

Members Newsletter

July 2025

Vol 67 #1



From the President

Robert Brokenshire

This month we mark two major moments in our industry — one of reflection, the other of renewal.

Firstly, we thank **Dr David Nation** as he steps down after seven years as Managing Director of **Dairy Australia**. David leaves behind a strong legacy of championing farm profitability and facing head-on the impacts of climate — with nearly half of all dairy farmers affected by drought or floods, his call for better preparedness and government support must not go unheeded. SADA continues to advocate for practical, forward-thinking solutions.

And in a further sign of positive change, the Board of **Dairysafe** has announced the appointment of **Melissa Jackson** as its new Chief Executive Officer, commencing 28 July. Melissa brings more than two decades of leadership experience across dairy, seafood, bakery, beverage, and ready-to-eat food sectors. Most recently, Site Leader at Bega Group's Salisbury facility, Melissa led a team of 125 people processing more than 115 million litres of milk annually.

Her deep expertise in food safety, quality assurance, and regulatory compliance makes her an ideal fit to lead Dairysafe into its next chapter. We congratulate her and look forward to working alongside Dairysafe under her leadership.

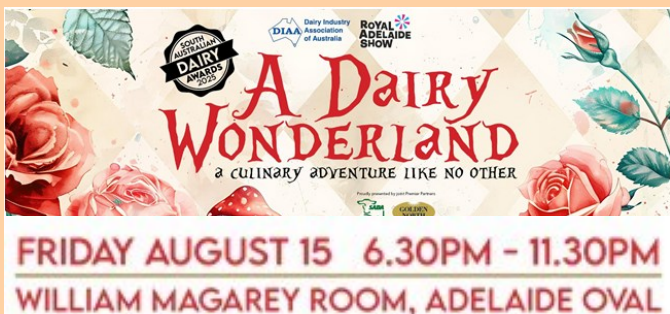
Together with [Primary Producers SA](#), a second **Agribusiness Drought Finance Forum** brought together key stakeholders to discuss the impact of drought on agribusinesses and to consider support that can be made available by lending institutions. Thank you to everyone who contributed, including [Grain Producers SA](#), who spoke to the results of their recent survey, and [Rural Business Support](#), who gave insight into the dire situation many producers are currently facing. I also thank the financiers for coming to the table and engaging in good faith in our discussions.

In a special display of community spirit, 3,000 farmers and their families enjoyed an unforgettable afternoon of footy, courtesy of the Adelaide Football Club. This truly commendable initiative was championed by

Grain Producers SA and supported by Primary Producers SA, Livestock SA, and the SADA. As part of the **Drought Support Match**, the State Government is contributing \$100,000 to the Rural Business Support Relief Fund, providing direct support to impacted primary producers. A special mention must also go to [Foodland](#) for their remarkable generosity in donating \$500 for every goal kicked. Congratulations to the Adelaide Crows on their thrilling 61-point win over the Gold Coast Suns!

We also welcome the exciting news that [Golden North](#) will relocate its operations to **Murray Bridge** — a major investment in our state and a vote of confidence in the future of South Australian dairy. With plans to significantly expand production and create new jobs, it's a big win for our industry. We appreciate that it is a tough time for the Laura community but **Golden North** has outgrown its premises in Laura. While the government is working with the community, we thank them for over 100 years of commitment to this beloved brand.

Through change and challenge, SADA remains focused on securing a strong, resilient future for our farmers and industry.



From the SADA Desk: What you need to know

These are things that have come to our attention over the past month which might be of interest to you. If there is anything that you think we have missed or you would like to see in the newsletter, please email: sada@sada.asn.au



Proposed Superannuation

Tax Reform: Recent developments in Canberra around proposed changes to superannuation tax law could have real-world consequences for South Australian dairy farmers—especially those who manage self-managed super funds (SMSFs), rely on long-term asset growth for retirement planning, or are navigating intergenerational business transitions.

What it Could Mean for Dairy Farmers

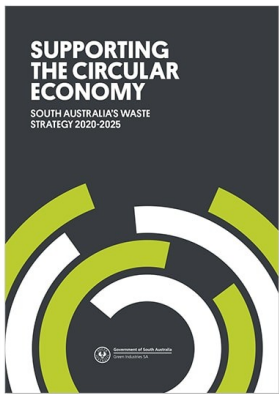
[FULL STORY HERE](#)



LCAgMetrics Webinar

Launch Join Lifecycles and AgriFutures Australia delve into the highlights of the recent LCAgMetrics project – Equipping Australian agriculture with sustainability metrics. Walk through examples cases of how the AusLCI data can be utilised for sustainability reporting and future publication plans.

[WATCH HERE](#)



South Australia's Waste Strategy 2020-2025

Through the Waste Strategy, Green Industries will continue to promote innovation and business activity in the waste management, resource recovery and green industry sectors recognising that these areas present a valuable opportunity to contribute to the State's economic growth.

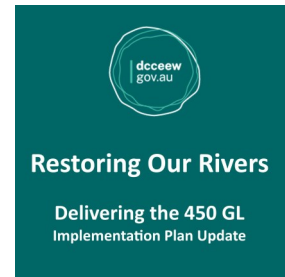
[DOWNLOAD](#)



Understanding Food Standards FSANZ's New Gene Technology Definitions

These developments can offer environmental benefits, improved animal welfare, and long-term gains for producers, including those in the dairy industry.

[MORE HERE](#)



The [July 2025 Implementation Plan Update](#) is now available. For details on the progress for the following three programs:

- [Resilient Rivers Program](#)
- [Voluntary Water Purchase](#)
- [Sustainable Communities Program](#)

WEBINAR Basin Plan Implementation July Update

For the latest updates on progress in implementing the Basin Plan.

Date: Thursday, 14 August 2025
Time: 11:00am–12:00 pm (AEST).

[REGISTER HERE](#)



[Basin Plan Evaluation strong evidence the Plan is working.](#) MDBA has released the 2025 Basin Plan Evaluation assessing the achievements and lessons learned from the 13-years of implementing Australia's most significant water reform.



SA businesses to save on their power bills with new round of energy grants - The Powering Business Grants program is being delivered under the government's [Business Growth Fund](#). Businesses can apply for a grant ranging from \$2,500 to \$75,000, subject to meeting eligibility requirements.



Celebrating SA's favourite food and beverage producers

Support from the public is very important to our state's food and beverage manufacturers and producers, making the Consumer Choice Award, sponsored by [Foodland Supermarkets](#), one of the most highly anticipated categories in the **South Australian Premier's Food and Beverage Industry Awards** program.

The Consumer Choice Award lets the public decide!

Voting is now open online, with the **Top 20 finalists** and **two winners** determined by the highest number of consumer votes. Winners will be announced at the prestigious Awards Gala Dinner on **Friday, 14 November 2025**. This is a valuable opportunity for businesses to gain meaningful public recognition and showcase the connections they have built with their customers.

VOTE HERE
Closes 29 Sept



Farmers in drought waiting over a year for loan scheme response.

Australia's peak farming bodies are demanding urgent action from the Federal Government after it is yet to respond to two critical drought resilience actions.

NFF, alongside its members is calling on Government to commit to the Regional Investment Corporation (RIC) Independent Review of the Regional Investment Corporation Act 2018 (the Act).

Quotes attributable to Primary Producers SA Independent Chair, Prof Simon Maddocks

"South Australia has experienced one of the driest periods on record, with many regions now experiencing their third consecutive year of drought. The scale and persistence of these conditions clearly call for timely and effective support from the Federal Government.

"We urge the extension of RIC's loan capacity beyond 30 June 2026 and in PPSA's view recommend making concessional loans more accessible by reducing interest rates to a truly 'concessional' level, expediting processing, and broadening eligible uses to include restocking, debt relief, and infrastructure repair." [Read More](#)

Fair Work Ombudsman goes MIA on ag businesses' futures

The National Farmers' Federation (NFF) is disappointed by the Fair Work Ombudsman's (FWO) recent review into the definition of a "small business employer", under the Fair Work Act.

The NFF's submission, including recommendations to the FWO, can be found [here](#).

Farm Safety Week 2025: Every Near Miss on a Dairy Farm Is a Lesson – Let's Not Miss It

The South Australian Dairyfarmers Association (SADA) is proud to support **National Farm Safety Week 2025 (20–26 July)**, urging all South Australian dairy farmers to reflect on the close calls and "near misses" that too often happen on our farms.

WINNER ANNOUNCEMENT!

Congratulations to **Shane**, who shared this unforgettable story.



My Farm Safety Story: How Things Have Changed!

Many years ago my sister and I were out in the back paddock on the old Honda 3-wheeler, "Big Red" — no helmets, of course. We were flat-out downhill, jumping an erosion drain when the **front wheel flew off mid-air!**

We hit the ground hard — forks first — and I bounced off the front tyre, landing in the dirt. Somehow, we got the wheel back on and stashed the bike in the shed with the key still in it!

What did we learn?

- No 3-wheelers
- No helmet, no ride
- No kids doubling up
- And definitely... no more jumping erosion drains!

*"I'm lucky I can still tell the story. But the message is clear:

**Safety starts with us." – Shane.*

Thanks to everyone who shared a story. Keep the conversation going — because safety on-farm is something we all own.



The Drought Breaker Lunch with almost 600 people in attendance, raised more than \$170,000 for [Rural Business Support](#) & [Rural Aid](#) at the [Royal Adelaide Show](#) grounds.



SNAPSHOTS in DAIRY

IN THE KNOW 

Stay ahead in dairy

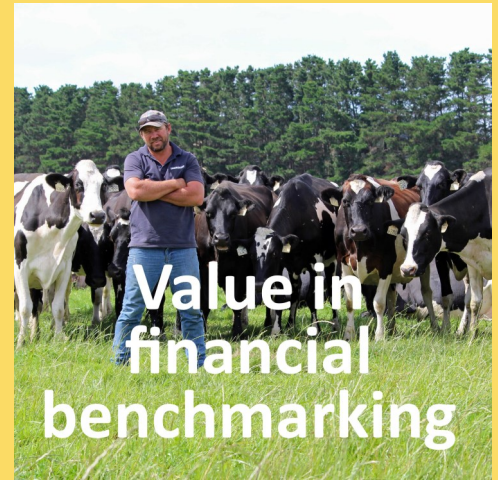
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your voice,
your industry,
your future.



sada.asn.au



Farmer who entered dairy during price crash has wise words during drought



Value in financial benchmarking



ROBERT BROKENSHERE
SA DAIRYFARMERS' ASSN

7 NEWS

Massive charity hay run from WA arrives in SA



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SADA
Fresh

2.1m
Invested into the dairy industry

sadafresh.com.au

ADPF Australian Dairy Products Federation

News update.



wfi

Good people to know.
1300 934 934

WFI SADA Partnership:

If you take out a policy with WFI, SADA receives a commission from WFI of 7.5% of the policy premium.

Make sure when your next speaking with WFI that you mention your a SADA Member.

Upcoming Events can be registered on our Website, send through your event details on our online

[registration form](#)