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Dairy Pulse 118th Edition (16th to 30th, September 2020)



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Kuldeep Sharma
a Friend, Philosopher and Guide to
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Contents

Suruchi endeavor in Skill/ Entrepreneur Development Domain 6

Indian News

Keventer Agro plans expansion in dairy business by 30% in the next one year.....	7
Dairy industry witness an innovation galore during Covid times.....	8
Dairy economy of India: Structural changes in consumption and production.....	10
Stellapps gave a stellar performance with 46% spike in Order Value during COVID-19.....	12
Dairy players looking towards Eastern India.....	13
Gujarat’s dairy co-ops converted the excess milk into value-added dairy products during Covid times ...	15
Veganism in India – Would it impact dairy consumption ?.....	17
Demand for dairy products has not yet reached pre-Covid levels.....	18
Nestle launches dairy, plant-based accelerator.....	19
Veganism on dairy - obsessed India’s mind.....	19
R S Sodhi , MD Amul lauds the Agriculture Bill 2020.....	20
Milk production increased by about 30% in Telangana since 2014.....	21
60 notices sent to encroachers of dairy complex.....	22
Relevance of Kurien’s Amul Model for contract farming.....	23
Joint commissioner, Gadvasu scientists visit dairy complexes.....	25
Cadbury’s new ‘mint’ and ‘paan’ Dairy Milk bars.....	25
Gujarat HC to hear Sumul Dairy elections matter today.....	26
NDRI Developed Buffalo Calf ‘Tejas’ For High Milk Yield using Clone Technology.....	27
CBI files Rs 1400 crore fraud case against dairy product manufacturing firm Kwalitiy Ltd for cheating banks; raids underway.....	28
Cadbury Dairy Milk partners with Mumbai Indians for ‘Say Thank You’ initiative.....	28
NDDDB to launch National Dairy Plan-2 soon.....	29
Delhi: Tighter rules for dairies in offing.....	30
UP Govt plans setting up a dairy in every district : CM Yogi.....	31
Cong MLA Talwar raises dairy-shifting issue.....	32
Good news for dairy farmers: Festive demand, rising prices of milk products to bring cheers after COVID woes.....	32
Transgenders in Thoothukudi get their Dairy cooperative in Tamil Nadu.....	33
Mega Dairy farm worth Rs 445 Crores to be set up in Telangana state.....	35
Festive demand, rising prices of milk products help dairy farmers see recovery after Covid lows.....	35
Lactalis group to acquire Kraft Heinz natural Cheese division.....	36

Global News

Oat milk surges to second most popular in plant-based dairy 38

Increase in dairy consumption benefiting local production 38

Synlait: Covid demand for its dairy products still strong despite 9% profit fall 39

World Dairy Expo is Going Virtual Next Week..... 40

Taste-Off: The best (and worst) non-dairy chocolate milk..... 41

America’s Farmers: Resilient Throughout the COVID Pandemic..... 42

3D printing milk made easy 48

Middletown Salvation Army among pantries getting milk coolers 49

Generations compete at Kansas State Fair dairy show 49

AAC Inspects Milk Shops At Talash Timergara..... 50

Advancements in technology often rooted in agriculture 50

IDFA and Blimling Announce 'The Dairy Download,' a Podcast With Sharp Market and Policy Insights 53

Global dairy price index jumped up by 3.6% first time after July 7th 54

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➔ 60th Dairy Entrepreneurship Development Program (DEDP) at Suruchi Consultants, C-49, Sec-65, Noida. Date will be announced soon.

For more information please follow the link:

https://www.suruchiconsultants.com/pageDownloads/downloads/training/3_58th%20DEDP%20MAY_june_2019.pdf

➔ 4th Practical Dairy Entrepreneurship Development Program (PDEDP) at Suruchi

Consultants, C-49, Sec-65, Noida, Dates will be announced soon.

For more information please follow the link:

http://www.suruchiconsultants.com/pageDownloads/downloads/train- ing/9_14092019_PdEDP_brochure.pdf

➔ Dairy Startup Sensitization Program from farm to table in Noida. On 29th February, 2020

For more information please follow the link:

http://www.suruchiconsultants.com/pageDownloads/downloads/training/8_21122019_DSSP.pdf

➔ Suruchi has launched Online Dairy Entrepreneurship Development Program (ODEDP). It is 12 weeks program. Registrations are open till 29th February, 2020.

Watch-

Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5iS432VIGc8&t=42s>

For more information please visit on website <http://skilldairy.com/>

7th Regional Dairy Entrepreneurship Development Program (RDEDP) Dates will be announced soon.

https://www.suruchiconsultants.com/pageDownloads/downloads/training/1_7th%20RDEDP%20Brochure.pdf

Mandatory training "Food Safety Supervisor" for dairy sector as per FSSAI is being organised on 25th & 26th of March 2020 .

Indian News

Keventer Agro plans expansion in dairy business by 30% in the next one year

SEP 30, 2020

<https://dairynews7x7.com/keventer-agro-plans-expansion-in-milk-procurement-and-processing-in-east-india/>



Keventer Agro Ltd, which operates two dairy brands — Metro Dairy and Keventer Milk, is looking to ramp up production capacity by over 30 per cent to close to six lakh litres per day from the current 4.5 lakh litres a day in the next one year. Plans are afoot to set up plants in Siliguri, Asansol and Durgapur in West Bengal adding a total capacity of around 1.5 lakh litres a day.

The company, which is currently operating at close to 55 per cent of its capacity, is also looking to ramp up the sourcing of fresh milk so as to be able to achieve 100 per cent capacity utilisation.

According to Sunil Kajaria, CEO, Banana & Dairy, Keventer Agro Ltd, the satellite plants in these towns could have a production capacity of around 50,000 litres a day and entail an investment of around ₹30-40 crore.

Value added segment

“The pouch milk and the UHT milk segment has been witnessing a steady demand and the pandemic has not impacted the demand. In fact, the UHT segment grew due to long shelf life,” Kajaria told BusinessLine.

The dairy business accounts for around 40 per cent of Keventer Agro’s total turnover and was

estimated to be close to ₹400 crore in FY-20.

The category is expected to grow by around 12 per cent to ₹450 crore in FY-21 and ₹800-900 crore in the next two-to-three years backed by the increased production capacity..

The company has recently launched its ninth Bulk Milk Collection centre (BMC) at Kharagpur in West Bengal taking its own milk procurement capacity to 1,50,000 litres per day (lpd). With this, Keventer Agro now has milk collection centres across five districts and works with around 18,000 farmers on a daily basis.

BMC to collect milk

Plans are afoot to launch more BMCs in West Bengal over next few months with an aim to reach their overall production capacity of four lakh litres per day.

According to Mayank Jalan, Chairman & Managing Director, Keventer Agro, there has been a sharp increase in household consumption of dairy products in the wake of the Covid-19 pandemic and the trend is expected to continue even when normalcy resumes. It is therefore important to have a strong network of collection centres so as to be able to tap the growth and create the necessary ecosystem.

Dairy industry witness an innovation galore during Covid times

SEP 30, 2020

<https://dairynews7x7.com/dairy-industry-witness-an-innovation-galore-during-covid-times/>



Dairy farming is a crucial component of rural economy, which has the highest potential of generating income and employment through augmenting productivity of milch animals. It is an effective instrument of social and economic change.

India is the largest milk producer in the world. In the last three decades, world milk production has increased by more than 59 per cent, from 530 million tonne in 1988 to 843 million tonne in 2018.

India is the world's largest milk producer, with 22 per cent of global production, followed by the United States of America, China, Pakistan and Brazil. The state of Uttar Pradesh produced the highest amount of milk in India at about 30.5 million metric tonne, followed by Rajasthan in the financial year 2019. The projected milk production by 2021-22 is 254.5 million tonne as per the vision 2022 document. In the case of availability of the dairy products, the per capita milk available pan India is 355 gram per day.

Income growth in India has led to strong increases in dairy consumption and production in the last decades. In recent years, dairy consumption has grown at an average rate of 6–8%

per annum and experts expect that demand growth may increase to 8–10% annually in the coming years. With increasing urbanisation, Indian households increasingly rely on markets to buy milk, rather than keeping their own cows or buffaloes.

Milk quality

Demand growth may provide incentives for adulteration. For example, excessive demand growth contributed to milk adulteration and the “milk scandal” in China in the late 2000s. A series of food scandals in India in the early 2000s increased national awareness of food safety and caused debates on safety quality standards for milk.

Anticipation regarding the impending implementation of the legislation – in conjunction with increasing pressure from consumers – may spur the emergence of private food standards in the Indian dairy industry.

Interviews with dairy businesses in Andhra Pradesh revealed that Indian dairy processors decided to pursue different levels of Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points (HACCP) and International Organization for Standardization (ISO) certification as a ‘competitive’ strategy, in

an attempt to convince consumers that their milk is of high quality.

Crossbred cows and graded buffaloes

The traditional DA in India is local (desi) cows and buffaloes with low milk yields. For cows, cross breeding has been the main method to increase animal productivity. Crossbred cows are the result of inseminating local desi cows with a foreign cow breed (exotic) – usually the Holstein-Friesian (H.F.) and Jersey breeds. With proper feeding, they yield considerably more milk than local desi cows.

For buffaloes, local types can be “graded up” with better breeds, usually of the Murrah type, which originate from Haryana and Punjab.

While Murrah type buffaloes are not a technology adoption in Punjab, given that this breed is native to this state, they are in AP where graded buffaloes produce more milk than local buffaloes.

New launches during lockdown

The health benefits of milk are widely recognised as an attractive source of natural proteins and many other dairy items are functional foods and beverages including its contribution to digestive wellness and the high in proteins. Due to lockdown there has been an increase in protein-based diets which includes dairy items – paneer, milk, cheese, raita and immunity boosters.

Spiced Milk

Golden milk and golden milk mix were launched by Milma with the support of Indian Institute of Spices Research, Kozhikode. The Kerala Co-operative Milk Marketing Federation (KCMMF) or Milma has introduced two new products.

Haldi Ice cream

Amul has introduced ‘Haldi ice cream’ sold in tamper-proof 125 ml cups. Haldi ice cream also has super ingredients like honey, pepper and dry fruits such as dates, almonds and cashews.

Tulsi and Ginger Milk

Amul launches ‘Tulsi’ and ‘Ginger’ milk to boost immunity amid coronavirus. The milk brand is

launching ‘Ginger’ and ‘Tulsi’ variants in order to boost the community amid Covid-19. As the coronavirus vaccine is still to come, their new milk variants will ensure people have enough immunity till then to fight the deadly virus.

Traditional Sweets from Milk

Mother Dairy has launched 5 types of sweets available in close vicinity of Delhi – including famed milk cake and orange mawa barfi, the demand has increased with the introduction of frozen rasmalai during the lockdown period. In addition to the already existing sweets on public demand, the company has relaunched hygienically packed gulab jamun and rasgullas for the consumers.

Turmeric Latte

A popular leading milk maker and supplier in the Delhi-NCR, Mother Dairy, recently launched butterscotch flavoured haldi milk (turmeric latte) that will boost immunity of consumers to fight the current crisis engulfing the nation. “Made with concentrated turmeric extract, each bottle delivers the same benefit as taking one teaspoon of haldi powder in milk,” narrated data from Mother Dairy.

Packaged Lassi by ITC

ITC’s Dairy & Beverages Div has launched lassi under Aashirvaad Svasti brand. As launching lassi as this dairy-based traditional drink can help beat the soaring heat and quench the thirst.

Pride of Cows Curd – Premium category Parag Milk Foods -Pride of Cows Curd is made from pure Pride of Cows milk and is derived from the company’s own farm. The curd will be delivered to the consumer’s doorstep through a completely contact-free process that involves a full automated milking and production system and a cold chain network that maintains a constant temperature throughout in order to retain the curd’s flavour and aroma.

Patanjali launches dairy products

Patanjali announced its entry into dairy products like cow milk, curd, buttermilk and cheese,

and said it will soon start selling its dairy products in tetra packs and will launch flavoured milk too

Hisar Dist of Haryana plans First Donkey Milk Dairy

It's common to hear people drinking Cow, Buffalo and Goat's milk. Even Yak milk is consumed in mountainous regions. But, Donkey's milk is something new. To everyone's surprise, the first ever donkey's milk dairy in India will be opened in the northern state of Haryana.

Various innovations have helped consumers to fulfil their needs, some consumers are shifting

towards nutritious food, which will boost their immune system. The implementation of various dairy development technologies /programmes- better feed, new adoption technologies, better hygiene standards by Government of India has changed the scenario tremendously and helped the dairy farmers to obtain higher profits. Sustainability of dairy however largely depends on new technologies, innovations and the best benefits towards healthy side that are developed by various organisations from time to time.

Dairy economy of India: Structural changes in consumption and production

Wednesday, 30 September, 2020, 08 : 00 AM [IST]

<http://www.fnbnnews.com/Top-News/dairy-economy-of-india-structural-changes-in-consumption-and-production-61064>

The dairy Industry plays a very significant part in India's economy and India today is the largest producer of milk and dairy products.

India has the world's largest dairy herd with over 300 million bovines, producing over 187 million tonne of milk. India is first among all countries in both production and consumption of milk. Most of the milk is domestically consumed, though a small fraction is also exported. It's not only milk but other dairy products like butter, ghee, paneer, cheese, curd, milk drinks and ice cream, are also being consumed in larger numbers in our country.

Such large consumption of milk and milk products across cuisines is very prominent. Culinary applications of dairy products are beyond calculations. Dairy organisations procure their milk from local dairy farmers based across 70,000 plus villages all over our country.

Late Dr Verghese Kurien popularly known as the 'Father of White Revolution' is the visionary behind the success of India's dairy industry. He was the man behind setting up one of India's largest companies or today one of the world's

largest milk cooperative i.e., Amul (Gujarat Co-operative Milk Marketing Federation) formerly known as Kaira District Milk Union Limited. He led the technical team & marketing team under the leadership of Tribhuvandas Patel and guidance of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel. As of fiscal year 2019-20, Amul recorded an annual sales turnover of Rs 52,000 crore.

Dairy in India was once a largely subsistence-oriented occupation intended to produce milk for home consumption. In 1919, a dairy animal census was conducted for the first time by British colonial officials. A report authored in 1937 indicated a sub-optimal rate of milk consumption in the country. It estimated a per capita intake of 7 ounces (200 g) per day (inclusive of all dairy products), which was the lowest among all large dairy countries. Low productivity of dairy animals and widespread poverty were the challenges in increasing dairy production and consumption. Consumption varied by geographic and economic conditions, but was on the whole quite low.

In the 1920s, modern milk processing and marketing technologies were introduced in India. The National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) was founded in 1965. It launched 'Operation Flood' in 1969–70, a programme aimed at modernising and developing the dairy sector using co-operatives. During this period, dairy co-operatives emerged as a dominant force, as a result of the exploitative nature of private milk plants and vendors.

Co-operatives were based on the 'Anand Model' – a three-tier organisational structure comprising:

- 1) Village-level co-operative societies (the primary producers).
- 2) District-level co-operative producers' unions which collected the milk and operated processing plants.
- 3) State-level federations for marketing.

This model was evolved in Anand, Gujarat, having begun there in 1946, and came to be adopted all over the country. Operation Flood proceeded in three phases. Phase I (1970–1981) focussed on developing dairy production in areas surrounding New Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai. Phase II (beginning 1986), a larger phase of the project and expanded investment to 147 urban centres across the country. Phase III, which continued to the mid-1990s, expanded investment still further, to a number of smaller towns. In addition to investments by the Government of India, several phases of Operation Flood were funded in part by the World Bank and European Economic Community.

Largest milk producer since 1997

India has been the world's largest milk producer since 1997, when it surpassed the United States of America.

Dairy has been an integral part of Indian cuisine from ancient times to the present. In the Vedic Period, milk was one of the primary elements of the typical Indian diet. There is clear evidence that milk was widely consumed as a beverage by the beginning of the Common Era.

North Indian cuisines are known for their very high consumption of milk and dairy products. Paneer has been the most preferred choice of protein in the vegetarian diets especially Punjabi cuisine. Ghee has been the preferred option for cooking fat in royal Indian kitchens since centuries. Today ghee is also preferred by a lot of Indian middle income groups across various cultures as a cooking medium.

Use of dairy cream as an ingredient to enhance the texture and mouth feel in North Indian curries is very prominent. Dishes made with butter or finished with butter is endless. Butter also enhances the taste but also provides energy from 'good fats' based in it. A simple 'maska pav' or 'bread butter toast' has always been the go to breakfast for almost all middle or upper middle income groups in India.

Major ingredients used in Indian desserts
Khoya or Mawa and Cheena are one of the major ingredients used in Indian desserts. Not only food but Indian beverages like lassi and chass made from curd have always been consumed across cuisines for providing the essential dietary nutrients and hydration to the body. These beverages also help in maintaining the pH balance of our system as one is very prone to get acidic by the spicy Indian meal being consumed in the tropical climate of India.

Another common use of milk is in tea (chai). Most tea consumed in India is sugared milk tea or masala chai as we commonly know it. Drinking tea became ingrained in Indian culture over the 20th century. The average per capita consumption stands at 0.8 kg in 2020. In relation to total population figures, per person revenues of US\$11.46 are generated in 2020. Revenue in the tea segment amounts to US\$15,820.2m in 2020. The market is expected to grow annually by 6.8 per cent (CAGR 2020-2025).

In today's era where modern age diets like Keto are gaining popularity, even their dependence

on milk fats i.e., butter and ghee and milk-protein products like paneer, cheese and mascarpone is very prominent especially for vegetarians following The Keto Diet. Tough veganism is gaining popularity across the West, in India still it has not received much acceptance as here we treat our cattle as sacred so dairy production is highly regulated by the government making sure animal welfare is not neglected during the process.

Milk is an important part of Ayurveda. Ayurveda recommends daily consumption of milk because of its good digestive and sedative properties.

The annual production was 186,000 tonne as of 2018. Indian milk production has grown by about 4 per cent per annum for the past 10 years and now totals about 136 bn litre. Indian

farmgate milk prices have increased in recent years to over Rs 30 per kg (45 euro cents) and prices are expected to continue to increase as dairy consumption is growing even faster than production. Dairy exports have grown but are restricted by the strong domestic demand. India accounts for less than 0.5 per cent of world dairy trade.

Milk consumption levels are not uniformly distributed across India. The people of northwest India are significant consumers; northeasterners consume less. States with higher consumption of meat and eggs are noted to have lesser consumption of milk, as dairy products are one of the few sources of protein for vegetarians. During 2019–20, India exported 51,421.85 metric tonne of dairy products, at a total value of Rs 1,341.03 crore (US\$186.71 million).

Stellapps gave a stellar performance with 46% spike in Order Value during COVID-19

SEP 30, 2020

<https://dairynews7x7.com/stellapps-gave-a-stellar-performance-with-46-spike-in-order-value-during-covid-19/>



Stellapps which is an end to end dairy technology solutions company has seen a 46 percent spike on month on month in its order value during the COVID-19 period. The number of farmers went up from 1.98 Million to 2.3 million farmers across 30,000 villages in 18 states that are 16.6 per cent more than the pre-COVID times. Stellapps is now digitizing more than 11 million litres of milk daily which is 7 per cent of the total milk flowing into the organized sector in a day. This will further increase to 15 Million in the coming few months.

India, the largest producer of milk in the world. In 2019, India produced 187.7 million tonnes of milk but a large quantum of dairy production

remains unorganized. Along with it, the production and traceability of milk still remain a huge problem. With its data-led approach, Stellapps' aim is to facilitate an increase in the production and quality of milk that will enable the production of more value-added dairy products like cheese and butter. This will further lead to an increase in the productivity and income of farmers. Stellapps is enabling this by using technology and data. 1 million cattle are already tracked by Stellapps through its IoT platform. Ranjith Mukundan, CEO and Co-founder of Stellapps said, "There are 80 million households engaged in milk production of which about 60-70 per cent is small and marginal farmers. Increasing the income of smallholder farmers which will lead to a better life for them has been a key agenda of the government and will play an important role in shaping the post-COVID-19 rural economy. The Government initiatives like the Animal Husbandry Infrastructure

Development Fund and Phase II of the Nationwide Artificial Insemination Programme has further paved the way for improvement in the production and yield of the milk produced in India. Focusing on improving productivity, quality and traceability through digitisation can help shift India to the next orbit.

smartMoo™ for farmers

Stellapps is helping dairy farmers with data and analytics solutions through its tech platform 'smartMoo™' to make informed decisions and balance their procurement. By enabling real-time remote monitoring of the procurement operations, Stellapps enable these dairies to ensure that their customers continue to receive safe, traceable, and high-quality milk. In addition, the tech platform has facilitated digital

payments and hassle-free credit and insurance to marginal dairy farmers, allowing them to tide over the economic distress brought about by the pandemic.

Stellapps is a farm to consumer dairy digitization service provider, improving productivity, quality and ensuring end-to-end traceability across the dairy supply chain. It leverages advanced analytics and artificial intelligence through its full-stack IoT platform to enable dairy ecosystem partnerships with financial & insurance institutions, veterinary services, cattle nutrition providers etc. to drive significant value for smallholder farmers and all stakeholders in the dairy value chain.

Dairy players looking towards Eastern India

SEP 29, 2020

<https://dairynews7x7.com/dairy-players-looking-towards-eastern-india/>



For India's dairy sector, the next wave of growth is set to come from the eastern States. It is not just the dairy players that have spotted a potential market in the region, policy guidance also encourages development in these 'dairy underdeveloped States.'

In an interview with BusinessLine, Dilip Rath, Chariman of National Dairy Development Board (NDDB), highlighted that for India to retain over

6 per cent of milk production growth, there should be inclusivity in growth.

"If we look at the different States which contribute to the milk pool of the country, there are certain States which are left behind — primarily those in the East and North-East. We can maintain over 6 per cent growth in the dairy sector if these States reach the all-India average milk yield production," Rath said.

Challenges in North East

“They have got the animal wealth. But their milk yield is low. We need to prioritise in terms of how to enhance productivity of animals in those so-called ‘dairy underdeveloped States’,” Rath said.

As per the 20th Livestock Census, West Bengal, Bihar, Jharkhand, Assam and Odisha together have a cattle population of 66.3 million, which is about one-third of the country’s total of 192.52 million. However, these States have negligible share in the total milk production of 187.75 million tonnes for 2018-19.

Bihar and West Bengal contribute about 5.2 per cent and 3 per cent, respectively, to the country’s milk pool, while the remaining eastern States contribute less than 1 per cent despite having rich animal wealth.

The Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation (GCMMF) — marketer of the Amul brand of products — has spotted an untapped market in the East and North-East. The dairy giant had already started testing the waters in Bihar and Jharkhand.

“In the North-East, we have started with Guwahati but, this year, we are adding other cities and also starting milk procurements,” said RS Sodhi, Managing Director, GCMMF, adding that Odisha will also be a big market.

Co-op model

Raising concerns of a successful dairy development model, Rath stated that Verghese Kurien, the father of the White Revolution in India, gave a mantra for a successful Operation Flood — replicate Anand’s cooperative dairying model across the country.

“The question is that how do we take dairying forward in these States? We have to build institutions. Are the cooperatives strong enough in these States? Even if we see certain issues now in the traditional forms of producer-owned organisations like cooperatives, we have to look at alternative producer-led institutions,” he added.

Milk stats

Production of milk in eastern India is estimated at 46.84 million litres per day, out of which roughly 55 per cent is consumed by farmers in-house, and 50 per cent of the balance (45 per cent) goes to organised sources, said Mayank Jalan, Chairman and Managing Director, Keventer Agro Ltd.

The processing capacity is in excess of 14 million litres per day, both private and public dairies combined.

“Consumption of pouched milk is growing at 3-4 per cent per annum across eastern India. With proper government support and intervention, the production of milk can be moved upwards of 60 million litres per day,” he said.

With inputs from Shobha Roy in Kolkata

Gujarat's dairy co-ops converted the excess milk into value-added dairy products during Covid times

SEP 29, 2020

<https://dairynews7x7.com/gujarats-dairy-co-ops-converted-the-excess-milk-into-value-added-dairy-products-during-covid-times/>



The national lockdown to curb the spread of Covid-19 has had a drastic effect on the Indian economy. Many sectors, including dairy, have been affected. For ensuring smooth supply of essential commodities such as medicines, fruits, vegetables and milk, the government relaxed the transportation norms associated with these services. Dairy business in India is a source of livelihood for millions of rural people. An estimated seven million small, marginal, and landless farmers rely on dairying for their livelihood.

Owing to the closure of hotels, cafés, restaurants, and restrictions on public gatherings, the demand for milk and milk products dipped while the procurement of milk increased. The reason for such a situation was that many private players and small enterprises refused to collect milk or reduced procurement prices, which lead the farmers from different parts of the country to dump the milk on roads in many places.

The challenges

To understand the challenges faced by the dairy cooperatives during the lockdown, Verghese Kurien Centre of Excellence (VKCoE) at IRMA conducted a study on the effect of Covid-19 on the dairy cooperative sector of Gujarat. The respondents of the survey were Banaskantha District Co-operative Milk Producers' Union Ltd and Rajkot District Co-Operative Milk Producers' Union Ltd.

These unions account around 30 per cent of the total volume of milk procured (230 lakh liters/day) by Gujrat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation (GCMMF); popularly referred as AMUL. The total members associated with Bans and Rajkot milk unions are 3.7 lakh and 70,000, respectively. The key findings of the study are discussed here.

As per the survey findings, milk procurement at village cooperative societies witnessed an increase. The milk pulling grew as unorganised players stopped procuring milk due to the shutdown of the hotel, restaurants and café (HoReCa) segment during the lockdown.

The milk producer at the village level during Covid got uninterrupted supply of input services such as feed and fodder, artificial insemination, and veterinary services from district cooperative societies (DCS). This did have a direct effect on the quality and quantity of milk produced. This could be a reason for surplus milk inflow at the village cooperative societies (VCS) level. The survey showed that there was surplus milk collection, which led to increased time for collection and the requirement of more storage facilities.

Supply chain

Farmers supply fresh milk daily to VCS. These VCS' in turn supply to milk unions associated with GCMMF, which is the entity that markets all the milk and milk products produced by member milk unions.

The survey found that during the lockdown, the milk supply chain was not interrupted by new protocols or standard operating procedures (SOPs) at VCS, district milk unions, and state federations. The protocols included maintaining social distancing (by farmers, staff, and officials), washing hands frequently, covering

mouth and nose with masks, sanitisation of vehicles carrying milk and milk products, etc. Except for the ice-cream sector, the dairy supply chain of Gujarat was least affected by the nation-wide lockdown. RS Sodhi, Managing Director of GCMMF, has stated that the ice-cream sales were hit hard initially, but are gradually picking up pace now. Initially, the demand for fresh products saw an increase due to panic buying, and then it decreased. In the case of value-added products, butter ghee, cheese and milk powder saw demand rise 10-50 per cent within 2-3 days of the first national lockdown. The resilience of the cooperatives milk supply chain during Covid was even endorsed by Atul Chaturvedi, Secretary of the Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairy, Government of India. During a webinar organised by FICCI, he said, "There was an improvement in the supply of milk substantially by cooperatives, and the average liquid milk consumption was higher during the period."

Milk processing

During the Covid pandemic, there was surplus milk procurement by cooperatives despite the "lean season" when milk production usually sees a dip. The challenge of surplus milk was handled well by district milk unions, by converting it into value-added dairy products such as butter, cheese, ghee, and milk powder. Other challenges for the milk unions were the availability of manpower as there were restrictions of movement during the lockdown.

Moreover, the issue of timely availability of packaging material and spare parts of dairy machinery (required due to breakdown) was also observed, which was usually solved by taking help from other milk unions. The routine processes of dairy cooperatives — milk collection,

processing, and distribution — were done by following Covid safety norms.

As per the survey, the significant challenges encountered by the two milk unions during the pandemic were workforce management, surplus milk collection, decreased demand of milk and milk products, safety and health of animals as well as farmer members from the virus, transportations of milk from DCS to processing plants and distribution of processed milk and milk products to the consumers.

The Covid-19 lockdown had a massive impact on the economy. The milk procurement went up, and sales of milk and milk products went down during lockdown. To curb this situation, dairy cooperatives started converting milk into long shelf-life products viz milk powder, butter, ghee, UHT milk, etc., which resulted in fund blockage and, ultimately, difficulty in payment to the farmers.

Government Support

To help the dairy cooperatives (ultimately farmers), the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying recently announced "interest subvention on working capital loans for the dairy sector."

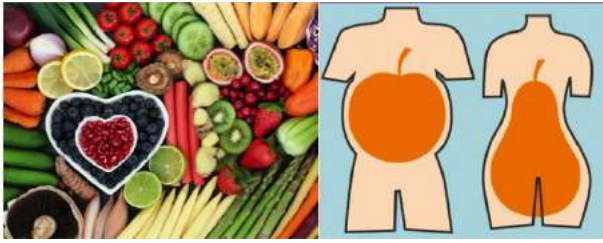
To increase milk production, boost exports, and increase employment by promoting MSMEs and private companies through participation in processing and value addition in the animal husbandry sector, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman announced an Animal Husbandry Infrastructure Development Fund of ₹15,000 crore. This will help strengthen the dairy sector, which has withstood the Covid challenges by ensuring uninterrupted supply of milk and milk products across the country.

Parmar is Research Fellow, and Misra is Chair Professor at VKCoE, Institute of Rural Management, Anand, Gujarat. Views are personal

Veganism in India – Would it impact dairy consumption ?

SEP 29, 2020

<https://dairynews7x7.com/veganism-in-india-would-it-impact-dairy-consumption/>



India is the world's largest producer of milk. It is a notable global player in milk production, contributing 22 per cent of the total. Regardless of COVID-19 outbreak, the milk production in India increased by six per cent in 2020. Having said that, let us discuss a new growing trend in India – Veganism.

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What is Veganism?

Veganism is the practice of eliminating the use of animal products, particularly from the diet. A Vegan is a person who practices this philosophy. However, most people confuse Vegan to the Vegetarian way of eating. A Vegan would abstain from eating dairy products, eggs, meat, etc, but a Vegetarian may consume dairy products, including milk, curd, ghee and butter. This dietary and lifestyle choice aims to control and prevent 'cruelty' inflicted on animals.

India's shift towards Veganism

India has long been touted as the vegetarian capital of the world. And now, like the rest of the world, it is waking to the physical, ethical and economic benefits of plant-based, meat-and-dairy-free food. For several decades, India has been the dairy-loving country. Milk is an important and irreplaceable component of almost

all Indian households. But the picture is changing now and veganism is increasingly being embraced.



Vegetarian & Vegan Diet Pyramid



Vegan lifestyle

Social media has a profound impact on all the social and political issues. How can Veganism go untouched? Social Media has played an undeniable role in portraying 'cruelty' inflicted on animals in the dairy and meat industries. This has been one of the strong reasons behind the quick uptake of the vegan cause.

Celebrity endorsements

Several celebrities admitted giving up on dairy products. Vegan influencers began to see the light of the day and garnered huge engagement on social media platforms. Thus, giving rise to an all new campaign and drifting the internet-savvy young generation to this new ethical and sustainable lifestyle. The overall impact of this was an adequate increase in number of Vegans in India.

To meet the growing demands, several restaurants and food companies introduced robust vegan-friendly eatables. Websites popped up offering a wide range of vegan products. Major part of a typical Indian diet is plant-based. The odds that had to be substituted were ghee, butter, cheese, curd etc.

It is needless to say that this theory of lifestyle is not just behavioural, but also sustainable.

Moreover, studies have shown that a well-balanced vegan diet can effortlessly provide all the nutrients.

Demand for dairy products has not yet reached pre-Covid levels

SEP 29, 2020

<https://dairynews7x7.com/demand-for-dairy-products-has-not-yet-reached-pre-covid-levels/>



The success of the 'Operation Flood' led to India emerging as the highest milk producing nation in the world more than two decades back. From a milk deficient country, India became self-sufficient in milk production mainly attributed to the role played by dairy cooperatives such as Amul (Gujarat Co-operative Milk Marketing Federation), Nandini (Karnataka Milk Federation) etc.

After the announcement of lockdown in March to curb spread of the COVID19, it resulted in disruption of supply chains associated with the various sectors of Indian economy. However, the dairy cooperatives continued with their operations of procuring milk from the members (as well as non-members) and distributions of dairy products to consumers notwithstanding operational challenges faced.

While many private sectors organised dairy players stopped or reduced milk procurement from farmers because of decline in demand, majority of the co-operative dairies have continued to collect milk from dairy farmers to ensure best possible financial support in spite of lower sales. This has resulted in surplus stock of Skimmed Milk Powder (SMP) and butter with the co-operative dairies. On one hand the milk

procurement has increased and on other the demand for the dairy products is yet to reach the pre-COVID level.

It is estimated that the dairy cooperatives currently have around 1.5 lakh tonne of SMP stocks, which implies around 1.5 million tonne of milk stock (conversion ratio of SMP to liquid milk 1:10). This stock is far more than the SMP stocks held with the cooperatives a year ago. With the onset of flush season (milk production goes up) from October, dairy cooperatives have been asking the government to provide incentives under the Merchandise Exports from India Scheme so that around 50,000 tonne of SMP could be exported.

A number of countries which imports large quantity of dairy products are not permitting import of dairy from India applying various tariff and non-tariff barriers. The European Union (EU) does not approve dairy imports from India under the pretext of various issues like pesticide and antibiotic residue etc. The United States had a high import duty of 40 to 60% on dairy products. China, the world's largest importer of dairy products does not permit import from India after it imposed a ban on the imports of milk and milk products from China years back because of presence of toxic chemical – melamine in Chinese dairy products. Russia's guidelines stipulate that their own veterinary control team approves dairy plants in India prior to imports. In the last four years, Russia has not granted any approval for Indian dairy plants.

Nestle launches dairy, plant-based accelerator

09.28.2020

<https://www.foodbusinessnews.net/articles/16928-nestle-launches-dairy-plant-based-accelerator>

KONOLFINGEN, SWITZERLAND – Nestle SA has launched a research and development accelerator in Konolfingen focused on dairy and plant-based dairy alternatives. The accelerator will serve startups, students and scientists and help bring products from ideation to commercialization. “Innovation in milk products and plant-based dairy alternatives is core to Nestle’s portfolio strategy, as well as our sustainability agenda,” said Mark Schneider, chief executive officer. “As a company, we have set ambitious climate goals. This is part of our promise to develop products that are good for you and good for the planet.” Through the accelerator, researchers will have access to Nestle’s expertise and equipment to

facilitate the upscaling of products for a test launch in a retail environment, according to the company. The project is part of Nestle’s global R&D accelerator initiative that was launched in April 2019.

“Our goal is to provide startups, students and Nestle scientists with key resources to quickly explore new ideas through a six-month test and learn approach,” said Thomas Hauser, head of global product and technology development at Nestle. “By tapping into our expertise in food science, food safety, regulatory, manufacturing processes, and packaging, they can rapidly up-scale and test new products in real market conditions.”

Veganism on dairy - obsessed India’s mind

Sep 28, 2020 23:29 IST

<https://www.hindustantimes.com/lifestyle/veganism-on-dairy-obsessed-india-s-mind/story-xkbUe-OvNF5QBxUk20rgl4J.html>

India is the world’s largest producer of milk. It is a notable global player in milk production, contributing 22 per cent of the total. Regardless of COVID-19 outbreak, the milk production in India increased by six per cent in 2020. Having said that, let us discuss a new growing trend in India – Veganism. Veganism is the practice of eliminating the use of animal products, particularly from the diet. A person who practices this philosophy is known as a Vegan. However, most people confuse Vegan to the Vegetarian way of eating. A Vegan would abstain from eating dairy products, eggs, meat, etc, but a Vegetarian may consume dairy products, including milk, curd, ghee and butter. This dietary and lifestyle choice aims to control and prevent ‘cruelty’ inflicted on animals. India’s shift towards Veganism

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Social media has a profound impact on all the social and political issues. How can Veganism go untouched? Social Media has played an undeniable role in portraying ‘cruelty’ inflicted on animals in the dairy and meat industries. This has been one of the strong reasons behind the quick uptake of the vegan cause.

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light of the day and garnered huge engagement on social media platforms. Thus, giving rise to an all new campaign and drifting the internet-savvy young generation to this new ethical and sustainable lifestyle. The overall impact of this was an adequate increase in number of Vegans in India.

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R S Sodhi , MD Amul lauds the Agriculture Bill 2020

SEP 28, 2020

<https://dairynews7x7.com/r-s-sodhi-md-amul-lauds-the-agriculture-bill-2020/>



RS Sodhi, MD Amul, yesterday took to Twitter to explain how the free market has helped the dairy farmers prosper. Responding to PM's Mann Ki Baat on the farm bills, Sodhi said milk is an agriculture produce worth Rs8 lakh crore. It is more than the combined value of wheat, paddy and sugarcane. He added that the dairy farmers whether or not they are associated with the GCMMF are free to

sell their produce anywhere and buyers are free to buy it from anywhere. The competition for milk as a product is there even at village level. He further added that while agriculture's contribution to the GDP has been declining, milk's contribution has been rising steadily. Along with the increase of milk's contribution to GDP, there has also been a rise in farmers' income because of this freedom to sell the produce anywhere they wish.

He added that while Amul may have a huge market share, dairy is an industry where 100% FDI is allowed. International players like Nestle and Unilever are already in India with their products.

Milk production increased by about 30% in Telangana since 2014

SEP 28, 2020

<https://dairynews7x7.com/milk-production-increased-by-about-30-in-telangana-since-2014/>



A silent-but-steady White Revolution is brewing in Telangana. Milk production in the State grew by 1.2 million tonnes since bifurcation from 4.2 million tonnes in 2014-15 to 5.41 million tonnes in 2018-19 and then to an estimated 5.61 million tonnes in 2019-20.

The subtle-but-striking increase in milk production indicates the State government's efforts in convincing farmers to reduce dependence on conventional farming and increase their livelihood sources through livestock farming, especially dairy development.

Government Livestock census

As per the Union government's Livestock Census 2019 and the State government's Socio-Economic Outlook 2020, the population of milch animals, including exotic, crossbred and indigenous cows along with buffaloes, increased from 28.97 lakh in 2014-15 to 32.48 lakh in 2018-19. It is estimated to have increased to about 34.18 lakh in 2019-20. During the years, milk production too increased considerably from 4.2 million tonnes in 2014-15 to an estimated 5.61 million tonnes in 2019-20.

Also read : Mega Dairy farm worth Rs 445 Crores to be set up in Telangana state

The State is ranked eighth in livestock population and 13th in milk production. A majority of the milk produced in the State is being procured by the private dairies and is largely utilised for manufacturing dairy products. As against the daily sale of milk to the tune of 22 lakh litres in the State, the four cooperative dairies under the Telangana State Dairy Development Cooperative Federation Limited (TDDCFL) supply 7 lakh litres.

"The cooperative dairies have increased their daily procurement due to proactive measures by the Telangana government since the State formation. Four cooperative dairies are supplying an average 7 lakh litres of milk per day in 2020-21 against a meagre 1 lakh litres per day in 2014-15," an official of TDDCFL told 'Telangana Today'.

The visible increase in milk production is being attributed to farmers' responding positively to Chief Minister K Chandrashekhara Rao's call to improve their income sources rather than depending only on conventional farming. Accordingly, the State government has been promoting dairy development as one of the primary agriculture-allied sectors besides offering incentives and subsidies to dairy farmers.

Dairy diary



MILK PRODUCTION

2014-15	2018-19	2019-20
4.2 mn	5.41 mn	5.6 mn
tonnes	tonnes	tonnes (Estimation)

- Population of milch animals up from **28.97 lakh** in 2014-15 to **32.48 lakh** in 2018-19
- It is estimated to have further increased to about **34.18 lakh** in 2019-20

STEPS THAT LED TO CHANGE

PROMOTION OF DAIRY DEVELOPMENT AS ONE OF THE PRIMARY AGRICULTURE-ALLIED ACTIVITIES

- Distribution of milch animals to **58,000** of **2.13 lakh** dairy farmers in cooperative sector
- Rs 4 per litre** incentive to dairy farmers in cooperative societies; **Rs 350 crore** spent for scheme

Besides facilitating subsidised loans through banks and other financial institutions, the State government launched a cattle distribution scheme for dairy farmers in the cooperative sector. Milch animals were distributed to about 58,000 of total 2.13 lakh dairy farmers in the cooperative sector. Further, an incentive of Rs 4 per litre is being provided to dairy farmers in cooperative societies for which the State government spent about Rs 350 crore.

As per the State Socio-Economic Outlook 2020, Telangana's livestock sector supports about

25.82 lakh families with the value of Rs 66,403 crore at current prices. Within the agricultural and allied sectors, livestock is a large contributor with 7.6 per cent to the State Gross Domestic Product (2019-20 AE) and this share has been increasing in recent years. The share of contribution of livestock grew from 5.6 per cent of total Gross Value Added (GVA) in current prices in 2010-11 to 7.6 per cent of the total GVA in 2019-20.

60 notices sent to encroachers of dairy complex

Sep 25, 2020

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/ludhiana/60-notices-sent-to-encroachers-of-dairy-complex/articleshow/78303578.cms>

Ludhiana: Following a survey the civic officials have started taking action against the encroachments in part A and B of the dairy complex on Hambran road. The civic officials had conducted the survey recently where they had come to know about the fact that the prime land kept reserved for develop-

ing public parks was under encroachment. However, now the officials will remove the encroachers as already around 60 notices have been served.

During the checking, the officials found out that places designated for developing public parks had been encroached upon by some dairy owners.

A city-based RTI activist, Rohit Sabharwal, had sat on one day hunger strike on June 10 for many issues in which encroachments in dairy complex was also included. He had submitted memorandum to the vigilance office from where the civic officials had received the directions to check the exact number of encroachments and what action had been taken by them.

However, the officials claimed that one survey was carried out in 2017 as well and on the basis of that survey they checked the dairy complex. The officials claimed that at least 45 public parks were there in the layout plan of the dairy

complex but when they checked the spot, they did not find a single park. At the place of these parks the dairy farmers have tied their cattle or they have constructed temporary sheds. Some other kind of encroachments are also there. After consulting mayor Balkar Sandhu, the municipal town planner Surinder Bindra had issued the letter to the building branch officials of zone D for taking action in this regard. The officials claimed that notices had already been served to encroachers for removing the illegal structures and if it was not done then they would start doing it on their level.

Relevance of Kurien's Amul Model for contract farming

SEP 25, 2020

<https://dairynews7x7.com/relevance-of-kuriens-amul-model-for-contract-farming/>



In Amul's case, middlemen were effectively replaced by dairy producers through farmers' cooperatives. These cooperatives were layered up to the state level, where today the huge dairy infrastructure is totally owned by the state and district-level cooperatives, with dairy producers owning them via membership. The corporates do not, in any way, own the huge Gujarat dairy federation.

The farm reform Bills have been witness to topsy-turvy politics. The Opposition's job is to oppose, even by U-turns. What was adopted in the 2019 Lok Sabha poll manifesto has now been cast aside by the Congress. The Akalis, privy to Cabinet discussions and decisions, made a U-turn too to suddenly find an 'anti-farmer' grain in the policies they were unprofitably party to within the NDA government.

But to get some clarity, let us try to address the questions posed by the Opposition.

Emerging Fears from the current bill

The first fear raised is that the Minimum Support Price (MSP) system is being secretly and conspiratorially sabotaged. The government has now clarified that the MSP will continue, that the past six years have seen a rise of over 30% in the MSP of wheat and paddy, and that the farmer still has the continued facility of MSP, but with the choice of not having to sell only to commission agents in the mandi.

A second fear being expressed is that hereafter, with the farmers now allowed to sell outside the limits of the mandis, the corporate sector will move in sharply and swiftly to subjugate the hapless farmer.

The facts, however, are different. For example, basmati rice, being outside the purview of MSP, was exported to the tune of almost 45 lakh tonnes last year. This is done via open market competition by rice millers and exporters and no farmer has complained of being exploited and short-changed by the private sector. Con-

trast this with wheat, mollycoddled by the protection of the MSP system, not being exported at all out of India.

Power of open competition

Open competition of the market has given the farmer the best prices due to the export of basmati rice, or horticultural crops like mangoes, spices or tea, with no price complaints from the producer.

Before we look into the present agitation, we must bear in mind that the middleman in Punjab not only collects 2% as commission rate, but his profits are also hiked each time the MSP goes up, without any additional services being given to the farmer. Similarly, the state government levies 8% mandi tax on MSP rates, hence, automatically raising its revenue whenever the MSP is hiked. In Punjab, the mandi taxes alone gave the state government almost Rs 3,500 crore from wheat/paddy MSP last year.

The fear then is that if the farmers start selling outside the mandis and directly to the purchasers, the present hold of the commission agents gets reduced. This is a genuine fear. But while middlemen are agitating in the name of farmers, the government too is not entirely blameless. It has long been felt, and rightly so, that whenever retail prices shoot up, successive regimes have sought to soothe urban discontent by suddenly banning the export of sugar, onions etc. It never mattered that a rise in farmer incomes was thereby being arbitrarily curbed.

Second Agricultural Reform 2020

The second agricultural reform of 2020 has been to amend the Essential Commodities Act to authorise an export ban only if there was a 100% price rise of a horticultural crop or a 50% price rise of a non-perishable agri foodstuff like cereals, dal, sugar etc. But as soon as the Bill was drafted, onion exports were banned, even though its price rise was nowhere near the future Act's upper ceiling. The government itself

has overlooked the prospects of farmer incomes rising via onion exports.

The third agricultural reform is to facilitate contract farming. Here is where the feeling is genuine that thereby the corporate sector, by binding the willing farmers into a contractual relationship, will acquire a hold over the rural land by occupying it.

And this is where the Verghese Kurien model of Gujarat's Amul is recalled for good effect. Middlemen were then effectively replaced by dairy producers themselves through farmers' cooperatives. These cooperatives were layered up to the state level, where today, the huge dairy infrastructure is totally owned by the state and district-level cooperatives, with dairy producers owning them via membership. The corporates do not, in any way, own the huge Gujarat dairy federation.

Contract farming would lead to sustainable agri modernisation in India if the ownership, leading to large economies of scale, were to be in the hands of farmers' cooperatives. This is a lesson to be learnt — and emulated — from the example of Amul.

90% of farm produce is sold outside MSP regime

About 90% of the farming produce is marketed outside the MSP system. The present agitation is led by only 10% of our farmland owners with a marketable surplus. Only a few states have spontaneously agitated.

But the government must ensure that its Rs 1 lakh crore agri infra plan is expeditiously implemented, that the Essential Commodities Act should be used for farmers' interests — and not by mindless export bans to cool down the noisy urban consumer — and that contract farming should be done with the farmer holding the reins. Only then would the three agricultural reforms of 2020 begin to look like the resounding successes they really ought to be.

Joint commissioner, Gadvasu scientists visit dairy complexes

Sep 24, 2020

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/ludhiana/jt-commissioner-gadvasu-scientists-visit-dairy-complexes/articleshow/78283533.cms>

LUDHIANA: In order to get a clear view with regard to dairy farmers in the dairy complex at Haibowal and on Tajpur road, joint commissioner Kulpreet Singh, along with scientists from Gadvasu, visited the dairy complexes on Wednesday. The main reason for visiting the dairy complexes was to get an idea about deficiencies in the existing system at these complexes so that these could be avoided at places where new dairy complexes would be shifted.

A meeting of high-power committee has been fixed for Thursday, where all these things will be discussed. The officials also met the dairy farmers and asked them about their preferences. The dairy owners have demanded that they should not be shifted to a far-off place. Secondly, they demanded that they should be allowed for change of land use without paying anything to the MC.

The joint commissioner said they had to put a report in the meeting on Thursday about the visit of Gadvasu scientists at both dairy complexes and also they wanted to know the views

of dairy farmers as well. He said they would mention in their report about the demand of dairy farmers that they want CLU free of cost, while Haibowal dairy owners were even ready to leave the site on their own if they are not made to pay any CLU charges. He said the decision had to take place at government level and they would submit their report to the committee members for the same.

The issue of shifting the dairy units is going on for a long time and whenever the Buddha Nullah pollution issue is taken up, the pollution created by the dairy units also gets highlighted. At Haibowal dairy complex there is one bio-CNG plant but it is not sufficient to take the load of waste being generated from the dairy units. When this plant was established the number of cattle were less but now numbers have increased. However, at the Tajpur road dairy complex there is no facility to tackle the waste being generated from the dairy units and everything is going into Buddha Nullah directly.

Cadbury's new 'mint' and 'paan' Dairy Milk bars

24 Sep 2020, 10:30 PM IST

<https://www.afaqs.com/news/mktg/cadburys-new-minty-and-paan-dairy-milk-bars>

Dairy Milk Hint O'Mint (made with Cadbury Bournville and Mint crystals) and Dairy Milk Paanjeer (combo of Paan and Anjeer) are the new limited-edition bars for Cadbury Dairy Milk. The two new flavours are the Mondelez India's 'go Madbury for Cadbury' campaign. The mint and paan variants have

been created by Apoorva Rajan (from Bengaluru) and Prabhjot Anand (Punjab), respectively. The company is all set to launch Madbury 2.0, asking consumers, "Kahaan Se Aayegi Hamari Agli Cadbury?" Cadbury Dairy Milk Hint O'Mint and Cadbury Dairy Milk Paanjeer, are all set to hit the shelves by the first week of October 2020.



Winners of Madbury campaign
 In a press release, Anil Viswanathan, senior director - marketing (Chocolates), Insights and Analytics, Mondelez India, said that consumers wanted to amalgamate the taste of chocolate with the desi/localized flavours.

The Mondelez India team said that other local flavours that came to the fore included suggestions like Chai and Elaichi, Paan and Mixed Berries, Kulfi and Badam, Cashew and Mishti Doi, among others. The brand will associate with celebrity chef Kunal Kapoor, to create some digital engagement for the winners and the winning flavours.

Gujarat HC to hear Sumul Dairy elections matter today

September 24, 2020

<https://www.indiancooperative.com/co-op-news-snippets/gujarat-hc-to-hear-sumul-dairy-elections-matter-today/>



The wait for the official announcement of the election results for the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of Surat based Sumul Dairy may end today as the Gujarat High Court is likely to hear the matter today that is on 24th September 2020. Readers would recall that the congress directors on the board of Sumul have filed a case in the

court against the appointment of two representatives on the board of dairy by the government of Gujarat.

The hearing on the matter was held on Monday but due to the non-availability of the lawyer from the Congress side, the court postponed the case for the next hearing. It is being told

that the advocates from the government side and BJP side were present during the hearing. The elections of Chairman and Vice-Chairman were held on 4th September 2020 but the result has not been officially announced. It was expected to be announced after the court heard the matter.

NDRI Developed Buffalo Calf 'Tejas' For High Milk Yield using Clone Technology

SEP 21, 2020

<https://dairynews7x7.com/ndri-developed-buffalo-calf-tejas-for-high-milk-yield-using-clone-technology/>



The National Dairy Research Institute, Karnal has developed a high yield breed buffalo calf "Tejas" which will help in increasing milk production and farmers' income across the country.

"The National Dairy Research Institute, Karnal is progressing further in animal cloning. Recently, NDRI has developed a buffalo calf using the hand guided cloning technology. The male calf named 'Tejas' is the clone of the high yield buffalo breed. This will help in increasing milk production of buffaloes in the country," NDRI Director Dr Manmohan Singh Chauhan told ANI here.

He said the country's largest dairy research centre was working to increase the milk production in the country as part of the national effort to increase the income of farmers, he said.

Chauhan said that the new clone Tejas is of the Murra breed of buffaloes which are known for their high milk yield.

"By 2021-22, there would be a requirement of 140 million doses of semen in the country for artificial insemination whereas the current availability is of 85 million doses only," he said. Chauhan said that in the last ten years, 16 clones of buffaloes have been developed in the country using cells from their milk, ears, urine, blood and semen.

In 2009, the NDRI had produced the first female buffalo clone named Garima at the institute. Garima then gave birth to Mahima and Karishma in 2013 and 2014 through normal birth. (ANI)

CBI files Rs 1400 crore fraud case against dairy product manufacturing firm Kwality Ltd for cheating banks; raids underway

Updated: Sep 21, 2020 18:07 IST

<https://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/cbi-files-rs1400-crore-fraud-case-against-ice-cream-manufacturing-firm-kwality-ltd-for-cheating-bank-of-india-led-consortium-raids-underway/story-2DOksWMqmQCWN5hhAtxSnL.html>



The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) on Monday filed a fraud case against Kwality Ltd, which makes dairy products, for cheating a consortium of banks led by Bank of India.

The company is accused of Rs 1,400 crore fraud. The agency registered the case after complaint from Bank of India. The investigating agency is

conducting searches at eight locations, including Delhi, Bulandshahr, Saharanpur, Ajmer and Palwal.

The company's directors Sanjay Dhingra, Siddhant Gupta and Arun Srivastava have also been named in the CBI case, apart from other unknown people.

The banks said in their complaint that Kwality Ltd cheated them by ways of diversion of bank funds, sham transactions with related parties, fabricated documents/receipts, falsified books of accounts and creation of false assets and liabilities.

Other than Bank of India, the consortium includes Canara Bank, Bank of Baroda, Andhra Bank, Corporation Bank, IDBI, Central Bank of India, Dhanlaxmi Bank and Syndicate Bank.

Cadbury Dairy Milk partners with Mumbai Indians for 'Say Thank You' initiative

September 19, 2020, 16:57 IST

<https://brandequity.economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/marketing/cadbury-dairy-milk-partners-with-mumbai-indians-for-say-thank-you-initiative/78203778>

Cadbury Dairy Milk, the chocolate brand from Mondelez India, has partnered with Mumbai Indians as their official goodness partner to spread the message of acknowledging the unacknowledged with the "#SayThankYou" initiative. As part of this initiative, the brand will double the total runs scored in all Mumbai Indians matches to provide health insurance for daily wage earners through its NGO partner Nirmana.

Anil Viswanathan, senior director - marketing (chocolates), insights and analytics, Mondelez India, said "This year has made us all realize the value of the people that run our cities, societies, lives and this has been the core

thought behind the brand's #SayThankYou campaign. Cricket being one of India's biggest passions, we wanted to use the platform of T20 to inspire our consumers to say thank you to those who make our lives easier."

A Mumbai Indians spokesperson, said, "At Mumbai Indians, we believe in compassion, gratitude, and togetherness. The 'One Family' ideology of Mumbai Indians reflects the same feeling in true spirit. The 'Say Thank You' initiative by Cadbury Dairy Milk is a highly commendable initiative that also resonates with our thoughts."

NDDB to launch National Dairy Plan-2 soon

SEP 19, 2020

<https://dairynews7x7.com/nddb-to-launch-national-dairy-plan-2-soon/>



The National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) is gearing up to launch second phase of the National Dairy Plan (NDP) – the ambitious project to double milk production of India – which is already world’s largest milk producer.

Phase two of NDP, which is being promoted as ‘Mission Milk’, will be spread over a period of five years with financial outlay of Rs 8,000 crore for which NDDB is holding consultation with the World Bank.

It was in April 2012 that the Anand-headquartered dairy board had launched first phase of NDP with financial outlay of Rs 2,200 crore. NDP-1 was aimed to increase productivity of milch animals through a scientifically planned multi-state initiative.

“NDP-1 is coming to a close this year. We have achieved the targets that were set in terms of production of high genetic bulls for semen production that will help in improving productivity of animals and strengthening semen stations,” NDDB’s chairman Dilip Rath said here on Monday on sidelines of a programme to launch nutrition awareness campaign and celebrate nutrition awareness week.

Rath said that through NDP-1, the board has been able to enhance dairy co-operative’s reach

by adding 55,000 villages in the milk co-operative network.

“NDP-2 which is being discussed with the World Bank will primarily focus on enhancing milk processing capacity, infrastructure and we are looking forward to establish milk quality testing equipment at critical points in procurement area,” he said

The national board also wants to expand the co-operative network further.

“There are 3.20 lakh villages that have milk potential out of which 2 lakh villages have been covered. There is potential to expand the co-operative network to 1.20 lakh villages,” he said Talking about achievements of NDP-1, he stressed that milk production in the last five years has grown at 6 % plus rate.

“I would say that credit of this can be rightly taken by NDP,” he said, adding that the second phase of NDP would also see massive expansion of embryo production capacity.

“There are 12 institutes where mass embryo production will take place. Through artificial insemination, it takes three to four generation, before the milk producer sees improvement in productivity of cattle. But with embryos using IVF, it happens in just one generation. This is the best technology for improving productivity of indigenous breeds,” he said

Delhi: Tighter rules for dairies in offing

Sep 18, 2020

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/delhi/tighter-rules-for-dairies-in-offing/articleshow/78176629.cms>

NEW DELHI: Running dairies in the capital is going to get tougher as the municipal corporations have announced

that a new set of guidelines sent by Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) will kick in soon.

NEW NORMS FOR DAIRIES AND GAUSHALAS

Dairies to be divided into 5 categories, depending on the number of animals

FODDER FOR THOUGHT

13.6 crore cattle in India

2.4 lakh in Delhi (19th livestock census)

15-20kg of dung and urine produced by each animal daily. Most of it is either dumped into waste or flows through drains into the Yamuna

Compounds released Ammonia, hydrogen sulphide, methane

What corporations plan to do, in accordance with CPCB norms

- Prohibition on washing dung down the drains
- Corporations to create common facilities for safe disposal through composition, biogas and dung wood
- Limit of 150 litres on water used per cattle per day
- Flooring should prevent groundwater contamination
- Gaushala should be at least 200m from houses and 500m from hospitals
- At least 200m from NH and 100m from state highway

DPCC to carry out environmental audit of 2 dairies and 2 gaushalas in each district on half-yearly basis



Half-yearly environmental audits, common treatment facilities for dung and minimum mandated distances from highways, schools and residential units constitute some of the basic features of the new norms.

According to the 19th livestock census of India, Delhi had around 2.4 lakh bovines and several lakh tonnes of cow dung and excreta ended up getting washed in clogged drains and landfills sites. "Each animal produces 15-20 kg of dung

and 15-20 litres of urine daily. Improper disposal of cow dung not only damages the city's drainage system, but it also increases emissions in the form of methane, hydrogen sulphide and ammonia. CPCB has framed the guidelines to reduce this pollution load," said a senior municipal veterinary department official.

The new rules prescribe a minimum distance of 200 metres from residential dwellings, 500m from hospitals and schools, 200m from national highways and 100m from state highways to

avoid odour nuisance as well as road accidents. "The CPCB regulations also try to protect the groundwater resources by mandating that such establishments should not be opened in flood-plains or areas with shallow groundwater levels of 10-12 feet," the official said.

The existing dairies would also have to take a licence under the new rules. The dairies would be divided into five categories. Smaller units of less than 25 animals would form category 1, while category 5 would comprise of dairies with more than 100 animals.

While regular inspections have been mandated for the three corporations, DPCC has been

tasked to carry out environmental audit of two dairies and two gaushalas in each district every six months to ensure regular monitoring and compliance with the norms.

To check water wastage, CPCB has put a maximum limit of 150 litres for each animal daily. It has asked the civic bodies to create cow dung disposal facilities for dairy clusters. "Three methods of disposal have been prescribed in the guidelines, including composting, vermicomposting, biogas plants or dung wood," said another official.

UP Govt plans setting up a dairy in every district : CM Yogi

SEP 18, 2020

<https://dairynews7x7.com/up-govt-plans-setting-up-a-dairy-in-every-district-cm-yogi/>



To boost the state's rural economy, the UP government will be opening one dairy in every division in phase-I. Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath said on Thursday on the day of PM Modi ji's birthday.

During an interaction with dairy farmers, Adityanath said that in the second phase, the target would be one dairy for every two districts and one dairy in every district in the third phase.

He said the government was also in the process of establishing eight Greenfields dairies . One each in Lucknow, Varanasi, Meerut, Bareilly, Gorakhpur, Firozabad, Ayodhya and Moradabad.

The CM added that the government would upgrade four dairies – in Jhansi, Noida, Aligarh and Prayagraj.

Efforts of Banas dairy lauded

Pointing out that Gujarat-based Banas Dairy was distributing bonuses to farmers in that state on the occasion of Prime Minister Modi ji's birthday on Thursday, Adityanath asked the officials concerned to reach out to the dairy with regard to setting up of new units in UP and also asked them to explore setting up of units to manufacture compressed natural gas (CNG) from cow dung like it was being done in Gujarat.

Shankar Bhai Chaudhary, chairman of Banas Dairy, said they were offering a six-month course for "gau-palan" and "gau-samvardhan" and offered to enroll students from Uttar Pradesh free of cost in these training courses. He said Banas Dairy would establish two new units in Uttar Pradesh. Chaudhary added that they would establishing a CNG plant in Varanasi.

Cong MLA Talwar raises dairy-shifting issue

Sep 18, 2020

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/ludhiana/cong-mla-talwar-raises-dairy-shifting-issue/articleshow/78175618.cms>

Ludhiana: Congress MLA from east constituency Sanjay Talwar has once again raised the issue of shifting of the dairy units from Tajpur road while citing these as the main cause of pollution in Buddha Nullah. On Thursday, he wrote a letter to MC commissioner Pardeep Sabharwal and DC Varinder Sharma as both were members of a high-power committee constituted by the government for shifting of dairies outside city limits. He has sought clarification whether dairies are going to be shifted outside city limits or these will remain here only. The MLA claimed that due to dairies the sewerage was also getting choked. The Punjab Energy Development Authority (PEDA) had started the process to install a bio-CNG plant on Tajpur road but since talks

started to shift the dairy units outside city, the process came to halt.

The Congress MLA claimed that half of the problem of pollution in Buddha Nullah can be resolved if waste coming out of dairy units could be treated properly. He said in East constituency sewerage choking was a major issue and dairy units were one such cause. He requested the high-level committee that there should be a final decision on the issue as already a lot of time had been wasted.

He claimed that if dairies were to be shifted, then PEDA should cancel the agreement and if dairies are not going anywhere, then the process to install the bio-CNG plant should be started again because it would take at least two years to establish the same.

Good news for dairy farmers: Festive demand, rising prices of milk products to bring cheers after COVID woes

September 17, 2020 10:00 AM

<https://www.financialexpress.com/economy/good-news-for-dairy-farmers-festive-demand-rising-prices-of-milk-products-to-bring-cheers-after-covid-woes/2084864/>



International skimmed milk powder (SMP) prices have hit a seven-month high. That's good news for Indian dairy producers, with the 'flush season' (when animals, particularly buffaloes, calve and produce more milk) taking off and domestic demand also improving ahead

of the main festival period in October-November.

On Tuesday, prices of SMP at Global Dairy Trade (GDT), the fortnightly auction platform of New Zealand's Fonterra Cooperative, averaged \$2,889 per tonne. This was a 8.5 per cent jump over the previous auction rate of \$2,663 on September 1 and the highest since \$2,907 on February 4.

The price rise is being attributed to demand slowly returning, as Covid-19 cases are showing a deceleration worldwide and most countries have relaxed lockdown restrictions. There is also talk of large-scale imports by China, which

has, of late, been stocking up other farm commodities too, including soyabean, corn, wheat, barley and sunflower oil.

“This is encouraging, but we need to see a couple of more auction results. Only then can a clear trend of recovery be established” said Rahul Kumar, CEO of Lactalis India, which owns Prabhat Dairy in Mumbai and Chennai-based Tirumala Milk Products Pvt Ltd.

SMP prices at the GDT auctions had crossed \$3,000 per tonne in December-January, levels that were last seen in August 2014. The latest global price of \$2,889 translates into around Rs 213 per kg, which is above the Rs 180-190/kg rates for SMP now being realised by Indian dairies.

Domestic SMP prices have already recovered from their lows of Rs 140-150 per kg barely two months ago. So have ex-dairy prices of butter (from Rs 200-225 to Rs 260-270) and ghee (from Rs 280-290 to Rs 340-350/kg).

“The market has somewhat picked up after Janmashtami (August 12) and also with hotels, restaurants and tea shops gradually resuming

operations. This uptick should continue at least till Dussehra (October 25) and Diwali (November 14). And with global SMP prices going up, there would be opportunities for exports from India as well,” Ganesan Palaniappan, a leading Chennai-based dairy commodities trader noted. All this should help dairy farmers, who had seen procurement prices of cow milk (with 3.5 per cent fat and 8.5 per cent solids-not-fat content) slide from Rs 31-32 per litre in March (just before lockdown) to Rs 18-20 till a month ago. Those prices have since improved to Rs 24-25 per litre.

The current demand recovery, both domestic and global, comes at an opportune time for farmers. Good monsoon rains have significantly boosted fodder availability. Calvings also generally start from late August, leading to milk production rising and peaking during the winter, while remaining high right till March-April. If milk procurement prices are better than what they were till recently, it would be a twin blessing for farmers.

Transgenders in Thoothukudi get their Dairy cooperative in Tamil Nadu

SEP 17, 2020

<https://dairynews7x7.com/transgenders-in-thoothukudi-get-their-dairy-cooperative-in-tamil-nadu/>



The year was 1949. Dr. V Kurien took the helm of a nondescript milk cooperative society into his hands. The rest, as they say, is history. Cut to 2020, 70 years after the White Revolution that elevated India as the largest producer of milk in the world, a silent

but substantial revolution has been heralded by the Thoothukudi Collector, Sandeep Nanduri. In one go, the Collector has ensured that a community pushed to the fringes is mainstreamed all the while uplifting their financial status. It's not without reason that the 30 transgenders that now have a home to call their own have christened their colony Sandeep Nagar.

At Manthithoppu in Kovilpatti, the community's 30 disparate solar-powered greenhouses were woven into a cooperative society. This society is run by trans-people, with one cow each for every household. This marks the birth of the Manthithoppu Transgenders Milk Cooperative Society, the first milk society for transgenders in

the country. The State-run Aavin has tied up with the society to buy its milk.

Empowering transgenders

The district administration gave free patta to 30 transgender people last year in September. Subsequently, each of them was allotted a house under the Chief Minister's solar-powered green-houses for trans-genders. The district administration mobilised funds from different schemes, and CSR contributions, to build each houses on 300 square feet land.

Collector Sandeep Nanduri said that just building houses for trans-people was not sufficient since the community had trouble in finding jobs. "We planned to pool in money from seven schemes, with Revenue Department, District Rural Development, Public Works Department, Cooperatives, Skill Development Department, Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) and Department of Geology and Mining chipping in their bit. The total cost of the project was Rs 1.77 crore," he said.

Dairy farm as a sustainable idea

"During a discussion, it was resolved that a dairy farm would be a sustainable business for the transgender people," Collector added.

"In order to get cows, a loan of Rs 1 lakh was arranged from the District Central Cooperative bank. The bank sanctioned Rs 40,500 for each cow. If the business does well, they can buy a second cow for the remaining money after six months," he said.

According to the cooperative society president, R Boomika, they generate 250-300 litre of milk every day. Before handing over the cows, the district administration arranged a 10-day training programme to teach cattle rearing, she said.

Dairy farm activities

Another member of the co-operative, Aparna, said that Animal Husbandry Department had provided a milk extractor machine. They have been given country-bred cows that give 10-11 litres of milk every day, she added. "It will fetch me at least Rs 250 per day," she said.

Boomika said "We never thought that we would lead a normal life as a part of the society. This initiative has improved our lives. The idea of inclusive growth has uplifted us from being alms seekers to self-employed," she said. She also thanked Collector Sandeep Nanduri for his ideas of inclusive growth and Co-operation Minister Kadambur C Raju.

In the future, there are plans to train trans-people to manufacture milk sweets, palkova, milk shakes and other dairy products, he said. "It would be sold through an Aavin parlour in Kovilpatti," he said.

The Collector had earlier established an areca leaf plate manufacturing unit at Pudhukottai in Thoothukudi for the trans-people. At least 80 trans-people were given free patta land to construct houses for the project. The Collector was awarded for this.

State Information and Publicity Minister Kadambur C Raju inaugurated the housing project integrated with the business activity.

Mega Dairy farm worth Rs 445 Crores to be set up in Telangana state

SEP 17, 2020

<https://dairynews7x7.com/mega-dairy-farm-worth-rs-445-crores-to-be-set-up-in-telangana-state/>



Animal Husbandry Minister T Srinivas Yadav on Sep 15 said that the state government would establish a mega-dairy farm . It will be established at the outskirts of the city in Maheshwaram, of worth Rs 445 crore. He was responding to a question on the promotion of the dairy industry in the State during the question hour.

The land has already been acquired on lease for the 445 crore-mega dairy farm at Ravirala in

Maheshwaram. He further added that it would become a model for other states in the country. The Minister said that the state needs 40 lakh liters milk per day including 20 lakh liters for Anganwadis. Another 20-25 lakh liters for the GHMC region, while supply was just over one lakh liter before 2014. He said that the supply was upped to seven lakh liters due to the efforts taken by the government.

The Minister said that as many as 500 more parlors of Vijaya Dairy, the government dairy brand, were opened in the past one year. Further, the minister said that the government provided Rs 4 per liter as an incentive, even to private dairies, which benefited the farmers. He also urged the farmers not to worry in case of delay in payments, caused by COVID-induced financial crunch.

Festive demand, rising prices of milk products help dairy farmers see recovery after Covid lows

September 17, 2020 1:30:43 am

<https://indianexpress.com/article/business/festive-demand-rising-prices-of-milk-products-help-dairy-farmers-see-recovery-after-covid-lows-6598929/>



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The price rise is being attributed to demand slowly returning, as Covid-19 cases are showing a deceleration worldwide and most countries have relaxed lockdown restrictions. There is also talk of large-scale imports by China, which has, of late, been stocking up other farm commodities too, including soyabean, corn, wheat, barley and sunflower oil.

“This is encouraging, but we need to see a couple of more auction results. Only then can a clear trend of recovery be established” said Rahul Kumar, CEO of Lactalis India, which owns Prabhat Dairy in Mumbai and Chennai-based Tirumala Milk Products Pvt Ltd.

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Lactalis group to acquire Kraft Heinz natural Cheese division

SEP 16, 2020

<https://dairynews7x7.com/lactalis-group-to-acquire-kraft-heinz-natural-cheese-division/>



Lactalis Group (“Lactalis”), the world’s leading dairy group, today has entered into a definitive agreement for the acquisition by its U.S. affiliate of Kraft Heinz’s Natural, Grated, Cultured and Specialty cheese businesses in the U.S., Grated cheese business in Canada and entire International Cheese business outside North America.

With this acquisition, Lactalis will acquire a portfolio of iconic, strongly-positioned brands

that include Cracker Barrel, Breakstone’s, Knudsen, Polly-O, Athenos, Hoffman’s and, outside the U.S. and Canada only, Cheez Whiz. In addition, Kraft Heinz will partner with Lactalis on a perpetual license for Kraft in Natural, Grated and International cheeses and Velveeta in Natural and International cheeses.

Under the terms of the transaction, Lactalis will acquire three world-class Kraft Heinz production facilities located in Tulare, CA, Walton, NY and Wausau, WI, and a distribution center in Weyauwega, WI. Approximately 750 Kraft Heinz employees will be joining Lactalis, and the company expects to add additional American jobs to support this business following the closing of the transaction which is expected in the first half of 2021, subject to regulatory approvals.

“The people of Kraft Heinz have built an extraordinary portfolio of high-quality cheese products and brands that consumers love and trust – and we are honored to have been chosen by Kraft Heinz to help carry this legacy forward,” said Thierry Clément, CEO of Lactalis North America. “This combination of complementary offerings is a clear strategic and cultural fit that will create important new opportunities for domestic and international expansion, product innovation, and positive community and employee impact. We look forward to working with and learning from our new colleagues, building on our proud histories together and continuing our collaborative strategy for expansion: to invest, to include, to support, and to grow.”

With a portfolio of brands that includes Président®, Galbani®, Parmalat®, Stonyfield Organic®, siggi’s®, Karoun®, rondele®, and Black Diamond®, Lactalis has a strong presence in the U.S. with 8 plants in New York, Vermont, New Hampshire, Wisconsin, Idaho, Arizona and California, and 2,600 employees across the country. The company has been an important part of the U.S. food supply for 40 years, a leader in responsible manufacturing and sourcing practices

across America, and a key driver of expanded international demand for U.S.-made cheese and dairy products. Lactalis in the U.S. purchases nearly 3.2 billion pounds of milk annually from U.S. dairy farmers, and the company’s U.S.-made products are available nationwide and exported around the world.

Perella Weinberg Partners served as lead financial advisor to Lactalis Group for this transaction, while Dentons served as their legal advisors.

About Lactalis Group

Lactalis Group, the world’s leading dairy group, is a French-family business founded in 1933 in Laval, France. Present in 51 countries, with 266 dairies and cheese dairies throughout the world, its 85,000 employees promote milk in all its forms: cheese, drinking milk, yogurts, butters and creams, dairy ingredients and nutrition. At the heart of the daily lives of millions of households, Lactalis Group offers products from emblematic brands such as Président, Galbani and Parmalat and is committed to perpetuating its dairy know-how as the world’s leading player in Protected Designation of Origin (PDO) cheeses.

Global News

Oat milk surges to second most popular in plant-based dairy

Sept. 30, 2020

<https://www.fooddive.com/news/oat-milk-surges-to-second-most-popular-in-plant-based-dairy/586010/>

In just a few years since oat milk first appeared on grocery store shelves, it has become the second most popular plant-based milk, according to sales statistics from SPINS reported by Food Navigator. Oat milk sales represent a total of \$213.35 million in the 52 weeks before Sept. 6 — an increase of 350.8% from a year ago for refrigerated varieties and 106.4% for shelf-stable products.

The most popular plant-based milk is almond milk, which has 63% of the total market. Almond milk sales were worth \$1.497 billion in

that same 52-week period. Soy milk, with \$202.25 million in sales, was edged out of second place by oat milk.

Plant-based milk has been steadily growing and represented 14% of the milk category last year, according to statistics from the Plant Based Foods Association. Sales of plant-based milk grew 5% in 2019, while sales of dairy milk were relatively flat.

Increase in dairy consumption benefiting local production

September 29, 2020 6:20 PM

<https://www.news8000.com/increase-in-dairy-consumption-benefiting-local-production/>

WESTBY, Wis. (WKBT) — If you've seen yourself going to the grocery store more often to buy dairy products, you're not alone.

The latest research shows Americans are eating 653 pounds of dairy per person a year, the highest rate in six decades.

Those familiar with the small town of Westby know this:

"We are the cottage cheese capital of Wisconsin," Westby Co-Operative Creamery sales & marketing manager Emily Bialkowski said.

The creamery is the only cottage cheese manufacturer in the state, Bialkowski says.

"So we typically produce 13 to 14 million pounds of cottage cheese a year," Bialkowski said. "And we're on pace to make that same amount this year."

A big reason why? The pandemic.

"We had a lot of restaurants close down," Bialkowski said. "And that drove people to the grocery store."

Bialkowski says demand at grocery stores is helping workers stay employed and their co-op farmers sell off their products to the creamery. "So we did no dumping of milk," Bialkowski said.

But the pandemic isn't the only cause for more people eating more dairy.

"It's been growing really, literally since the 1960s," UW-Madison director of dairy policy analysis Mark Stephenson said.

The driving factor? Cheese.

"So, cheese consumption is well up, and cheese represents an awful lot of milk," Stephenson said.

Despite dairy consumption going up, dairy farms in Wisconsin continue to decline. Last year, the state lost 818 dairy farms, the most ever in a year, according to the Farm Journal. "We don't wanna see a demise of a dairy industry, and I don't think we are seeing that," Stephenson said.

Stephenson says more milk is being produced than ever, despite fewer dairy farms. "Farms have been growing larger," Stephenson said. "Our cows keep becoming genetically better, genetically superior over time." Westby is showing their support for hard-working farmers. "Some of our teammates thought it would be really neat to turn this silo on Main Street in Westby into a giant cottage cheese container," Bialkowski said.

And it's only fitting dairy sales are strong this year. "Dairy is part of our upbringing," Bialkowski said. Stephenson says each American ate about 14 pounds of cheese back in 1975. Last year, that grew to 38 pounds of cheese consumption per person. And fun fact, the food being stored in the cottage cheese silo outside the creamery in Westby is not actually cottage cheese, but rather yogurt.

Synlait: Covid demand for its dairy products still strong despite 9% profit fall

Sep 28 2020

<https://www.stuff.co.nz/business/122907724/synlait-covid-demand-for-its-dairy-products-still-strong-despite-9-profit-fall>



Listed dairy company Synlait has seen a 9 per cent fall in net profit as it carries the cost of investments in new dairy factories.

However, the company says demand has been strong during the pandemic and it expects that will continue in the coming year.

Although revenue rose 27 per cent to \$1.3 billion, Synlait made a net profit of \$75.2 million for the year to July 31, and it expects a similar, if not slightly better, result next year.

Chairman Graeme Milne said this year's lower profit reflected investments in new facilities and recent acquisitions, including its new Pokeno factory and its Dunsandel Advanced Dairy Liquid Packaging facility, which are expected to start delivering earnings from the 2022 year.

Synlait's earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortisation (EBITDA) jumped 13 per cent to \$171.4m.

Milne said Synlait's financial performance had been resilient when viewed against the backdrop of Covid-19, with strong earnings growth "strongly demonstrating the strength of our core infant and lactoferrin businesses".

Lactoferrin sales soared 46 per cent to 30 metric tonnes and consumer-packaged infant formula sales rose 15 per cent to 49,180 MT.

Infant formula volumes were expected to be similar next year, although higher than normal stock levels in the supply chain would mean lower demand for the first half of the year.

But the company said its guidance had to be subject to "the unpredictable effects of Covid-19, with consumer behaviour, channel dynamics and supply chain disruptions all subject to change".

Synlait was also in the process of finalising a long-term supply agreement with a new, multi-national customer for packaged products, "which is expected to have a positive impact on earnings from FY23".

Its forecast for next season's milk price has begun with a base price of \$6.40 per kilogram of milk solids, up from \$6.00.

Synlait's final milk price for the 2019/20 season was \$7.30 per kilogram of milk solids MS, including a base milk price of \$7.05 and incentive payments.

"As always, commodity prices through the next few peak months will be critical to this season's milk price," Milne said.

We'd like to ask for your help. In a fast-changing world where misinformation spreads on social media, the need for trustworthy journalism has never been greater. But the media industry faces strong headwinds. Traditional means of funding journalism - such as advertising and subscriptions to our newspapers - have declined, compounded by the economic impact of Covid-19.

We're asking our readers to help us continue to play our vital role in society. Stuff holds a special position in New Zealand, with the largest

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World Dairy Expo is Going Virtual Next Week

SEP. 26, 2020

<https://spectrumnews1.com/wi/madison/news/2020/09/26/world-dairy-expo-goes-virtual-digital-coronavirus-pandemic>

MADISON, Wis.— More than 60,000 people from around the world typically are in Madison this time of year for the World Dairy Expo. The event was scheduled for next week, but coronavirus canceled it for this year.

Typically an event to showcase the latest in dairy innovation. The 2020 Expo was canceled this year for the first time in its existence.

"It's a surreal feeling for sure," said Katie Schmitt, communications manager for the Expo. "I mean World Dairy Expo has been in Madison for 54 years, would have been this year, so to not host a show is something that was never in our realm of possibilities before the pandemic happened."

Last year the expo hosted more than 62,000 people from almost 100 countries.

Just because there's no in-person or virtual expo next week, doesn't mean the organization will sit idle.

"For us to not host an in-person event, we really need to make sure that we're still there to support our community and our industry in ways that maybe we've never done before in this format, but we're used to doing in person," Schmitt said.

They will start on Sunday with a special message from the Expo staff and board. Then they launch a podcast on Tuesday for each day of the week. On Wednesday they announce the winners of the World Forage Analysis Superbowl.

Thursday the Expo is endorsing an event spotlighting 10 new startup companies in the dairy tech world — that event is hosted by AgriTech Capital. Friday the Expo has digital games like trivia to play with the community. Finally Saturday they will relive moments of Supreme Champions of past Expos.

“World dairy expo is much more than just an event, it's a family tradition for so many people, and there's definitely a lot of emotional connection to our show,” Schmitt said.

The Expo will be hosting and promoting most of these things on their social media channels next week — Facebook, Instagram, Youtube, and Twitter. They will also have information about them on their website.

Schmitt says it was important for the expo to keep a presence next week.

“Trying to give them a space that still allows them to reach a global marketplace that they're used to finding at World Dairy Expo,” Schmitt said.

In the meantime, the staff is planning big things for the 2021 World Dairy Expo.

“Our staff and executive committees and other leadership are all working hard right now to plan new things, to re-imagine what world dairy expo can be, and maybe should be to support our industry,” Schmitt said.

The Expo is also putting its “Purple Cow” gift shop online for the first time.

10 percent of profits from the gift shop go to the National Children's Center for Rural Agricultural Health and Safety which is based in Marshfield, Wisconsin.

“They work with providing resources for farm families across the country to encourage and promote child safety, which is extremely relevant as we all go through more virtual school for kids, they're out on the farms more and having them safe is extremely important,” Schmitt said.

Taste-Off: The best (and worst) non-dairy chocolate milk

September 27, 2020 at 5:21 a.m.

<https://www.mercurynews.com/2020/09/26/taste-off-the-best-and-worst-non-dairy-chocolate-milk/>

No tolerance for dairy? No problem. If chocolate milk is what you are craving, non-dairy milk makers have you covered. Ready-to-drink liquid chocolate, made with everything from oats to nuts, has hit critical mass. You'll find non-dairy chocolate drinks in the dairy case and in aseptic boxes on the alternative dairy aisles.

Using “milk” made by soaking and pressing almonds, cashews, hazelnuts, oats, peas and more, alternative chocolate milks continue to grow in popularity, not only with plant-based eaters, but with those looking for a lighter, healthier take on a family favorite.

It's important to know that, unlike traditional chocolate milk, which is made from milk, chocolate and stabilizers, most of these alternative milks also incorporate oil, plus a host of other

ingredients that help create and maintain pleasing consistency and texture.

Great alternative chocolate milk pours like half and half. It's dreamy rich and velvety and delivers a bold burst of deep chocolate. Sadly, far too many of these fail in every way. Some taste more like water than chocolate. The worst are tall glasses of gritty, bitter, earthy disappointment.

Here's the scoop on the best non-dairy options to slake that liquid-chocolate thirst — and the ones to avoid at all costs. Nutrition details refer to an 8-ounce serving. (Psst, all-dairy chocolate milk will get its turn in an upcoming Taste-Off.)
Oatly Oat-Milk Chocolate

Fans of gourmet chocolate will fall for this lush, chocolate-forward alternative with a big hit of vanilla. 150 calories, 3.5 g fat, 150 mg sodium,

16 g sugar, 3 g protein. \$4.99 for two quarts at Sprouts. (4 stars)

Pacific Foods Hazelnut Chocolate

This milk alternative made with roasted hazelnuts is ridiculously good. It's creamy, and it tastes like Nutella. 130 calories, 5 g fat, 130 mg sodium, 16 g sugar, 2 g protein. \$3.29 for a quart at Sprouts. (4 stars)

Elmhurst Milked Oats Chocolate

If you're looking for a glass of chocolate without all the sugar and fat, you'll love this minimalist take on chocolate milk. It pours like water, but has big, clean flavors. 110 calories, 2 g fat, 125 mg sodium, 4 g sugar, 3 g protein. \$4.99 for a quart at Raley's. (3½ stars)

Silk Chocolate Soy

Generous chocolate and rich texture make this minimally-sweet milk a solid choice. 150 calories, 5 g fat, 85 mg sodium, 15 g sugar, 9 g protein. \$3.99 for 2 quarts at Raley's. (3 stars)

Open Nature Chocolate Almond

This pours like water, but it has clean chocolate flavor. Cut the sugar and it would score higher. 100 calories, 2.5 g fat, 170 mg sodium, 18 g sugar, 1 g protein. \$2.99 for 2 quarts at Safeway. (2½ stars)

Chobani Oat Chocolate

The fruit and vegetable notes in this extra-creamy milk are tasty, but they detract from the

flavor of the chocolate. 140 calories, 6 g fat, 100 mg sodium, 15 g sugar, 2 g protein. \$4.49 for 2 quarts at Raley's. (2½ stars)

Silk Dark Chocolate Almond

Rich chocolate flavor is a good start, but this milk is just far too sweet. 100 calories, 2 g fat, 220 mg sodium, 17 g sugar, 1 g protein. \$3.59 for 2 quarts at Safeway. (2 stars)

Almond Breeze Chocolate

Clean, pure chocolate flavor is a plus, but the sugar eclipses the chocolate. 100 calories, 2.5 g fat, 150 mg sodium, 18 g sugar, 1 g protein. \$5.49 for six 8-ounce cartons at Safeway. (2 stars)

Trader Joe's Cocoa Almond Cashew Beverage

Clean, bittersweet chocolate-forward flavor is a total win, but the thin, non-creamy consistency will disappoint those looking for a creamy chocolate gulp. 80 calories, 2.5 g fat, 130 mg sodium, 10 g sugar, 2 g protein. \$2.29 for 1 quart. (1½ stars)

365 Chocolate Oatmilk

Kudos for the creamy texture, but minimal chocolate and an unpleasant bitter note make this a poor choice. 140 calories, 5 g fat, 140 mg sodium, 12 g sugar, 3 g protein. \$2.49 for a quart at Whole Foods. (1 star)

America's Farmers: Resilient Throughout the COVID Pandemic

Sep 24, 2020

<https://www.usda.gov/media/blog/2020/09/24/americas-farmers-resilient-throughout-covid-pandemic>

The disruptive impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on the U.S. agricultural system have been broad and varied. And they follow several years of trying production and market conditions for U.S. farmers. In 2017 and 2018, several hurricanes pummeled U.S. farms; 2019 brought historically poor planting conditions and retaliatory tariffs cut potential for our agricultural exports compared to 2017. This year, farmers and consumers have been planning production and managing household

budgets at a time when markets — food, commodity, labor, energy — are being jolted by global, national and regional shutdowns, slowdowns, and overall uncertainty. Those shocks to the U.S. and global economies have affected both the supply and demand for food in the U.S. and the rest of the world, leading to short-term, localized shortages in the U.S., particularly in livestock products like meat, while farmers had to deal with, for example, excess milk supplies in other areas.

In general, U.S. food prices have risen since January while prices received by U.S. producers have fallen. But while rising wholesale and retail food prices and some temporarily empty shelves drew a lot of public attention and stoked fears over availability and affordability of our food, the severe impacts of the crisis on U.S. farmers have been much less visible. Here we share some information and data on farming operations and how the crisis has impacted U.S. farmers over the past few months. Tough times have been underway for years. The COVID-19 pandemic not only triggered a new type of crisis for the farming sector, it also

came at a tough time for U.S. farmers. For the past few years, global commodity production has outpaced demand in most years and prices have been falling. Between 2014-2019, producer prices of corn, for example, fell 44 percent from \$6.15 per bushel to \$3.47, and prices of soybeans fell 35 percent — almost 5 dollars per bushel (see table 1). However, cost of production for these commodities in 2019 was higher or only marginally lower than five years earlier (see chart 1).

Table 1: U.S. Producer Prices

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020p*
Corn (\$ / bu)	6.15	4.11	3.71	3.48	3.36	3.47	3.5
Soybean (\$ / bu)	14.1	12.5	9.49	9.39	9.39	9.15	9.25
Wheat (\$ / bu)	7.32	6.33	5.28	4.11	4.44	5.14	4.5
Rice (\$ / cwt)	15.7	15.6	12.5	11.5	11.2	12.9	12.6

Source: National Agricultural Statistics Service (<https://www.nass.usda.gov/>).

*World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates report projections, September 2020 (<https://www.usda.gov/oce/commodity/wasde>).

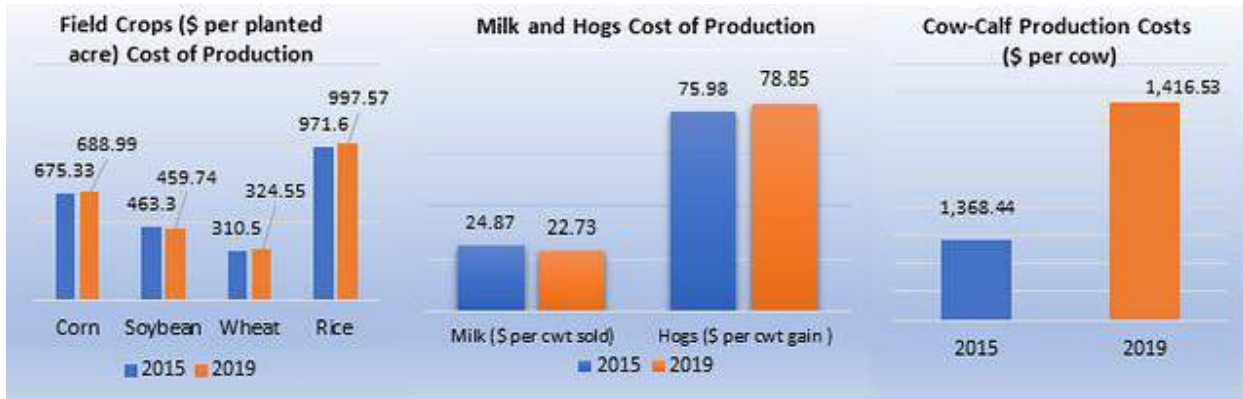
Table 2: Animal Products Prices

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020P*
Cattle, live steers, all grades, 5-areas, measured in \$ / cwt	154.56	148.12	120.86	121.52	117.12	116.78	107.3
Broilers, national composite weighted average, measured in \$ / lb	1.049	0.905	0.843	0.935	0.978	0.886	0.709
Hogs – national base lean, live equivalent, measured in \$ / cwt	76.03	50.23	46.16	50.48	45.93	47.95	39.4
Milk - price received, measured in \$ / cwt	23.97	17.13	16.3	17.65	16.27	18.63	17.75

Source: Agricultural Marketing Service (<https://www.ams.usda.gov/>), National Agricultural Statistics Service (<https://www.nass.usda.gov/>).

*WASDE Projections September 2020 (<https://www.usda.gov/oce/commodity/wasde>)

Chart 1: Commodity Cost of Production



Source: ERS Costs and Returns Data.

During the same period, many of our global competitors, supported in part by advantageous currency values, have ramped up production for export —wheat in the Black Sea region, and corn, soybeans, and cotton in South America. Meanwhile, U.S. farmers have had to deal with a significant economic (tariffs) and weather-related challenges (drought and hurricanes) that have kept production costs relatively high, squeezing the margins for many crop, livestock, and dairy farmers.

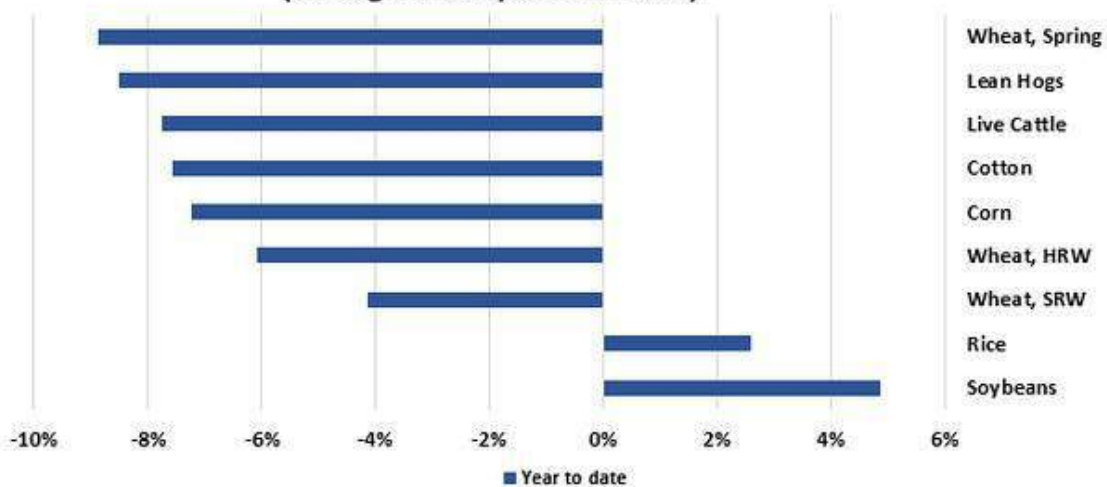
Clear signs of financial distress had emerged among U.S. farmers even prior to the onset of the COVID-19 outbreak. Investment in equipment was down, farmer debt was up, and so was borrowing against land. By the end of 2019, the delinquency rate on commercial loans hit a six-year high, and the delinquency rate on farmland loans was at its highest level since 2013.[1] Inflation-adjusted farm income increased in 2019, but only when including federal farm aid payments and indemnities for crop insurance. Some of those payments were specifically introduced to assist farmers in adjusting to market disruptions caused by the retaliatory tariffs imposed by China and other countries on U.S. agricultural exports and the unprecedented levels of weather-induced prevented plantings in 2019.

COVID-19 exacerbated the challenges facing farmers

The rapid proliferation of COVID-19 at home and abroad and subsequent shutdown of parts of the economy led to unprecedented and simultaneous supply and demand shocks to the food system.

Crude oil prices, which began the year at \$61.18 per barrel, briefly traded negative for the first time ever in April. Grocery store retail sales rose sharply while sales at food service and drinking places during March and April were \$47.5 billion lower than during the same period in 2019. The consequences of the crisis for farmers and their families were immediate and severe. For example, the reduction in miles driven as the public sheltered in place, meant less demand for biofuels, which in turn led to reduced demand for grains used in biofuels, particularly corn. In addition, the immediate and drastic decline in food demand by restaurants and hotel customers isolated farmers and food processors from some of their biggest buyers, especially for meat, dairy, and specialty crops. As a result, we have seen agricultural commodity prices also decline significantly over the past few months (see chart 2). In recent weeks we have seen a reversal in some prices as global demand is recovering.

Chart 2: Agricultural Commodity Futures Prices, Changes YTD (through mid September 2020)



Source: Bloomberg. Percentage changes as of closing Sept 17, 2020.

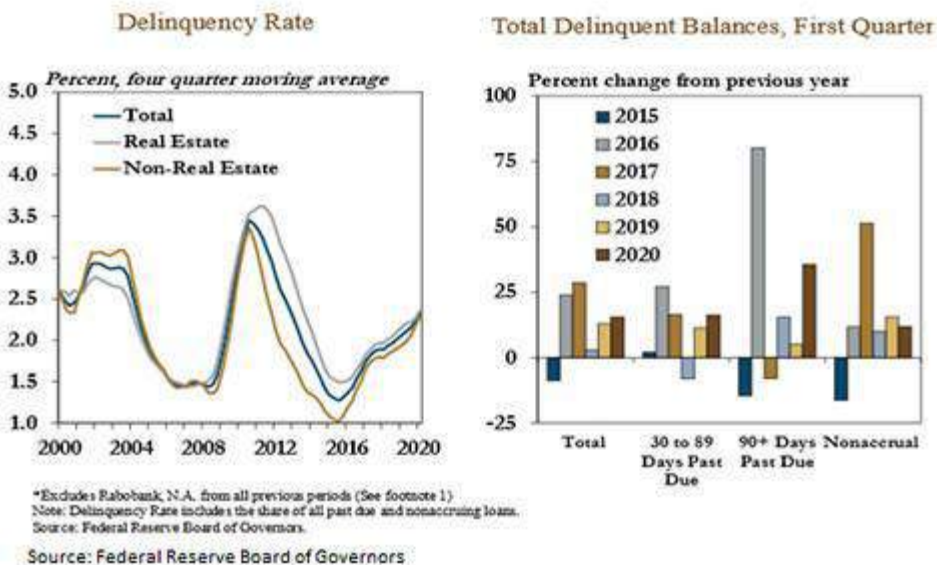
So as consumers were dealing with localized food shortages and rising retail food prices, producers were grappling with falling farmgate prices and a glut of output that forced them to euthanize livestock, dump milk, and dispose of perishable products that could not be stored. Data on differences in prices at the farm and retail levels show that, as of August, the price paid by consumers for one pound of retail beef, for example, has risen by 5 percent since January, 2020 (a significant fall-off from June, when it was 30 percent higher), while cattle producers are receiving 20 percent less for their cattle. Similarly, milk prices are up by nearly 5 percent for consumers since the beginning of the year, and milk prices received by dairy farmers, although were up 5 percent as well in August, they follow successive decreases in prices received from February through June, including a 31 percent decrease from January to June.

The loss of jobs across the country have also hit farm families hard. In mid-June we saw rates of unemployment of 8.8 percent in rural areas,

compared with 11.6 percent in urban areas.[2] While farming-dependent counties suffered fewer job losses than most other regions, many farm families rely on off-farm income to help with health coverage and to offset losses on the farm operation [3]. With the unprecedented number of job losses we have seen since January, the impact on farm families and their finances could be extreme particularly for farms for which operating margins are so thin right now.

According to a recent analysis by the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas, the volume of total non-real estate loans declined for a fourth consecutive quarter, falling by 13 percent in the second quarter of 2020 compared to a year ago.[4] The analysis shows that the largest decline in loan volume was for livestock feeder loans, which fell more than 40 percent from a year ago. Outstanding farm debt during the second quarter of 2020 also declined with the slowdown of lending; yet, farm loan delinquency rates continued to edge higher (chart 3a&b).

Chart 3a&b: Delinquency rate and total delinquent balances on Farm Loans



Excludes Rabobank, N.A. from all previous periods (see footnote 1). Note: Delinquency Rate includes the share of all past due and non-accruing loans. Source: Federal Reserve Board of Governors

Although comprising less than 2.5 percent of farm loans, the volume of delinquent farm real estate and non-real estate loans increased about 17 percent and 13 percent, respectively, compared to a year ago. The volume of loans past due more than 90 days continued to account for the smallest share of total delinquencies, but increased at a similar rate, suggesting that previously past due loans remained delinquent.

Unprecedented crises called for unprecedented measures

The magnitude and speed with which the COVID-19 outbreak affected the economy in general, and the food system in particular, motivated Congressional action in the CARES Act and dictated the scale and nature of USDA's responses. It became quickly obvious that this crisis was nothing like we have ever experienced and that it could pose a real threat to the viability of many farming operations and, with it, to the sustainability of our domestic food supply. While evidence at a national scale is not yet available, losses by Texas agriculture alone were estimated at \$6 - \$8 billion, or 28-37 percent of the state's cash receipts in 2019.[5] USDA's most recent forecast for farm income for 2020, from September 2 projected that producers would receive \$31 billion less this year in cash receipts compared to pre-COVID income forecasts from February.[6]

Mitigating the crisis required a wide range of measures targeting all aspects of the food supply and demand system and its different stakeholders. Most critically, USDA initially provided assistance through the Coronavirus Food Assistance Program (CFAP 1) estimated to provide up to \$16 billion to U.S. farmers and ranchers to help them deal with the significant income

losses they incurred during the pandemic. Following the enactment of the CARES Act in March, USDA quickly developed a broad program to help producers experiencing revenue losses and facing new costs, with sign-ups starting in late May. Payments were made available to producers experiencing losses from across the broad spectrum of U.S. agriculture[7].

Positive signs, but uncertainty continues
Earlier this year, when we released the Department's initial projections for 2020 at USDA's Agricultural Outlook Forum, the immediate future looked to be improving (www.usda.gov/oce/ag-outlook-forum). We were expecting better weather, improved trading relationships, and global economic growth that would fuel demand for US agricultural exports. The COVID-19 outbreak has severely dampened expectations for 2020 and 2021. And while the timing and pace of the economic recovery remain uncertain, the fundamentals of U.S. agriculture are sufficiently strong to withstand the crisis.

The sector continues to chart productivity gains; and smart policies, technology, and innovation are helping farmers deal with the effects of adverse weather conditions. Although the early August derecho in the Midwest, the severe fires in the West, and the more recent Hurricane activity in the Gulf have caused localized losses, from a national perspective weather conditions have improved relative to 2018 and 2019, signaling a more bountiful harvest in the fall. Record levels of meat and dairy production are expected in 2020 and 2021.

We know that U.S. agriculture is highly competitive in global markets, and the trade outlook is looking more favorable with expected global economic recovery in 2021. Overall, agricultural exports during the COVID-19 period appear to have been holding up relatively well compared to overall U.S. exports. In the first seven months of 2020, U.S. ag exports were down 3.5 percent from last year compared to a decrease of 18 percent for non-ag exports. Just recently we

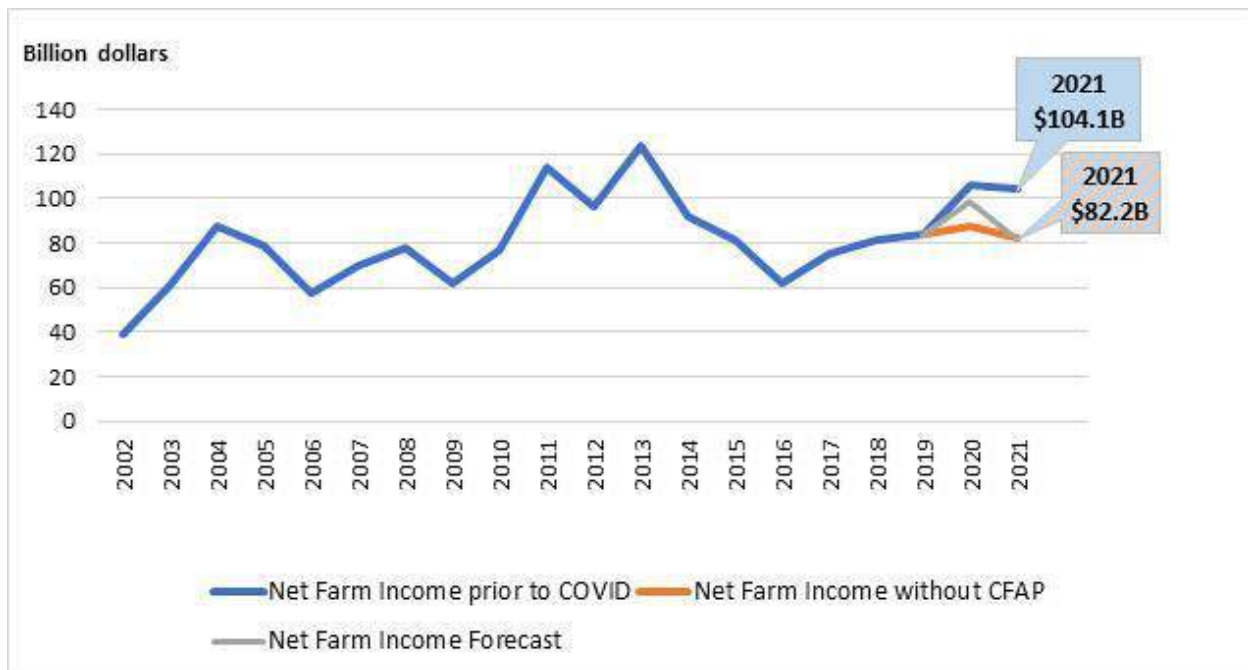
have seen a major uptick in Chinese purchases. For instance, while U.S. soybean exports had started off slow this year, since July, China has purchased 14 MMTs. Over the past few months, China has also signaled the intent to purchase corn at amounts exceeding its 7.2 MMT quota if they all finalized. Purchases are up across the board, with total accumulated sales for wheat, sorghum, cotton, pork and beef exceeding the pace of 2017 levels year-to-date.

The limited impact of the crisis on overall agricultural exports reflects the fact that demand for food is relatively income-inelastic, and that marine transportation used for most agricultural products (in particular bulk products) has not been significantly disrupted. U.S. agricultural exports in Fiscal Year 2021 are projected at \$140.5 billion, up \$5.5 billion from the FY 2020, primarily driven by higher exports of soybeans and corn. Soybean export volume is forecast to rise nearly 26 percent year-over-year as growing demand in China and significantly reduced export volume forecast from Brazil opens the door for a rise in U.S. exports. Corn exports are also forecast to rise \$700 million to \$9.0 billion in FY2021 and horticultural exports by \$500 million to \$35.0 billion due to expected increase in sales of tree nuts, among other products.

Similarly, livestock, poultry, and dairy exports are forecast up \$500 million to \$32.3 billion. But despite these encouraging signs, many U.S. farmers continue to confront significant challenges and the immediate outlook for the sector remains highly uncertain. In many cases, producers didn't experience the full impacts of markets disrupted by COVID-19 until just recently. Think of a sweet potato grower that has just begun to harvest his or her crop and now has nowhere to send it – and they incur unexpected costs to dispose of the portion they cannot sell. Or a potato grower whose contracts with potato processors for potatoes destined for restaurants have been cut in half. Those producers began to experience higher costs and lower revenues as a result of COVID-19 only recently.

And the impacts of COVID-19 are expected to continue into next year: a forecast by the Food and Agricultural Policy Research Institute at the University of Missouri expects farm income to fall by \$21.9 billion in 2021 compared to their forecast prior to COVID-19, even when accounting for higher payments from farm bill programs.

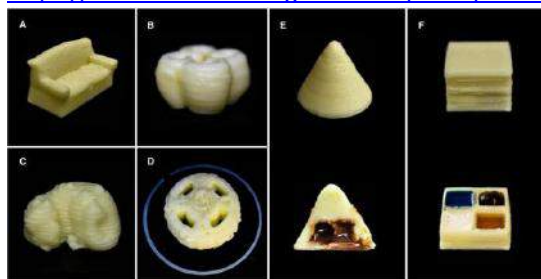
Chart 4: Net Farm Income: FAPRI Estimates with COVID Impacts and CFAP, assuming no CFAP payments in 2021



3D printing milk made easy

24 September 2020

<https://www.newfoodmagazine.com/news/120743/3d-printing/>



A simple method to 3D print milk products has been discovered by a team from Singapore University of Technology and Design (SUTD).

The researchers have developed a method to perform direct ink writing (DIW) 3D printing of milk-based products at room temperature, while maintaining its temperature sensitive nutrients.

Although there are a range of methods in which food can be printed, for example selective laser sintering (SLS) and hot-melt extrusion, they are

not suitable for milk. This is due to some of the nutrients (ie, calcium and protein) in milk being temperature sensitive. A workable alternative is cold-melt extrusion, but this requires the use of rheology modifiers or additives to stabilize printed structures, and optimising additives is a difficult task.

The team from SUTD's Soft Fluidics Lab managed to alter the rheological properties of the printing ink, demonstrating DIW 3D printing of milk by cold-extrusion with a single milk product, namely powdered milk. The concentration of milk powder allowed for the simple formulation of 3D-printable milk inks using water to control the rheology.

According to the team, this method could also be used to formulate various nutritional foods, including meals served to hospital patients with special dietary requirements.

Middletown Salvation Army among pantries getting milk coolers

September 24, 2020

<https://www.ctpost.com/middletown/article/Middletown-Salvation-Army-among-pantries-getting-15594054.php>



MIDDLETOWN — Milk is one of the most requested items at food banks, but the least available.

To help address this need, and support pantries feeding families across the state of Connecticut, the Connecticut Milk Promotion Board launched the Connecticut Dairy Farmer to Food Pantry Cooler Grant Program in coordination with New England Dairy, according to a press release. During this initiative, dairy farmers nominated food pantries who they suggested receive coolers to keep milk and dairy products cold and

safe during distribution to individuals and families in need, according to the news release.

The grant provided 21 food pantries across the state, including the Salvation Army one in Middletown, with refrigerated coolers and funds to initially stock the coolers with dairy products for their communities. Each cooler can hold 64 gallons of milk.

The press release said that, in three months, COVID-19 drove unemployment rates higher than at any point during the two years of the Great Recession, according to PewResearch.org. In 2020, more than 54 million Americans may face hunger due to impacts of the coronavirus, an increase from 37 million pre-pandemic, according to Feeding America.

The Connecticut Food Bank reported in June that in its six-county service area, the food insecurity rate had increased by 44 percent from 277,000 people to nearly 400,000 people.

Generations compete at Kansas State Fair dairy show

Posted Sep 21, 2020 at 12:33 PM

<https://www.hutchnews.com/news/20200921/generations-compete-at-kansas-state-fair-dairy-show>

Most of the contestants showing animals this weekend at the Kansas State Fair have competed for years. And many of their parents and grandparents competed before them.

This weekend's shows included dairy and beef cattle, and horses. Several contestants came from Oklahoma and Nebraska, while others traveled to Hutchinson from throughout Kansas.

"This is important to me," said Jessica Thiessen. "It's comfortable."

Jessica's parents, who run Sasnak Farms, a dairy in Inman, Kan., brought her to the fair since she was a baby. Jake and her brother Seth are both

in their 20s. Their father, Merle, who grew up on a farm in Rice County, has attended the fair for more than 50 years - showing animals quite a few.

"I was really glad that they held it," Jessica said. "This is my sense of normalcy right now."

Jessica showed two Brown Swiss cows, Amy and Mezcal. Her brother Seth showed short horns. Another brother and sister, Drake and Haley Hamm attended the fair with their parents, who run Hamm Farms in Walton, Kan.

"I'm here to help my brother," said Haley. "We always travel together as a family (to the fair)."

Drake said it is odd to have empty stands. Although this occurrence does not affect the animals, the fair does not have the same excitement for the competitors.

“This year, it’s weird not having the public here,” said Drake, 17. “It’s not a normal state fair.”

Getting the animals ready requires a lot of work “It takes a lot of hours to get them trained,” said Brock Burgess, 15. Burgess, who is a part of 4-H and in FFA shows Holsteins and Brown

Swiss. Burgess’ family runs Ke Mar Lee Farm in McPherson

This year, there were a little more than 200 dairy and 700 beef cattle showing at the the fair.

Many of the judges were impressed with this year’s entrants. One judge said Jessica’s Brown Swiss Mezcac had a lot of dairy strength and a lot of width.

“It’s great to be here,” Jessica said.

AAC Inspects Milk Shops At Talash Timergara

Sat 19th September 2020 | 01:03 PM

<https://www.urdupoint.com/en/pakistan/aac-inspects-milk-shops-at-talash-timergara-1033982.html>



TIMERGARA, (UrduPoint / Pakistan Point News - 19th Sep, 2020) :As per direction of Deputy Commissioner Dir Lower,

Saddat Hassan, Saturday Additional Assistant Commissioner Timergara Younas Khan, inspected milk selling shops and booked several shops while selling substandard milk.

He was accompanied by Dr Mukhtiar, District Director Livestock. They visited Talash Bazar at Bajawaro chowk and near Higher Secondary school and Sarayee bazar. The violators were booked on selling of sub-standard and adulterated milk.

The AAC warned that action will be taken against those who violate the public rule and regulation and price list.

Advancements in technology often rooted in agriculture

SEP 19, 2020

<https://www.sungazette.com/news/top-news/2020/09/advancements-in-technology-often-rooted-in-agriculture/>



Picture this — cows walking on their own to the barn. A robotic arm reaches out to clean their udders. The “arm” attaches suction cups. The cows are milked. They leave and head back to the fields.

No humans touch the cows during the process. No, this is not from a futuristic movie. This is 21st century technology that is firmly embedded in today’s farming business.

The marriage of farming and technology is not a new one, according to Liam Migdail, communications director at the Pennsylvania Farm Bureau.

“Using technology has been there for centuries,” Migdail said. “If you look at some of the inventions that we think of as being the most economically significant, a lot of them are an agricultural invention.”



Migdail cited the plow and the cotton gin as early examples of technology created for farming.

“When you look, over time, some of the advances in technology, those that have shaped our culture and changed the way we live, a lot of those started with agriculture,” he added. It makes sense that advances in agricultural sector are integral to society, because everyone has to eat.

Robotic milking machines are very hi-tech, but there are other ways in which farmers are using technology everyday to optimize their operations in order to feed communities.

“Some of the ways that farmers are using newer technology now is exciting,” Migdail said. “Precision agriculture is really on the rise.”

Precision agriculture is using very specific data maximize crop yield by using computers to target and analyze a portion of acreage.

“Let’s say you have a field of soybeans,” Migdail said, “and there’s different terrain and different soil conditions throughout that field. You are applying fertilizer or spraying an herbicide, something that you’re using to grow your crop.”

“Precision agriculture allows you to use very detailed data to know exactly what you’re applying to the field, how much,” he added.

Migdail said, for example, if a farmer has a field of two different types of soil in one field. In order to improve the condition of the soil which in turn will increase the yield, he might need to apply nitrogen to one side and some other nutrient to the other side. The old way of doing that was spraying a certain amount of the nutrient across the field or doing each half separately.

“What farmers are able to do now as they’re adopting precision agriculture technology, they’re using high tech data to assess what the conditions of their soil are and what exactly their crops need to grow,” Migdail said.

“Then they’re able to really precisely pinpoint what goes where on the field to the point that you could have a tractor that’s on autopilot and the farmer sitting in the cab just to make sure that nothing goes wrong,” he explained.

The tractor is communicating with satellites and using the data to put different things on different parts of the field based on the research in the data.

One of the benefits of using this technology is that it prevents the over-use of adding nutrients to the soil, which helps the environment.

“When you’re talking about protecting water quality, especially in places like the Chesapeake Bay. You don’t want nutrients running off your field because that can pollute local waterways,” he stated. “Precise technology allows farmers to use only what they’re need and to limit what they’re spraying.”

Not over-using also limits the costs of soil additives.

“Anything you put on your field, you have to pay for one way or another,” said Migdail. “It just makes economic sense for the farmer.” It also benefits the crop yield which again is good for the farmer economically.

“Your crops are going to benefit from using data to know exactly what your crops need to grow, down to that acre needs this and this acre need something completely different,” he explained. “That’s amazing technology to have in your hand because now you’re able to get that crop in the field exactly what it needs to thrive,” he added.

Now, back to robotic milking, which Migdail said is being adopted more and more in the farming community.

Prefacing his explanation with it’s not a robot in the science fiction sense, Migdail said that it’s basically an automated system that is totally different from the traditional way of milking which is a labor intensive process that is done twice a day.

“The cows are in the barn or in the pasture and there’s a couple of different way traditionally to milk the cows. A lot of time it’s milking time and the farmer, family members or employees, depending on the operation, brings the cows in from the barn or from the field. A lot of times they rotate through when they milk them. It takes a bit of manpower and it’s a process,” he said.

“With robotic milkers, the cow can be sitting in the barn or in the field and when she feels like she’s ready to be milked she goes over to the milker. There’s scanners that scan the udders and the underside of the cow. They know from that scan exactly which cow it is,” Migdail said. The cow has an RFID tag which has an electronic code to identify the animal. This enables the farmer to detect health issues in the early stages that could be problematic in the future. This technology also allows the farmer to see how much milk each cow is producing, so that if a cow’s milk production drops or stops altogether, then the problem can be investigated. Once the cow is scanned, a robotic arm comes up and cleans the udders, they connect and the

cow gets milked. Usually there is food at the unit to keep the cow happy while she’s being milked, Migdail said.

When the process is complete, the cow walks out and then another cow comes in.

“That way you’re kind of moving away from the system of having milking time twice a day as opposed to when the cows are ready they come in and do it all on their own,” Migdail stated.

The system does have its drawbacks. One is the cost. It can be a big investment which is not feasible for smaller operations, although in the long term it would save money for the farmers. “It allows them to do things better. When we talk about technology, that’s really the ultimate goal—to continue to farm, farm better, farm smarter. Do more with less money. Do more with less environmental footprint,” he stressed. Another hindrance to installing this type of technology is the lack of broadband internet service in many rural areas.

“One of the biggest limiting factors we see is access to high speed internet,” he said, noting that broadband access is an issue in much of Lycoming County and the Northern Tier.

A lot of the technology relies on being able to communicate remotely.

“For example, the milking robots. A lot of the tech support that happens, happens remotely. Unless you have a good internet connection, that’s a very big limiting factor,” he said.

Migdail pointed out that not every farmer is ready to embrace the newer technologies.

“Just like any industry there’s going to be people that are quicker to adopt it and there’s going to be people that are a little skeptical of it,” he said.

“Everyone had to look at it, look at their own farm and look at what they do on a daily basis and decide, is this type of technology right for me. Not every type of technology is going to make sense for every type of farm,” he added.

IDFA and Blimling Announce 'The Dairy Download,' a Podcast With Sharp Market and Policy Insights

Sep 17, 2020

https://www.chinookobserver.com/news/state/idfa-and-blimling-announce-the-dairy-download-a-podcast-with-sharp-market-and-policy-insights/article_53134951-1e53-58ad-968a-2fa77f664025.html

WASHINGTON and MADISON, Wis., Sept. 17, 2020 /PRNewswire/ - The International Dairy Foods Association and Blimling and Associates are partnering to produce "The Dairy Download," a new podcast for anyone who follows the twists and turns of the U.S. dairy industry. Witty, fast-moving and stacked with dynamic guests, the podcast offers sharp insights in a neat package under 25 minutes. Blimling's Phil Plourd and Kathleen Wolfley host each episode, leading listeners through a rundown of action in the CME markets and things to watch, while going in-depth with guests on consumer, market and policy trends shaping dairy. Wonks, nerds, data hounds and tech evangelists are welcome. Listeners will get the perspectives of various industry experts who can unpack challenging issues in fun and interesting ways. In the premiere episode, available now, Plourd and Wolfley focus on how the COVID-19 pandemic has helped stir up unprecedented volatility while exposing the government's invisible hand (or perhaps just its thumb, resting on the scales of the market) during this unprecedented crisis. Joe Glauber, senior research fellow at the International Food Policy Research Institute and former chief economist with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, breaks down the federal government's intervention in food and commodities and explores the pros and cons of direct payments and purchase programs over more traditional safety nets. Marin Bozic, an assistant professor in Dairy Foods Marketing Eco-

nomics at the University of Minnesota, discusses dairy market volatility and offers insight into possible solutions with price reporting and risk management.

True to form in its first episode, "The Dairy Download" doesn't look past tough issues, it doesn't get caught in the weeds and it strives to entertain as much as inform.

"Our only rule for 'The Dairy Download,'" says Plourd. "Never be boring."

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Phil Plourd is president of Blimling and Associates, Inc., a research and consulting firm focused on dairy markets. Phil has been involved in dairy market analysis, research, forecasting and risk management activities for 20 years. He is based in Madison, Wisconsin.

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Global dairy price index jumped up by 3.6% first time after July 7th

SEP 16, 2020

<https://dairynews7x7.com/global-dairy-price-index-jumped-up-by-3-6-first-time-after-july-7th/>



Global dairy price index jumped up by 3.6% for the first time after July 7th. Last time it got surged by 8.3%. This

price increased happened yesterday at the 268th fortnightly auction event at Global Dairy Trade .

Most of the dairy commodities except Lactose and Butter showed an upward trend. Interestingly Skimmed milk powder showed the highest spike in its prices of 8.4%. Current price of SMP has touched USD 2889 per MT or around Rs 216 per Kgs in Indian markets.



Anhydrous fat or ghee at USD 3910 per MT has shown an increase of around 2% . In Indian context it would be Rs 300 per Kgs . Butter on the other hand has dropped a little by 1.4 % . The new price of butter is USD 3282 per MT or around Rs 250 per Kgs.

These changes are good from Indian perspective . Indian SMP is getting more and more competitive at global level . Indian companies now

may be able to clear their stocks at global markets also without much of support from the government.

The rates within Indian markets spiked two weeks back but still the sentiment is low at the market . It is hoped that the outset of festival season from next month, the market will see new heights in SMP and ghee prices.