

IDA News

Tamil Nadu State Chapter of IDA Organizes Summer Workshop on Ice Cream and Pastry Making for School Students

The Indian Dairy Association (IDA) - Tamil Nadu State Chapter (TSC) conducted a one-day workshop titled "Making of Ice Cream and Pastries at Home" for school students on May 17, 2025 at Maharashtra Mandal, a training venue in Chennai.

The initiative aimed to engage students productively during the summer season and educate them on the creative use of milk and milk products. Approximately 45 students, accompanied by their parents, actively participated and benefitted from the hands-on training.

Shri K.S. Kanna, Chairman, of IDA, TSC welcomed the gathering and delivered the Presidential address, emphasizing the importance of milk in maintaining a healthy lifestyle.

Dr. T.R. Pugazhenth, Secretary, IDA TSC and Professor of Dairy Science at Tamil Nadu Veterinary and Animal Sciences University, spoke on the significance of milk product diversification and encouraged students to make the most of the workshop.

Prizes were given to the most enthusiastic student participants by Dr. N. Kumaravelu, Dean, College of

Food and Dairy Technology, TANUVAS.

Professional Chefs Shri Sathish Kumar and Shri Praveen conducted live demonstrations on preparing ice cream, pizza, smoothies, milk chocolates, and pudding at home. Students actively took part in the preparation process, and their questions were answered by the Chef experts, making it an interactive and enriching experience.

Participation certificates were distributed to all student attendees. The event concluded with a vote of thanks proposed by Shri K. Chandrasekar, Treasurer of IDA, TSC.



National Seminar is being Organized Jointly by IDA (WZ) and Vikram University, Ujjain

A National Seminar is being organized jointly by IDA (West Zone) and Vikram University, Ujjain during 4th to 5th July 2025. The theme of the Seminar is **Dairy Development in Madhya Pradesh - Opportunities and Challenges**.

The Government of Madhya Pradesh is poised to accelerate growth in dairying. The latest agreement between Govt. of MP and NDDDB to handhold the State Dairy Federation (Sanchi) is one of the moves towards this goal. The second initiative to start a Dairy Technology degree program at Vikram University will help in developing trained manpower for the dairy industry.

The upcoming two-day Seminar will consist of four Technical Sessions. Interested Member may register for the Seminar online.

Visit: <http://forms.gle/eXHNYJjyzZBudL1c8>

Email: secretary@idawz.org / jrdaruwala@gmail.com

National Symposium is being Organized by ICAR-NIANP, Bengaluru and IDA (South Zone)

A National Symposium on **Dairying for Nutrition and Livelihood Security** commemorating World Milk Day 2025 is being organized by ICAR-NIANP, Bengaluru and IDA (South Zone) at ICAR-NIANP, Adugodi, Bengaluru on June 6, 2025. For participation, contact at worldmilkday25nianp@gmail.com

NATIONAL News

Government to Establish Three Multi-State Cooperatives for Dairy Sector Growth: Shri Amit Shah

Taking forward the mantra of "Sahkar se Samridhi" of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, Government of India has announced the formation of three new multi-state cooperative societies aimed at bolstering the dairy sector's sustainability and efficiency.

This initiative focuses on enhancing animal feed production, implementing effective dung management practices, and promoting the circular use of dead cattle residues.

Union Home and Cooperation Minister Shri Amit Shah, who chaired the meeting on sustainability and circularity in the cooperative dairy sector, emphasized the goal of creating a sustainable dairy ecosystem that promotes a circular economy. He stated, "As we move towards White Revolution 2.0, our goal should not only be to expand dairy cooperatives and make them efficient and effective but also to create an ecosystem of dairy which is sustainable."

The first cooperative will concentrate on animal feed production, disease control, and artificial insemination. The second will develop models for dung management, while the third will focus on the circular use of dead cattle residues. Shri Shah also highlighted the importance of ensuring that carbon credit benefits directly reach farmers through scientific models and stressed the need for integrated cooperatives to increase farmers' income.

Shri Amit Shah stressed the importance of ensuring that the direct benefits of carbon credits reach farmers through scientific models. He also highlighted the need to strengthen milk unions and cooperative societies and encourage food processing in dairy plants. These efforts



will not only increase farmers' income but also prove to be a significant step toward making the dairy sector more sustainable and environment friendly.

He further stated that cooperation is the core mantra of rural development, and the cooperative dairy sector is an excellent example, providing a vital source of livelihood for millions of rural families. He emphasized that dairy cooperative societies play a crucial role in the Indian dairy sector through milk production and marketing. These societies are strengthening the rural economy by providing small farmers with stable markets, credit facilities, veterinary services, and breeding support, while also empowering women by increasing their participation.

Shri Amit Shah said that we have to travel together from 'Sustainability to Circularity' which will be multi-dimensional and the work that the private sector is doing today will be done by the farmers' own cooperatives. This includes technical services, animal feed, artificial insemination, animal disease control, dung management and activities from collection to processing in dairy and agriculture related sectors.

The meeting was attended by Union Minister of State for Cooperation Shri Krishan Pal Gurjar and Shri Murlidhar Mohol; Secretary of the Ministry of Cooperation Dr. Ashish Kumar Bhutani; Secretary of the Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying Smt. Alka Upadhyaya; Chairman, NDDB Dr. Meenesh Shah; and Chairman, NABARD Shri Shaji KV.

This strategic move underscores the government's commitment to advancing the dairy sector through sustainable practices and cooperative models. By focusing on areas like animal feed, waste management, and resource circularity, these cooperatives are poised to enhance productivity and environmental sustainability, offering significant opportunities for stakeholders in the dairy industry.

Supreme Court Confirms 5% GST on Badam-Flavoured Milk

The Supreme Court rejected a plea by the Revenue Department challenging a decision by the Andhra Pradesh High Court about GST on badam-flavoured milk. The High Court had ruled that only 5% GST should apply. Therefore, experts think the GST Council might now look into reviewing the tax rate on flavoured milk products.

In the case of Sri Vijaya Visakha Milk Producers Company Ltd, the Andhra Pradesh HC categorised 'flavoured milk' under Entry 0402 9990. This was subject to GST at 5%. Previously, in the case of Parle Agro, the Madras HC also decided that the flavoured milk should fall under

HSN 0402, which would be taxed at a GST rate of 5%.

GST is not levied on fresh and pasteurised milk, and other milk products like curd, lassi, buttermilk, and paneer are also exempt from GST if they are sold loose. But if they are sold in pre-packaged and labelled form, they are taxed at 5% GST. UHT (Ultra-High Temperature) milk is also taxed at 5%. On the other hand, condensed milk, butter, ghee, cheese, and flavoured milk attract 12% GST.

The Andhra Pradesh High Court, in December, held that flavoured milk counts as 'milk' and is not a beverage. Therefore, such an item will be taxed at the rate of 5% instead of 12%.

The court looked into whether Entry 0402 applies only to plain milk. It found that this entry includes more than just plain milk. It also covers cream, skimmed milk powder, baby milk food, and even milk with added sugar or sweeteners. This entry included milk and its products. For example, baby milk food is not milk, but it is still classified under 0402. Therefore, the tax department's suggestion that only plain milk is to be considered as classifying under 0402 is incorrect.

The Andhra Pradesh Court said that flavoured milk cannot be excluded from heading 0402 just because it has 0.5% badam flavour. With this decision, the case seems to be settled in favour of industry for now. Therefore, experts say that companies should make sure that they follow the correct classification with the lower rate.

Amul to Establish Rs. 150 Cr Dairy Plant in Assam



The Government of Assam has approved land allocation for Gujarat-based dairy cooperative Amul to set up a

dairy processing plant in Rani, Kamrup district of the state. The plant, with an estimated investment of Rs. 75-150 crore, will have a processing capacity of 1 lakh litres per day and is expected to benefit around 20,000 dairy farmers.

This initiative is part of Assam's broader efforts to boost the agricultural economy and create employment opportunities through collaborations with leading entities in India's dairy industry.

Amul's expansion into Assam signifies the growing potential of the north-eastern region in India's dairy sector. Such investments are poised to enhance local dairy infrastructure and farmer incomes.

Heat Stress Threatens Dairy Yields in Ludhiana

Dairy farmers in Ludhiana are grappling with a significant decline in milk production due to escalating temperatures. Experts from Guru Angad Dev Veterinary and Animal Sciences University (GADVASU) caution that milk yields could plummet by up to 30% if adequate measures are not taken to shield cattle from heat stress. Dr. Puneet from GADVASU highlighted that as temperatures soar, cattle experience reduced appetite, leading to decreased milk output.

Local dairy farmer Shri Gurpreet Singh, managing over 100 cattle in Haibowal dairy complex, reported a consistent 20% drop in milk production during peak summer months over the years. The phenomenon, known as hyperthermia, manifests in symptoms like panting, diminished appetite, and lower milk yields. Experts advise against self-medication and recommend consulting qualified veterinarians for appropriate interventions.

The situation underscores the pressing need for dairy farmers to implement heat mitigation strategies, such as providing ample water, ensuring shade, and maintaining proper ventilation in cattle shelters. With climate change intensifying, the dairy industry must adapt to safeguard livestock health and sustain milk production levels.

Comfed Expands Globally as Bihar's Dairy Network Grows

The Bihar State Milk Co-operative Federation Ltd. (Comfed), operating under the Sudha brand, is scaling up its operations with an eye on international

markets. Established in 1983 under the guidance of Verghese Kurien, Comfed has transformed from a struggling state initiative into a cooperative with an annual turnover of Rs. 1,500 crore and profits nearing Rs. 40 crore.

Currently, Comfed collects approximately 30 lakh litres of milk daily, with plans to increase this to 45 lakh litres. Of the current collection, 18 lakh litres are sold as liquid milk, while the remainder is processed into various dairy products. The organization has begun exporting premium ghee, gulab jamun, and makhana to the US via the Bihta dry port and Mundra port in Gujarat, and is exploring opportunities in the UAE market.



Domestically, Comfed has expanded its footprint by establishing plants in West Bengal and the National Capital Region (NCR), although these are not yet operating at full capacity. The cooperative boasts a robust network of over 30,000 milk societies and is implementing direct benefit transfers to farmers to enhance transparency and efficiency. Additionally, Comfed plans to introduce an accidental medical insurance scheme worth Rs. 5 lakh for each farmer.

Shri Brijesh Dixit Assumes Charge as MD, REIL



Shri Brijesh Dixit has taken over as the Managing Director of Rajasthan Electronics & Instruments Limited (REIL), Jaipur, on 30th April 2025. His appointment has been made in accordance with the order issued by the Ministry of Heavy Industries, Government of India.

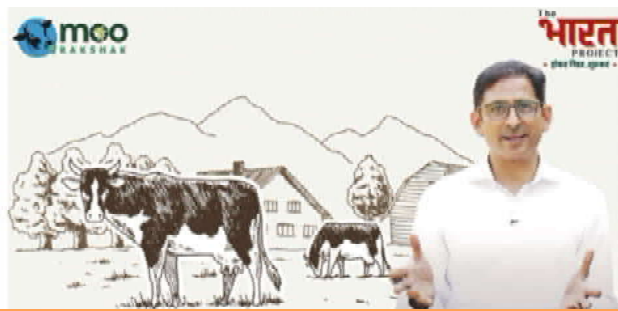
Shri Dixit, a graduate and post graduate from IIT Kanpur, has served with Indian Railways at various leadership positions for almost three decades. He possesses domain knowledge of most of the aspects of the working of the Indian Railways and of the industries which supply goods and services or are in some way connected with the Railways. Prior to this role, he was serving on Eastern Railway, Kolkata as well as in National High Speed Rail Corporation Limited (Bullet Train Project). He has extensive experience of international contracting and project execution.

Addressing the officials after taking over as MD of the Company, Shri Dixit emphasized the importance of teamwork and working collectively in achieving the Company's objectives and secure sustained growth.

REIL, a "Mini-Ratna" Central Public Sector Enterprise and a Benefactor Member of IDA, is working in important areas such as Solar, Dairy Electronics, Electric Vehicle Charging Stations, Geo-spatial survey using drones, besides several IT related projects.

AI-Driven Startup MooRakshak Boosts Dairy Yields

MooRakshak Bio Sciences, an Agritech startup incubated at IIT Kanpur, is revolutionizing India's dairy sector through precision cattle nutrition. Leveraging AI and image processing, the company provides data-driven,



cost-effective feed recommendations tailored to individual cattle needs. This approach has led to increased milk yields, reduced greenhouse gas emissions, and improved farmer incomes.

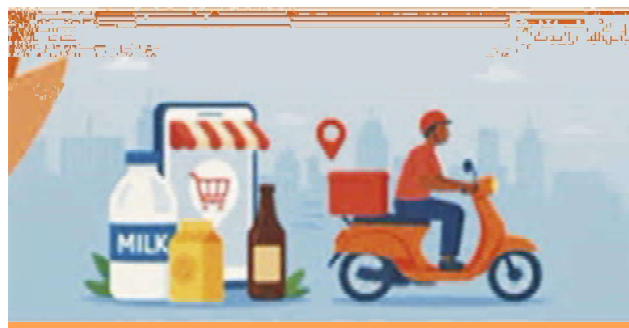
The startup's platform assigns unique biometric IDs to cattle, enabling stage-wise nutritional planning. By optimizing feed efficiency, MooRakshak not only enhances productivity but also contributes to environmental sustainability. The company has been recognized by the Ministry of Electronics and IT's TIDE 2.0 program and has participated in global forums like GITEX 2024.

Founded by alumni from IIM Ahmedabad, Universität Rostock, and Symbiosis, MooRakshak aims to empower India's 80 million small and marginal dairy farmers. Their mission focuses on integrating technology to promote sustainable farming practices and improve livelihoods.

MooRakshak's AI-driven solutions exemplify the potential of technology in transforming traditional dairy farming. By addressing both productivity and sustainability, such innovations are crucial for the future of the dairy industry.

Quick Commerce Boosts Dairy Access in India

India's quick commerce (q-commerce) sector is significantly enhancing consumer access to dairy products, reshaping traditional distribution models. Platforms like Swiggy Instamart, Zepto, and Blinkit are facilitating rapid delivery of dairy items, including milk pouches, curd, paneer, and butter, directly to consumers' doorsteps.



This shift is not only improving convenience but also expanding the market reach for dairy cooperatives and private brands. Industry leaders from Amul, Mother Dairy, NDDDB, and Milma have acknowledged the role of q-commerce in increasing brand visibility and consumer engagement.

The ease of product discovery on these platforms is enabling consumers to explore a wider range of dairy products beyond the conventional pasteurized milk packets. This trend is particularly beneficial for value-added dairy products, which are gaining traction among health-conscious consumers seeking functional and fortified options.

The q-commerce market in India is expanding at a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 24% and is projected to reach \$35 billion by 2030. Dairy products currently account for over 30% of daily orders in this space, highlighting the sector's significant contribution to the growth of quick commerce.

The integration of dairy products into q-commerce platforms is not only meeting the evolving demands of urban consumers but also providing dairy producers with valuable consumer insights and data-driven strategies for product development and marketing.

The synergy between dairy producers and quick commerce platforms is revolutionizing the dairy supply chain in India. By leveraging rapid delivery services and digital platforms, dairy brands can enhance product accessibility, cater to changing consumer preferences, and drive growth in value-added segments.

Dodla Dairy Q4 Profit Surges 45% to Rs. 68 Cr

Dodla Dairy reported a 45.12% year-on-year increase in consolidated net profit, reaching Rs. 67.96 crore for Q4 FY25, up from Rs. 46.83 crore in the same quarter last year. Revenue from operations grew by 15.51% to Rs. 909.62 crore, compared to Rs. 787.44 crore in the previous year.



For the full fiscal year, the company achieved a profit after tax (PAT) of Rs. 259.9 crore, surpassing the Rs. 200 crore milestone, on a topline of Rs. 3,720.1 crore, marking a 19% growth. This robust performance was primarily driven by faster growth in value-added products (VAP) and healthy performance in Africa as well as the Orgafeed business.

The board of directors approved a dividend of Rs. 2 per share (20% of the face value). Shri Dodla Sunil

Reddy, Managing Director, Dodla Dairy emphasized the company's extensive procurement network and long-term relationships with farmers as key strengths. He stated, "We remain focused on advancing Dodla Dairy's integrated business model through both organic and inorganic growth initiatives. With a continuous focus towards expanding our product reach and portfolio basket, we are confident to achieve accelerated growth in the coming years."

Heritage Foods Sees 15% Profit Rise Amid Dairy Demand Surge

Heritage Foods Ltd., a Benefactor Member of Indian Dairy Association, reported a 15% year-on-year increase in its fourth-quarter profit, reaching Rs. 628.8 million (approximately \$7.35 million) for the quarter ending March 31, 2025. This growth is attributed to a 10% rise in operational revenue, totalling Rs.10.48 billion, driven by robust demand for dairy products such as paneer and curd, especially in rural areas.



The company's value-added product segment, including items like flavored milk and yogurt, contributed 32.5% to the total revenue, up from 30.1% in the previous year. This shift indicates a strategic move towards higher-margin products in response to increasing health consciousness among consumers.

In May, Heritage Foods acquired 7.1 million shares of its joint venture, Heritage Novandie Foods, from its French partner Novandie for Rs. 85 million. This acquisition led to certain one-time impairment charges but is expected to strengthen the company's position in the value-added dairy segment.

The surge in demand is partly due to state income support schemes and a strong harvest, which have boosted rural purchasing power. Analysts note that the growing awareness of protein deficiency in predominantly vegetarian diets is also contributing to increased consumption of dairy products.

Heritage Foods has introduced a comprehensive 360-degree brand campaign titled "The Power of Learning over Winning." This initiative positions milk not merely as a nutritional staple but as a vital contributor to a child's cognitive and emotional growth.

The campaign underscores the company's stringent quality assurance processes, including over 25 daily quality tests conducted by a team of more than 500 experts. Heritage Foods collaborates closely with a

network of dairy farmers, offering modern training and ethical partnerships to ensure a consistent supply of high-quality milk. It is operating across 16 Indian states, with strong roots in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana.

Havmor Elevates Premium Dairy Ice Cream Offerings with Lotte

Havmor Ice Cream, a prominent Indian brand, is intensifying its focus on premium, real dairy ice cream products, leveraging the capabilities of its parent company, South Korea's Lotte



Confectionery. Acquired by Lotte in 2017 for Rs.1,020 crore, Havmor has since utilized Lotte's manufacturing prowess, research and development infrastructure, and global supply chain to enhance its product offerings and expand its market reach.

The Indian frozen dessert market, valued at over Rs. 30,000 crore, comprises both dairy-based ice creams and non-dairy frozen desserts, often leading to consumer confusion due to their similar appearances. Havmor distinguishes itself by emphasizing its commitment to real dairy ingredients, setting it apart from competitors that primarily offer frozen desserts made with vegetable oils.

Havmor has introduced innovative products like "Krunch," a premium ice cream that showcases the brand's dedication to quality and innovation. The company is also investing in expanding its manufacturing capacity, including a new greenfield plant in Talegaon, Pune, as part of a Rs. 450 crore investment plan over five years.

India to Ease Liquidation of Defunct Dairy Cooperatives

Union Home and Cooperation Minister Shri Amit Shah announced that the Central Government will soon introduce a policy to expedite the liquidation of defunct Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS) and facilitate the registration of new ones. This initiative aims to revitalize the cooperative sector, particularly in the dairy industry.

The government plans to establish 200,000 new PACS by 2029, integrating them with 22 designated business activities to ensure financial stability. These activities include cooperative-owned manufacturing units for dairy products like ice cream, paneer, and cheese. Additionally, the policy promotes a circular economy model in the dairy sector by encouraging cooperatives to process by-products such as skin, bones, and horns of deceased livestock.

Shri Shah emphasized the need to rejuvenate the cooperative movement across India, drawing inspiration from Gujarat's successful model. He highlighted the progress of the 'cooperation among cooperatives' pilot project, which has led to a Rs. 11,000 crore increase in cooperative bank deposits. The policy also encourages all members of cooperatives, dairies, and agricultural produce marketing committees to maintain accounts in cooperative banks.

This policy is poised to strengthen the dairy cooperative framework, offering new business opportunities and promoting sustainability through circular economy practices. It reflects a strategic move to bolster rural economies and enhance the viability of the dairy sector.

NDDB Launched a Special Programme for Women Members of Dairy Cooperatives/Milk Producer Organisations

As part of the year-long celebration of the International Year of Cooperatives (IYC), NDDB launched a special programme for women members of dairy cooperatives/milk producer organisations under the umbrella 'Saksham: Nurturing Women Leaders'.



Within the framework of this programme, a regional event was held on May 21, 2025, at NIMHANS, Bengaluru. The event brought together over 250 women members from various dairy cooperatives and milk producer organisations across Karnataka.

The programme aimed to recognise and empower women in the dairy sector, celebrating their contributions and encouraging leadership at the grassroots level. The Chief Guest, Padma Shri Dr Vijayalakshmi Deshmane, a renowned surgical oncology expert, delivered a powerful address highlighting the importance of women's leadership and resilience. A special video message from Dr. Meenesh Shah, Chairman, NDDB further inspired the participants.



The event also featured context setting and information sharing on White Revolution 2.0 by Ms. Romy Jacob, Deputy General Manager, NDDB and an address by Shri B. Shivaswamy, Managing Director, Karnataka Milk Federation.

A felicitation ceremony was held to honour Directors from various milk unions of Karnataka and three outstanding women for their exemplary service in the dairy sector.

Madhya Pradesh CM for High-Yield Cattle Variety to Double Milk Production



With a view to doubling milk production in Madhya Pradesh, the state is devising a comprehensive plan to import superior breeds of cattle from other regions, ensuring their availability to local farmers.

Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister, Dr. Mohan Yadav has urged officials to accelerate efforts in boosting milk output, reaffirming his commitment to elevating the state's contribution to the nation's total milk production from the current 9 per cent to 20 per cent.

Following a review meeting in Bhopal recently, he wrote on his X handle, "The decision to more than double milk production will serve as the foundation for the prosperity of cattle herders."

During the review, Dr. Yadav emphasised that the state must fully utilise NDDB's expertise in the dairy sector.

He underscored the necessity of streamlining and refining the process of acquiring superior breeds of cows and buffaloes from other states, ensuring they are readily accessible to farmers.

Earlier in April this year, the NDDB and the Madhya Pradesh State Cooperative Milk Union entered a pact in presence of Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah.

Shri Shah had advised the state government to expand the outreach of milk producers to more Primary Cooperative Societies (PACs), ensuring coverage across at least 50 per cent of the state's geography. He had also said that the government should introduce a Rs. 5 per-litre incentive for milk producers.

Dr. Yadav further emphasised that all milk produced within the state should undergo value addition before being exported beyond its borders. He advocated for extending consultancy services not only to cooperative unions but also to private dairy enterprises.

The Chief Minister also highlighted the ongoing development of large cow shelters across Madhya Pradesh, stating that their efficient management would contribute significantly to increased milk production. The state has earmarked a fund of Rs 505 crore in its annual budget 2025-26 for cowsheds under a specific scheme.

He proposed that private universities introduce specialised courses in dairy technology and animal husbandry to further strengthen the industry's knowledge base.

Even ahead of the review meeting, NDDB-backed milk unions implemented an increase in the price of milk paid to farmers, effective May 1, ensuring direct economic benefits for dairy producers.

UP CM Pushes for Self-Reliant Cow Shelters and Fodder Banks

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Shri Yogi Adityanath has announced a renewed focus on making cow shelters (gaushalas) economically self-reliant through income-generating activities such as organic farming, biogas production, and composting. This directive was issued during a key review meeting in Lucknow with officials from the animal husbandry and rural development departments.

Highlighting the economic and cultural importance of indigenous cattle, the CM emphasized the need to integrate cow shelters with the rural economy and dairy sector. He also directed the setting up of fodder banks across districts to ensure uninterrupted supply of green fodder, especially during lean periods. These banks would help mitigate fodder scarcity—often a major cost pressure point for dairy farmers—by providing strategic reserves.

CM also instructed that non-milking and stray cows in shelters be linked to biogas and vermicomposting units, thus generating revenue and reducing maintenance burdens on the state. The government will also offer support for the creation of model cow shelters equipped with training centers for fodder cultivation, cattle

management, and dairy-based entrepreneurship.

Officials were asked to explore PPP models and NGO partnerships to scale shelter capacity and enhance productivity, with a strong focus on animal welfare and environmental sustainability.

INTERNATIONAL News

International Dairy Market: USDA

As per the latest USDA data of mid May 2025, international market overview are as follows:

EUROPEAN

Western European

The UK-based Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board (AHDB) released data showing daily milk deliveries for the week ending April 26th, averaged 38.38 million liters, up 0.8 percent from the week prior and up 6.1 percent from the same week last year.

The UK Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs published February milk prices and milk composition statistics. Milk volumes collected in March 2025 were 1,373 million liters, a 16 percent increase from February 2025. Fat content is listed as averaging 4.36 percent and protein content is listed as averaging 3.41 percent. The UK average farm-gate milk price for March 2025 is listed at 46.01 pence per liter, down 0.2 percent from February 2025, but up 18 percent from March 2024.

Ireland's Central Statistics Office released the April 2025 Consumer Price Index rose by 2.2 percent overall from April 2024. The national average price of full fat milk per 2 liters was 2.463 Euro, up slightly from March 2025. The national average price of butter per pound was 4.692 Euro, 0.23 Euro higher than March 2025. The national average price of Irish cheddar per kilogram increased by 0.28 Euro to 11.241 Euro.

Ireland's Central Statistics Office estimates total milk intakes by processors and cooperatives in March at 818.2 million liters, up 8.1 percent from March 2024. Fat content in milk deliveries averaged 4.34 percent in March, down from 4.40 percent in March 2024. Protein content in milk deliveries averaged 3.38 percent in March, up 0.13 percent from March 2024.

Eastern Europe

No new cases of foot and mouth disease (FMD) have been confirmed. The UK continues a ban on personal meat and dairy imports from the EU after travel to prevent possible introduction of foot and mouth disease.

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OCEANIA DAIRY MARKET

New Zealand

Milk production data from New Zealand for March 2025 was recently released. This data showed total March 2025 production was 1.76 million metric tons, up 0.6 compared to a year earlier. During March 2025, total milk solids increased by 0.8 percent to 174.0 million kg from the previous year. From the start of the production season in June 2024 through March 2025, milk production on a tonnage basis is up by 2.2 percent compared to the same time period a year ago, while milk solids production is up 3.0 percent from last year.

Drought conditions were declared in several milk-producing regions in New Zealand, with farmers describing conditions in some regions as the worst in 50 years. This led to strain on farmers' supplies of supplementary feed as they try to counteract poor pasture conditions. On the North Island, farmers started drying off cows earlier than usual for this time of year. However, weather conditions in the dairy regions of the South Island improved, leading to mixed impacts on milk production.

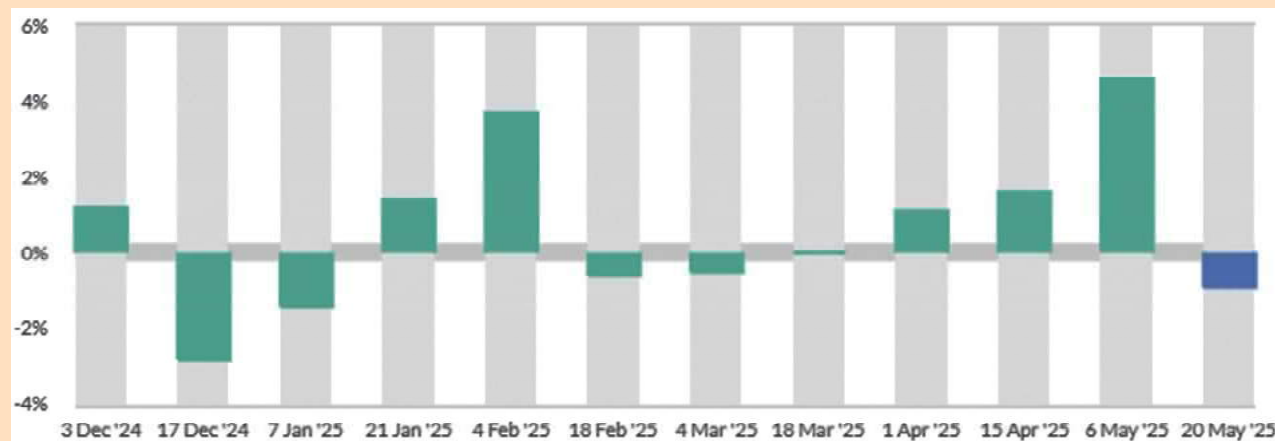
A group in New Zealand, which forecasts dairy prices, increased the forecasted milk price for the 2024/2025 season, following GDT event 379, by 6 cents, to \$10.21/kgMS. The spot value of milk increased by 58 cents to \$12.11/kgMS. The group noted prices at GDT event 379 were above market expectations and prices for New Zealand products were strong, with increases for all New Zealand commodities. The forecasted milk price for the 2025/2026 season increased by 23 cents to \$10.56/kgMS.

Australia

A large Australian dairy product manufacturer announced it is closing a Victoria cheese plant in an attempt to consolidate redundant manufacturing lines. A spokesperson for the processor stated this closure would facilitate further investment at their primary processing facility, resulting in new job creation and partially offsetting losses associated with the Victoria plant closure.

Following announcements from two processors in Australia, a third recently announced a 10¢/kgMS increase in 2024/2025 farmgate milk prices. A spokesperson for the processor stated the increase followed strengthening international sales, but also cited

GDT Auction Index Down 0.9% in Season's Final Auction



The Global Dairy Trade (GDT) Event no. 380 on May 20, 2025, concluded with a 0.9% decline in the Price Index, signaling a cautious market sentiment.

Cheddar cheese experienced a significant drop of 9.2%, settling at an average of US\$5,007/MT, while **Lactose** plummeted by 13.2% to US\$1,398/MT. **Whole Milk Powder**, a key product influencing Fonterra's farmgate milk price, decreased by 1.0% to US\$4,332/MT, and **Skim Milk Powder** fell by 0.7% to US\$2,817/MT. **Butter** prices also saw a reduction of 1.5%, averaging US\$7,821/MT.

Conversely, **Anhydrous milk fat** and **Mozzarella** bucked the downward trend, recording increases of 0.9% and

0.7%, respectively. The auction witnessed participation from 110 successful bidders, purchasing a total of 15,194 MT of dairy products, slightly less than the 16,700 MT sold in the previous event. Despite the recent dip, the GDT index has risen by 16% over the past year, with whole milk powder prices up by 27%, indicating a robust performance throughout the season.

The slight downturn in the final GDT auction suggests a market recalibration after sustained growth. Indian dairy exporters should monitor these trends closely, as fluctuations in global prices, especially in key products like whole milk powder and cheddar, could impact export strategies and pricing models.

weaker domestic market conditions in limiting the scale of the increase. A farmer group responded saying since the start of the year, farmgate prices rose at a much lower rate relative to the GDT index, especially alongside a weakening Australian dollar.

SOUTH AMERICA DAIRY MARKET

Milk production varies from steady to strong, heading into the winter season for key dairy producing countries. Uruguay stakeholders note milder weather than anticipated is contributing positively to milk production. However, some contacts convey milk yields from dairy farmers are down from last year. Handlers describe feed costs for dairy farmers as very affordable.

Demand from buyers is steady in the region. South American traders indicate many buyers already secured many of their Q2 needs. Stakeholders indicate prices continued to steadily increase and buyers are somewhat actively seeking to make purchases from Argentinian and Uruguayan sellers. Demand is strong from Brazilian buyers.

Danone Leads Dairy Sector in Methane Reduction Efforts

Danone has announced a significant milestone in its environmental sustainability efforts, achieving a 25% reduction in methane emissions from its fresh milk supply chain since 2020. This progress positions the company well on its path to meet its ambitious target of a 30% reduction by 2030, aligning with the Global Methane Pledge.



As a founding member of the Dairy Methane Action Alliance—an initiative led by the Environmental Defense Fund and Ceres—Danone has committed to transparent methane emissions reporting and the development of comprehensive action plans. The alliance, which includes industry leaders such as Nestlé and Starbucks, has recently expanded with the addition of Agropur, Idaho Milk Products, and Savencia Fromage & Dairy.

Danone's multifaceted approach to methane reduction encompasses improved manure management, enhanced cattle nutrition, and the adoption of biodigesters, particularly benefiting smallholder farms in emerging markets. While feed additives have demonstrated potential in reducing methane emissions by up to 90%, Danone notes that cost and regulatory challenges currently limit their widespread implementation.

Danone's proactive measures underscore the critical role of corporate responsibility in addressing agricultural methane emissions.

The FAO Dairy Price Index Rose to 152.1 points in April 2025

The FAO Dairy Price Index rose to 152.1 points in April 2025, marking a 2.4% increase from March and a significant 28.4% rise compared to the same period last year.

Butter prices reached an all-time high, driven by reduced inventories and strong milkfat demand in Europe, despite seasonally higher milk production. Skimmed and whole milk powder prices increased by 1.6% and 2.9%, respectively, supported by steady domestic demand and a shift in export interest from Europe to Oceania, where declining milk production tightened spot availability. Cheese prices also rose by 2.3%, fuelled by strong export demand amid tightening supplies in Oceania.

This upward trend in dairy prices reflects tightening global supplies and robust demand, impacting both producers and consumers worldwide.

New Zealand's School Milk Programme Enables Export of Nutritional Dairy Products

A new Indonesian school milk programme is expected to significantly increase the country's total dairy consumption, creating opportunities for New Zealand and other global dairy players, according to a new report by food and agribusiness banking specialist Rabobank.

Rabobank said the recently elected Indonesian government has introduced a range of policy measures with the potential to transform the country's dairy supply chain.

"The centrepiece of its policy is the Nutritious Meals Programme, which aims to combat malnutrition and promote healthy eating among school children," report author RaboResearch senior analyst Michael Harvey said.

"A key feature of this programme is to provide food, including milk, to 60 million students on every school day by 2029. RaboResearch estimates the total milk required at full implementation could surpass 2 billion litres."

The report says the ambitions behind Indonesia's school milk programme have the potential to significantly increase Indonesian demand for liquid milk.

"The majority of milk consumed by Indonesia's 280 million people in 2024 was imported, with domestic production estimated at 900 million litres, and an

additional 2.5 billion litres (liquid milk equivalent) imported," Harvey said.

To meet the growth in demand that will result from the programme, the government and industry plan to significantly increase the national dairy herd.

Harvey said for Indonesia to achieve its ambitious milk supply growth targets and accommodate the considerable number of dairy cattle needed, it will need to scale up both live cattle supply and the local dairy supply chain.

New Zealand has grown its market share in Indonesia's skim milk powder market in recent years, and the new programme could create opportunities to further lift dairy exports to Indonesia, he said.

"Even before the announcement of the school milk programme, Indonesia was viewed as a dairy market with long-term high growth potential and, in 2020, Fonterra announced plans to further invest in Indonesia by enhancing its blending and packing capabilities," he said.

Harvey said the new school milk programme could also create live cattle export opportunities for New Zealand given Indonesia's desire to expand its domestic dairy cattle herd.

Tetra Pak Launches New Dairy Processing Handbook

Tetra Pak has announced the launch of the 2025 edition of the Dairy Processing Handbook. This updated edition is packed with the latest technical insights and industry trends, making it an indispensable tool for dairy professionals and students alike.

The updated edition is a comprehensive resource tailored for industry professionals, academics and students. Featuring more than 600 illustrations and over 460 pages of content authored by 35 experts. The handbook is a definitive resource for dairy professionals and the broader food processing industry. The book also features a chapter on the Primary Production of Milk, authored by experts from DeLaval.

Building on 70 years of expertise, this edition is designed to equip dairy professionals with cutting-edge knowledge to meet modern challenges and drive innovation, offering an in-depth exploration of the entire dairy production process - from cow to consumer. This practical guidance serves to align dairy operations with today's highest standards in efficiency, innovation, and environmental performance. In addition to core production principles and technological best practices, this latest version also addresses the current challenges and opportunities facing the dairy sector. These include

evolving sustainability demands, new production models and increased cost pressures.

The 2025 handbook features comprehensive updates across all existing chapters and introduces four entirely new chapters. Among them, a new chapter on 'Mixing Technology' offers the latest expertise to optimise production efficiency and ensure consistent results that meet consumer expectations across milk, yoghurt, cheese and ice cream products. Mixing is a core technology for food supplements and nutrition, and with nearly three-quarters (74%) of consumers interested in purchasing products with specific health claims, this emerging segment is generating increased attention from food and beverage producers.

In response to rising health awareness and increasing demand for dietary alternatives, the 2025 edition also includes a new chapter on 'Lactose-Free Dairy Products'. With the lactose-free dairy market projected to grow at 7.12% (CAGR from 2023 to 2033), this edition addresses a fast-expanding segment reshaping consumer expectations and product development.

Meanwhile, a new chapter on 'Sustainability in Dairy Processing', provides essential insights to help producers transition towards more sustainable operations. With dairy production accounting for 2.7% of total anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions, sustainable transformation is both a responsibility and an opportunity for the industry.

Charles Brand, Executive Vice President, processing solutions & equipment at Tetra Pak, said, "For 40 years, the Dairy Processing Handbook has been a cornerstone of our commitment to the dairy industry, reflecting our deep heritage and expertise. As we celebrate this milestone, we reflect on an industry entering a new era defined by accelerating innovation, shifting dietary preferences, and increasing demands for sustainability. This evolution presents exciting opportunities for our customers to develop value-added products and embrace more efficient technologies, ultimately building a more resilient dairy sector. The future of the industry is full of potential, and we're proud to support the next generation of dairy professionals in shaping it. The updated Dairy Processing Handbook is more than a technical guide. It's a catalyst for innovation, empowering today's leaders and tomorrow's pioneers with the knowledge and tools they need to thrive in a rapidly changing world."

Maria Glantz, senior lecturer and associate professor, Dairy Technology and Dairy Processing courses at Lund University, said, "I have been using the Dairy Processing Handbook in my teaching for over 20 years, and it remains one of the most valuable resources for educating

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both university students and industry professionals. The Dairy Processing Handbook explains complex dairy science and processing technologies in a clear, practical and visually engaging way, making it ideal for building foundational knowledge and supporting real-world applications. Its combination of clarity, depth and practical relevance makes it a trusted reference across all levels of learning.

US Milk Futures Surge Amid Seasonal Demand

Class III milk futures in the United States have experienced a significant uptick, driven by seasonal demand and rising cheese prices. The surge is attributed to a combination of factors, including increased cheese exports and a shift in market sentiment that has replaced previous discounts with premiums. This positive momentum is further bolstered by tight cheese supplies and expectations of continued strong demand in the coming months.

Analysts note that the current rally in milk futures is also influenced by global market dynamics, where a wide price gap between US and international dairy products has made American exports more competitive. However, there are concerns about the sustainability of this trend, as spot cheese prices have not kept pace with futures, indicating potential volatility ahead.

Dairy producers and stakeholders are advised to monitor these developments closely, as the interplay between futures and spot markets could impact pricing strategies and profitability. The industry is also keeping an eye on upcoming changes to the Federal Milk Marketing Order (FMMO) formulas, which may further influence market dynamics.

Grass-Based Feeding Strategies Enhance Dairy Sustainability

A recent study published in the *Journal of Dairy Science* investigates the impact of summer forage shortages on dairy systems, comparing traditional semi-mountainous grass-based systems with corn-based systems incorporating part-time grazing. The research involved a 19-week experiment with 40 cows divided into four balanced groups, assessing milk yield, feed efficiency, methane emissions, and cheese quality. Key findings are:

Milk Production & Feed Efficiency: Reducing grazed grass in grass-based diets maintained milk yield and improved feed efficiency, while complete removal of grazed grass in corn-based systems impaired feed efficiency without affecting milk production.

Methane Emissions: Grass-based systems with reduced grazing showed lower methane emission intensity compared to corn-based systems.

Cheese Quality: Cheese from cows fed more grazed grass was softer, more yellow, and had pronounced flavours, attributed to higher levels of casein breakdown, and increased counts of beneficial lactic acid bacteria.

The study concludes that maintaining fresh herbage in corn-based diets is crucial for preserving cheese quality without compromising animal performance. In grass-based systems, supplementing with indoor feeding can sustain animal performance with limited effects on product quality.

This research underscores the importance of adaptive feeding strategies in dairy farming, particularly in the face of climate-induced forage shortages. For Indian dairy stakeholders, integrating grass-based feeding practices could enhance sustainability, improve product quality, and reduce environmental impact.

Event CALENDAR

National Seminar

Theme: Dairy Development in Madhya Pradesh - Opportunities and Challenges.

Date: 4th to 5th July, 2025

Venue: Vikram University, Ujjain

It is being organized jointly by IDA (West Zone) and Vikram University, Ujjain. The upcoming two-day Seminar will consist of four Technical Sessions.

Register for the Seminar online at:

<http://forms.gle/eXHNyJjyzZBdL1c8>

National Symposium

Theme: Dairying for Nutrition and Livelihood Security

Date: 6th June, 2025

Venue: ICAR-NIANP, Adugodi, Bengaluru

Organized by: ICAR-NIANP and IDA (SZ)

For participation, sponsorships, etc., Contact : worldmilkday25nianp@gmail.com

IDF World Dairy Summit 2025

Date: 20-23, October, 2025

Venue: Santiago, Chile

Visit www.idfwds2025.com

IDF WDS 2025 - Dairy Innovation Awards

Online Entry Open till 7th June 2025. Visit

https://form.jotform.com/Dairy_Innovation/Home

