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Dairy and Products

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Report Highlights:

Milk production in 1999/2000 (Jul-Jun) is forecast to reach 11,103 TMT, around 6 percent above the previous season. Most of the increase in milk production will be used in the manufacturing sector. The export volume of most manufactured dairy products will increase during 1999/2000. Post forecasts that cheese production will increase by 13 percent, butter production by 5 percent, SMP production by around 5 percent and WMP production by around 12 percent.

Includes PSD changes: Yes
Includes Trade Matrix: Yes
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Executive Summary

Despite the continuing uncertainty surrounding market deregulation, producers have continued to sharply increase milk production. Production for the 1999/2000 (Jul-Jun) season is forecast by the Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics (ABARE) to reach 11,103 TMT, around 6 percent ahead of the previous season. For the first 6 months of the 1999/2000 season, national production was up by 7.7 percent according to the Australian Dairy Corporation (ADC). Victoria's production, accounting for over 60 percent of national production, increased by 8.6 percent driven by fodder availability and lower grain prices. New South Wales (N.S.W.) and South Australia (SA) increased production by 7.6 percent and 8.8 percent respectively. Queensland and Western Australia (WA) both had modest increases of between 1 and 2 percent.

The majority of the increase in milk production will be used in the manufacturing sector. The export volume of most manufactured dairy products is expected to increase during 1999/2000, with significant increases forecast for liquid milk, dried whey, butter and cheese.

The Government of Australia (GOA) now has legislation in place to deregulate the Australian Dairy Industry by July 1, 2000. The legislation, passed by both houses of parliament but yet to be proclaimed, allows for a restructuring package of A\$1.78 Billion. Of this, A\$1.63 has been allocated to the Dairy Structural Adjustment Program which will be administered by the newly created Dairy Adjustment Authority (DAA), (www.daa.gov.au). The restructuring package is to be funded through a levy of 11 cents per liter on all retail milk sales over the next 8 years.

In anticipation of the new regulatory environment, Bonlac Foods (one of the two major processors in Victoria), and the New Zealand Dairy Board have announced they will create a separate joint venture company with revenue to be split evenly. This company would have the number one position for branded cheese in Australia with a turnover of A\$550 million. This move comes as part of a major restructuring project for Bonlac aimed at reducing the companies A\$567 million debt.

Post forecasts that during 1999/2000, cheese production will increase by around 13 percent, butter production by 5 percent, SMP production by around 5 percent and WMP production by around 12 percent.

Milk, Fluid

Production

PSD Table						
Country	Australia					
Commodity	Dairy, Milk, Fluid				(1000 HEAD)(1000 MT)	
	Revised	1998	Preliminary	1999	Forecast	2000
	Old	New	Old	New	Old	New
Market Year Begin		07/1997		07/1998		07/1999
Cows In Milk	2060	2060	2121	2121	2152	2179
Cows Milk Production	9722	9722	10483	10483	10797	11103
Other Milk Production	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL Production	9722	9722	10483	10483	10797	11103
Intra EC Imports	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Imports	3	3	4	4	4	3
TOTAL Imports	3	3	4	4	4	3
TOTAL SUPPLY	9725	9725	10487	10487	10801	11106
Intra EC Exports	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Exports	82	82	83	83	85	85
TOTAL Exports	82	82	83	83	85	85
Fluid Use Dom. Consum.	1920	1913	1930	1912	1940	1934
Factory Use Consum.	7723	7730	8474	8492	8776	9087
Feed Use Dom. Consum.	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL Dom. Consumption	9643	9643	10404	10404	10716	11021
TOTAL DISTRIBUTION	9725	9725	10487	10487	10801	11106
Calendar Yr. Imp. from U.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0
Calendar Yr. Exp. to U.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0

General

Despite the continuing uncertainty surrounding market deregulation, producers have continued to sharply increase milk production. Production for the 1999/2000 (Jul-Jun) season is forecast by the Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics (ABARE) to reach 11,103 TMT, around 6 percent ahead of the previous season. For the first 6 months of the 1999/2000 season, national production was up by 7.7 percent according to the Australian Dairy Corporation (ADC). Victoria's production, accounting for over 60 percent of national production, increased by 8.6 percent driven by fodder availability and lower grain prices. New South Wales (NSW) and South Australia (SA) increased production by 7.6 percent and 8.8 percent respectively. Queensland and Western Australia (WA) both had modest increases of between 1 and 2 percent.

Productivity gains and increasing cow numbers have both contributed to the growth in milk supply in recent years. Dairy cow numbers have increased by around 3 percent per year since 1993-94 driven by improving profitability in recent years. Similarly, milk yield per cow according to ABARE has increased from 4000 liters in 1991/92 to 4600 liters in 1997/98, with an average increase of around 3 percent per year. These improvements in productivity have been driven by increased technology adoption at the farm level.

The longer term outlook, as reported by ABARE, is for milk production to continue increasing to around 11,926 TMT by 2004/2005. This production increase is expected to be driven by continued increases in productivity as well as steadily increasing cow numbers.

The majority of the increase in milk production will be used in the manufacturing sector. The export volume of most manufactured dairy products is expected to increase during 1999/2000, with significant increases being forecast for liquid milk, dried whey, butter and cheese.

Policy

General

The Government of Australia (GOA) introduced the current dairy market support arrangements for the Australian dairy industry on July 1, 1995. These arrangements which are referred to as the Domestic Market Support Scheme (DMS), basically provide the same level of assistance as the old scheme and are scheduled to terminate on June 30, 2000.

Under this scheme farmers pay a levy on milk consumed domestically as drinking milk and manufacturers pay a levy on milk used in the production of finished products for domestic sale. The rate of the levy for 1998-99 is approximately 3.7 Aust. Cents/liter. Milk embodied in exports of finished dairy products is exempt from the levies. The money raised by these two industry levies is placed in the Domestic Market Support Fund, which is administered by the ADC. The money, in turn is used to make a Domestic Market Support Payment to farmers who supply milk for manufacturing.

Market milk regulation falls under state jurisdiction with all states regulating the supply and farm gate price of market milk. Different arrangements apply in each state. Three states have quotas—Western Australia, New South Wales and Queensland—while the other states have pooling arrangements i.e. an equal proportion of each farmer's milk is eligible for the market milk price premium. There is limited trade across state borders and all milk exported interstate must be sourced at the state regulated farm gate price. These market milk regulations accounted for about 1.9 billion liters of milk in 1997/98 or about 20 percent of all milk production. The market milk premiums amounted to \$A 369 million in 1996/97, far exceeding the \$A 119 million received through the DMSS. All states have now deregulated the market milk beyond the farm gate with Queensland the last to do so on January 1, 1999.

The GOA now has legislation in place to deregulate the Australian Dairy Industry by July 1, 2000. The legislation, passed by both houses of parliament but yet to be proclaimed, allows for a restructuring package of A\$1.78 billion. Of this, A\$1.63 has been allocated to the Dairy Structural Adjustment Program which will be administered by the newly created Dairy Adjustment Authority (DAA), (www.daa.gov.au). The restructuring package is to be funded through a levy of 11 cents per liter on all retail milk sales over the next 8 years.

Individual producer entitlements would be based on 1998-99 milk deliveries at the rate of 46.23 Australian cents a liter for market milk and 8.96 Australian cents a liter for manufacturing milk. Payments would be paid quarterly over eight years. Exit payments of up to \$A 45,000 would also be available for farmers who choose to leave dairying. The GOA has allocated A\$30 million to the Dairy Exit Program. Also, A\$45 million has been allocated to a Regional Assistance Program to assist regions adjusting to the deregulated environment.

Complete deregulation of the Australian Dairy Industry is conditioned on all state governments repealing their own regulations. Most of the states support the Federal Governments package of measures, with some states yet to complete the necessary changes, however government sources remain confident that all the necessary arrangements will be in place by July 1, 2000.

Deregulation will result in some farmers leaving the industry and will see others strengthen their business by retiring debt, or investing in new infrastructure or technology. In general, farms are expected to decrease in number but become larger in size.

In anticipation of the new regulatory environment, Bonlac Foods (one of the two major processors in Victoria) and the New Zealand Dairy Board have announced they will create a separate joint venture company with revenue to be split evenly. This company would have the number one position for branded cheese in Australia with a turnover of A\$550 million. This move comes as part of a major restructuring project for Bonlac aimed at reducing the company's A\$567 million debt.

Trade

General

Import Trade Matrix			
Country	Australia		
Commodity	Dairy, Milk, Fluid		
Time period	Cal Yr	Units:	MT
Imports for:	1998		1999
U.S.		U.S.	
Others		Others	
New Zealand	3126	New Zealand	3474
Thailand	1	Australia	197
Total for Others	3127		3671
Others not Listed	1		0
Grand Total	3128		3671

Export Trade Matrix			
Country	Australia		
Commodity	Dairy, Milk, Fluid		
Time period	Cal Yr	Units:	MT
Exports for:	1998		1999
U.S.	57	U.S.	0
Others		Others	
Hong Kong	23981	Hong Kong	24448
Singapore	19354	Singapore	19416
The Philippines	7161	The Philippines	8375
Papua New Guinea	3562	China	4539
China	2999	American Samoa	3471
Vietnam	2855	Papua New Guinea	2950
American Samoa	2826	Vietnam	2490
Russia	2218	Rep. of Korea	1995
Malaysia	1266	Malaysia	1703
Western Samoa	1106	Indonesia	1421
Total for Others	67328		70808
Others not Listed	4226		8244
Grand Total	71611		79052

Dairy, Cheese

Production

PSD Table						
Country	Australia					
Commodity	Dairy, Cheese				(1000 MT)	
	Revised	1998	Preliminary	1999	Forecast	2000
	Old	New	Old	New	Old	New
Market Year Begin		07/1997		07/1998		07/1999
Beginning Stocks	93	93	73	73	42	32
Production	305	305	312	312	335	353
Intra EC Imports	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Imports	31	31	36	26	50	29
TOTAL Imports	31	31	36	26	50	29
TOTAL SUPPLY	429	429	421	411	427	414
Intra EC Exports	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Exports	151	151	172	172	180	182
TOTAL Exports	151	151	172	172	180	182
Human Dom. Consumption	205	205	207	207	210	210
Other Use, Losses	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Dom. Consumption	205	205	207	207	210	210
TOTAL Use	356	356	379	379	390	392
Ending Stocks	73	73	42	32	37	22
TOTAL DISTRIBUTION	429	429	421	411	427	414
Calendar Yr. Imp. from U.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0
Calendar Yr. Exp. to U.S.	8	8	8	8	8	9

General

Post forecasts that cheese production will increase by around 13 percent to 353,000 MT in 1999/2000, slightly lower than ABARE's forecast of 363,000 MT. This increase is expected as a result of the improved outlook for cheese on the world market, the continued success in key Asian and Middle east countries and the increased supply of manufacturing milk.

Trade

General

Cheese exports are forecast to increase by around 5 percent in 1999/2000 in line with increases in Milk production and assisted by demand in key export markets.

According to official (ABS) statistics, Japan remains the largest market for Australian cheese providing a destination for approximately 38 percent of all Australian cheese exports. For the CY 1999, exports to Japan and Saudi Arabia fell by around 7 percent and 5 percent respectively, while exports to the Netherlands and the USA increased by 132 percent and 23 percent respectively. Exports to the Republic of Korea increased by 77 percent making it Australia's fourth largest export market for cheese. These top five countries represent around 66 percent of Australia's export destinations.

The export statistics for the PS & D Table are sourced from the ADC while the numbers for the trade matrices are sourced from the ABS. While there is not a major difference between the numbers post believes that in general ADC export statistics are more accurate.

Import Trade Matrix			
Country	Australia		
Commodity	Dairy, Cheese		
Time period	Cal Yr	Units:	MT
Imports for:	1998		1999
U.S.	47	U.S.	14
Others		Others	
New Zealand	16711	New Zealand	20953
Italy	1609	Italy	1712
Norway	1462	Norway	1351
The Netherlands	1124	The Netherlands	966
Denmark	1056	Greece	918
Greece	914	Bulgaria	862
Bulgaria	833	Denmark	768
Germany	324	France	338
France	317	Germany	301
United Kingdom	115	Romania	109
Total for Others	24465		28278
Others not Listed	439		473
Grand Total	24951		28765

Export Trade Matrix			
Country	Australia		
Commodity	Dairy, Cheese		
Time period	Cal Yr	Units:	MT
Exports for:	1998		1999
U.S.	8424	U.S.	10401
Others		Others	
Japan	72804	Japan	67472
Saudi Arabia	13077	The Netherlands	16523
The Netherlands	7117	Saudi Arabia	12485
The Philippines	6747	Rep. of Korea	10978
Rep. of Korea	6179	Algeria	6323
Algeria	5680	The Philippines	5425
United Kingdom	4638	United Kingdom	5419
Belgium	3570	Egypt	3646
Trinidad & Tobago	3519	Mexico	2924
Mexico	2460	Taiwan	2363
Total for Others	125791		133558
Others not Listed	33400		32997
Grand Total	167615		176956

Dairy, Butter

Production

PSD Table						
Country	Australia					
Commodity	Dairy, Butter				(1000 MT)	
	Revised	1998	Preliminary	1999	Forecast	2000
	Old	New	Old	New	Old	New
Market Year Begin		07/1997		07/1998		07/1999
Beginning Stocks	20	20	16	16	41	34
Production	154	154	173	175	170	184
Intra EC Imports	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Imports	6	6	7	7	9	10
TOTAL Imports	6	6	7	7	9	10
TOTAL SUPPLY	180	180	196	198	220	228
Intra EC Exports	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Exports	105	105	95	104	110	121
TOTAL Exports	105	105	95	104	110	121
Domestic Consumption	59	59	60	60	61	61
TOTAL Use	164	164	155	164	171	182
Ending Stocks	16	16	41	34	49	46
TOTAL DISTRIBUTION	180	180	196	198	220	228
Calendar Yr. Imp. from U.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0
Calendar Yr. Exp. to U.S.	4	4	5	5	5	3

General

Butter production is forecast by post to increase by 5 percent during 1999/2000 reaching 184,000 MT in line with ABARE's forecast.

Trade

General

ABS statistics indicate that for the CY 1999 Australian butter exports increased by around 26 percent. Egypt, the largest export destination, fell by 6 percent when compared to the previous year. However the rest of the top five export destinations increased between 20 percent and 61 percent.

Post forecasts that exports of butter will increase by 16 percent during 1999/2000. This is in line with ABARE's forecast .

Import Trade Matrix			
Country	Australia		
Commodity	Dairy, Butter		
Time period	Cal Yr	Units:	MT
Imports for:	1998		1999
U.S.	39	U.S.	38
Others		Others	
New Zealand	6463	New Zealand	7809
France	6	Australia	461
		France	11
		The Philippines	4
Total for Others	6469		8285
Others not Listed	1		0
Grand Total	6509		8323

Export Trade Matrix			
Country	Australia		
Commodity	Dairy, Butter		
Time period	Cal Yr	Units:	MT
Exports for:	1998		1999
U.S.	3864	U.S.	3680
Others		Others	
Egypt	12163	Egypt	11457
Singapore	7328	Thailand	9142
Thailand	7174	Singapore	8760
Mexico	6776	Russia	5511
Saudi Arabia	4868	Malaysia	5475
Iran	4097	The Philippines	4409
Russia	3820	Saudi Arabia	4326
Morocco	3662	Mexico	4267
The Philippines	3556	India	4015
Taiwan	3396	Taiwan	3897
Total for Others	56840		61259
Others not Listed	32971		53244
Grand Total	93675		118183

Milk Nonfat Dry Milk Powder

Production

PSD Table						
Country	Australia					
Commodity	Dairy, Milk, Nonfat Dry				(1000 MT)	
	Revised	1998	Preliminary	1999	Forecast	2000
	Old	New	Old	New	Old	New
Market Year Begin		07/1997		07/1998		07/1999
Beginning Stocks	31	31	29	29	11	9
Production	231	231	255	255	265	267
Intra EC Imports	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Imports	3	3	2	0	2	0
TOTAL Imports	3	3	2	0	2	0
TOTAL SUPPLY	265	265	286	284	278	276
Intra EC Exports	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Exports	199	199	238	238	220	230
TOTAL Exports	199	199	238	238	220	230
Human Dom. Consumption	37	37	37	37	37	37
Other Use, Losses	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Dom. Consumption	37	37	37	37	37	37
TOTAL Use	236	236	275	275	257	267
Ending Stocks	29	29	11	9	21	9
TOTAL DISTRIBUTION	265	265	286	284	278	276
Calendar Yr. Imp. from U.S.	0	0	0	1	0	1
Calendar Yr. Exp. to U.S.	4	4	2	1	2	1

General

Production of SMP is forecast to increase by around 5 percent during 1999/2000.

Trade

General

Exports of SMP are forecast to fall slightly during 1999/2000.

Import Trade Matrix			
Country	Australia		
Commodity	Dairy, Milk, Nonfat Dry		
Time period	Cal Yr	Units:	MT
Imports for:	1998		1999
U.S.	0	U.S.	0
Others		Others	
Total for Others	0		0
Others not Listed	0		0
Grand Total	0		0

Export Trade Matrix			
Country	Australia		
Commodity	Dairy, Milk, Nonfat Dry		
Time period	Cal Yr	Units:	MT
Exports for:	1998		1999
U.S.	1058	U.S.	1329
Others		Others	
The Philippines	51050	The Philippines	55384
Malaysia	30704	Malaysia	34947
Thailand	24806	Thailand	25889
Japan	18397	Japan	14080
Singapore	14169	Singapore	13844
Indonesia	10095	Indonesia	11821
Taiwan	10013	Taiwan	11207
Egypt	6979	Saudi Arabia	7893
Saudi Arabia	5823	Nigeria	4465
Vietnam	4967	Sri Lanka	4105
Total for Others	177003		183635
Others not Listed	27634		34780
Grand Total	205695		219744

Dry Whole Milk Powder

Production

PSD Table						
Country	Australia					
Commodity	Dairy, Dry Whole Milk Powder				(1000 MT)	
	Revised	1998	Preliminary	1999	Forecast	2000
	Old	New	Old	New	Old	New
Market Year Begin		07/1997		07/1998		07/1999
Beginning Stocks	19	19	18	18	5	3
Production	127	127	145	145	160	162
Intra EC Imports	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Imports	4	4	2	0	5	0
TOTAL Imports	4	4	2	0	5	0
TOTAL SUPPLY	150	150	165	163	170	165
Intra EC Exports	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Exports	110	110	139	139	140	140
TOTAL Exports	110	110	139	139	140	140
Human Dom. Consumption	22	22	21	21	23	23
Other Use, Losses	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Dom. Consumption	22	22	21	21	23	23
TOTAL Use	132	132	160	160	163	163
Ending Stocks	18	18	5	3	7	2
TOTAL DISTRIBUTION	150	150	165	163	170	165
Calendar Yr. Imp. from U.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0
Calendar Yr. Exp. to U.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0

General

Post forecasts that WMP production will increase by around 12 percent during 1999/2000 due to increased milk production.

Trade

General

Exports of WMP are forecast to increase only slightly during CY 2000.

Exports of WMP have increased to the Philippines, Taiwan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Singapore and Malaysia. These markets accounted for 70 percent of Australian exports of WMP in CY 1999.

Import Trade Matrix			
Country	Australia		
Commodity	Dairy, Dry Whole Milk Powder		
Time period	Cal Yr	Units:	MT
Imports for:	1998		1999
U.S.	0	U.S.	0
Others		Others	
Total for Others	0		0
Others not Listed	0		0
Grand Total	0		0

Export Trade Matrix			
Country	Australia		
Commodity	Dairy, Dry Whole Milk Powder		
Time period	Cal Yr	Units:	MT
Exports for:	1998		1999
U.S.	0	U.S.	350
Others		Others	
The Philippines	23407	The Philippines	26438
Sri Lanka	11248	Taiwan	16003
Bangladesh	10811	Bangladesh	11588
Malaysia	10646	Thailand	11479
Taiwan	10469	Sri Lanka	11463
Thailand	9735	Malaysia	11021
Singapore	4238	Singapore	6723
Saudi Arabia	4099	Oman	6169
Mauritius	3406	Vietnam	5678
Algeria	3000	Mauritius	4715
Total for Others	91059		111277
Others not Listed	24585		22839
Grand Total	115644		134466

Dried Whey

Production

PSD Table						
Country	Australia					
Commodity	Dairy, Dried Whey				(1000 MT)	
	Revised	1998	Preliminary	1999	Forecast	2000
	Old	New	Old	New	Old	New
Market Year Begin		07/1997		07/1998		07/1999
Beginning Stocks	2	2	10	10	12	11
Production	51	51	53	53	55	55
Intra EC Imports	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Imports	3	3	0	0	0	0
TOTAL Imports	3	3	0	0	0	0
TOTAL SUPPLY	56	56	63	63	67	66
Intra EC Exports	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Exports	35	35	40	41	44	44
TOTAL Exports	35	35	40	41	44	44
Human Dom. Consumption	11	11	11	11	12	12
Other Use, Losses	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Dom. Consumption	11	11	11	11	12	12
TOTAL Use	46	46	51	52	56	56
Ending Stocks	10	10	12	11	11	10
TOTAL DISTRIBUTION	56	56	63	63	67	66
Calendar Yr. Imp. from U.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0
Calendar Yr. Exp. to U.S.	1	1	1	1	0	3

General

Dried whey production is largely determined by export demand. Increased export demand during 1999/2000 is expected to result in production and exports increasing.

Trade

General

Import Trade Matrix			
Country	Australia		
Commodity	Dairy, Dried Whey		
Time period	Cal Yr	Units:	MT
Imports for:	1998		1999
U.S.	0	U.S.	0
Others		Others	
Total for Others	0		0
Others not Listed	0		0
Grand Total	0		0

Export Trade Matrix			
Country	Australia		
Commodity	Dairy, Dried Whey		
Time period	Cal Yr	Units:	MT
Exports for:	1998		1999
U.S.	592	U.S.	703
Others		Others	
Malaysia	4516	Malaysia	3785
The Philippines	4367	Indonesia	2889
Hong Kong	3945	China	2786
Indonesia	3570	The Philippines	2342
Brazil	3494	Japan	1882
China	3423	Singapore	1860
Japan	3352	Taiwan	1525
Singapore	2219	Hong Kong	1453
Thailand	2054	Thailand	701
The Netherlands	1866	Bangladesh	606
Total for Others	32806		19829
Others not Listed	6018		1498
Grand Total	39416		22030