The Proposed Jersey Milk Management Control System

8 September 2026

World Jersey Conference

By: Thabang Rampa

Dairy Standard Agency

- South Africa's **independent dairy quality and safety organisation**.

- A **non-profit organisation** established to **promote the improvement of the quality and safety of milk and dairy products** across South Africa.

- Guided by **objective, science-based principles** and operating **independently of commercial interests**, with the focus on **protecting and serving the interests of the dairy industry and the consumer**.



Dairy Standard Agency

- **Monitor** dairy products for compliance with regulatory and industry standards.
- **Provide** independent scientific and technical expertise.
- **Conduct** food-safety and compliance audits.
- **Support** testing, investigation and product quality programmes.
- **Facilitate** engagement with industry, regulators and standards bodies.
- **Translate** complex regulatory and technical requirements into practical guidelines.



Milk South Africa

- An **organised dairy industry structure comprising of the Milk Producers Organisation (MPO) and the South African Milk Processors' Organisation (SAMPRO)**.

- Provides **a structured platform** for the **primary** and **secondary dairy industries** to address matters of common interest, including **regulations**, **standards**, **research**, **skills** and **industry development**.



Milk South Africa

- With the technical, scientific and regulatory expertise, the DSA manages certain projects on behalf of Milk SA i.e.:

  - **Project for the Improvement of Dairy Quality and Safety**; and

  - **Dairy Regulations and Standards Project**.



Background

- MCS is a **Method of Production** that is associated with a **claim** such as Jersey Milk, Organic, Free-range, Pasture-fed and Grass-fed.

- National Department of Agriculture published the "**Regulations relating to the Management Control System in respect of the Sale and Export of Certain Agricultural Products"** R.6634 of 19 September 2025 that is coming into force in 19 September 2026.



Regulatory Context

- The **Executive Officer: Agricultural Product Standards** of the **National Department of Agriculture** published the Notice No. 7597 of 19 June 2026, inviting comments on its intention to register **16 draft Methods of Production** as **Management Control Systems**.

- Particularly relevant to the Dairy Industry:

  - Free Range (Cattle)
  - Grassfed
  - **Jersey Milk**
  - No Routine Antibiotics
  - *Organically Produced Products*
  - Pasture Raised
  - **rBST-Free Milk**
  - Farmed Without Added Hormones



STAATSKOERANT, 19 JUNIE 2026 No. 54853 13

GOVERNMENT NOTICES • GOEWERMENTSKENNISGEWINGS

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

NO. 7597 **19 June 2026**

AGRICULTURAL PRODUCT STANDARDS ACT, 1990 (ACT No. 119 OF 1990)

INTENTION TO REGISTER METHODS OF PRODUCTION AS A MANAGEMENT CONTROL SYSTEM: INVITATION FOR OBJECTIONS

The Executive Officer: Agricultural Product Standards intends to register the following Methods of Production as Management Control System in terms of the "Regulations Relating to the Management Control System in Respect of the Sale of Certain Agricultural Products" (No. R.6634, of 19 September 2025).

Annexures	Types of Management Control System
A	Authentic Stud Meat
B	Barn Eggs
C	Canola Eggs
D	Fed a Vegetarian Diet
E	Free Range (Eggs and Poultry Meat)
F	Free Range (Cattle (Beef), Pigs (Pork), and Sheep (Mutton))
G	Grainfed Eggs
H	Grassfed
I	Jersey Milk
J	No Routine Antibiotics
K	Organic Produced Products
L	Pasture Raised
M	rBST Free Milk
N	Sow Friendly Pork
O	Wagyu Beef
P	Farmed Without Added Hormones

All interested parties are invited to submit any objections to the intended registrations in writing within **30 days** from the date of publication of this Notice to the following address:

Executive Officer: Agricultural Product Standards
Department of Agriculture
Private Bag X343, Pretoria, 0001
30 Hamilton Street, Harvest House Building, Arcadia, Room 130
Tel. no. 012 319 6121
Email: MbulaheniM@nda.gov.za

Information regarding the proposed Methods of Production as a Management Control System is available on the Department's website at www.nda.gov.za

https://www.nda.gov.za/index.php/publication/520-draft-legislation-for-comments.

or can be forwarded via electronic mail to any interested party upon request.

B.M. MAKHAFOLA
Executive Officer: Agricultural Product Standards

This gazette is also available free online at www.gpwonline.co.za

Rationale

- To establish **a level playing field amongst agricultural products regulated under the Agricultural Product Standards Act (APS Act) making the same method-of-production claim;**

- To ensure that **such claims when marked on labels of agricultural products regulated under the APS Act are true; and**

- To ensure that **consumers are not misled.**



Enforcement

- Registered MCS are subjected to **audits** by the designated assignee for compliance with **critical elements of control**.

- The **designated assignee** are appointed by the **Minister of Agriculture**.

- The role of the **Executive Officer: Agricultural Product Standards** is to monitor the designated assignee when **exercising their assigneeship** and their compliance with the **requirements set in the MCS regulation**.



Proposed Draft Registered Jersey Milk MCS

- Extended the draft MCS to Milk Products.
- Removal of provision prescribing the use of animal husbandry principles and techniques that avoid growth regulators, antibiotics, animal by-products (including fish meal) and any other undesirable additives in animal feeds.
- Removal of provision prescribing the minimum requirements for the feed and water together with those for housing.
- Removal of provisions prescribing Jersey cross-bred as qualifying animals, DNA testing as mandatory in breed authentication.

Proposed Draft Registered Jersey Milk MCS

- Qualifying animal shall:

  (a) be a registered/recorded Jersey cow in the Herd Book of Jersey SA; and

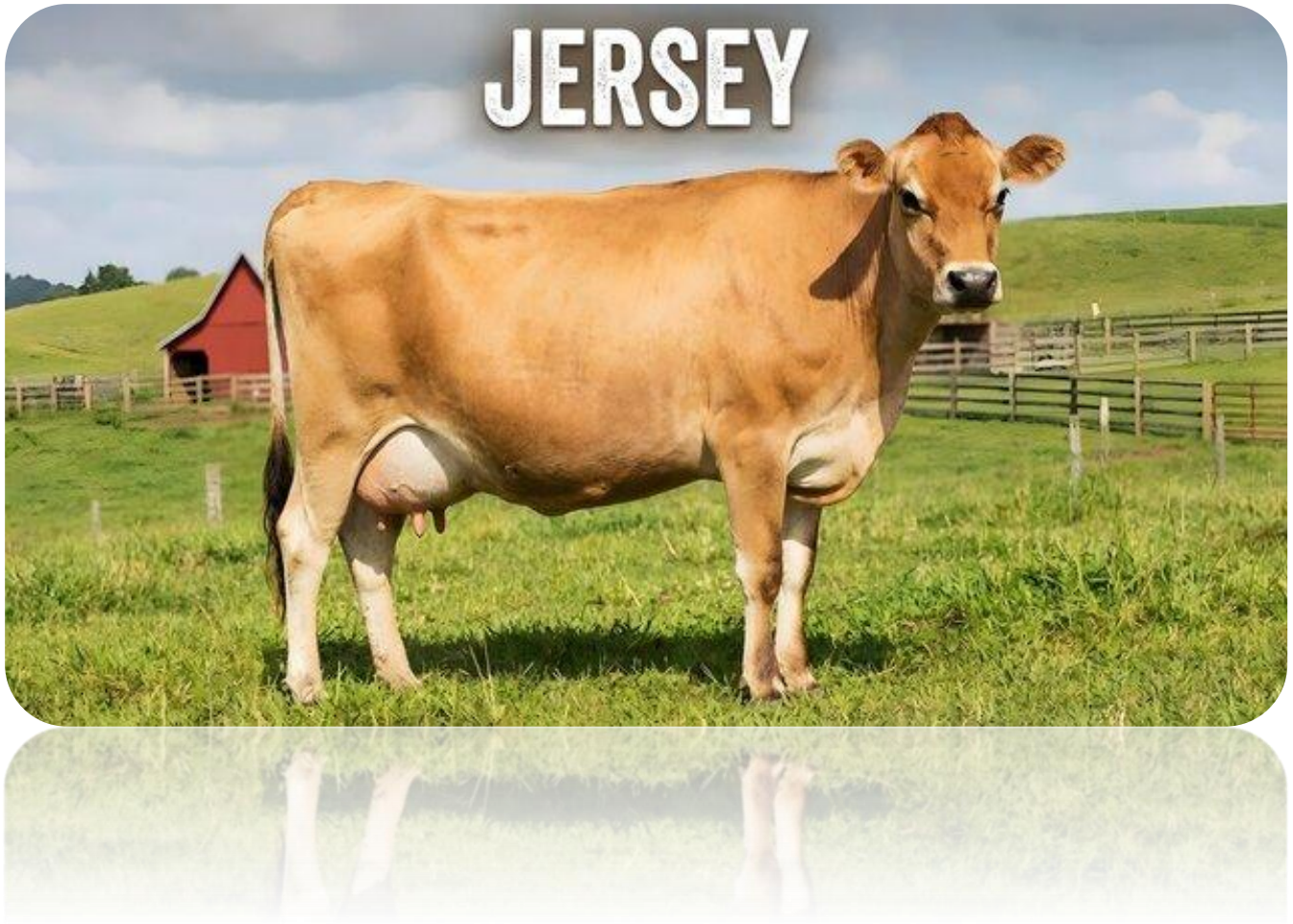
  (b) in a case of a non-registered Jersey cow, be supported by documentation of an inspection by an official of the Jersey Breeders Society acknowledging that the said animal qualifies phenotypically as being pure Jersey bred.



Proposed Draft Registered Jersey Milk MCS

- Overall **phenotype of a Jersey cow** as supporting evidence during inspections.

- **Genomic analysis** shall **be mandatory** for every animal in the **absence of documentary** that proofs authenticity of the breed claim and/or fraud is suspected.



Proposed Draft Registered Jersey Milk MCS

- **Milk segregation** - Jersey milk is kept separate from milk originating from non-qualifying cattle.
- **Traceability** - Marketed Jersey milk can be traced back to the qualifying herd.
- **Mass balance** - Quantities of Jersey milk sold are consistent with the production capacity of the qualifying herd.



Proposed Documentary and Traceability Requirements

- **Breed registration records** for qualifying animals.
- **Animal identification** and **herd records** linking animals to milk production.
- **Milk collection** and **delivery records** identifying the source of Jersey milk.
- **Records** demonstrating **segregation** of Jersey milk from other milk.
- **Processing** and **production records**.
- **Mass-balance reconciliation** from milk received to product manufactured.

Why Register Jersey Milk as an MCS?

Integrity

Protect the credibility of the Jersey Milk claim.

Consistency

Apply consistent national requirements.

Traceability

Demonstrate movement of milk through the value chain.

Consumer confidence

Provide assurance that the claim is substantiated.

Industry assurance

Create an auditable framework for legitimate producers.

Expected Benefits

Consumers

Greater confidence that the Jersey Milk claim is substantiated.

Producers

Recognition and protection for legitimate Jersey milk production.

Processors

Clear sourcing, traceability and verification requirements.

Regulator / auditor

Consistent, measurable and enforceable control requirements.

Dairy industry

A credible assurance framework supporting claim integrity and market confidence.

Milk South Africa
Melk Suid-Afrika

STANDARD DAIRY AGENCY



Thank you for your attention

Thabang Rampa

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