

Dairy

Animal Health

Bovine Johne's Disease

The Dairy Committee support protocols for a blind test of all NSW dairy herds for the testing of BJD on the basis that:

- a) The protocols be approved by the Dairy Committee;
- b) Anyone with access to the test results be required to sign a suitable confidentiality agreement; and
- c) The NSW Dairy Industry Conference being approached to consider facilitating the operation of this testing (along the lines of the EBL program).

That the Dairy Committee support a national approach to the control of Bovine Johne's Disease.

That the Dairy Committee support the removal of BJD zoning.

That the Dairy Committee supports the concept of BJD assurance herd scores as outlined in "Assuring Australian dairy cattle for Bovines Johne's" on the assumption that it becomes a national scheme.

That the Dairy Committee rejects the notion of a differential between cattle breeds in respect to BJD funding.

That the Association Dairy Committee:

- a) Approve in principle the Dairy Assurance Score for BJD as explained by Sally Spence.
- b) Seek a hasty implementation (including the removal of quarantine requirements).
- c) Seek the implementation of the JDCAP program in NSW.
- d) Support the use of current zoning systems as a starting point for scores under the DAS system.
- e) Recommend that one or two people assess herd results to give consistent scores.
- f) Support the continued development of a milk test.
- g) Support the development of an awareness campaign for the new BJD DAS.

DAGM Jun 08

That the Dairy Committee make representations to appropriate authorities for the BJD Score to be added to the Cattle NVD Form

EBL

DAGM Jun 08

That all NSW dairy herds requiring sub-sampling for EBL be fully funded by the NSW Government regardless of where they are herd tested

DAGM Jun 08

That the Dairy Committee lobby for improved EBL testing with aim to eradicate EBL by not requiring every cow to be tested but instead sub-sampling on downward end of milk line

Q Fever

DAGM Jun 08

That the Dairy Committee lobby for Q-Fever vaccinations to be included as a recommended practice for producers and staff under OH&S in the audit process

Oct 02

That the Dairy Committee lobby the Government to ensure an adequate supply of Q-fever vaccine is available for dairy farmers and their employees

Ticks

That the Dairy Committee support the policy that tick fever vaccine be available under extreme circumstances.

Animal Welfare

Bobby calves

DAGM Jun 08

That the Dairy Committee in aiming to minimise bobby calf numbers:

1. Determine the current veal market with the Meat and Livestock Association
2. Investigate strategies to advance the veal market

Codes of Practice

Oct 02

The Dairy Committee support thorough industry consultation in regards to the development of Model Codes of Practice for the Welfare of Animals.

Competitiveness of Agriculture

Immigration

July 07

That the Dairy Section support changes to the current immigration rules in relation to regional areas for 457 applications to enable all primary producers to have access to the current concessions available to regional businesses

Dairy Australia

Grain and Fodder forecasting

Oct 02

The Dairy Committee support good management and adequate forecasting on the supply, price and import of grain and fodder.

Milk levy

That the Dairy Section of the NSW Farmers' Association support the continuation of the Dairy Australia milk levy.

Dairy farms

Cost of Production

DAM 06

That the Dairy Committee make an assessment of dairy farm cost of production in the different regions so it can make a localised assessment of a longer term sustainable price.

Farmgate price model

Mar 08

That the Committee support the Northern Dairy Industry Milk costs study aimed at collecting and collating information to determine a long term sustainable farmgate price model and its development, and that the Committee be involved.

Licensing arrangements

That the Dairy Committee investigate a more reasonable licensing arrangement of NSW dairy farmers.

Dairy Section

Communication

DAGM Jun 08

That the Dairy Committee, when sponsoring \$1000 or more to an event, request that a Dairy Committee member have the opportunity to attend the event to speak and/or represent the NSW Farmers' Association.

DAGM Jun 08

That the NSW Farmers Association improve consultation with members before the implementation of new Government policy, an example being the recent introduction of the new BJD Management Scheme.

DAGM Jun 08

That the Dairy Committee, when asked to sponsor participants on dairy related tours, make it a condition of sponsorship that the participant be a dairy farmer or their recognised employee.

DAGM Jun 08

That the Dairy Committee develops a publication in collaboration with the NSW dairy industry representative bodies which would be distributed to all dairy farmers in NSW.

Communications

That the Dairy Committee support continued production of the NSW Dairy Digest newspaper.

Dairy Members

That Dairy members be able to participate in P&A District Councils and that this position be referred to the Corporate Governance Committee.

Drought and Natural Disaster

General

General

That the Dairy Committee support the following issues:

- a) The issue of when areas are drought declared and when those areas are subsequently eligible for subsidies is causing consternation. The Dairy Committee seeks:
 - i. The removal of the six month drought declaration waiting period (due to the fact that grain and hay prices appear to inordinately increase in those areas, and those farmers not yet entitled to the subsidy result in paying a prematurely higher price).
 - ii) Some form of assistance for those farmers in drought affected pockets (ie surrounded by areas not officially declared drought affected).
- b) The issue of accessing water is acknowledged as a monumental one. The Dairy Committee would like to see the Association make the following representations:
 - i. To DLWC to look at off-allocation water, ie water that is still flowing.
 - ii. To NSW Agriculture to introduce an immediate program to advise and encourage the best use of water by farmers.

DAM 06

That the NSW Farmers' Association vigorously pursue that Transport Subsidy be continued for areas drought declared

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Fair Trading

Dairy

DAM 03

That the Dairy Committee support opportunities for farmers to enhance their bargaining strength in concentrated and non-transparent markets for farm products.

DAM 05

That the Dairy Committee continue to lobby for a fairer share of the value for dairy products.

Trade Practices Act

DAGM Jun 08

That the Dairy Committee pursue the NSW Farmers' Association and the National Farmers Federation to establish a taskforce to investigate and identify ways to improve the Trade Practices Act so it works more effectively.

July 07

That the Dairy Section support the amendment of the Trade Practices Act to address the adverse imbalances experienced by small business and specifically many farming businesses in

- a) The exercise of market power
- b) Unconscionable conduct in business transactions

Further that the Act be amended to allow small business operators, including farm businesses to be able to use professional organisations to conduct negotiations and collectively bargain on behalf of their members

Food Safety

Milk

The Dairy Committee support as part of the NSW Food Safety Framework an auditing process that ensures:

- a) Auditors are competent and capable to carry out the required workload;
- b) Consistency between auditors on the interpretation of any guidelines and requirements; and
- c) The qualifications of auditors are consistent across State borders.

That the Dairy Section of the NSW Farmers' Association lobby NSW Food Authority to make available the information on quota history for dairy farmers in NSW.

The Dairy Committee support nationally consistent audit and food safety standards.

Genetically Modified Organisms

Trial and Release

Mar 08

That the Committee endorses the submissions by NSWFA and ADIC on GM technology and supports their submission to the NSW review of GM Canola

Industry Bodies

Dairy Industry Conference

Mar 08

That DICON undertake a constitutional review into representation on the conference as well as the nomination process of representatives to sit on the conference. It is recommended that this occur by the next DICON meeting (February 2008) and be done prior to any additional members being appointed onto DICON.

That the Dairy Committee support fully the NSW Dairy Industry Conference and the need for future adequate funding of Conference as recognition of the pivotal role it plays in providing a forum and mechanism for all industry sectors to meet and reach consensus viewpoints on industry issues

That the Dairy Section of the Association supports the role of DICON and its continuation under the revised Ministerial requirements providing that the funding is made available for the operations and representatives on Conference out of DICON, milk marketing, contingency or government sources.

Mar 08

"That the Committee supports increasing the DICON Dairy NLIS rebate to \$2 per tag and that a recommendation be made to DICON to this effect."

Dairy Research Foundation

That the Dairy Committee in accordance with the objects of the Trust deed, continue to support the University of Sydney for support of the Chair in Dairy Science.

National Centre for Dairy Education Australia

Mar 08

For the committee to put the NCDEA program as a high priority on their 2008 operational plan and to commit to supporting the extension reference committee.

NSW Agriculture/Department of Primary Industries

That the Dairy Section of the NSW Farmers' Association pursue the Memorandum of Understanding model established between Dairy Australia and the Victorian Department of Primary Industries for its implementation in NSW.

DAGM Jun 08

That the NSW Farmers' Association Dairy Committee, RDPs & DICON in NSW jointly lobby the NSW DPI seeking the continuation of all current dairy officer positions & their extension roles

That the Dairy Section of the NSW Farmers' Association lobby for:

- a) a second NSW DPI dairy extension officer within the Riverina; and
- b) the Dairy Committee to be consulted in the selection and ongoing role of NSW DPI dairy extension officers.

NSW Irrigators Council and Dairy Research Foundation

That the Association's Dairy Committee continue its membership of the Irrigators Council and the Dairy Research Foundation and that reinstatement of budget allocations be pursued accordingly.

Landuse Planning

Land Use Planning

DAM 06

That the Association investigate a way by which new residents in rural areas can be made aware of rural activities and their impacts on new residents and have new residents sign that they understand and agree that they will not take any action against existing rural businesses carrying out generally accepted farming practice.

Dec 04

That the Dairy Committee pursue through the Association the ability to erect workers standalone workers dwellings without the need to create separate title.

Feb 03

That the Dairy Committee:

- a) provided by Planning NSW; and
- b) support the draft guidelines that SEPP 30 will operate under, being shown to the Dairy Committee.

Livestock Marketing

Livestock Traceability

DAGM Jun 08

That the Dairy NLIS rebate be extended to NLIS devices (eg: hand wands)

Livestock Traceability

Oct 02

That the Dairy Committee support the NLIS being a national scheme and that the rule regarding bobby calves be consistent across state borders

Pricing

That the Association promote the concept of maintaining retail milk prices once the structural adjustment levy is removed.

July 07

In regards to milk prices, that the Dairy Section support:

- a) The development and implementation of a campaign to substantially improve farm gate price for milk as a matter of urgency.
- b) The engagement of both retailers and processors to lobby for an immediate increase in farm gate price
- c) Development and implementation of a comprehensive media campaign illustrating the situation of the industry
- d) Monitoring and reporting by the Dairy Section to members on a regular basis information regarding;
 - i. Farm gate price paid by NSW and interstate processors
 - ii. The retail value of milk
 - iii. The interstate and inter regional movement of milk by processors

Peak Industry Body

Australian Dairy Farmers

Mar 08

That the committee support the outcome from the ADF board regarding meat quality and bobby calves.

Road Transport

Livestock Loading

Dec 04

That the Dairy Committee support the BEAT Committee in the development of a livestock loading program.

Loading & Access

DAGM Jun 08

That the Dairy Committee make strong representations to the NSW Minister for Transport and NSW Minister for Primary Industries to review and alter the Road Transport (Mass, Loading and Access) Regulation (which currently limits fodder loading to 4.6M high x 2.830 M wide) to be the same as Victorian limits (4.6M high x 3.00M wide) and establish uniformity across the States.

Stock Crossings

DAM 05

That the Dairy Section push for financial assistance to farmers for the development of road underpasses.

July 07

That the Dairy Section support an approach the RTA to establish a state protocol for stock crossings on all roads

Weeds Control

Fireweed

The NSW Farmers' Association lobby the State Government to implement a biological control for Fireweed.