Novel Milk Processors:

- Integrate automation and data-driven insights.
- Streamline milk production from sourcing to packaging.
- Produce diverse milk products catering to specific needs.

#### 3. Synthetic Biology:

- Manipulates microorganisms genetically to produce milk components.

- Streamlines production, contributing to resource conservation.
- Facilitates creation of specialized milk variants.

#### 4. **Advanced Milk Testing:**

- Utilizes modern instruments for detailed milk composition analysis.
- Enhances supply chain transparency and product quality.
- Aids in preventing adulteration and fraudulent practices.

#### 5. **Fermented Dairy Products:**

- Improves digestibility and flavor through fermentation.
- Acts as a natural preservation method.
- Enhances nutritional profiles and promotes digestive health.

#### 6. **Robotics:**

- Automates tasks like milking, feeding, and cleaning.
- Provides real-time insights into cow health and behavior.
- Optimizes production and reduces manual labor.

#### 7. **Big Data & Analytics:**

- Collates data for well-informed decision-making.
- Guides optimization efforts across the supply chain.
- Forecasts cow health issues, milk production trends, and market demand.

#### 8. **Advanced Diagnosis:**

- Includes imaging, molecular diagnostics, and wearable sensors.
- Enables precise detection of health issues in animals.
- Reduces disease spread and economic losses.

#### 9. **Cattle Monitoring:**

- Uses wearable sensors and RFID tags for real-time data.
- Swiftly identifies health irregularities for prompt interventions.
- Enhances transparency in the dairy supply chain.

#### 10. **Virtual Fences:**

- Utilizes GPS, sensors, and software for invisible boundaries.
- Manages grazing patterns and optimizes pasture usage.
- Reduces reliance on traditional fencing, minimizing environmental impact.

Some of these trends are led by Indian startups like Better bet and Faunatech.

I wish all the readers a very happy new year full of purpose and achievements.

## INDIAN NEWS





## GOKUL DAILY MILK COLLECTION CROSSES 17.5L LITRE MARK

JAN 15, 2024

<https://dairynews7x7.com/gokul-daily-milk-collection-crosses-17-5l-litre-mark/>

**D**aily collection of milk by the Kolhapur Zilla Dudh Utpadak Sangh, popularly known as Gokul dairy, has crossed the 17.5 lakh litre mark, in the past three years. The figure is an increase of 6 lakh litres of milk. Chairman Arun Dongale, told TOI, "Gokul, the largest cooperative dairy of Maharashtra, has now aimed to increase daily collection of milk to 20 lakh litres by 2025.

This increase, through encouraging dairy farmers, is not to compete with bigger dairies such as Amul of Gujarat and Nandini of Karnataka." Dongale added, "Gokul dairy is limited to Kolhapur district, while Amul and Nandini are federation of many district level dairies in their respective states. We don't think these dairies are our competitors, even though they always attempt to replace Gokul from major markets such as in Mumbai and Pune."



The chairman mentioned maintaining consistency in the quality of milk and products that they manufacture. "We are going to launch another product in February. At the same time, we plan to increase Gokul outlets in other major markets, to ensure the milk we are collecting reaches the customers," he said. Around 12 lakh litres of milk is supplied to Mumbai, in pouches of half a litre and 1 litre.

The dairy has started training farmers to increase production and availability of good cow and buffalo breeds at subsidised rates. The dairy also has its own plant to prepare cattle fodder. The capacity of the fodder has also been increased to cater to the growing need of the farmers. "For last three years, we are adding 5,000 farmers in the dairy business. They are provided support to set up and grow their business. Gokul is the only cooperative dairy which also gives the highest price to farmers supplying milk to us," he said

## 23 STUDENTS HOSPITALISED AFTER DRINKING LIZARD-INFESTED MILK IN BELGAVI

JAN 15, 2024

<https://dairynews7x7.com/karnataka-23-students-hospitalised-after-drinking-lizard-infested-milk-in-belgavi/>

**T**he education department, responsible for supplying milk to government schools under the 'Skeerabhagya' scheme, has initiated an inquiry into the incident.



As many as 23 students were hospitalised after consuming milk that contained a dead lizard in a government primary school in Belagavi on Thursday morning, according to the education department.

The education department has initiated an inquiry after a lizard was found in milk served to students at a government primary school in Belagavi. (Getty Images (Photo for representation))

Hukkeri block education officer (BEO) Prabhavati Patil, who visited the school, said, "As a precautionary measure, we rushed all the children who consumed the milk to the hospital at Sankeshwar. To prevent the students from panicking, we refrained from informing them about the reason for hospitalisation."

The Ullagaddi Khanapur village school campus houses Kannada, Marathi, and Urdu primary schools, collectively catering to around 400 students. Milk is distributed to students around 11.30 in the morning, and on this particular day, a person serving milk discovered a dead lizard at the bottom of the vessel.

Teachers were alerted, and they quickly intervened, instructing students to stop drinking and collecting the milk glasses from those who had not consumed them. Out of more than 50 students, 23 had already consumed the contaminated milk and were subsequently hospitalised, Prabhavati Patil said.

"After being informed, we immediately called for an ambulance and transported all the affected children to the government hospital in Sankeshwar town. Currently, all the children are in good health and normal," said the school headmaster Kamate (who goes by one name).



"The children were transported to the hospital in two ambulances and a few private vehicles. Anxious parents were also present at the hospital, where authorities reassured them that the children were in good and normal condition," the headmaster said.

The education department, responsible for supplying milk to government schools under the 'Skeerabhagya' scheme, has initiated an inquiry into the incident. "The agency that provided the milk has received a notice from the education department," BEO Prabhavati said. "The unfortunate incident underscores the need for heightened vigilance in food safety measures within educational institutions," she said

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## MINISTER LAUNCHES INTERACTIVE PROGRAMME FOR DAIRY FARMERS

JAN 14, 2024

<https://dairynews7x7.com/minister-launches-interactive-programme-for-dairy-farmers/>

**M**inister for Animal Husbandry and Dairy Development J. Chinchurani on Friday launched 'Dairy Next', an interactive programme that will provide authentic information on cow rearing to dairy farmers.

Speaking at the event in Chanapara near Kadakkal, the Minister said the programme will be implemented in all the 140 Assembly constituencies of the State. "Through new schemes of the Dairy Development department up to 20 cows were given to each farmer in 2023. The scheme to provide cows to 64,000 farmers below poverty line will be launched soon. Schemes for farmers living in high-range and coastal areas are also on the anvil and fishers and coir workers will also be the beneficiaries," said the Minister.

Observing that more people are opting for dairy sector, she added that the State government will provide all assistance to them. "Now Kerala has also been included in the comprehensive insurance scheme that provides insurance for cows. In two years, Kerala will have the provision to ensure insurance for all cows. Fodder grass cultivation

in the State will also be extended since it is an essential part of the diet," she added.

Launched by Animal Husbandry and Dairy Development department in association with Kerala Livestock Development Board and Kerala Feeds Limited (KFL), 'Dairy Next' aims to provide scientific as well as practical knowledge on rearing cows. It will also give farmers tips on how to improve milk production while bringing down the production cost. The overall objective is to achieve self-sufficiency in milk production.

The scientific diet and practices have been prepared by a team including KFL managing director Dr B. Sreekumar, KLDB managing director Dr R. Rajeev, Department of Dairy Development joint director Salini Gopinath and Animal Husbandry department additional director Ajith Babu. The diet and tips on scientific cow rearing were developed after studying the practices of KLF and KLDB farms.

The event also introduced some guidelines to prevent the death of livestock due to consumption of plants with toxicity. Information on leaves and grass varieties with toxic content were also discussed while the farmers were provided the steps to be taken and numbers to be contacted in case of poisoning.



**SUDHA DAIRY TO HIKE MILK, CURD SUPPLY ON MAKAR SAKRANTI**

JAN 13, 2024

<https://dairynews7x7.com/sudha-dairy-to-hike-milk-curd-supply-on-makar-sakranti/>

The Bihar State Milk Cooperative Society (BSMCS), which is popularly known by its brand name Sudha Dairy, has soared up its stock to meet the demand on Tusu and Makar Sankranti.



The CEO of the Jamshedpur plant, Amit Kumar Suman, said that 10 lakh liters of milk, besides, 50 tonnes of curd will be available in the

market between January 13-15 which marks the festive period.

Kumar said 750 milk booths in Jamshedpur, besides, 200 booths in the adjoining towns of Adityapur, Chandil, and Ghatshila, will remain open between 6 am to 9 pm during the festive period.

Along with milk and curd, other popular items like peda, rasgulla, ghee, namakeen, paneer, lassi, will be available in sufficient stock at the booth, said marketing officer, Debabrata Kundu. The company will add 20 vans to the existing fleet to ensure smooth transportation of the items to 950 counters. The company has also formed a special flying squad to conduct surveillance to see that there’s no irregularity in the supply and sale of the products.

**EFEED SECURES RS 25 LAKHS GRANT FROM ICAR**

JAN 12, 2024

<https://dairynews7x7.com/efeed-secures-rs-25-lakhs-grant-from-icar-to-boost-impact-on-livestock-and-dairy-industry/>

Precision animal management and feed practices startup, eFeed, has secured a grant of Rs 25 Lakhs from the Indian Council of Agriculture Research, Government of India.



The grant ceremony took place at the ICAR campus in Delhi and witnessed the participation of eminent leaders from ICAR, including joint directors.

Founded in December 2020 by Kumar Ranjan, eFeed addresses the intersection of animal nutrition, health, environmental sustainability, and economic development in the cattle industry.

The start-up is dedicated to sustainable livestock practices, actively addressing methane emissions through the promotion of balanced ration (TMR), localised feed formulations, and initiatives contributing to

the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions in the livestock sector.

Kumar Ranjan, founder and CEO of eFeed, expressed his enthusiasm about the grant, stating, "This grant from ICAR Pusa is a testament to the impactful work we have been doing at eFeed. It is a recognition of our commitment to enhancing the overall well-being of animals, farmers, and the environment. We are excited about the possibilities this grant opens up for us to reach more farmers with our technology solutions and demonstrate tangible increases in milk output."

The funds will be utilised to further expand operations, the company added in its statement. eFeed aims to demonstrate a substantial impact on the increase in milk output, thereby contributing to the overall

productivity and sustainability of the livestock and dairy sector, it added.

The company conducts training programs to educate farmers about the dietary requirements of different animal species, organic feed processing, and the preparation of feed using readily available resources at home. In addition to its focus on animal nutrition, eFeed emphasises the integration of sustainable animal culture with the food security value chain

The start-up has already collaborated with over 1.2 lakh farmers, emphasising sustainable animal culture and integration with the food security value chain. eFeed has raised more than \$1.5 million in venture capital from prominent investors like Omnivore, Huddle, Better Capital, Faad, and Venture Catalyst.

## **KARNATAKA CONGRESS MLA 'DIRECTLY' INVOLVED IN SALE OF JOBS IN KOMUL**

JAN 12, 2024

<https://dairynews7x7.com/ktaka-congress-mla-directly-involved-in-sale-of-jobs-in-dairy-cooperative-komul-ed/>

**A** committee headed by Karnataka Congress MLA K Y Nanjgowda "accommodated" 30 candidates referred by some politicians for jobs in dairy cooperative KOMUL by "completely manipulating" the interview process and in lieu



of kickbacks, the Enforcement Directorate alleged Thursday.

The 61-year-old legislator from the Malur assembly seat in Kolar district and those linked to him were raided by the central agency on January 8 as part of a money laundering

investigation into alleged irregularities in the hiring of staff for KOMUL and illegal allotment of government land worth Rs 150 crore.

The ED said in a statement that it unearthed a "scam" in the recruitment in Kolar-Chikkaballapura District Co-operative Milk Producers Union Limited (KOMUL).

"It was noticed that recruitment committee of KOMUL chaired by K Y Nanjgowda and four other members completely manipulated the interview process." "According to the board decision, orders were issued to the selected candidates and they were sent to training without making the final result public," the agency said.

It was "admitted" by the directors of KOMUL and members of its recruitment committee during the searches that seats were sold for

money ranging between Rs 20-30 lakh per seat, the ED claimed.

It is also gathered that certain politicians have referred their candidates for selection and a total of 30 such references were accommodated, it said.

“K Y Nanjegowda being the head of the recruitment committee is actively and directly involved in sale of seats and manipulation of interview marks,” the ED said.

According to KOMUL, it is Karnataka’s second highest milk producing district organisation.

“The area of operation is restricted to Kolar and Chikkaballapura districts having 2,919 villages of 11 revenue taluks,” it said on its portal.

In the alleged illegal government land allotment case, the agency said, it seized more than Rs 25 lakh in cash, documents related to movable and immovable properties worth more than Rs 50 crore, various “incriminating” documents and digital data.

The land allotment money laundering case stems from a Karnataka Police FIR.

**NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON “SMART AND SUSTAINABLE DAIRY FARMING”**

JAN 12, 2024

<https://dairynews7x7.com/national-conference-on-smart-and-sustainable-dairy-farming-5-6-january-2024-pune/>



**N**ational conference on “**Smart and Sustainable Dairy Farming**” was organised by Indian Dairy Association, West Zone in association with Indigenous Cattle Research cum Training Centre (ICRTC) of Mahatma Phule Krishi Vidyapeeth, Rahuri (MPKV) and BAIF Development Research Foundation at Agriculture College, Pune during 5-6 January 2024. The program was attended by about 300 delegates representing academic

institutions, private and coop dairies, other dairy related companies and students.



The grand opening of the conference began with paying tribute to Mahatma Phule in front of heritage building of Agriculture college and celebration procession to Shrimane Hall. Dignitaries opened the poster session and exhibition before entering the hall. Inauguration session was anchored by Ms. Richie Agarwal, IDA WZ, Pune, by Invocation of goddess Saraswati and lighting of lamp by the dignitaries which led to the seminar being declared as open.

**Dr. J. B. Prajapati, Chairman, IDA (WZ)** welcomed the guests and felicitated them. He thanked Dr. P. G. Patil, Vice Chancellor, MPKV, Rahuri for making this conference a reality. He also mentioned that it is important for the Agriculture scientists to come together with the industry and discuss the ways in which dairy farming can be made sustainable. He explained the importance of the theme of the seminar and insisted that farmers and dairy professionals have to be smart to keep our business sustainable, which is a livelihood for millions of families across the country.

**Dr B.K. Kakade, President, BAIF** talked about the initiatives of BAIF in the area of animal genetics, breeding, nutrition, and scientific management. He also pondered upon the challenges and opportunities in dairy production sector.

**Dr R. S. Sodhi, President, IDA, New Delhi** said that the smart word is not only required in the dairy sector, but in the entire food sector. He said that to make the food industry sustainable means that it has to be commercially viable for the farmer producer and the consumer needs to get good food products in affordable price range. The producer cannot do charity but definitely needs commercial viability to be able to continuously produce and provide good food items to the consumer. In the coming 25 years. The rural urban population ratio is going to become 50:50. We need to remember, the food that will sell or we need to grow is tasty, with pure natural nutrition, and affordable. He mentioned that one major worry for the

industry is fighting adulteration, which leads to low consumption due to loss of trust of consumer. India is world's largest and fastest growing economies, which leads to all large food companies in the world trying to come into the country to sell their products. This leads to loss of income of the farmers. Thus, we need to make the Indian production system more efficient by reducing the input cost of farmer and improving feed conversion ratio of dairy cattle. It is very efficiently managed by poultry industry and needs to be brought more into focus in Dairy industry. On the other hand, conception ratio of almost 25% cattle is zero. Thus, we need to focus on the improvement of conception in the dairy cattle. Energy consumption needs to be reduced in the entire value chain. Digital integration is also very important since efficiency, transparency and trust is brought into the system. Regular data maintenance and analytics will give us more insights for bringing in sustainability. Another perspective change which is needed is food inflation, which actually brings food prosperity to the farmer. In some of the parts of the country the average returns to the farmer are almost 50% of the selling price of milk is negatively impacting the milk industry, which needs to be increased to bring prosperity to the farmer.

After a wonderful roadmap given by Dr. R.S. Sodhi, the Souvenir of the conference was released by the dignitaries, which carried articles and abstracts of the sessions of the speakers and abstracts of poster presentations by the college students.

Chief guest **Dr. N. V. Patil, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, MAFSU, Nagpur** gave us a road map of how this industry and academia interface is very important for both the industry and academia and also to the students, who are our future professionals. He invited IDA to conduct similar seminar at Nagpur and other places. He mentioned that the productivity of the animals can be increased by adopting technical advancements in the dairy field. We blame animals for not



being productive, but what we forget that the animals also need love and care which gets ignored in the day to day race. He mentioned that taking care of the animal is important, along with taking precautions and care in health, environment and efficiency of utilization of nutrients, kind and quality of feed & fodder of the animals. The challenges of small herd vs large herd and unavailability of records in our system, can be managed by utilization of our traditional knowledge and earlier systems of cattle management through modern mechanisms of implementation. The organized sector will bring the best of quality products to the consumer and thus the professionals have to play an important role in the value chain.



In his Presidential address, **Dr. P.G. Patil, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, MPKV**, Rahuri welcomed all once again and was very happy that such conference is being organized by IDA for the first time in their campus. He said that Dairy industry is an ATM machine for the farmer and thus it needs to be treated with due respect and care. We can provide utmost care and facilities to the farmer by bringing in modern methods of dairy farming, for example the milking machine can also be considered as robot. Technological advancements can be very useful and bring in further efficiency in the system. He reminded us of how Dr. Kurien shaped up the dairy industry and it is now our duty to take it further on the path to progress.

Guest of Honour **Prof. M.C. Varshneya, Former Hon'ble Vice Chancellor of AAU** and Kamdhenu University Gandhinagar gave an up to date presentation on Dairy Sector in India- Savior of Rural Economy. He shared with us the statistics of the dairy industry and how the major share of the

female cattle is owned by the small and marginal farmers. India is taking care of its cattle as can be seen in the world's largest cattle vaccination program executed by the Animal Husbandry department. Some recommendations presented by him are; 1. Quality of milk and milk products have to be maintained at the highest level, 2. Adulteration in milk should be considered as a cognizable offence, 3. Payment of milk should be made by UPI immediately, 4. To encourage Indigenous milk products exported it should be given subsidy on advertising, 5. To stop loitering of animals on roads in cities and villages Gaushala should be supported/ started in each city and villages preferably on earmarked grazing lands, 6. Seed of fodder crops and water for grazing lands should be provided by Gram panchayat free of cost, 7. All villages having animal population of >1000 should have a veterinary hospital.



**Shri Amit M. Vyas, MD, Amul Dairy**, Anand presented a power packed Keynote speech: on Digitization is must for "Smart & Sustainable Dairy Farming". He shared about the dismal state of affairs of the Indian dairy industry in the 1940s. The architects of Amul –Sardar Patel, sowed the spirit of cooperative institution, Morarji Desai was the guiding spirit, Tribhuvandas Patel was the social reformist and founder of Amul, Dr. V Kurien, father of White Revolution and Lal Bahadur shastri who envisioned White Revolution, brought about a revolution in the industry by conceiving and implementing the Anand Pattern. The Digitally integrated supply chain of Amul dairy makes it possible for Amul dairy

to handle massively large volumes of milk and 47 units across 13 states with 84 lakh liters of handling capacity. Smart Dairy farming is utilization of new technological advancements to bring about an innovation to make the traditional dairy farms modern. Digital cow monitoring system, call centre for animal health, rapid diagnostic kits, sex sorted semen, embryo transfer technology, TMR station, fan and fogger, agri machineries, animal health management through ethnoveterinary care all make the dairy farming at makes Amul an example of smart and sustainable dairy farming. Sustainability is given utmost importance through clean energy production at Dairy farms, carbon credit trading through bio gas, refractive roof coating system, use of solar power, rainwater harvesting, regenerative agriculture, tree plantation drive, automatic milk sampling, route optimization, use of biofertilizers, use of drones in application of biofertilizers. Implementation of all new technological advances can be seen at Amul Dairy and thus Amul becomes the most progressive dairy not only in the country but also in the world.

The inaugural session concluded by Vote of Thanks by Dr. D. H. Kankhare, Organizing secretary.

The conference had 6 technical sessions on different themes like productivity enhancement, innovations, support to dairying, quality of milk, sustainability and had young scientist presentation too, where in total 27 talks by experts were delivered. There were total 87 posters showing innovative work by students and faculty were received and they were presented in 2 sessions. The exhibition has stall by our sponsors as well as experiential learning centres of the university. Students at their dairy centre, served softy and instant ice cream free of charge for both the days. The bakery products, horticulture -floriculture, and bioenergy stalls of the university were the centre of attraction.

The technical tour to Indigenous cattle research cum training centre (ICRTC) was organized for the delegates on 5th evening. Arrangement for demonstration of various unit functions was arranged. It was joyful to experience the scientific management of dairy farm, manure management, fodder and feed management and experimental dairy managed by students.

Evening was made relaxed and pleasant cultural program presented by the staff and students of Agriculture college. Very well presented by Swa-kiran Sangitik Rangmanch, directed by Mr P. T. Jagdale and Miss. Kiran Sawant. Some of the delegates also exhibited their talent. Delegates also relished traditional foods.

The valedictory function was chaired by Dr. S.D. Masalkar, Associate Dean of Agriculture college, while Shri Sekhar Gaikwad (IAS), ADG of Yashwantrao Chavan Academy of Development Administration and Ex commissioner of sugar remained present as the chief guest. All the rapporteurs presented summary of their sessions along with key take aways. The prizes for the Poster presentations and the Young Scientist award were distributed to the winners.

In the first Session of poster presentation on Milk Processing the winners were Dr. D. D. Patange RCSM, College of Agriculture, Kolhapur, Dr. K. D. More , K. K. Wagh, College of Agriculture, Nashik and Mr. S. R. Sonwane College of Agriculture, Latur. In the 2nd Session of poster presentation Animal Husbandry the winners were Dr. T. R. Bhosale, College of Agriculture, Muktainagar, Dr. C. S. Patil, LUVAS, Hisar, Haryana and Dr. S. B. Bhalerao, College of Agriculture, Pune. Young Scientist Award winners were Dr Ankit Mangotra and Dr. C. S. Patil, both from LUVAS, Hisar, Haryana.

Dr. P.T. Dhole, Ex Dir of Research of MPKV shared his thoughts on the seminar that it was a great opportunity for the college of Agriculture and IDA to come together. The

feedback was taken from the audience and participants about the seminar; to which they said that it was a wonderful seminar and a great opportunity to learn and interact. Dr. S.D. Masalkar, Associate Dean of MPKV Rahuri, shared his thoughts and happiness over the successful completion of the seminar. Dr. J.B. Prajapati gave his closing remarks talking about technical and management issues discussed and draw recommendations for

policy makers. He conveyed his gratitude to entire IDA (WZ) team and dedicated staff and students of Agriculture college, who made the conference a grand success. He especially thanked Hon Vice Chancellor, Associate Dean and Organizing secretary of the event for their tireless efforts. The seminar was called to a close by Dr. Dhiraj Kankhare by presentation of vote of thanks.

## **KARNATAKA BANK INKS PACT WITH DIGIVRIDDI TO OFFER FINANCIAL SERVICES TO DAIRY FARMERS**

JAN 11, 2024

<https://dairynews7x7.com/karnataka-bank-inks-pact-with-digivridhi-to-offer-financial-services-to-dairy-farmers/>

**K**arnataka Bank has partnered with fintech company Digivridhi (DGV) to offer financial services catering to the needs of dairy farmers and milk societies. The services will be made available at village dairy co-operative societies associated with milk unions of Karnataka Milk Federation (KMF).



To begin with, the services are now made available to milk societies associated with Chamarajnar Milk Union.

Quoting Srikrishnan H, Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Karnataka Bank, a media statement said, “We are accelerating our fintech initiatives and collaboration with partners across various verticals with a view to enhancing access to markets and customer experience. This

partnership with DGV will provide seamless and innovative end-to-end digital product offerings to the dairy farmers and provide access to institutional credit, while easing and digitizing payments across the dairy value chain.”

Sekhar Rao, Executive Director of Karnataka Bank, said Karnataka Bank has a rich legacy of being a key player in agricultural sector with strong under-writing capabilities for loan disbursements duly complemented with the presence of specialised agriculture field officers in potential areas. “We will further consolidate this portfolio with this tie up with fintech partner DGV by rolling out specific products/solutions synergizing the unique strengths of both the companies for the dairy sector,” he said.

Ragavan Venkatesan, Founder and CEO of DGV, said ‘DGV Pay’ product simplifies the payments value chain for dairy farmers and micro-enterprises helping with their basic banking needs, including opening of bank accounts. ‘DGV Money’ product is built with a unique underwriting mechanism that facilitates digital working capital and bovine loans to farmers, Venkatesan said.

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**GCOMMF LAUNCHES SAGAR SKIMMED MILK ACROSS INDIA**

JAN 10, 2024

<https://dairynews7x7.com/gcmmf-launches-sagar-skimmed-milk-across-india/>

The Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation Ltd. (GCMMF) on January 8 announced the launch of Sagar Skimmed Milk across India. Sagar is one of the oldest brands of the GCMMF in milk powder and ghee segment.

Sagar Skimmed Milk, which is aimed to meet the expectations of the changing consumer, will be sold at most affordable price to cater to the economic segment, as well health-conscious consumers, said Jayen Mehta, Managing Director, GCMMF in a release.

“We launched Sagar Skimmed Milk across all India market on the morning of January 8. It is Fat Free and will have minimum nine per cent SNF. In order to cater to various consumer segments, it is available in 250 ml (₹10), 500 ml (₹20), one litre (₹40), one litre (₹78) and also, in 6 litre pack to cater Hotels, Restaurants and Caterers (HoReCa) requirement. It would also be available to consumers through nearby retail outlets, Amul parlours, Milk booths and

Modern Format Stores,” he added.



The GCMMF markets a wide range of fresh milk products through Amul Buffalo milk (6.5 per cent milk fat), Amul Gold (six per cent fat), Amul Shakti (4.5 per cent fat), Amul Cow milk (four per cent fat), Amul Taaza (three per cent fat) and Amul Slim n Trim (1.5 per cent fat). Sagar skimmed milk with almost nil fat will complement this range to meet the requirements of all customers.

The GCMMF has 98 dairy plants located across India with a daily milk-handling capacity of 50 million litres equipped with facilities to process, pack and store the milk and milk products

**ODISHA GOVERNMENT INKS PACT WITH NDDDB FOR ANTHRAX, ENT SHOTS**

JAN 10, 2024

<https://dairynews7x7.com/?s=Odisha+government+inks+pact+with+NDDDB+for+Anthrax%2C+ENT+shots>

The Odisha government has signed an MoU with the National Dairy Development Board (NDDDB) for the establishment of a production unit of Anthrax and ENT vaccines.

The unit will come up at Odisha Biological Products Institute in Berhampur. Anthrax is an infectious bacterial disease of animals and particularly affects cattle and sheep. On the other hand, ENT is used to treat kidney disease

in sheep and goats.



Agriculture and farmers' empowerment, fisheries and animal resources development (ARD), Ranendra Pratap Swain said "The establishment of this unit will make our state, self-sufficient in the production of Anthrax and Enterotoxaemia (ENT) vaccine. Further, after meeting its requirement the state will also be able to supply vaccines to other states."

While on behalf of the Odisha government, director, animal husbandry and veterinary services (AH and VS) Ramashis Hazra signed the MoU, senior general manager, NDDDB, Sunil Sinha signed on behalf of his organisation.

The project has been taken to transform the healthcare and disease management of livestock and poultry in the state.

At present, the existing satellite unit of OBPI at Berhampur is producing 22 lakh doses of Anthrax Spore Vaccine (ASV) and 14 Lakh doses of Enterotoxaemia Vaccine (ENTV) annually in conventional methods.

"Establishment of Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP) laboratory will comply with WHO norms, and the Drugs and Cosmetics Act

1940 of India and production of world-class quality vaccines. On operational of this unit, 2 crores and 50 lakh doses of ENT Vaccines and ASV (Anthrax) vaccines will be produced respectively," said principal secretary, fisheries and ARD, Suresh Kumar Vashisth.

The production unit will come up with an investment of Rs 52 crore. NDDDB will provide consultancy and supervisory services for setting up of the GMP unit, along with the completion of the trial runs and final commissioning of the plant.

The construction work of the laboratory will be completed within 36 months. The establishment of the GMP Laboratory will create a state-of-art laboratory producing Anthrax and ENT Vaccines, which will be one of the unique facilities of its kind in the country.

Senior officials, including development commissioner of the Odisha government Anu Garg and chief general manager (CGM), Nabard, Sudhansu K.K. Mishra also spoke on the occasion.

## **PUNJAB DAIRY FARMERS PROTEST AT VERKA PLANT AGAINST RATE REDUCTION**

JAN 10, 2024

<https://dairynews7x7.com/punjab-dairy-farmers-protest-at-verka-plant-against-rate-reduction/>



Scores of dairy farmers from across the state gathered outside the Verka plant in Mohali on Monday to protest against the rate reduction.

Baldev Singh, ex-chairman of the Milk plant in Mohali said that Milkfed had reduced the rate from ₹83 a litre to ₹80 a litre. “Contrary to our request for a hike in the rate, they have reduced it by ₹3.”

He further added that the milk production tends to dip in summers as cattle fall sick in hot

weather conditions. “Winters are the only time when we can expect a little profit, but the authorities have cut our profits with this move,” he said.

“We are victims of corrupt practices going on here,” he said referring to the recent arrest of the deputy manager of the plant in a graft case.

The protest ended after three hours after senior Milkfed officials reached the site and assured them of revising the rates soon.

## COUNTRY DELIGHT RAISES \$20 MILLION FROM TEMASEK, OTHERS

JAN 9, 2024

<https://dairynews7x7.com/country-delight-raises-20-million-from-temasek-others/>

Gurugram-based dairy brand, Country Delight has raised around Rs 165 crore (around \$20 million) from existing investors like Temasek, and new investors like Seviara Capital, regulatory filings showed.

Country Delight’s board passed a special resolution to issue 78,157 Series E compulsory convertible preference shares (CCPS) at a price of Rs 21,045 each to raise a total of about Rs 165 crore. While existing investors like Singapore’s Temasek, which led the round, pumped in Rs 78 crore, Venturi Partners put in Rs 29 crore. The remaining amount, Rs 58 crore, came from Seviara Capital which is a new investor in the company.



Seviara is an Asia-centric investor based in Singapore.

While the company did not reveal its valuation, Country Delight was now valued at around \$750 million, as per reports. During its last fundraise in May 2022, the company was valued at around \$615 million. The round in May was the company’s largest ever where it raised \$108 million from Venturi Partners and Temasek.

Venturi, a consumer brands focused investor, backs Livspace and others.

Founded in 2013 by Chakradhar Gade and Nitin Kaushal, Country Delight runs a full-stack subscription model. It has cow farms and it also pasteurises, tests and delivers milk, eliminating the middleman.

Country Delight said it has massive room to grow even further as over 60 percent of the fresh foods market is unorganised with limited cold storage capabilities, adding that it is betting on India’s fresh food and staples market, which is expected to cross \$50 billion by 2025.

The unorganised foods market also has a fragmented logistics chain and inadequate visibility of product quality across the supply

chain, which Country Delight aims to address and solve, it said.

The company offers dairy essentials, fruits and vegetables at the doorstep of consumers. It

claims to deliver fresh groceries in 24-36 hours, directly from farms, as it leverages its fully integrated just-in-time supply chain model.

## **BANAS DAIRY TO GIVE ZERO-INTEREST CREDIT CARDS TO CATTLE BREEDERS**

JAN 9, 2024

<https://dairynews7x7.com/banas-dairy-to-give-zero-interest-credit-cards-to-cattle-breeders/>



**B**anas Dairy will provide a zero-interest credit card to cattle breeders starting from January 15th. The credit card will have a limit of Rs. 50,000, and no interest will be charged on the withdrawal of money.

Banas Dairy Chairman and Gujarat Assembly Speaker Shankar Chaudhary made this announcement at a religious function in Malupur of Tharad taluka, stating, 'We have

decided to issue credit cards with a limit of Rs. 50,000 to the cattle breeders of Banas from January 15th. If, at any point, any breeder feels the need for urgent funds, they will be able to withdraw money without incurring interest.'

It is learned that the cattle rearers' credit cards will be issued on January 15th at Sanadar, Deodar, in the presence of Union Home Minister Amit Shah. Desh Gujarat

## **BL AGRI AND COMMODITY SUMMIT 2024: AMUL NOT FOR IMPORT OF DAIRY PRODUCTS AT CONCESSIONAL DUTY UNDER FTAS**

JAN 9, 2024

<https://dairynews7x7.com/bl-agri-and-commodity-summit-2024-amul-not-for-import-of-dairy-products-at-concessional-duty-under-ftas/>

**T**he Indian dairy industry will oppose permitting imports of dairy products at concessional duty under free trade agreements (FTAs) to ensure the welfare of 10 crore farmers whose livelihood depend on the milk sector, said Jayen Mehta, Managing Director, Amul (Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation).





Responding to a question from businessline Editor Raghuvir Srinivasan in the “Fireside Chat” session at the businessline Agriculture and Commodity Summit 2024 on Australia seeking duty concessions for its dairy products for imports into India, he said: “We will demand that Chapter 4 (which deals with dairy products) be kept out.”

**‘No offensive interest’**

“The government is aware of the nuances and is supportive (of the dairy sector) in negotiations. It has told those taking part in such negotiations that agriculture and dairy are sensitive and no offensive interest can be allowed,” the Amul MD said.

“The European Union does not permit imports. We are ok with it. Canada imposes a 250 per cent import duty (on dairy products) and the US 50–60 per cent. India, on the other hand, imposes 30 per cent duty on the import of butter and 50 per cent on milk powder,” said Mehta, adding that seeking duty concessions for dairy imports was not right.

The Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation (GCCMF) has signed memorandums of understanding (MoUs) to

invest ₹11,500 crore in the food sector. Amul plans to leverage its brand to tap the vast opportunity available.

“An Amul can be added every year in the Indian ecosystem. We need to have a sense of the consumer trend,” he said. GCCMF, through its 36 lakh farmer-members, accounts for 3 crore litres of the 60 crore litres of milk a day handled nationally.

On its borrowings, Mehta said Amul manages them through internal resources, while the Centre’s scheme for strengthening infrastructure is also helping. “Then, with the strengthening of co-operatives which will create a strong co-operative ecosystem, money will not be an issue,” he said.

On Amul challenging FMCG companies with its expansion, he said the co-operative could be a formidable force in the food and FMCG sectors. “We are building up a block of what consumers consume,” Mehta said.

The company operates high volumes at a low margin in the supply chain, helping retailers and farmers get higher returns. “No other organisation operates with such high returns,” he said.

**HIMACHAL INITIATIVES TO STRENGTHEN THE MILK-BASED ECONOMY**

JAN 9, 2024

<https://dairynews7x7.com/himachal-innovative-initiatives-to-strengthen-the-milk-based-economy/>

The dairy sector assumes a greater significance and has been a major contributor to the growth of the rural economy in Himachal Pradesh, where 90 percent of the State’s population resides in villages. As an industry, it employs most rural households, with the majority being small and marginal farmers as well as the landless. The sector is an important job provider, especially

for women, and plays a leading role in women’s empowerment.



The state government has facilitated the dairy farming infrastructure through its various initiatives. In the last year, the animal husbandry and dairying sector have received a great deal of impetus. By expanding the dairy sector, the state government is moving towards making Himachal a prosperous state of the country by strengthening the rural economy.

The Government has announced to increase in the procurement price of milk by rupees six per litre to benefit milk producers. To strengthen the economy of milk producers and to ensure the quality of milk production, the Himachal Pradesh State Co-operative Milk Producers Federation Limited set up 102 Automatic Milk Collection Units (AMCUs) in the state last year besides this 455 automatic milk collection units also functional.

Apart from this, 106 bulk milk coolers have been installed so far under various projects in the state. As many as 35 can-meter coolers have been provided under the National Dairy Development program to improve the quality of milk.

The State government is also in the process of developing a state-of-the-art automatic milk processing plant at Dagwar in Kangra district to produce a wide range of dairy products. This initiative would go a long way in bolstering the rural economy.

Co-operation is also playing an important role in the development of the dairy sector in the state. The cooperative societies have not only made the farmers self-sufficient but have also broken the shackles of gender, caste, religion, and community.

Concerted efforts are being made by the state government to form societies at the village level thereby increasing its number to 1,107.

Initiating the White Revolution in the state, the state government has started the ambitious Him Ganga Scheme with a budgetary provision of Rs 500 crore. Under the scheme, committees have been formed in the first phase to make people more aware. 201 new milk cooperative societies have been formed in Hamirpur and Kangra districts. Around 11 women's societies have been formed in district Hamirpur and eight in district Kangra which indicates the efforts of the government towards women empowerment in the state. Four societies have been reorganized in Hamirpur district and 4064 farmers have been connected through these milk cooperative societies. To ensure the participation of women in the dairy sector, the number of women milk producer cooperative societies is being increased in a phased manner.

Along with paving the way for employment generation, the dairy sector is also proving a way to solve problems like malnutrition and poverty reduction. The Himachal Pradesh State Cooperative Milk Producers Federation Limited has diversified the process of Panjiri production, especially for the Women and Child Welfare Department. Fortified Panjiri, fortified bakery biscuits, wheat vermicelli, and whole milk powder are being provided by the Federation. This initiative of the government is laying the foundation for a healthy and happy future for the children of the state.

Himachal's vast resource of livestock plays a vital role in improving the socio-economic conditions of the rural masses and the dairy sector provides a large window of self-employment opportunities, particularly for women, keeping this in view the state government's innovative efforts will bring a new era of prosperity of milk producers of state.

## MAHARASHTRA CABINET GIVES NOD TO RS 5 PER LITRE SUBSIDY TO MILK PRODUCERS

JAN 6, 2024

<https://dairynews7x7.com/maharashtra-cabinet-gives-nod-to-rs-5-per-litre-subsidy-to-milk-producers/>

The Maharashtra cabinet announced on Thursday to provide a subsidy of Rs 5 per liter for milk to farmers supplying their produce to both cooperative societies and private milk projects within the state. The decision aims to support and bolster the dairy farming community.

Under this initiative, milk-producing farmers who are part of cooperative milk societies and private milk projects will receive a subsidy of Rs 5 per liter for cow milk. To ensure fair compensation, these farmers are required to pay a minimum rate of Rs. 27 per liter for milk with a quality standard of 3.5 fat / 8.5 SNF (Solids-Not-Fat) through online transactions to their respective bank accounts.

The subsidy will be directly debited (DBT) to the bank accounts of the concerned milk-producing farmers after the initial payment. Furthermore, a system of deductions and increases has been established based on the fat and SNF content, with a reduction of 30 paise for each point below the specified standard and an increase of 30 paise for each point above.



To facilitate the smooth implementation of this scheme, a specialized software has been developed through the banking system, ensuring a seamless subsidy transfer to the bank accounts of the deserving farmers.

According to data from November 2023, the daily milk collection through cooperative milk unions and private milk projects stands at an impressive 149 lakh liters. Considering the proposed subsidy of Rs. 5 per liter, an estimated subsidy of Rs. 230 crore will be required for a one-month period. However, this amount is subject to change based on fluctuations in actual milk collection.

The scheme is scheduled to be rolled out from January 11, 2024, to February 10, 2024, marking a crucial step towards supporting the dairy sector and ensuring the welfare of milk-producing farmers in the state.

## NDRI COMMERCIALIZED 09 TECHNOLOGIES TO HATSUN AGRO

JAN 6, 2024

<https://dairynews7x7.com/ndri-commercialized-09-technologies-for-the-rapid-detection-of-milk-adulteration/>

**N**ational Dairy Research Institute (NDRI) has commercialized 09 technologies related to rapid detection of adulteration in milk to Hatsun Agro Products Ltd., a Chennai based leading dairy industry of South India.

Sharing the information, Dheer Singh, Director, NDRI has said that the institute is making concerted efforts to commercialize technologies to various stakeholders developed by its scientists and today's license agreement is a step towards this direction.



He further said that these technologies are related to paper strip based tests for rapid detection of neutralizers, urea, hydrogen peroxide, glucose, sucrose, maltodextrin, formaldehyde and salt in milk. In addition, a rapid test for detection of presence of detergent in milk has also been commercialized to Hatsun Agro Products Ltd.

He said these technologies have been developed in a multi-disciplinary approach by the scientists of Dairy Chemistry and Animal Biochemistry Division at the Institute. The institute has also obtained Patents for these technologies.

He informed that apart from rapidity, detection limit of these tests is better than conventional tests and all the tests can be performed on a milk sample within 10 minutes. Even some of the test results can provide results instantaneously. Rajan Sharma, Joint Director (Research) & Co-inventor said that the developed tests can be used at milk receiving stations and thus will help the dairy industry in segregating good quality milk from bad quality milk at its point of origin. Importantly, they are user-friendly and do not necessitate specialized equipment, allowing even non-technical personnel to perform them. Shanmuga Priyan, Chief Operating Officer (COO) of Hatsun Agro Products Ltd., Chennai said that the company is currently manufacturing and marketing products like, milk, curd, ice creams, dairy whitener, skimmed milk powder, ghee, paneer etc and its brands include Arun, Arokya, Hatusn and HAP, Ibaco etc. He said that these technologies for the rapid detection of adulteration of milk will help the company to ensure its consumers clean, safe and adulteration free milk.

## DAIRY SECTOR TO BE SHOWCASED AT VIBRANT GUJARAT SUMMIT 2024

JAN 5, 2024

<https://dairynews7x7.com/dairy-sector-to-be-showcased-at-vibrant-gujarat-summit-2024/>

The Vibrant Gujarat Summit 2024 is set to shine a spotlight on the thriving dairy sector, with a particular focus on the accomplishments of the Gujarat dairy cooperative sector led by the Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation (GCMMF) during its 10th edition scheduled from January 10 to 12 in Gandhinagar.



Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel has underscored the significance of the Gujarat dairy cooperative sector's achievements, particularly the remarkable success led by GCMMF.

The cooperative contributes to the growth of the dairy sector, currently valued at Rs 1 trillion. A noteworthy aspect is that the daily disbursement of Rs 200 crore to 3.6 million milk producers by GCMMF plays a pivotal role in sustaining this growth.

Government officials highlight the substantial growth experienced by the agricultural, horticultural, and animal husbandry sectors in Gujarat. This progress is attributed to a strategic combination of natural farming practices and advanced technologies.

Not only does this approach boost Gujarat's circular economy, but it also elevates the state's global standing in the dairy sector. Chief Minister Patel emphasized this comprehensive strategy during a recent function, emphasizing that the Vibrant Gujarat Summit 2024 will

showcase the state's outstanding advancements in agriculture, horticulture, and animal husbandry.

The Gujarat dairy industry has achieved a significant milestone, surpassing Rs 1 trillion, with GCMMF's daily distribution of Rs 200 crore to milk producers playing a crucial role. The internationally renowned Amul brand, marketed by GCMMF, stands as a testament to the collective efforts of millions of dairy farmers.

R S Sodhi, the president of the Indian Dairy Association, highlighted the remarkable growth in organized dairy procurement in Gujarat, illustrating the substantial progress made by the state's rural economy.

Interestingly, Sodhi was the MD of GCMMF and to a great extent saw the rise of AMUL from Rs 8000cr to Rs 52000cr.

Overall, the Vibrant Gujarat Summit continues to play a pivotal role in fostering growth and innovation in the state's dairy sector.

## MAHARASHTRA TO REVISE MILK SUBSIDY FORMULA FOR WIDER COVERAGE

JAN 4, 2024

<https://dairynews7x7.com/maharashtra-to-revise-milk-subsidy-formula-announced-in-winter-session-for-wider-coverage-minister/>



**M**aharashtra animal husbandry and dairy development minister Radhakrishna Vikhe Patil said on Wednesday that the state government would revise an earlier accepted formula to provide subsidy to milk producers for wider coverage.

During the winter session of the state legislature in Nagpur, Vikhe Patil had said on December 20 that the government would give

a subsidy of Rs 5 per litre to milk producers in the state. The milk's standard has to be 3.2 per cent fat and 8.3 per cent solid not fat (SNF), he had said.

Asked about the subsidy on Wednesday, the minister said, "We are revising that formula so that we can cover more milk-producing farmers in the state. This would take some time." PTI ND NR

## ARE DAIRY PRODUCTS FATTENING AND UNHEALTHY?

JAN 3, 2024

<https://dairynews7x7.com/are-dairy-products-fattening-and-unhealthy/>

In recent times, there has been a growing narrative suggesting that dairy products are fattening and unhealthy. However, it is crucial to dispel these misconceptions as they do not align with scientific evidence. In fact, we need to acknowledge the numerous benefits that dairy brings to our overall health unless one is intolerant or allergic to it. It continues to be a key pillar of a balanced diet.

This makes them a suitable option for individuals looking to manage their calorie intake without compromising on essential nutrients. It is important to note that moderate consumption of dairy, especially when opting for low-fat alternatives, can be part of a balanced diet. Studies have shown that dairy in conjunction with a low calorie diet has led to a greater percentage of weight loss while keeping lean muscle intact. A glass of skimmed milk contains just four per cent of the recommended daily calorie allowance, that of whole milk is eight per cent, according to Dairy UK.

A 2013 study showed that dairy helped people feel fuller and reduced how much fat they ate overall. Besides, dairy helps prevent the onset of

Type 2 diabetes, which again is a trigger for obesity.

### Recommended Daily Servings

According to dietary guidelines, adults are advised to incorporate three servings a day of fat-free or low-fat dairy products into their meals. These servings can include milk, yogurt, cheese or fortified soy beverages. This recommendation aligns with the nutritional needs of the body, ensuring an adequate intake of proteins, calcium and other essential nutrients.

As we navigate the plethora of nutritional information available, rely on evidence-based facts to make informed decisions about your dietary habits.



**The Nutritional Value of Dairy Products:** Dairy products are rich sources of high-quality proteins crucial for muscle development and the proper functioning of vital organs. A cup of milk provides eight grams of protein. Additionally, dairy products are an excellent source of calcium, playing a pivotal role in strengthening bones and preventing osteoporosis. A glass of milk is rich in potassium and takes care of 50 per cent of your daily vitamin B12 requirement.

### Caloric Content: Fat-Free vs Whole Milk Products

Contrary to popular belief, dairy products made from fat-free or low-fat milk are not only nutritious but also have fewer calories compared to their whole milk counterparts.

**MAHARASHTRA'S MAHANAND DAIRY BOARD PASSES RESOLUTION FOR TAKEOVER BY NDDB**

JAN 3, 2024

<https://dairynews7x7.com/maharashtras-mahanand-dairy-board-passes-resolution-for-takeover-by-nddb/>

The board of directors at Mahanand Dairy, a once-profitable venture under the Maharashtra government, has sanctioned a resolution to transfer the dairy's control to the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB). However, milk producers in the State are expressing concerns and alleging that the government and the board have decided to facilitate Amul's expansion in Maharashtra.



Earlier, the State government had hinted that the State was considering handing over Mahanand to the Union Government through the NDDB, admitting that dairy was facing an existential crisis as the co-operative milk sector is in a tight spot because of aggressive marketing by private players. "There is an immense rise in the private sector's share in the State's milk business. The private sector is using various modern marketing techniques to increase sales and expansion. This has an impact on the co-operative sector and their sales," the State government had admitted.

"The most affected is the Mahanand, the apex body (in the milk sector) and the institution is not even able to take care of daily expenses," said Maharashtra Animal Husbandry and Dairy Development Minister, Radhakrishna Vikhe Patil, while answering a written question in the State Assembly last year. The Government admitted that Mahanand has landed in a financial crisis due to "various reasons".

The minister claimed that other co-operative milk dairies in the State are not facing any financial crisis like Mahanand.

**Raut's allegations**

Milk farmers and associations in the State are claiming that the government's decision to transfer control of Mahanand Dairy to the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) is driven by a desire to facilitate Amul's entry into the State at the expense of Mahanand. Shiv Sena Rajya Sabha MP, Sanjay Raut, has called for the government to clarify its position, stating that Mahanand is a well-established brand with its own identity. Raut expressed concern that the government's actions, including the relocation of several projects to Gujarat, appear to be favouring the neighbouring State at the expense of Maharashtra.



## R.G. CHANDRAMOGAN, THE VISIONARY FOUNDER BEHIND HATSUN AGRO

JAN 2, 2024

<https://dairynews7x7.com/meet-r-g-chandramogan-the-founder-of-hatsun-agro-who-turned-rs-13000-into-billions/>



In entrepreneurial success stories, few tales are as inspiring and remarkable as that of R.G. Chandramogan, the visionary behind Hatsun Agro. Starting with a modest investment of Rs 13,000, Chandramogan transformed his ice cream business into a mammoth enterprise, now standing tall as India's largest private-sector dairy company with annual revenue of Rs 8,000 crore.

Born near Sivakasi, Tamil Nadu, Chandramogan's early life was marked by financial hardships. His father's small provisional store couldn't sustain the family, and to add to the challenges, Chandramogan faced academic setbacks, particularly in his favourite subject, Mathematics.

At the age of 21, Chandramogan took a bold step. He sold off his ancestral property for Rs 13,000 and ventured into the ice candy business. Renting a modest 250 sq ft space in Royapuram, Chennai, he named his brand Arunodyam, after the Tamil word for Sun rays. Finally, in 1970, Arun was reborn.

Chandramogan's strategy was simple but effective – sell sticks and cup ice candies through pushcarts to college students. The idea resonated, and Arun earned 1.5 Lakh in revenue within the first year. The success prompted rapid expansion, with the factory doubling as Chandramogan's bedroom at night.

In 1974, Arun strategically targeted ship chandlers, supplying food items to vessels, capturing 95% of the college canteen and ship chandler market. By 1981, Arun's sales reached 4.25 Lakhs, but Chandramogan recognized the need for diversification.

Acknowledging the seasonal nature of the ice candy business driven by students, Chandramogan expanded into ice creams and dairy in 1981, founding Arun Ice Creams. However, breaking into a market dominated by giants like Dasaprakash, HUL's Kwality Walls and Joy proved challenging.

Ingeniously, Chandramogan packed ice cream with rice and distributed it on trains, reaching rural parts of Tamil Nadu. This unconventional strategy not only saved on cold storage costs but also propelled Arun to become the largest ice cream seller by volume in the state by 1985.

Arun's success continued to snowball. By 1995, it expanded to Kerala and Andhra Pradesh, making it the largest ice cream brand in South India with 700 outlets. Chandramogan diversified further, introducing liquid milk under the brand Arokya. By 2001, Arun and Arokya had become a 100 crore business.

Chandramogan's entrepreneurial acumen led to the establishment of premium ice cream parlours under the brand Ibaco, offering unlimited scoops for customers. Strategic

advertising, such as billboards for ice cream bookings in advance, propelled Arun Ice Creams into a 2000 crore business by 2014.

Going public in the same year and trading on the NSE marked a significant milestone for Hatsun Agro. The company, now encompassing both ice cream and dairy products, saw its revenue soar to over 5000 crores by April 2020.

Today, Hatsun Agro stands as the largest private-sector dairy company in India, boasting a staggering Rs 7,200 crore in revenue. With 10,500 milk banks, 50,000 employees, and 14 plants across 12,000 villages, the company produces 60,000 litres of ice cream daily.

According to Forbes' real-time net worth, Chandramogan stands among India's wealthiest, with a net worth of \$2.2 billion (Rs 180 billion), ranking as the 99 richest person in India and 1,647 globally.

### EVERY FIFTH SWEET SAMPLE FAILED QUALITY TEST THIS FESTIVE SEASON

JAN 2, 2024

<https://dairynews7x7.com/every-fifth-sweet-sample-failed-quality-test-this-festive-season/>

Every fifth sample of sweets taken during the festive season was reportedly found substandard. The most common adulteration was in milk and milk products.

During the festive season between October 21 and November 10, a total of 588 samples of dry fruits, silver leaf, milk and milk products, khoya, jalebi, imarti, oil, petha, khoya-based sweets and paneer were taken.



Out of the total collected samples, 108 samples were reportedly found substandard. Thus, 18.87 per cent samples were found substandard.

A report prepared by the Food and Drugs Administration (FDA) revealed that with 51.1 per cent substandard ratio, paneer topped the chart. It was followed by milk and milk products with 40.50 per cent substandard ratio; adulterated khoya with 29.09 per cent; khoya-based sweets 15.38 per cent and dry fruits 10 per cent.

Interestingly, petha was found to be the safest sweet.

To ensure the purity of milk, milk products and sweets during the festive season, the FDA intensely monitored and inspected the production units, distribution networks and retail outlets dealing with milk products. The FDA also deployed inter-district teams to carry out special checking drives across the state to combat the menace of adulteration and to ensure the availability of safe and quality food products during this season.

Apart from other measures, to control inter-district and inter-state supply of milk and milk products, especially khoya and other sweets, early morning and late evening-hour drives were also conducted by food safety officials.

## RESEARCHERS DEVELOP APP TO ALLEVIATE STRESS IN DAIRY COWS..

JAN 1, 2024

<https://dairynews7x7.com/researchers-develop-app-to-alleviate-stress-in-dairy-cows/>

In a pioneering move to address the often-overlooked issue of stress in animals, researchers at Mahatma Phule Krishi Vidyapeeth, Rahuri have developed a groundbreaking app aimed at providing farmers with valuable insights into mitigating stress in their livestock.



The researchers, based at the Indigenous Cattle Research cum Training Center initiated by the Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying, College of Agriculture, Shivajinagar, have created a unique mobile application focused on the temperature humidity index. This app, the first of its kind in the country, offers farmers accessible guidance on stress relief for animals and measures to prevent potential heatstroke.

While global warming and its impact on various sectors are frequently discussed, the specific effects on dairy cows and buffaloes have not received adequate attention. The research team, led by Dr. Somnath Mane and Dr. Dheeraj Kankhare, recognized the rising impact of heat stress on dairy cows, negatively influencing their health and milk production potential.

The newly developed app is designed to empower farmers by offering real-time advice

based on the temperature and humidity index within the cowshed. Key benefits of the app include:

1. Farmers receive an index based on temperature and humidity in the cowshed.
2. Advice provided to farmers at home based on this index.
3. Immediate action can be taken when the temperature and humidity index indicate an increase.
4. Automatic activation of fan and water spraying systems in the cowshed.
5. Guidance on animal husbandry, fodder and feeding, eating times, and water planning.
6. Installation of sensors in the cowshed to relay temperature and humidity information to the farmer's mobile device.

Heat stress, particularly prevalent in the summer, often leads to heatstroke in animals, causing a decline in milk production and fertility. Crossbred and exotic cows are particularly vulnerable, with a potential 30% reduction in milk production. Dr Somnath Mane emphasised that the app would significantly benefit farmers by helping them address and mitigate these adverse effects.

Dr Prashant Kumar Patil, the Vice Chancellor of Mahatma Phule Agricultural University in Rahuri, acknowledged the app's potential to reduce the impact of heatstroke in dairy cows and contribute to increased milk production.

## ASSAM'S PURABI DAIRY WINS NCDFI'S E-MARKET AWARD

JAN 1, 2024

<https://dairynews7x7.com/assams-purabi-dairy-wins-national-cooperative-dairy-federation-of-indias-e-market-award/>



**T**he West Assam Milk Producers' Cooperative Union Limited (WAMUL), the driving force behind Purabi Dairy, has bagged the e-market award of National Cooperative Dairy Federation of India Limited for outstanding performance in the dairy sector.

WAMUL management committee chairman Dr Meenesh Shah and managing director SB Bose received the award from Union Home Minister Amit Shah at Gandhinagar in Gujarat on Saturday.

Shah urged similar cooperatives operating in different parts of the country to transition to 100 per cent bank transfers—a feat achieved by WAMUL, which has been providing livelihood to around 30,000 dairy farmers under 700 cooperatives from nine districts of Assam.

He underlined India's global leadership in milk production with a 24 per cent share, adding that the country has seen a 51 per cent

increase in milk production over the past eight years.

Bose said the award reflected the collective efforts of Purabi Dairy and that the cooperative would remain steadfast in its mission to empower the farming community and contribute to the sustainable growth of the cooperative sector.

urabi Dairy is the largest dairy cooperative in the northeast region. The cooperative also offers value-added products to consumers and conducts workshops to train farmers in allied activities such as bee-keeping and honey harvesting, helping to augment their income.

WAMUL was formed in 1976 as a cooperative of cattle-rearers and milk producers in Nagaon, Morigaon, Goalpara, Nalbari and Kamrup districts of Assam. It has a fully automated processing unit with a capacity of 60,000 liters per day.

Gujarat Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel, Assembly Speaker Shankar Choudhary, IFFCO

chairman Dilip Sanghani and NCDFI chairman Mangal Rai were also among those present at the award ceremony.

### 36 LAKH DAIRY FARMERS GET RS 200 CRORE FROM GCMMF DAILY

JAN 1, 2024

<https://dairynews7x7.com/gujarat-dairy-sector-booming-as-36-lakh-farmers-get-rs-200-crore-from-gcmmf-daily-officials/>

**G**ujarat's focus on animal husbandry has contributed significantly to the prosperity of the state's people as 36 lakh milk producers collectively receive Rs 200 crore daily from the Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation (GCMMF), officials said.

The dairy sector in the state has grown to Rs 1 lakh crore, they said.



The upcoming 10th edition of the Vibrant Gujarat Global Summit, to be held in Gandhinagar between January 10 and 12, will provide a platform for the government to showcase the state's exponential growth in

agriculture, horticulture and animal husbandry, Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel has said.

As per a statement issued by the government, the agriculture, horticulture and animal husbandry sectors in the state are experiencing significant growth through a combination of natural farming and advanced technologies, contributing to the circular economy of Gujarat and advancing its global reputation in the dairy sector.

"The upcoming Vibrant Gujarat Summit 2024 will showcase the state's exponential growth in agriculture, horticulture and animal husbandry, thanks to a combination of natural farming practices and cutting-edge technology. This holistic approach is not only boosting the circular economy but also elevating the state's global standing in the dairy sector," CM Patel said at a function held recently.

## VIJAYA DAIRY MILK IN SOME CENTRES FOUND TO BE ADULTERATED

JAN 1, 2024

<https://dairynews7x7.com/vijaya-dairy-milk-in-some-centres-found-to-be-adulterated/>

**A**llegations have arisen suggesting that certain dairy farmers, in collaboration with personnel at Vijaya Dairy's milk procurement centers across four mandals in Siddipet district, were discovered to be adulterating milk by adding sugar and salt.

Some dairy farmers, with the help of some personnel working at Vijaya Dairy milk procurement centres in four mandals of Siddipet district, were allegedly found to be mixing sugar and salt in the milk. This was reportedly to increase SNF (Solids Not Fat) in the milk.



According to officials, farmers will get higher prices if the SNF of the milk is higher. After noticing that sugar and salt were added to the milk, Vijaya Dairy officials sent the milk from four villages of Cheriya, Maddur and Komurvelly mandals back from Hyderabad twice. Normally, cow milk should have a minimum of 8 SNF and buffalo milk should have a minimum of 8.5 SNF.

When the farmers could not maintain the SNF to that level due to poor feeding of cattle, the

farmers with the help of personnel working in procurement centres were allegedly mixing salt and sugar in the milk.

This can cause health issues among the consumers, officials said, adding that after noticing the adulteration, milk from Cheriya was sent back from Hyderabad a couple of times. However, they had failed to stop the adulteration and continued the act. On Friday, local Vijaya Dairy manager Murali stopped them from sending the milk to Hyderabad.

The 52 cans of milk, approximately with 1,000 litres, were then dumped on the premises of the Bulk Milk procurement centre at Cheriya on Friday. When the farmers argued, the manager showed evidence of sugar and salt in the milk.

Vijaya Dairy deputy director Gopal Singh said they found evidence of adulteration after conducting thorough tests. Speaking to Telangana Today,

Chief Quality Controller of Vijaya Dairy in Telangana, B Raj Kumar, said farmers must feed nutrient food like 100 grams of mineral mixture twice a day besides feeding three parts green grass and one part dry grass every day.

Farmers should also feed composite feeders, which should contain grains, bran, mash, pellets, millets, protein cakes and agro-industrial by-products to milch cows and buffaloes.

## AMIT SHAH PROPOSES TO GIVE RUPAY CARDS TO ALL FARMERS IN GUJARAT

JAN 1, 2024

<https://dairynews7x7.com/ amit-shah-proposes-to-give-rupay-cards-to-all-farmers-in-gujarat-limit-cash-transactions/>



In order to limit cash transactions by farmers, Union minister for home and cooperation Amit Shah on Saturday proposed shifting of bank accounts of all farmers and local cooperative bodies to District-level cooperative banks.

“Farmers do not want to do “tax chori” (evade taxes). But the farmers do not know that the moment they give cash (for a purchase), the tax evasion starts. Farmers do not have to pay tax and so there is no question of them evading tax,” said Shah who was in Gandhinagar to lay the foundation stone for the ₹32 crore office building of National Cooperative Dairy Federation of India Ltd (NCDFI). The land for the NCDFI building has been provided at Anand by NDDB.

“In Gujarat we have started a small experiment. With the help of Panchmahal District Cooperative Milk Producers’ Union and Banaskantha District Cooperative Milk Producers’ Union and Gujarat State Cooperative Bank we are giving RuPay cards to every farmer. We are

converting all village-level dairy cooperatives as bank mitra and giving them ATMs. And we are transferring bank accounts of all farmers and village dairy in the district cooperative bank. In Banaskantha district alone ₹800 crore worth of deposits have increased and 193 ATMs have become functional and 96 percent of farmers in the district have got RuPay cards,” he said at the event where Gujarat chief minister Bhupendra Patel, Chairman of NDDB Meenesh Shah, Chairman NCDFI Mangal Jit Rai were also present.

Amit Shah said farmers will not have to depend on cash to make the “smallest of purchases.” “They can use their RuPay cards to pay,” said asking heads of milk cooperatives to study the model and spread the awareness at village level.

Shah said cooperative bodies will have to assist each other. “Cooperation between cooperatives can boost their strength. The Union minister said he would visit Panchmahal (a predominantly tribal region) and Banaskantha (largely agrarian region)

districts of Gujarat in January 2024 in this regard. “I have requested Ajay Patel, the chairman of Gujarat State Cooperative Bank to replicate and percolate this model— where bank accounts of all farmers and village level milk cooperatives are in district cooperative banks — across all districts of Gujarat by keeping the dairy cooperatives in the centre.,” he added. BJP leaders including Speaker of

Gujarat Assembly and Banas Dairy chairman Shankarbhai Chaudhary, IFFCO Chairman Dileep Sanghani, Jetha Bharwad, Jayesh Radadiya, Mulubhai Bera, Jasa Barad are among those on the Board of Director of GSC Bank which is an Ahmedabad-based apex bank for 18 district central cooperative banks in Gujarat.

## NPDD MILKING FUNDS FOR ALL IT'S WORTH

JAN 1, 2024

<https://dairynews7x7.com/npdd-milking-funds-for-all-its-worth-https-www-bizzbuzz-news-economy-npdd-milking-funds-for-all-its-worth/>



**T**he National Programme for Dairy Development (NPDD) has proved to be one of the few central sector schemes, in which the allocated amount has been spent in the third year of its five-year life. Also Read – India to retain fastest growing tag in 2024 too

The Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying (DAHD) under the central government had allocated Rs1,790 crore for the NPDD for the period from 2021-22 fiscal to 2025-26 financial year. Expenditure on the NPDD schemes, however, has already exceeded the

allocated amount, official sources told Bizz Buzz.

The NPDD has two components. Component-A is focused on the creation and strengthening of infrastructure for quality milk testing equipment and primary chilling facilities.

Component-B, called ‘Dairying through Co-operatives,’ aims to increase sales of milk and milk products, upgrade dairy processing facilities and marketing infrastructure, and enhance the capacity of producer-owned institutions.



Under Component-A of the scheme, 195 projects in 30 States and Union Territories (UTs) have been approved with the total outlay of Rs3,311.1 crore, including the Centre’s share of Rs2,479.06 crore. A total amount of Rs1,824.6 crore has been released to States for the implementation of these projects against which Rs1,429.62 crore has already been utilized, the sources said.

Under Component-B of the scheme, 22 projects in eight States have been approved with a total outlay of Rs1,130.63 crore. A total amount of Rs84.02 crore has been released to the National Dairy Development Board for the implementation of the projects.

Almost 16,800 dairy co-operative societies have been organized and revived, 30,066 automatic milk collection units installed, and 82 dairy plants strengthened with the creation of 24 lakh litres per day additional and new milk processing capacity under the NPDD. At the apex level of the NPDD, there is a Central Project Steering Committee (CPSC), headed by Animal Husbandry & Dairying Secretary, which provides policy and strategic support to the project. It monitors the progress of approved projects, considers annual action plans, and gives policy directions. It has the authority to re-appropriate component-wise fund requirements in approved programmes, change the eligibility conditions and other terms and conditions of the agreements.

**NDDB PLANS TO EXTEND AMUL MODEL TO KENYA, SAYS CHAIRMAN MEENESH SHAH**

JAN 1, 2024

<https://dairynews7x7.com/nddb-plans-to-extend-amul-model-to-kenya-says-chairman-meenesh-shah/>



**A**fter Sri Lanka, the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) plans to take the Amul model of milk cooperatives to Kenya, Meenesh Shah, chairman of NDDB, said here on Saturday.

“I am hopeful that the model that we took to Sri Lanka can be replicated for the small dairy farmers of Kenya,” Shah said while speaking at the foundation stone laying ceremony of NCDFI (National Cooperative Dairy Federation of India), held at Gandhinagar. He said a nine-member

team from Kenya had visited NDDB, Amul, Indian Immunologicals, and IDMC Ltd at Anand last week.

The chairman of NDDB said that to take the Amul model to foreign shores for the first time<sup>2</sup>, a stakeholder agreement has been signed for building a joint venture entity in Sri Lanka, where NDDB and GCMMF will hold a 51 per cent stake together. Union Minister for Cooperation Amit Shah and Gujarat Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel were also present.

# GLOBAL NEWS



**EXPLORE THE TOP 10 DAIRY INDUSTRY TRENDS IN 2024**

JAN 15, 2024

<https://dairynews7x7.com/explore-the-top-10-dairy-industry-trends-in-2024/>



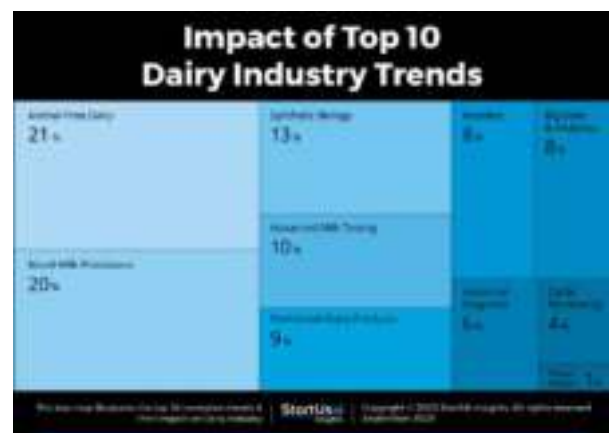
The dairy industry, with roots spanning centuries, occupies a vital part of the food system. Automated milking systems once revolutionized dairy farms and now innovations in the dairy industry like robotic systems offer consistent milking schedules. When cattle experience less stress, it leads to superior milk quality. Tailoring diets to individual cows further ensures optimal health and productivity. New dairy industry trends also help in reducing water usage and greenhouse gas emissions while improving animal productivity and welfare.

**Innovation Map outlines the Top Dairy Industry Trends & 20 Promising Startups**

For this in-depth research on the 10 Recent Dairy Industry Trends and startups, we analyzed a sample of 893 global startups & scaleups. This data-driven research provides innovation intelligence that helps you improve strategic decision-making by giving you an overview of emerging technologies in the dairy industry. In the Dairy Innovation Map below, you get a comprehensive overview of the innovation trends & startups that impact your company.

**10 Newest Trends & Innovations in the Dairy Industry (2024)**

Based on the Dairy Industry Innovation Map, the TreeMap below illustrates the impact of the Top 10 Dairy Industry Trends in 2024. Startups and scaleups are developing animal-free dairy, which focuses on producing milk proteins without the direct involvement of animals. Parallely, synthetic biology enables the engineering of organisms to produce essential dairy components, such as casein or whey.



The technology adoption extends to big data and analytics as well, where vast amounts of

data are analyzed to optimize operations, predict yields, and streamline supply chains. Cattle monitoring systems that track cattle behavior, movement, and productivity in real time are empowering farmers. The concept of virtual fences is redefining cattle grazing, allowing them to roam within designated areas to prevent overgrazing and ecosystem degradation.

**Global Startup Heat Map covers 893 Dairy Startups & Scaleups**

The Global Startup Heat Map below highlights the global distribution of the 893 exemplary startups & scaleups that we analyzed for this research. Created through the StartUs Insights Discovery Platform, the Heat Map reveals high startup activity in India, followed by the US and Europe.



Below, you get to meet 20 out of these 850+ promising startups & scaleups as well as the solutions they develop. These innovative dairy companies are hand-picked based on criteria such as founding year, location, funding raised & more. Depending on your specific needs, your top picks might look entirely different.

**Top 10 New Trends in the Dairy Industry (2024)**

**1. Animal-free Dairy**

Animal-free dairy utilizes biotechnology to replicate the complex processes that occur within a cow’s body, thus creating dairy products without the need for traditional animal farming. Instead of sourcing milk from

cows, animal-free dairy involves cultivating and manipulating cells that are naturally capable of producing milk. Some examples include microbe and millet-based animal-free dairy products.

These cells are carefully selected and nurtured in a controlled environment, fostering their ability to generate genuine dairy proteins and fats. The synthesized components are then harvested and combined to craft a range of dairy products that mirror the taste, texture, and nutritional profile of conventional dairy items. Emerging companies in this dominant dairy industry trend bridge the profile gap between alternatives and natural cattle milk.

**Mayamilk works on Microbe-based Milk Production**

Turkish startup Mayamilk is working with yeast cultures to produce alternative proteins. The company employs precision fermentation technology to manufacture proteins similar to dairy proteins on a large scale. The startup employs industry-scale fermentors to brew proteins from tailored yeast cultures. The produced alternative proteins are devoid of antibiotics, hormones, and allergens. This proprietary fermentation process by Mayamilk ensures sustainability and minimizes environmental impact as it reduces land, water, and animal usage.

**Better Bet provides Millet-based Milk**

Indian startup Better Bet offers a plant-based drink derived from sprouted millets. The drink is devoid of lactose, dairy, cholesterol, added sugar, and artificial preservatives, and offers a holistic nutrition profile. The startup’s plant-based drink is fortified with essential vitamins A, B & D, and is lower in calories and fat. The company chooses ingredients from climate-resilient crops that require minimal water, enabling cruelty-free and sustainable alternatives to milk.

## 2. Novel Milk Processors

Unlike conventional methods, which often rely on labor-intensive and resource-heavy practices, novel milk processors integrate automation and data-driven insights. This integration streamlines various stages of milk production, from sourcing raw materials to packaging finished products. Automation also ensures precision and consistency while reducing human error, leading to higher production quality and lower wastage.

Further, novel milk processors cater to evolving consumer preferences. They produce a diverse range of milk products tailored to specific dietary needs, such as lactose-free or plant-based alternatives. This customization enhances market competitiveness and addresses the increasing demand for specialized products.

### Oater develops an Oat Milk Brewing Machine

German startup Oater develops *The Oater Oat Drink Machine*. This machine produces oat drinks with barista quality and freshness without the requirement for packaging or added sugar. The startup's machine only requires the addition of the ingredient mix and uses a low-temperature fermentation process to make the drink. The startup's machine promotes on-site and fresh plant-based milk production. Oater's innovation significantly reduces packaging waste and transportation emissions.

### PEF Technologies provides Advanced Food Preservation Technology

Dutch startup PEF Technologies builds a versatile nanoPEF machine designed for the preservation of various liquid foods. The startup's proprietary low-temperature food preservation technology utilizes nanosecond pulsed electric fields to inactivate spoilage micro-organisms.

This system is capable of processing any homogeneous liquid, with processing

capacities ranging from 500 l/h to 10,000 l/h. The machine enables the inactivation of optimal bacteria at processing temperatures below 65°C. This ensures the quality and safety of products including milk and juice-based products.

## 3. Synthetic Biology

Synthetic biology enables scientists to manipulate microorganisms at a genetic level to produce milk components, such as proteins and fats, without relying on traditional animal farming. Through genetic modification and precision engineering, microorganisms like yeast and bacteria are modified to mimic the complex processes found in cows' bodies, resulting in the creation of genuine dairy components.

This innovation streamlines milk production by circumventing the resource-intensive aspects of traditional methods. It contributes to resource conservation, reduces environmental impact, and offers a more sustainable way to meet the growing demand for dairy products. Additionally, synthetic biology facilitates the creation of specialized milk variants, catering to specific dietary needs and preferences, thus expanding product offerings.

Synthetic biology also plays a role in developing enzymes for cheese-making, improving milk fermentation processes, and enhancing product consistency.

### ProProtein produces Yeast-based Casein

Estonian female-led startup ProProtein focuses on sustainable dairy alternatives. The startup uses a synthetic biology approach to produce dairy proteins like casein through fermentation. ProProtein utilizes yeast for fermentation, eliminating the need for cattle farming. The startup works to optimize a yeast strain to enhance performance and purification at a laboratory scale. ProProtein's technology promotes animal-free cheese, yogurt, and other dairy products.

### **Better Dairy develops a Precision Fermentation Process**

UK-based startup Better Dairy offers a precision fermentation process. The company's primary focus is on casein, a complex milk protein essential for cheese-making. The startup adds plant-based fats, sugar, and minerals to animal-free casein to make cheese. Better Dairy uses synthetic biology and yeast fermentation to produce dairy products that are molecularly identical to traditional dairy. The startup offers alternative cheese, yogurts, ice creams, and other products.

### **4. Advanced Milk Testing**

Advanced milk testing includes techniques for analyzing milk composition and quality. This approach uses modern instruments like spectroscopy and chromatography to delve into milk's components at a molecular level. This yields detailed information about fats, proteins, sugars, minerals, and potential contaminants. Increasing consumer awareness about milk quality is also fueling this dairy industry trend.

Moreover, advanced milk testing contributes to supply chain transparency. Identifying the origin and characteristics of milk helps trace the source of raw materials, prevent adulteration, and safeguard against fraudulent practices. Precise compositional analysis techniques further optimize processing methods, minimize waste, and enhance resource efficiency, aligning with eco-friendly practices.

### **Bovonic enables Early Cattle Disease Diagnosis**

New Zealand-based startup Bovonic offers a cattle disease detection solution. The startup's *QuadSense* is an automated solution designed to detect mastitis in dairy cattle. Bovonic's patented milk sensor combined with its proprietary detection algorithm enables the identification of mastitis in the earliest stages, allowing for timely intervention.

Bovonic's *QuadSense* is also an automated process, eliminating the need for labor-intensive manual inspections such as herd stripping or the California Mastitis Test (CMT). It is a cost-effective solution to manage and mitigate the impacts of mastitis on their herds.

### **D-Sensor aids Detection of Antibiotic Residues in Milk**

Polish startup D-Sensor designs a solution to detect antibiotic residues in milk. The startup's proprietary technology is automated and delivers real-time results during the milking process without requiring human intervention. It utilizes non-linear chemistry, machine learning, and blockchain technology to develop the solution. The startup's solution recognizes 21 molecules and detects four types of antibiotics: beta-lactam, tetracycline, chloramphenicol, and streptomycin in milk. This improves the quality testing of milk and also ensures an informed consumer experience.

### **5. Fermented Dairy Products**

The process of fermentation contributes to improved digestibility by breaking down complex milk constituents, providing a more easily digestible option, particularly valuable for individuals with lactose sensitivity. Additionally, the influence of microbial activity enriches products with unique flavor profiles and creamy consistencies. For instance, the distinctive tangy taste and smooth texture of yogurt are outcomes directly linked to the fermentation process.

Further, fermentation acts as a natural preservation method. The creation of an acidic environment serves as a preservative that prolongs shelf life by inhibiting the proliferation of detrimental bacteria, effectively extending the freshness of these products. The presence of increased B vitamins and beneficial probiotics not only enhances the products' nutritional profiles but also promotes digestive health and balance.

### **Cultivated Biosciences cultures Yeast Strains**

Swiss startup Cultivated Biosciences produces yeast-based ingredients for the plant-based food industry. The startup develops oleaginous yeast that offers the creaminess and texture required for plant-based dairy products. Cultivated Biosciences' products are enriched with the beneficial microbes in the fermentation process. The products also have a clean label with comparable color and emulsification properties to conventional dairy.

### **Bon Vivant creates Specialized Milk Proteins**

French startup Bon Vivant focuses on producing milk proteins as an alternative to traditional dairy products. The startup develops yeasts that produce milk proteins, which are identical to those produced by cows. Bon Vivant employs precision fermentation to produce milk proteins. This method involves cultivating these proteins in a vegetable culture medium, allowing them to ferment. The startup's production process is environmentally friendly and mimics the taste and texture of milk without the associated environmental impact.

## **6. Robotics**

Robots are employed for diverse tasks within the dairy sector. They automate tasks such as milking, feeding, cleaning, and even monitoring cow health. This automation streamlines operations, ensuring consistent and accurate execution while reducing the need for manual labor. Moreover, robotic systems operate continuously, optimizing production around the clock without compromising quality or performance.

Robotics also contributes to data collection and analysis. Sensors and cameras mounted on robots provide real-time insights into cow behavior, health, and milk production. This data-driven approach enhances decision-making, enabling prompt interventions and

improved management practices. Further, automated feeding systems ensure that cows receive the right amount of nutrition, contributing to their overall well-being.

### **Dairy Robotics develops a Robotic Milking System**

Irish startup Dairy Robotics advances the milking sector through its robotic milking system. The startup's milking system utilizes AI for enhanced animal health monitoring. It offers udder identification, which ensures precise cup attachment, thereby optimizing the milking process.

The system monitors changes in milk output for each animal and uses deep learning to automatically gather, label images, and redeploy its model. This ensures optimized robot path planning and efficient milking. The proprietary AI integration not only ensures better cup attachments but also actively monitors animal health.

### **miRobot builds a Robot for Automated Milking**

Israeli startup miRobot offers a robotic solution designed to fully automate the milking routine. The startup's system integrates with existing dairy farm infrastructures and management systems. It employs 3D imaging to guide the milking and cleaning cups precisely to the cow's teats, and gentle attachment.

The system's unique disinfecting process uses a specialized cup that mimics the human hand, stimulating the teats. It also delivers a combination of air, liquid, and disinfectant for optimal cleaning and preparation. miRobot's robotic arms are designed to be lightweight, flexible, and durable while being gentle to the cows.

## **7. Big Data & Analytics**

Big data collates the vast volume of information generated by dairy operations, spanning from cow health metrics and milk

production records to environmental factors and market trends. This unveils patterns, correlations, and trends that might otherwise remain hidden, empowering stakeholders to make well-informed decisions.

The role of big data and analytics extends across the entire dairy supply chain. From farm management to production processes and distribution, data-driven insights guide optimization efforts, enhancing resource allocation, reducing waste, and improving overall operational efficiency.

For example, through historical data patterns and real-time inputs, analytics solutions forecast cow health issues, milk production trends, and even market demand. This proactive approach aids in preventive measures, better planning, and adapting to changing consumer preferences.

### **OptaHaul offers Route Optimization Software for Dairy**

Irish startup OptaHaul provides specialized route optimization software tailored for the dairy industry, focusing on farm-to-plant milk transport. OptaHaul's software uses its advanced mathematical algorithm to process and analyze various data points and calculate the most cost-effective route plans.

The software analyzes parameters such as local conditions, access restrictions, and the specific needs of dairy processors, cooperatives, and milk haulers. The result is optimal route plans that not only reduce haulage costs but also minimize greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.

### **algoMilk enables Predictive Farm Analytics**

Spanish startup algoMilk optimizes dairy farm operations through predictive analytics and data-driven insights. The startup offers hardware-based automated milking solutions to cattle farmers. algoMilk provides smart assistance for the target level of milk production, how to group cows, the purchasing price for a given feed, and how to react to

market changes and milk demand. The startup's platform utilizes advanced deep-learning algorithms to forecast animal performance and optimize various targets.

## **8. Advanced Diagnosis**

Advanced diagnosis encompasses a range of technologies, including imaging techniques, molecular diagnostics, and wearable sensors. These methods enable veterinarians and dairy professionals to detect health issues and anomalies in animals with heightened precision. By analyzing biological samples and real-time data, practitioners gain insights into factors such as disease prevalence, reproductive health, and overall well-being.

The significance of advanced diagnosis extends to both individual animals and the herd. Timely detection of health issues allows for proactive interventions, reducing the risk of disease spread and minimizing economic losses.

Further, the integration of wearable sensors provides continuous monitoring, enabling early detection of subtle changes in behavior, vital signs, and overall health status. This approach also enhances animal welfare by minimizing unnecessary treatments and reducing stress associated with repeated interventions.

### **FaunaTech designs Handheld Devices for Blood Diagnostics**

Indian startup FaunaTech provides milk analysis with its proprietary platform, *Fauna*, to bring the precision of blood diagnostics to the dairy sector. FaunaTech's handheld device employs proprietary optics and spectral techniques to instantaneously measure over ten key parameters from raw milk.

These parameters include somatic cell count (indicative of mastitis), fat content, antibiotic residue, and Beta-Hydroxy-Butyrate (BHB), among others. The platform's real-time insights are beneficial for dairy producers and veterinarians, offering a comprehensive view of herd health. FaunaTech enables precision



dairy farming, facilitating evidence-based decision-making that benefits both the animal and the farmer.

### **SageSensors builds Hydrogel-based Implantable Sensors**

US-based startup SageSensors develops an implantable sensor and measurement system to digitally monitor the health of feed animals. The startup's sensor platform is capable of invasively measuring health biomarkers, including temperature, oxygen, glucose, pregnancy hormones, and lactate. The sensor is a luminescent hydrogel implant that is placed just beneath the animal's hide. SageSensors' technology offers a more proactive approach to animal health, potentially predicting illnesses days before traditional methods would detect them. The startup's early detection leads to reduced use of antibiotics and medications in feed animals.

## **9. Cattle Monitoring**

Comprising a spectrum of technologies such as wearable sensors, RFID tags, and automated data collection, cattle monitoring empowers dairy professionals to track individual and herd-wide data in real-time. This data encompasses aspects like health metrics, feeding patterns, reproductive status, and overall behavior.

The implications of cattle monitoring span multiple facets. Swift identification of health irregularities allows for prompt interventions, minimizing the risk of disease spread and optimizing animal welfare.

Beyond the confines of the farm, cattle monitoring aligns with transparency demands from consumers. This technology allows stakeholders to trace the journey of dairy products back to their source, bolstering accountability and trust in the dairy supply chain.

### **MooMa employs AI for Continuous Farm Monitoring**

Singapore-based startup MooMa builds *MaaTek*, an end-to-end solution for continuous monitoring across various domains, facilitating automated milk collection and daily milk production tracking. The startup employs AI to provide dairy farmers with timely alerts regarding changes in their herd. The system also alleviates concerns related to machinery, cow health, and milk quality, allowing farmers to focus on effective farm management.

*MaaTek* offers timely predictions of the estrous cycle, enhancing milk yields. It also facilitates early detection of illnesses such as foot-mouth disease and mastitis, ensuring timely veterinary intervention. The system provides insights into environmental conditions, ensuring optimal care for the cattle.

### **Cowealthy provides an IoT-based Farm Social Network**

US-based startup Cowealthy develops a platform that functions as a social network for farm animals. Cowealthy's wireless IoT system captures accurate, real-time data from animals and their environment. This data is then processed through an AI-based analytics platform that employs artificial intelligence to generate insights. These insights aid farmers and supply chains in making better-informed decisions. Cowealthy's solution analyzes real-time animal and environmental data and actionable insights to optimize its operations for better performance, and animal welfare.

## **10. Virtual Fences**

Virtual fences utilize a combination of GPS, sensors, and software algorithms to establish invisible boundaries for cattle. These boundaries are demarcated through signals that prompt cattle to alter their path, effectively guiding them without the need for physical structures. This technology offers dairy professionals a means to manage grazing

patterns, control movement, and optimize pasture usage.

The implications of virtual fences are multifold. They enable livestock to be directed to desired grazing areas, preventing overgrazing and promoting balanced land utilization. This not only benefits pasture health but also contributes to more sustainable farming practices. Moreover, virtual fences reduce the reliance on traditional fencing materials, minimizing environmental impact and resource consumption.

**Corral Technologies develops Advanced Cow-Calf Fences**

Turkish startup Corral Technologies develops a virtual fence system for cow-calf operations. The startup’s *Corral* collar system offers a suite of features that allows ranchers to track their cows in real-time, ensuring they are always where they are supposed to be. The advanced system also allows users to create new cross fences on any pasture using multiple devices, optimizing pasture utilization. Corral

Technologies has the ability to move cows remotely, saving ranchers valuable time.

**HerdWhistle Technologies offers GPS-enabled Cattle Collars**

Canadian startup HerdWhistle Technologies offers *CattleShield*, a virtual fence system designed to keep cattle within a user-defined grazing area without the need for physical barriers. The startup’s virtual fence system employs a GPS-enabled collar that continuously tracks cattle as they graze. *CattleShield*’s collar uses a sequence of vibrations, sounds, and stimuli to deter them from crossing the boundary.

The virtual fence ensures efficient pasture utilization and prevents cattle from accessing and potentially damaging nearby assets or polluting bodies of water. Further, it’s lightweight and flexible, ensuring maximum comfort for the cattle. *CattleShield* offers efficient cattle management, ensuring optimal grazing while minimizing environmental impact.

**LAUGHING COW LAUNCHES PLANT-BASED CHEESE**

JAN 13, 2024

<https://dairynews7x7.com/laughing-cow-launches-plant-based-cheese/>

The Laughing Cow, a Bel Brands USA company, is launching its plant-based spreadable cheese product nationwide.

The dairy-free offering is aimed at consumers seeking spreadable plant-based alternatives, using almond milk to create a creamy texture. The Laughing Cow’s vegan-certified, non-GMO product is initially available in a garlic and herb flavor, and the company plans to explore spicy additions for 2025.

“We’ve spent months perfecting the recipe for The Laughing Cow Plant-Based and are equally excited for this product to hit shelves now as



we are for consumers across the country to try it,” said Zach Fatla, brand director of The Laughing Cow. “This launch marks a new step for the brand, and we look forward to sharing the deliciousness of The Laughing Cow with a whole new audience.”

The Laughing Cow Plant-Based is now sold exclusively at Whole Foods Market stores across the United States for \$4.49 per 4.5-oz container. The company plans to roll out the

garlic and herb and an Original variety in Kroger locations and other grocery retailers this spring.

**CHEESE RECALL ACROSS US AS WARNING ISSUED OVER LISTERIA CONTAMINATION**

JAN 12, 2024

<https://dairynews7x7.com/cheese-recall-across-us-as-warning-issued-over-listeria-contamination/>

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) said on Thursday that a California-based cheesemaker has recalled more than 300 cases of one of its cheese products over a possible health hazard.



identified on the outer edge of the clear plastics, saying: “Sell by 05/12/24 BATCH 4DW-23318” in black lettering.

The FDA said the recall was the result of a routine sampling program by the Hawaii State Department of Health’s Food and Drug Branch on Wednesday, January 3. The analysis of the product revealed that the finished product contained the bacteria.

To date, according to the federal agency, no confirmed illnesses have been linked to the consumption of the product.

Rizo Lopez Foods, a Modesto-headquartered company that has been making Mexican and Central American cheeses, creams, meats and beverages since 1990, is concerned that 344 cases of Aged Cotija Mexican Grating Cheese may be contaminated with listeria monocytogenes, a pathogenic bacterium.

Consumers who might have purchased the recalled product are urged to quarantine it and “destroy it,” as the FDA recommends. Anyone with any question can call the company at 1-800-626-5587, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. PST.

The product, which was distributed nationwide, comes in small 8 ounce “puck” shape packaging wrapped in clear plastic marked with red and black lettering at the bottom, which reads: “Cotija, made with Grade A Milk.” The ingredient description also features on the package, while nutritional facts are noted in black below.

**What’s Listeria Monocytogenes?**

This bacterium can be found in moist environments, soil, water, decaying vegetation and animals, according to the federal agency. It can survive under refrigeration and other food preservation measures, and it’s generally transmitted when food is harvested, processed, prepared, packed, transported or stored in contaminated places.

The top of the package reads “Cotija Aged Mexican Grating Cheese” with an orange background. The products recalled can be

If ingested, the bacterium can cause an infection called listeriosis, whose symptoms

may vary according to how severe the illness is and can appear within a few hours or take as long as two or three days to emerge.

People may be sick for a few days or several weeks, and mild symptoms can include a fever,

muscle aches, nausea, vomiting and diarrhea. More severe symptoms include headache, stiff neck, confusion, loss of balance and convulsions

## LACTALIS INGREDIENTS' LATEST DAIRY PROTEIN INNOVATIONS

JAN 12, 2024

<https://dairynews7x7.com/beyond-sports-nutrition-lactalis-ingredients-latest-dairy-protein-innovations/>



The dairy protein market is experiencing significant growth as applications extend beyond sports nutrition and into holistic health, gut health and functional and fortifying ingredient categories. Additionally, advancements in technology for standard dairy proteins, typically utilized in sports nutrition, are enhancing nutritional benefits and improving texture, taste and ingredient variety.

Data from Innova Market Insights suggests a 13% annual increase in supplement and sports nutrition products featuring dairy-based proteins between July 2021 and June 2023. It further suggests that more than half of these product launches were sports powders, with whey protein isolate being the predominant ingredient and casein emerging as the primary dairy protein driving innovation in this sector.

**Nutrition Insight** sit down with Lactalis Ingredients to discuss its latest innovations in the dairy protein arena, including its Stay Strong High Protein Milk made with Pronativ micellar casein and its Pronativ whey protein.

“Stay Strong protein milk has 50% more protein than conventional milk,” says Elodie Macariou, the company’s senior product manager. “Conventional milk has around 3.4% protein, while Stay Strong contains 5.1% — so about 50% more. It is also lactose-free and low in fats, because it is made with milk, it keeps all of the benefits from milk, like vitamin D calcium.”

**Protective and versatile**  
According to Macariou, since this Pronative is lactose-free and low in fat, it can be utilized by those with lactose sensitivities. Moreover, it can be used in a large variety of applications.

“It has a neutral taste and can be used for active nutrition products without compromising on taste, and that is really a key point here,” she underscores. “Stay Strong Protein Milk has a full-bodied flavor and because there is no added aroma, you can use it in a variety of ways every day, such as in a fruit shake, or in cooking or baking.”

Macariou highlights that part of the nutritional appeal of Pronativ micellar casein lies not only in its high concentration of branch-chain amino acids but also in its slow digestion rate. During exercise periods, protein metabolism is heightened, which can harm muscles. Lactalis Ingredients says its protein can reduce muscle damage.

“Pronativ micellar casein is a protein in its purest and most natural form. It’s designed for consumers who care about what they put in their bodies and want to adopt an active and healthy lifestyle. Due to its slow digestion, Pronativ micellar casein can provide amino acids over a long period, inhibiting muscle breakdown.”

“We also have our Pronativ whey protein, which is a fast protein because it is quickly digested. We have used it to create a beverage with 18 g of protein in a 250 ml drink with a really pleasant taste.”

**From active lifestyles to medical nutrition**

Maricou states that the “fast” and “slow” proteins can also be combined for a holistic muscle health benefit.

“With the micellar casein, because of the slow digestion, you can use it before bedtime, right after exercise or at the end of the day,” She explains. “Of course, it can be used for sports

enthusiasts, but also for people who just want to adopt an active lifestyle.”

“At the same time, Pronativ whey protein aids in muscle growth. So you can have whey protein for muscle synthesis and micellar casein to inhibit the breakdown of muscles at the same time. It’s complementary.”

Apart from being suitable for sports nutrition and active lifestyles, Maricou points out the offerings can also be utilized in medical nutrition.

“The advantage for medical nutrition is that you can increase the protein level while keeping a low viscosity. That’s the challenge in the medical nutrition industry because you need to have a small format with a high content of protein that isn’t too thick and is easy to drink.”

**The role of sustainability**

Maricou notes that for many customers and customers the environmental impact of a product is just as important as its nutritional impact.

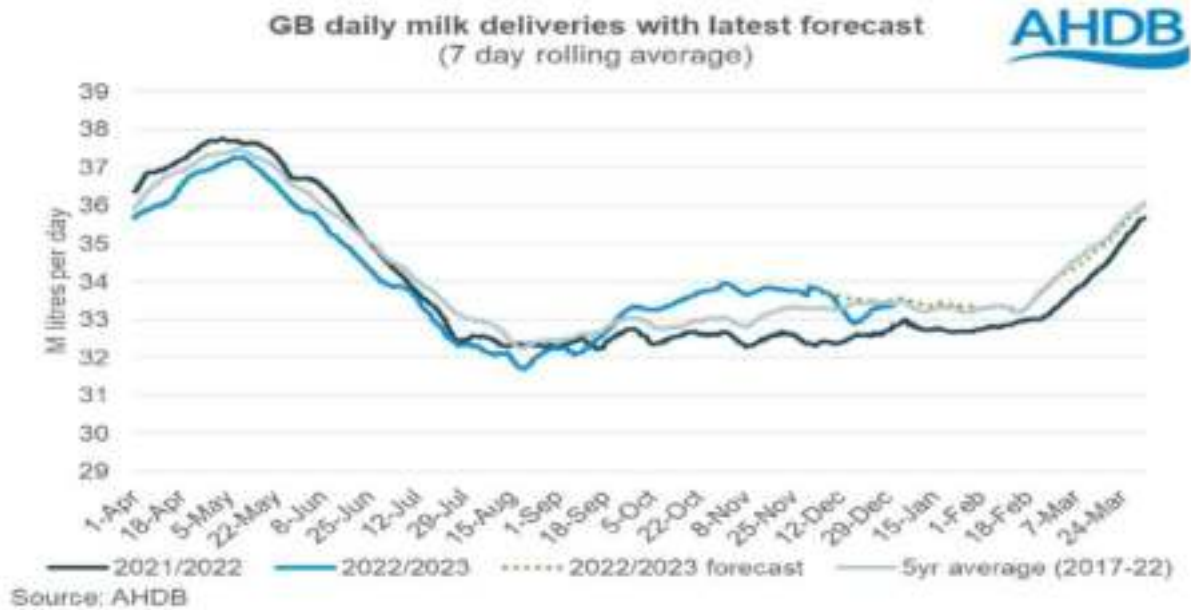
“In 2024, our focus will be on maintaining close collaborations with our clients and adapting to the changing market dynamics, considering not just our products’ functionalities, but also their cost-efficiency and environmental sustainability.”

“We will continue to work in close proximity with our prospects, customers and through our local presence to get the best value from milk, while reducing our impact on the environment and improving our carbon footprint and water consumption,” she concludes.

**DECEMBER 2023 DAIRY MARKET REVIEW IN GREAT BRITAIN-AHDB**

JAN 12, 2024

<https://dairynews7x7.com/december-2023-dairy-market-review-in-great-britain-ahdb/>



**G**B milk deliveries declined less than expected in December, falling back by 0.3%, compared to November’s 2.8% year-on-year decline. Production for the milk season to date (April to December) totals 9,272 million litres, slightly behind (-0.5%) the same point in 2022. This is currently running ahead of the latest forecast revision.

Reasons for the less-than-expected decline in December deliveries include annualisation against a snowy Dember last year, a shift in favour of Autumn block calving and a need for some to drive short-term revenue.

**Milk production**  
12-months rolling

**to Nov-23\***  
+0.2% y-o-y  
(Nov -2.8%)

**to Sep-23**  
+0.2% y-o-y  
(Oct -1.2%)

\*GB milk deliveries

**Cow numbers**

Cow numbers have remained stable, despite increased pressures on farm margins. In October the GB milking herd stood at 1.66million head, a slight (0.1%) increase on the same month of the previous year. In contrast, youngstock (under 2 years) declined by 24,000 head (2.5%) year on year to stand at 926,000 head. The slight increase in the total milking herd was driven by an increase in the number of cows aged 2-4 years.

This raises questions over whether we might see a decline in cow numbers going forwards.

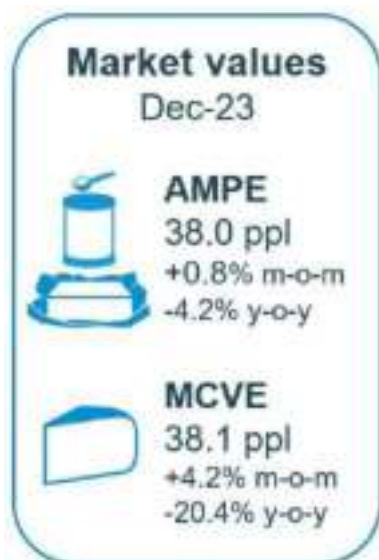
**Wholesale markets**

**Overall price movements on UK wholesale markets** continued to see some steady growth in December. Positive movements were recorded for cream, butter, and mild cheddar, however SMP saw prices ease. Generally, a seasonal uptick in demand and limited product availability are reported to be supporting markets. In December, butter rose by £160/t, cream prices improved by £69/t, mild cheddar

up by £110/t, SMP was the exception losing £50/t.

The GDT echoed this positive sentiment and has now improved for the past three consecutive periods.

As of December, milk market values (which is a general estimate on market returns and the current market value of milk based on UK wholesale price movements) are moving in a more positive direction. AMPE rose by 0.8%, to 38.0ppl, MCVE rose by 4.2% to 38.1ppl. Both indicators in the UK remain much lower than a year earlier, with AMPE and MCVE down by 4% and 20% respectively.



### Farmgate milk prices

The latest published farmgate price was for October with a UK average of 37.0ppl. Latest announced farmgate prices for January were relatively positive with most processors announcing increases or no change to their pricing. On retail aligned contracts Tesco and M&S continued to hold their prices from

November, while Sainsbury's and Co-op saw increases of 0.08ppl and 0.03ppl respectively, following lower pricing last month. Waitrose was the only retailer to announce a price drop for January, lowering their milk price by a further -0.50ppl.

On non-aligned liquid contracts, all members of the AHDB league table continued to hold their prices. This results in no change for Crediton since July, however Freshways, Muller Direct, and Paynes Dairies adjusted their prices in the autumn.

Cheese and manufacturing contracts generally saw more positive movements than liquid contracts.

### Input costs

Input costs continue to move in a positive direction but are still ahead of where they were prior to inflation rocketing.



## AS CHINESE DAIRY PRICES DROP 2024 COULD BE WORST

JAN 11, 2024

<https://dairynews7x7.com/as-chinese-dairy-prices-drop-2024-could-be-worst-for-farmers-in-two-decades/>

**A**s Chinese raw milk prices failed to recover before the high season, industry professionals worry that this year will become the weakest for dairy farmers in the past two decades.

This year will be harder than last year, and maybe even the hardest in the past two decades, so operating farms with a lot of debt will become difficult, Song Huiting, chairman at Jiangsu province-based Jiahui Biotech, told Yicai.



Even though prices of raw milk usually peak at the beginning of the year, reference prices in some areas have dropped to the lowest level in the past six years, insiders added.

Prices of raw and fresh dairy averaged CNY3.66 (50 US cents) per kilogram in the last week of December in the Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region, Hebei province, and eight other major milk-producing regions, down 11 percent from a year ago, according to the latest data from China's Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs.

A dairy farmer in Hebei said that a government-backed industrial organization

shared during a meeting that the reference price is expected to be CNY3.6 per kg in the first quarter, and not only is it about 12 percent lower than the price of a year ago, but it also is quite close to the price seen during the first quarter of 2018, the bottom of the industry's latest boom and bust cycle.

Fortunately, prices of animal feed such as corn and soybean meal fell from a year earlier, the farmer said, adding that this helped his ranch to still break even.

Farms nationwide got rid of about one million cows during the current glut, Song Liang, an independent dairy sector analyst, told Yicai. But the supply is still excessive. The average milk output of a single cow is rising, which has partly compensated for the reduced

inventory while the market demand remains insufficient.

The price drop has started to take a toll even on large ranches that tend to be more financially stable than their smaller peers, an owner of a large farm in Hebei said to Yicai. His ranch culled low-performing cows and started sourcing animal feed locally to cut costs to survive.

The farm owner also considers selling certain parts of his business to dairy processors in order to form closer partnerships with clients to guarantee orders at acceptable prices during difficult times.



## RESEARCH IN USA SHOWS POSSIBILITY OF TURNING DAIRY INTO BIOPLASTICS

JAN 9, 2024

<https://dairynews7x7.com/research-in-usa-shows-possibility-of-turning-dairy-into-bioplastics/>

As the issue of plastic pollution continues to escalate in the United States, a scientist from the Agricultural Research Service (ARS) is developing a new approach to combat it. Atanu Biswas, a research chemist at the ARS National Center for Agricultural Utilization Research in Peoria, Illinois, has spent much of his career exploring ways to convert agricultural waste products into bioplastics.



Biswas' latest effort involves utilizing dairy waste, specifically lactose, a type of sugar produced by the dairy industry as a byproduct. Lactose is composed of saccharides, which have the right chemistry to form bioplastics. Using this material as a starting point, Biswas has been able to transform it into polyurethane and other bioplastic polymers with wide-ranging potential applications in various industries and consumer products.

One significant advancement in Biswas' approach is the use of microwave technology, which allows him to make bioplastic polymers quickly. Additionally, because lactose is a disaccharide of galactose and glucose sugars, it

may be biodegradable, although further research is necessary to confirm this.

The challenge facing scientists who develop new bioplastics is replicating the characteristics that conventional plastics offer, such as hardness and flexibility. While lactose-based bioplastics do not currently replicate the full range of characteristics that conventional plastics offer, they can be useful for certain niche applications like insulation, cushioning

material for furniture, footwear, rubber flooring, or some medical equipment. With additional work, Biswas believes they can be further developed to be useful for hundreds of applications.

Biswas explained that overall, bioplastics can replace a significant portion of conventional plastic supplies but may not entirely replace them. He added that eventually, everything could be replaced, but it's a considerable jump from where they are now to there.

The novel bioplastics represent a "win-win-win situation" for industry, farmers, and consumers. For industry, they provide an opportunity to present a cleaner and greener image while taking advantage of a renewable feedstock that is readily available. Consumers who recognize the problem that plastics present will appreciate a less damaging option for the environment. For farmers, finding a use for what would otherwise be waste is also a win.

## ISRAELI FOODTECH STARTUP SECURES US REGULATORY NOD FOR COW-FREE DAIRY PROTEIN

JAN 6, 2024

<https://dairynews7x7.com/israeli-foodtech-startup-secures-us-regulatory-nod-for-cow-free-dairy-protein/>

**I**magindairy seeks to partner with US food companies to scale up the production of its animal-free protein used in cow-free dairy products like cheeses, yogurt and ice cream

Israeli foodtech startup Imagindairy Ltd. has received US regulatory clearance that its animal-free proteins can be safely used in the production of dairy duplicates, like milk and cheeses.

Imagindairy is the third company after Israel's Remilk and California-based Perfect Day to attain a so-called "no questions letter" from the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for its animal-free whey protein, which is needed to be able to sell it to food manufacturers in the US.

"We are now poised to provide this innovative ingredient to food companies, offering consumers the experience of dairy without reliance on traditional livestock," said Imagindairy's co-founder and CEO Eyal Afergan.

Founded in 2020 by Afergan, Dr. Arie Abo and Prof. Tamir Tuller, Imagindairy has developed precision fermentation technology that teaches microorganisms such as yeast or fungi to produce milk proteins that the startup says are identical to those in cow's milk in that they have the same taste, texture, functionality and nutritional value, yet are free of hormones.

The technology, based on 15 years of research led by Tuller, a professor at Tel Aviv University, recreates animal-free versions of whey and

casein proteins that can be used to produce any dairy duplicates. The whey proteins are the building blocks for developing a full range of non-dairy products that mimic dairy versions with the same quantity of protein and fat as cow's milk but without any cholesterol or lactose.



Following the FDA clearance, Afergan said the startup is now looking to partner with food companies, to "bring dairy staples like milk, cream cheese, ice cream and yogurt to the market without compromising taste, price or experience."

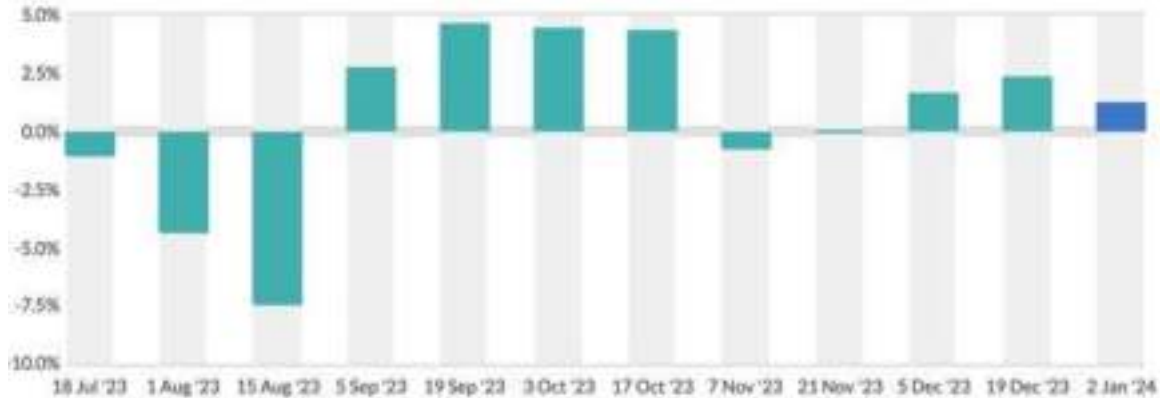
Back in May, French dairy giant Danone made a strategic investment into Imagindairy, which the startup said could pave the way for joint collaboration on developing animal-free dairy products. Afergan told The Times of Israel last year that the startup was planning to launch products in Israel together with the Strauss Group, once it has the necessary regulatory approvals from local health authorities.

The Haifa-headquartered startup is made up of a multidisciplinary team of 30 experts in microbiology, computational systems and biotechnology with the support of Israel-based The Kitchen FoodTech hub.

**GLOBAL DAIRY TRADE INDEX UP TO START NEW YEAR**

JAN 4, 2024

<https://dairynews7x7.com/global-dairy-trade-index-up-to-start-new-year/>



The Global Dairy Trade index rose 1.2% in the first trading session of the new year Tuesday. It's the third straight trading event with a rise in the index.

- The average price was \$3,363 dollars per metric ton.
- Whole milk powder values rose 2.5% to \$3,290 per metric ton or \$1.49 per pound.
- Butter was up 2.1% to \$5,514 per metric ton or \$2.50 per pound.
- Anhydrous milk fat rose 0.2% to \$5,595 per metric ton or \$2.53 per pound.
- Mozzarella cheese held steady at \$3,960 per metric ton or \$1.79 per pound.
- Butter milk powder was down 0.1% to \$2,384 per metric ton or \$1.08 per pound.
- Skim milk powder prices were down 0.9% to \$2,613 per metric ton or \$1.18 per pound.
- Cheddar cheese was down 2.4% to \$4,165 per metric ton or \$1.88 per pound.
- Lactose was down 5% to \$753 per metric ton or \$0.34 per pound.

One hundred fifteen winning bidders purchased 26,206 metric tons of dairy products in twenty rounds of trading Tuesday.

**DANONE OFFLOADS US ORGANIC DAIRY ASSETS**

JAN 4, 2024

<https://dairynews7x7.com/danone-offloads-us-organic-dairy-assets/>

French dairy giant Danone has sold its US-based Horizon Organic and Wallaby units to local investment business Platinum Equity for an undisclosed fee.

The Alpro and Activia brands owner said the disposal is part of its Renew Danone turnaround strategy, announced in March 2022. The strategy includes the disposal of what CEO Antoine de Saint-Affrique described at the time as “under-performers”.

Announcing the deal today (2 January). Danone said the organic dairy units represented approximately 3% of its global revenues. The company will retain a minority stake in the business.

De Saint-Affrique said: “As part of our Renew Danone strategy, we committed to a portfolio review and asset rotation for businesses that

fell outside our priority growth areas of focus to drive value creation.



“Today marks an important milestone in delivering this commitment, while giving the Horizon Organic and Wallaby businesses the opportunity to thrive under new leadership.

“This sale, once completed, will allow us to concentrate further on our current portfolio of strong, health-focused brands and reinvest in our growth priorities.”

*Just Food* has asked California-based Platinum Equity for its comments on the deal, outside of US office hours.

The sale of the Colorado-based organic units, which produces milk, yogurt, creamers, butter and cheese, was first mooted this time last year with Danone saying they had a “dilutive” effect on sales growth and were under strategic review.

De Saint-Affrique said at the time: “Both Horizon Organic and Wallaby are strong, much-loved brands with compelling growth opportunities. That said, seen through the lens of our renew strategy, which requires us to stay disciplined in how we allocate our resources, they fall outside our priority growth areas of focus.”

Danone inherited the Horizon Organic unit when it acquired US group WhiteWave Foods for \$12.5bn in July 2016, a deal that doubled its size in the US market.

In October, Danone upped its 2023 revenue guidance, claiming the Renew

turnaround strategy is bearing fruit.

It said it expected like-for-like sales growth to reach 6-7% this year, compared to a previous estimate of 4-6%.

De Saint-Affrique said at the time: “Eighteen months after the launch of Renew Danone, the benefits of our strategy are starting to show. This quarter is the seventh consecutive quarter of delivery, with sales up 6.2% on a like-for-like basis.”

The 6.2% rise in third-quarter like-for-like sales saw Danone post three-month revenue of €6.9bn (then \$7.3bn). Analyst consensus had predicted a 4.7% increase.

In December, Danone revealed it was in talks to sell its French baked goods business Michel et Augustin to “Ferrero-related” Belgian holding company CTH Invest.

## ISRAEL HELPING MILK PRODUCERS SUFFERING DUE TO GAZA WARWORLD

JAN 2, 2024

<https://dairynews7x7.com/israel-helping-milk-producers-suffering-due-to-gaza-warworld/>

The Israel government approved on Sunday the proposal of Minister of Agriculture Avi Dichter to give priority to milk producers in the localities surrounding Gaza in view of the war in Gaza.



As part of the decision and with the aim of rehabilitating the milk production industry in the Gaza Envelope, the Minister of Agriculture will set a higher milk quota increase for milk producers from the Gaza area settlements for the year 2024, compared to producers from other areas and beyond what is currently practiced.

In addition, the supplement will be given to all producers in those settlements, regardless of the location of a specific dairy.

The dairy farms in that area were either located in places overrun during the October 7 massacre or that were evacuated due to security concerns and, as such, have taken a hit financially.

Minister Dichter: “Strengthening the dairy industry is a national task. Dairy farms and milk producers are a symbol of the rehabilitation of the settlements surrounding Gaza and the rehabilitation of agriculture in general.”

## ALL NZ DAIRY PRODUCTS NOW ABLE TO ENTER CHINA DUTY-FREE

JAN 2, 2024

<https://dairynews7x7.com/all-nz-dairy-products-now-able-to-enter-china-duty-freeall-new-zealand-dairy-products-are-now-able-to-enter-china-duty-free-as-safeguard-duties-on-milk-powder-ended-yesterday-marking-the-removal-of/>

All New Zealand dairy products are now able to enter China duty-free, as safeguard duties on milk powder ended yesterday, marking the removal of all remaining tariffs agreed upon in the free trade deal between the two countries.

New Zealand was the first developed country to sign a free trade agreement with China in 2008, with the imports of milk powder subjected to the longest phase-out. An upgraded trade deal was entered when former

Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern met President Xi Jinping in 2022.

“This is good news for our dairy sector. The removal of these remaining tariffs is expected



to deliver additional annual tariff savings of approximately \$350 million,” Trade Minister Todd McClay said in a statement.

“The (free trade agreement) continues to deliver benefit to the New Zealand economy and to underpin the New Zealand-China trade relationship.”

China is New Zealand’s largest trading partner, with two-way trade exceeding \$37 billion in

2021. Annual dairy exports to China have averaged 1.4 million tonnes, worth about \$8 billion each year over the past three years, around half of which was milk powder, official data showed.

Safeguard duties are emergency tariffs that countries use to shield domestic industries against intense competition from a sudden surge in imports of a particular product.

The so-called special agricultural safeguards

mechanism in the free trade deal was designed as a temporary measure. The tariff preferences are applied up to a designated volume and China’s standard tariff applied to imports above the safeguard trigger.

Safeguards duties on milk and cream, butter, and cheese ended in 2021, while those on milk powders ended on December 31, 2023.