

Is FSSAI Overlooking Milk's Salience in its HFSS or Health Star rating algorithm on FOPNL?

FSSAI is working to integrate ICMR-NIN thresholds for HFSS foods into its labelling regulations and is exploring multiple front-of-pack nutrition labelling (FOPNL) formats, including Health Star Rating, Nutri-Score, Warning Labels, and Multiple Traffic Lights. It has proposed the Indian Nutrition Rating (INR), which assigns ½ to 5 stars to packaged foods, similar to HSR, to indicate healthiness on the front of the pack. Drafts and consultations are ongoing.



The ICMR-NIN guidelines define HFSS foods as those with excessive added oils, fats, sugar, or salt. However, rating algorithms that penalize total saturated fat or sugar may unfairly disadvantage foods like milk, which naturally contain these nutrients. Rigid thresholds risk giving nutritionally beneficial foods poor ratings, despite their contribution to a balanced diet.

In this regard, the Indian Dairy Association organized an exclusive webinar on "**Front-of-Pack Nutrition Labelling (FOPNL) - Implications for Milk and Milk Products**" on August 29, 2025. The webinar aimed to discuss the implications of the FOPNL Health Star Rating (HSR) proposed by FSSAI for dairy products. The Keynote Address was delivered by Dr. R.S. Sodhi, President, IDA. Eminent speakers included Dr. Jashbhai B. Prajapati, Chairman, IDA (West Zone); Shri Kalpam Chauhan, Lead - Scientific & Regulatory Affairs, Mother Dairy Fruits and Vegetables Pvt. Ltd.; Shri Pradip Narayan Das, Head - QA, Heritage Foods Ltd.; Shri R. Mohan, Head - QA, Dodla Dairy Ltd.; and Shri Kuldeep Sharma, Founder, Suruchi Consultants, who also moderated the webinar.

Experts shared their valuable insights through thought-provoking presentations in the webinar. During the session, they explained what HFSS is and how it classifies healthy foods like milk and curd. They also highlighted how the food matrix salience is ignored in the star rating system. An example comparing paneer with tofu was discussed. One important point raised during the Webinar that certain dairy-

based flavoured milks are getting similar star ratings (3-star) as energy drinks, which seems counter-intuitive given their nutritional profiles. The complete webinar, along with expert presentations, is available for members and readers on IDA's YouTube channel.

Visit <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nfM5FcD-AOQ>

One-Day Seminar on Dairy Development in Northern Karnataka Organized at Dairy Science College, Kalaburagi



A one-day Seminar on "**Dairy Development in Northern Karnataka - The Way Forward**" was jointly organized by IDA Karnataka State Chapter (KSC); Dairy Science College, Mahagaon Cross, Kalaburagi; Kalaburagi, Bidar & Yadgir Milk Union at the Dairy Science College Campus, Mahagaon Cross, Kalaburagi on 12th September 2025. Prior to this, IDA KSC inaugurated its State Chapter Office.

The inaugural function was formally inaugurated by the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor of KVAFSU, Dr. K.C. Veeranna, in the presence of distinguished dignitaries. The Guests of Honour included Dr. H.M. Jayaprakash, Board Member; Shri Basavaraj, Board Member; Dr. Satish Kulkarni, Chairman, IDA South Zone and Mentor of IDA KSC; and Dr. Manjunatha H., Dean, Dairy Science College, Mahagaon Cross, Kalaburagi.



Shri N.B. Marathe, Chairman, IDA KSC, welcomed the gathering. Dr. Manjunatha H., Dean, delivered the thematic address, emphasizing the role of science, technology, and cooperative synergy. Dr. P.V. Patil, Managing Director, Kalaburagi-Bidar-Yadgir Milk Union, presented the Keynote Address, focusing on farmer-centric strategies, milk procurement, and cooperative sustainability. Dr. Satish Kulkarni, Chairman, IDA South Zone, inspired all stakeholders to work collectively toward making Karnataka a national leader in dairying. The Vote of Thanks was proposed by Shri Vijayeendra Venkatesh Rao Deshpande, Secretary, IDA KSC.

The Seminar featured three sessions—two technical and one commercial. The deliberations opened with **Technical Session I**, chaired by Dr. N.V. Belavadi, Former Executive Director, NDDDB, with co-chairs Shri Tippeswamy, Manager, Belagavi Milk Union, and Dr. S.S. Hosamani, Retired Professor. The session explored strategies to develop Bidar as a potential milk hub for North Karnataka. Dr. S.S. Hiremath emphasized the importance of breed improvement, fodder security, and cooperative development to strengthen the region's dairy base. Dr. B.R. Athani, Dairy Scientist, highlighted the significant role of buffaloes in dairy development, noting their contribution to high-fat milk. He stressed the need for value addition, healthcare interventions, and a separate procurement policy for buffalo milk to maximize farmer benefits.

Shri Sudarshan Reddy, Dairy Marketing Specialist, addressed the importance of branding, value addition, and efficient distribution systems to ensure farmer profitability. Summing up, Dr. Belavadi observed that combining production enhancements, buffalo integration, and modern marketing strategies could enable Northern Karnataka to emerge as a strong dairy hub.

Technical Session II, chaired by Dr. P.A. Shankar, Former Director of Instructions, KVAFSU, with co-chair Shri Kodiyal Math, Retired Managing Director, Dharwad Milk Union, shifted the focus to innovation, entrepreneurship, and food safety. Shri B.S. Siddegowda, Managing Director, Dempo Dairy Industries Ltd., Asangi, underscored the need to diversify into specialized products such as paneer, probiotic curd, and regional delicacies like kalakand and karadanttu. Dr. S. Subash, Senior Scientist, ICAR-NDRI, Bengaluru, encouraged dairy graduates to explore self-employment and entrepreneurial opportunities in processing, feed supply, and allied services. Shri M.D. Ziaullah, Deputy Manager, Gulbarga Milk Union, emphasized the importance of strict adherence to FSSAI regulations and quality assurance systems. Dr. N.K.S. Gowda, Dean, Veterinary College, Bengaluru, addressed the critical issue of aflatoxins in milk, outlining their dangers and offering preventive measures at both farm and factory levels. In his concluding remarks, Dr. Shankar noted that the session effectively demonstrated how innovation, entrepreneurship, regulation, and food safety together are crucial for ensuring consumer trust and farmer prosperity.

The Commercial Session, chaired by Prof. B.V. Venkateshaiah, Former Dean, Dairy Science College, Bengaluru, and Former Director of Instructions (PGS), KVAFSU, with co-chair Shri B.N. Vijayakumar, Former Managing Director, Mysore, brought industry perspectives to the fore. Shri Aniruddha Pisal, Dairy Quality Expert, showcased advanced analytical systems that ensure purity and safety in milk and milk products. Shri Maheshwar Varma, Dairy Technologist, presented innovations in sustainable, energy-efficient instant chilling, designed to maintain milk quality and minimize losses. Summing up, Prof. Venkateshaiah praised the industry partners for providing practical, technology-driven solutions and emphasized that the adoption of

quality testing tools and energy-efficient systems would modernize dairy operations while safeguarding farmer interests.

The entire programme was efficiently coordinated by the faculty members, non-teaching staff, and students of the Dairy Science College, Mahagaon Cross, under the guidance of Dean Dr. H. Manjunatha.

The seminar sessions were conducted by Dr. R. Devaraju, Shri Madhusudan, and Shri Aksyakumar, ensuring smooth transitions and effective coordination.

The inaugural function proceedings were managed by Ms. Basava Bharti, Ms. Poornima, Dr. Preetam Reddy, Dr. Adarsh Kalla, Dr. Shashikumar, and other faculty and staff members, whose meticulous efforts contributed significantly to the success of the event.

Special appreciation was extended for the excellent lunch arrangements made by the Dairy Science College, which were highly praised by all delegates and guests.

The inaugural function and seminar successfully combined institutional strengthening with knowledge sharing. With active contributions from academia, milk unions, industry representatives, students, and teaching as well as non-teaching staff, the sessions outlined a clear roadmap for Northern Karnataka's dairy growth. The chairpersons' expert concluding remarks ensured that every session ended with well-defined directions, reinforcing the collective vision for sustainable and profitable dairy development.

Release of Brochure and Logo of Southern Dairy and Food Conclave, SDFC-2026, Kerala

The Indian Dairy Association - Kerala State Chapter (KSC) is proud to announce the second edition of the Southern Dairy Summit, re-envisioned as the Southern

Dairy and Food Conclave 2026 (SDFC-2026). The conclave will be held from January 8 to 10, 2026, in the historic city of Kozhikode (Calicut), Kerala. The chosen venue, Calicut Trade Centre, will be ceremonially renamed Verghese Kurien Nagar during the event, in honour of Padma Vibhushan Dr. Verghese Kurien, the visionary architect of India's White Revolution and a proud son of Kozhikode. This year's conclave marks a milestone by bringing Dairy alongside Food as a core theme, recognizing the vital interconnection between these two sectors in ensuring nutrition, sustainability, and economic growth. The event will serve as a premier platform for industry leaders, researchers, policymakers, entrepreneurs, and farmers to exchange knowledge, showcase innovations, and shape the future of dairy and food systems.

The first announcement and Logo of SDFC-2026 were officially released on September 15, 2025, at 2:00 pm by Honourable Vice Chancellor, Kerala Veterinary and Animal Sciences University Dr. Anil K. S. and Registrar Dr. P. Sudheer Babu. The function was further enriched by the gracious presence of distinguished dignitaries, including Dr. P.I. Geeverghese, Dr. C.T. Sathian. Dr. S.N. Rajakumar, Ms. Aysha C.H., and Dr. Aparna S.V., whose support is significant to the occasion. The theme of the Conference - **"Transforming Dairy and Food Systems for Global Health"** underscores the critical role that sustainable dairy and food systems play in improving health outcomes globally and regionally.

Key Highlights of SDFC-2026:

January 8, 2026 - Pre-Conference Day:

Student and research paper presentations, young scientist forums, startup showcases in dairy and food, and innovative business idea sessions.

January 9-10, 2026 - Main Conclave:

Techno-commercial presentations, scientific sessions, poster discussions, farmer-interactive forums, and a comprehensive display of dairy and food products, equipment, and innovations.

Padma Talk:

A special commemorative session, **"Padma Talk,"** will be organized to honour Dr. Verghese Kurien and his enduring legacy.



...continue on Page 54

...continue from Page 50

Registration details

Categories	Early Bird registration November 30 (Rupees)	Late From December 1 (Rupees)	On spot Registration (Rupees)
IDA Non Member	4000	5000	8000
IDA Member	3000	4000	5000
Farmers/Students/ IDA Senior Citizens (>60 Years)	2000	3000	4000
One day Registration for UG and PG students only for pre-conference Day	1200		
Note: 1. The fees are inclusive of GST @18%. GST No. 32AAAT10442A2ZL 2. Fellows / Patrons / Dr. Kurien awardees are exempted from payment of registration fee. Early bird discount up to 30th November 2025. Those who intend to register are advised to complete the process at the earliest. Students will have to upload/produce a certificate from college/ID card, while Sr. Citizens may upload / produce an Aadhar card / Proof of Date of Birth. Bank Details: Name of Account. SOUTHERN DAIRY AND FOOD CONCLAVE 2026 (SDFC-2026) Bank Name: State Bank of India Branch: Ollukkara Account Type: Current Account No.: 4424070234-9 IFSC Code: SBIN0070210			

Sponsorship Tariffs

Platinum	15.00 lakhs
Diamond	10.00 lakhs
Gold	7.50 lakhs
Silver	5.00 lakhs
Bronze	2.50 lakhs

The amount is exclusive of GST. All sponsors are eligible for freebies.

For further information regarding sponsorship and official communications, please contact: sdfckerala@gmail.com or idakeralachapter@gmail.com

Training Programme on “Costing and Material Balance in Dairy” Conducted at Coimbatore by IDA Tamil Nadu Chapter

The Indian Dairy Association (IDA), Tamil Nadu Chapter, conducted a two-day training programme on "Costing and Material Balance in Dairy" on 29th and 30th August

2025 at Coimbatore. It was organized in association with NextGen Techcorp Consulting Pvt. Ltd. The training programme drew active participation from dairy professionals, cooperative executives, and private dairy entrepreneurs.

The sessions provided a comprehensive overview of costing, cost management, material balancing, and critical control points in milk procurement, processing, and sales. Participants also engaged in hands-on exercises on business plan preparation and Excel-based costing tools, enabling them to perform accurate cost and contribution analysis.

The faculty comprised Shri C.P. Charles, Central Executive Committee Member, IDA (New Delhi), and Shri K.S. Kanna, Chairman, IDA Tamil Nadu Chapter, who shared their vast experience through interactive lectures, case studies, and practical demonstrations. The bilingual delivery in Tamil and English ensured clarity and inclusivity for all attendees.

Participants received a training handbook, stationery, and structured learning material, and discussions focused on addressing real-time challenges faced by dairies.



The programme concluded with encouraging feedback.

Shri Krishnan, Managing Director, New Kwaliti Dairy, remarked: "The training gave us a clear framework to analyze our dairy operations financially. The Excel-based costing exercises were particularly valuable." Similarly, Mr. Prince Ranjith Singh, Ponlait, Pondicherry, added, "Material balance and cost efficiency are critical for profitability. The programme has given us tools we can apply immediately in our cooperative."

In valedictory address, Shri K.S. Kanna emphasized the importance of such training initiatives in equipping dairy professionals with modern management tools and enhancing the competitiveness of the sector. He expressed gratitude to the faculty and participants for their wholehearted involvement in making the event a success.

The two-day programme concluded with participants committing to apply the learnings in their organizations. With initiatives like this, the IDA Tamil Nadu Chapter continues to play a pivotal role in advancing professional skill development and promoting sustainable growth in the dairy industry.

NATIONAL News

GST Rate Cut to Spur Demand in Rs 19 lakh Cr Dairy Industry: Government

In a landmark move to strengthen India's dairy sector, the 56th GST Council, in its meeting held on 3rd September 2025 approved sweeping tax rationalizations on milk and milk products. These reforms mark one of the most comprehensive overhauls of GST rates in the sector, ensuring that most dairy products are now either exempt

from tax or attract only a 5% rate.

Under the revised structure, effective from September 22, 2025, the following dairy items now enjoy lower or zero tax rates:

- Ultra High Temperature (UHT) milk - GST reduced from 5% to Nil
- Paneer / Chhena (Pre-packaged and labelled) - GST reduced from 5% to Nil
- Butter, ghee, and dairy spreads - GST reduced from 12% to 5%
- Cheese - GST reduced from 12% to 5%
- Condensed milk - GST reduced from 12% to 5%
- Beverages containing milk GST reduced from 12% to 5%
- Ice cream - GST reduced from 18% to 5%
- Milk cans - GST reduced from 12% to 5%

This significant tax rationalization is expected to boost the dairy sector and extend benefits to both farmers and consumers, contributing to the overall socio-economic development in the country. The reform will directly benefit over 8 crore rural farmer families, particularly small, marginal and landless labourers engaged in rearing milch animals for their livelihoods, while also supporting a large segment of consumers. Lower taxation will help reduce operational costs, curb adulteration, and enhance the competitiveness of the Indian dairy products in both domestic and export markets.

India is the world's largest milk producer, with an output of 239 million tonnes in 2023-24, accounting for about 24% of global milk production. The dairy industry is not only a cornerstone of the agricultural economy but also plays a vital role in ensuring food security, enhancing rural livelihoods, and generating employment for millions. As the single largest agricultural commodity, dairy contributes 5.5% to the national economy. Milk and milk products make up the largest share of value in the

livestock sub-sector, with the value of milk output reaching Rs.12.21 lakh crores at current prices in 2023-24. The overall market size of the Indian dairy sector is estimated at Rs.18.98 lakh crores in 2024. These recent GST reforms will give a major boost in further enhancing productivity and competitiveness of the sector while ensuring sustainable livelihoods.

First India Cheese Festival 2025 Showcases Innovation, Diversity, and Global Aspirations of Indian Dairy Sector

Indian National Committee of the International Dairy Federation in association with the Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying, Ministry of FAHD, and NDDDB, inaugurated the first Indian Cheese festival at Anand.

The event was graced by eminent leaders:- Dr. Meenesh Shah, Chairman, NDDDB & Member Secretary, INC-IDF; Dr. Dheer Singh, Director, NDRI; Dr. Suneeta Pinto, Principal, SMC College of Dairy Science; Dr. R.S. Sodhi, President, Indian Dairy Association; Shri S. Regupathi & Shri S. Rajeev, Executive Directors, NDDDB; Shri Dayanand Sawant, Deputy Commissioner, Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying along with senior officials, NDDDB subsidiaries, and distinguished guests.

The inaugural session began with the traditional Lighting of the Lamp, followed by an exclusive exhibition hosted by NDDDB with 17 exhibitors showcasing nearly 50 varieties of cheese - from regional specialties to modern artisanal innovations.

In his address, **Dr. Meenesh Shah** said the festival's significance is enhanced by NDDDB's Diamond Jubilee and the International Year of Cooperatives. India, the world's largest milk producer with 25% of global output and 80 million farmers, has seen rapid cheese growth @20% CAGR-driven by lifestyle changes. Cheese, rich in fat and protein, is now central to dairy value addition.

The festival highlights India's growing cheese range for domestic and global markets. Government programmes like the Rashtriya Gokul Mission, White Revolution 2.0, NPDD, and GST exemptions are spurring growth. A milestone is NDDDB subsidiary IDMC's new Ready-to-Use Culture plant in Anand, built with indigenous strains to support large-scale dairy fermentation under Make in India.

Dr. Shah noted the Government's push for Indian participation in global cheese festivals and reaffirmed NDDDB's commitment to innovation, training, and technology, expressing hope for stronger global recognition of India's dairy products.

Dr. Dheer Singh, Director, NDRI spoke about the historical roots of cheese, noting it as possibly the first food product made from milk. He also discussed the benefits of cheese and emphasised its importance in the Indian diet. Furthermore, Director, NDRI pointed out that while cheese consumption is high, the demand is stagnant in countries like the UK and the US. He stressed the need for India to explore cheese as a viable option, suggesting significant potential for growth and innovation in the Indian context.

Ms. Suneeta Pinto, Principal, SMC College of Dairy Science highlighted the need for sensory evaluation when it comes to cheese and highlighted the importance of such festivals in spreading awareness about the diversity and variety offered by the Indian cheese sector.

Dr. R. S. Sodhi, President, Indian Dairy Association, spoke about the importance of including cheese in the meals of every Indian and how it must become more popular in our cuisine. He expressed gratitude to NDDDB for the constant support and stressed that such events are necessary for expanding the organised sector in the Indian cheese industry.

Event concluded on a celebratory note at NDDDB, Anand. Bengaluru Milk Union won the prize in the Ripened Cheddar Cheese (6 months) category, while Mother





Dairy Fruit and Vegetable Ltd. (Mother Dairy) and Indarpur Dairy and Milk Products Ltd. jointly won in the Unripened Mozzarella Diced category. Vivanda Gourmet (Elefteria Cheese) emerged as a double winner, securing awards for Innovative Belper Knolle Style Cheese Kaali Mari and Non-cow Milk Cheese (Fetta). Churpi.in was recognised in the Artisanal Cheeses of India (Traditional) category for Churpi.

In his closing remarks, Dr. Meenesh Shah, Chairman, NDDDB, emphasised the need for the organised dairy sector to increase its market share in cheese, noting the growing opportunities in India's evolving dairy landscape.

Shri Naresh Pal Gangwar Takes Charge as Secretary, AH&D, Govt. of India

Shri Naresh Pal Gangwar, IAS, Rajasthan Cadre 1994 batch has taken over as the Secretary, Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying, Ministry of Fisheries, Govt. of India on 1st September, 2025. Previously, he was holding the post of Additional Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.



President-IDA Dr. Sodhi and Hatsun Agro Product Ltd's Chairman, Shri Chandramogan met him recently to extend their congratulations.

Shri Gangwar was the Principal Secretary, Government of Rajasthan and was instrumental in

initiating key policies for development of solar energy in the initial phase of National Solar Mission between 2010 and 2014.

He is a Bachelor of Technology in Electronics & Communications from IIT, Roorkee, and holds Master's degrees in Communication and Radar Engineering from IIT, Delhi, and in Economics from University of Rajasthan.

India Unveils First National Guidelines for Animal Blood Transfusion and Blood Banks

The Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying (DAHD) under the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying released the "Guidelines and Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for Blood Transfusion and Blood Banks for Animals in India". Blood transfusion is globally recognized as a life-saving intervention, essential for managing trauma, severe anaemia, surgical blood loss, infectious diseases, and coagulation disorders in animals. Yet, until now, India lacked a comprehensive national framework for veterinary transfusion medicine. Most animal transfusions were performed in emergencies, without standardized donor screening, blood typing or storage protocols. These Guidelines/SOPs bridge this critical gap by providing a scientific, ethical, and structured framework for donor selection, blood collection, component processing, storage, transfusion procedures, monitoring, and safety safeguards in animals. Developed after wide consultations with the Veterinary Council of India, veterinary universities, ICAR institutes, state governments, practicing veterinarians, and experts, the document also aligns India's practices with global best standards.

The Guidelines and SOPs focus on establishing state-regulated veterinary blood banks with biosafety-compliant infrastructure and standardized procedures. They mandate blood typing, cross-matching, and strict donor eligibility criteria covering health, vaccination, age, weight, and disease screening. Voluntary, non-remunerated donations with informed consent are emphasized, supported by a Donor Rights Charter. One Health principles are integrated to manage zoonotic risks. Standardized SOPs, forms, and checklists ensure proper donor registration, transfusion monitoring, and adverse reaction reporting. The framework outlines a National Veterinary Blood Bank Network (N-VBBN) with digital registries, real-time inventory tracking, and an emergency helpline. Training modules are incorporated into BVSc & AH curricula, postgraduate programs, and Continuing Veterinary Education.

Looking ahead, these guidelines encourage innovation through mobile blood collection units, cryopreservation

for rare blood types, mobile applications for donor-recipient matching, and advanced transfusion research.

India's livestock and companion animal sectors are among the largest and most diverse in the world, comprising over 537 million livestock and more than 125 million companion animals. Together, the sector contributes 5.5% to the national GDP and over 30% to agricultural GDP, serving as a cornerstone for food security, rural livelihoods and public health. With advancements in veterinary diagnostics and therapeutics, there is a rising demand for specialized emergency veterinary care, particularly blood transfusion support across species.

The release of these guidelines marks a significant milestone in India's veterinary healthcare ecosystem strengthening clinical care, saving animal lives, protecting rural livelihoods, and advancing the cause of animal welfare nationwide. Developed as an advisory and non-statutory framework, the document will remain dynamic, evolving with new scientific evidence, field experiences and stakeholder feedback while ensuring the highest standards of animal welfare, biosafety and public confidence.

MoU Inked to Boost Quality Forage Seed for Dairy - Rasi & ICAR-IGFRI

Rasi Seeds has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with ICAR-IGFRI (Indian Council of Agricultural Research - Grassland & Fodder Research Institute) in Jhansi to enhance the availability of quality forage seeds for dairy farmers. Under this partnership, Rasi (through its "Sira Seeds" brand) will commercialize two high-yielding ICAR-IGFRI varieties of berseem and oats. With over 2.5 million hectares currently under cultivation of these forage crops in India, the initiative aims to address the ongoing fodder gap, improve livestock nutrition, increase milk yields, and reduce feed costs, especially in winter seasons. The move aligns with the government's vision of "White Revolution 2.0" focused on sustainable inputs for dairy.

Dairy farm economics depend heavily on forage availability; feed (especially green fodder) is often one of the largest recurring costs. By improving varietal performance (yield, nutritional quality) of berseem and oats, this MoU can contribute to lowering feed-cost per litre of milk, improving milk productivity. Over time, this could make neighborhoods around Jhansi / IGFRI's influence zones more self-sufficient in fodder supply, reducing pressure to import or transport fodder long distances. For maize in particular (used for silage or grain in feed rations), easing of fodder supply may shift demand patterns: dairy farms may rely less on maize for forage or supplemental feed if quality green fodder

becomes cheaper and more available. Thus, the MoU has the potential to moderate the load on maize in the feed mix, particularly in winter or dry seasons when forage is usually scarce.

Hon'ble Governor of Manipur Unveils New brand name, Logo, Milk & Milk Products for Manipur Dairy

Shri Ajay Kumar Bhalla, Hon'ble Governor of Manipur, unveiled recently the new brand identity of the NDDB-managed Manipur Milk Producers' Co-operative Union Ltd, now known as 'Manipur Dairy', at Raj Bhavan, Imphal. The launch of the new logo and brand reflects a renewed vision of serving both farmers and consumers with professionalism and trust.

Marking the occasion, the Governor introduced a range of fresh products - Cow Special Milk (500 ml), Health Plus Double Toned Milk (150 ml), Probiotic Curd, Special Lassi, and Cow Ghee. These products have been designed to meet consumer demand for health-oriented and value-added dairy offerings while boosting farmer incomes.

Several digital and infrastructure initiatives were also launched. The rollout of NDDB's Automated Milk Collection System and Dairy ERP platform will improve transparency in milk procurement and facilitate direct digital payments to producers. A 2 KL Bulk Milk Chilling Centre at Kakching was inaugurated to maintain quality and expand rural procurement. Additionally, five all-women Dairy Cooperative Societies with automated units and digital banking facilities were announced under White Revolution 2.0, aimed at empowering rural women and fostering entrepreneurship.

Shri Bhalla hailed the Government's decision to entrust NDDB with the Union's management as a "turning point" for the dairy sector in the State.

Shri Puneet Kumar Goel, Chief Secretary, Government of Manipur; Dr. Meenesh Shah, Chairman, NDDB along with senior officials from Government of Manipur; NDDB, Manipur Dairy and women dairy farmers of cooperative societies were present.

Dr. Meenesh Shah, Chairman, NDDB, reaffirmed NDDB's commitment to strengthening the Manipur Milk Producers' Co-operative Union Ltd. NDDB has extended financial and technical assistance, including a grant of Rs. 3 crore and an interest-free loan of Rs. 5 crore under the Revitalising Promising Producer-Owned Institutions (RPPOI) scheme. This support has enabled the Union to

...continue on Page 60

...continue from Page 58



clear farmer dues, upgrade processing facilities, and secure working capital.

Dr. Shah highlighted that NDDB has deployed senior officers in Imphal to oversee operations, waived management fees, and facilitated training visits for Manipur officials to dairies in Anand, Jharkhand, and West Bengal. Best practices in fodder, animal health, and manure management are also being introduced.

By October 2025, Manipur Dairy will begin supplying milk to the Assam Rifles, linking dairy development with national service. Plans are also underway to establish 'Milk & More' retail booths across towns to expand consumer reach and trust.

The rebranding marks a major step towards self-reliance in milk production, nutrition security, and sustainable livelihoods in Manipur.

Amul Cuts Prices of over 700 Products to Pass GST Rate Cut



The Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation (Amul) recently announced a reduction in retail prices of more than 700 product packs.

This decision was

taken to ensure the benefits of the GST rate cut reach the customer. It includes ghee, butter ice cream, bakery and frozen snacks. The new prices will be effective from September 22. Citing the low per capita consumption in India, it said that, "Amul believes the reduction in prices will spur consumption of a wide range of dairy products."

In a statement, Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation (GCMMF) announced revision in price list of more than 700 product packs, stating that the revision is across range of products, like butter, ghee, UHT milk, ice cream, cheese, paneer, chocolates, bakery range, frozen dairy and potato snacks, condensed milk, peanut spread, malt-based drink, etc.

Explore Now Citing the low per capita consumption in India, it said that, "Amul believes the reduction in prices will spur consumption of a wide range of dairy products, particularly ice cream, cheese and butter."

Owned by 36 lakh farmers, GCMMF, said the reduction in prices will boost demand for its dairy products, leading to growth in its turnover.

Mother Dairy Cuts Milk & Dairy Product Prices after GST Reform



Mother Dairy has announced a reduction in prices across its portfolio of dairy and processed products, effective 22 September 2025, following the recent GST reforms (GST 2.0) in

India. Key changes include: toned tetra-pack milk now priced at Rs.75/litre, down from Rs.77; a 500-g pack of butter reduced from Rs.305 to Rs.285; butterscotch cone ice cream lowered from Rs.35 to Rs.30. Products benefiting include butter, cheese, ghee, milkshakes, paneer and ice creams. Regular pouch milk remains unchanged, as it was already exempt from GST. Mother Dairy says its full portfolio now falls under either the zero tax bracket or the 5% GST slab.

Hatsun Expecting Rs.10,000 Cr Revenue this Fiscal: Shri Chandramogan

Hatsun Agro Product Ltd's Chairman, Shri R.G. Chandramogan, has expressed optimism that the company may cross Rs.10,000 crore in revenue during the current fiscal year (2025-26). He attributes this potential largely to recent policy reforms, including reductions in GST on dairy products, growing demand for value-added dairy items (cheese, UHT milk, etc.), and expansion in the company's processing and distribution capacities. If successful, this would mark one of Hatsun's strongest financial performances in recent years. Out of the total revenue, milk has the maximum share with 56 per cent; ice cream - 14-15 per cent; cultured products like paneer will be 18-19 per cent and the rest is from others, including cattle feeds. The company procures about 40 lakh litres of milk every day.

Heritage Foods Surges 7.86% After Slashing Dairy Product Prices



Heritage Foods Ltd shares jumped 7.86% recently after the company announced significant price cuts across its dairy portfolio, passing on

benefits from the recent GST rate revision. The company has reduced prices of UHT milk by Rs.3 per litre, ghee and butter by Rs.50 per litre/kg, cheese by Rs.50 per kg, and paneer by Rs.25 per kg. Ice cream prices have also been cut by Rs.35 for 950 ml packs and Rs.20 for 700 ml packs.

Heritage Foods said the move was aimed at making dairy products more affordable and boosting consumption ahead of the festive season. The price cuts will take effect from September 22, coinciding with the implementation of the new GST rates.

Market experts said the announcement could spur higher sales volumes but may also put competitive pressure on other dairy players to follow suit.

Parag Milk Shares Hit 7-Yr High, Surge 40% in September

Parag Milk Foods' stock price has rallied about 40% so far in September 2025, hitting a seven-year high of Rs. 316.50 on the BSE, its strongest since September 2018. Key catalysts include a recent GST cut on several dairy products effective from September 22, 2025 (bringing many from 12% / 5% down to 5%, in some cases to 0%), favourable margins, and rising demand for value-added dairy like cheese, ghee and UHT milk. Parag Milk's strong performance signals broader sector momentum in processed and value-added dairy segments. The GST rate cuts reduce costs for consumers and improve margins for companies, likely boosting demand for higher-margin products like cheese, paneer, UHT milk and sweets. For milk procurement, this could increase demand from processors, pushing up raw milk prices.



NDDB to Set Up 15 Biogas Plants to Convert Cow Dung to Energy

The National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) has announced plans to establish 15 biogas plants, each with 100 tonnes per day (TPD) dung processing capacity, across six Indian states. Under the scheme, farmers supplying cow dung to these plants will be paid up to Rs.1 per kilogram of supplied dung. The move, part of NDDB's push to transform cow dung from a waste product into clean fuel and bio-manure, is expected to generate renewable energy, support farmer incomes, and help manage cattle waste more effectively.

These biogas plants will yield compressed biogas (CBG) or biogas which can be cleaned / upgraded for cooking, transport, or electricity generation. The residual slurry after digestion is a valuable organic fertilizer. This dual output ensures environmental and economic returns.

Payment for dung supply (Rs.1/kg) offers dairy/cattle holders extra income streams. Even small-scale dairy farmers who produce modest dung outputs can benefit proportionally.

This initiative should reduce waste disposal costs for farms and curb environmental pollution, but it does not directly compete with maize or other feed grains. Cow dung as feedstock is separate from feed grain supply chains. Thus, this policy is unlikely to affect maize demand directly, though indirectly it could free up capital or farmer effort that might otherwise go into feed inputs.

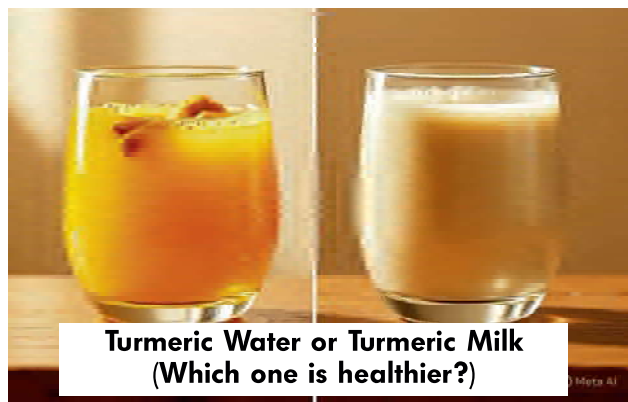
Turmeric Water or Turmeric Milk - When Each Delivers the Best Benefits

Turmeric, long valued in Ayurvedic medicine for its antioxidant, anti-inflammatory, and antimicrobial properties, is popularly consumed today in two simple forms: turmeric water and turmeric milk. Each has distinct advantages depending on how it's prepared and what health outcome one seeks.

A study by Raghavendhar R. Kotha *et al*/(2022) found that warm dairy milk extracts significantly more curcuminoids from turmeric compared to water. At room temperature, dairy milk yields 6.76-9.75 mg/g, which rises to 11.7-14.9 mg/g when warmed. By contrast, ambient water extracts only about 0.55 mg/g; warm water improves that to about 2.42 mg/g.

...continue on Page 64

...continue from Page 62



Health implications differ:

Turmeric water, often taken first thing in the morning, supports hydration, gentle detox, digestive health, and metabolism. Its effect is lighter, especially lacking in fat which is needed for better curcumin absorption.

Turmeric milk, especially warm dairy milk, tends to perform better for stronger therapeutic goals-reducing inflammation, soothing sore throats during illness, boosting immunity, and even encouraging restful sleep. However, it is higher in calories and may not be suitable for those with lactose intolerance.

Experts suggest using both, depending on the time of day and health priorities: water-based turmeric in the morning for light wellness, and turmeric milk in the evening for more restorative benefits.

CM Revanth Reddy Hails TGDDCF's Progress Under Gutha Amith Reddy's Leadership



Hon'ble Chief Minister of Telangana, Shri A. Revanth Reddy, extended greetings to Sri Gutha Amith Reddy on the successful completion of one year as Chairman of the Telangana State Dairy Development Cooperative Federation (TGDDCF). The Chief Minister expressed satisfaction over the Federation's performance,

particularly timely milk payment releases and welfare measures for farmers. To mark the occasion, a major animal health camp was organized at Siddenki village in Jangaon district. The local Milk Producers Cooperative Society also distributed an annual dividend of Rs.1,00,000 among its farmer members. Further strengthening dairy development initiatives, Hon'ble Minister for Animal Husbandry, Dairy Development & Fisheries, Dr. Vakiti Srihari, visited Kamareddy Dairy on September 16, 2025. Accompanied by TGDDCF Chairman Sri Gutha Amith Reddy, he reviewed ongoing dairy activities in the district and interacted with stakeholders.

INTERNATIONAL News

International Dairy Market: USDA

As per the latest USDA data of September 1-12, 2025, international market overview are as follows:

EUROPEAN

Western European

The European Commission is forecasting EU milk deliveries to rise 0.15% in 2025, and herds to decline by about 1%. Gains come from higher yields and milk components (fat +0.2%; protein +0.1%). Strong prices help protect producer margins and high costs, but they are straining EU competitiveness against lower-cost exporters like New Zealand and the U.S.

Consolidation is accelerating in Europe's dairy sector as producers face tight margins, flat milk output, and mounting regulatory pressures. While farmers enjoyed strong profits early in 2025, concerns loom over potential U.S. tariffs and stricter EU water quality rules. Some European analysts are predicting Ireland's dairy herd could shrink by 18% under new nitrate limits, potentially cutting EU milk by 1.6 billion kilograms. Milk production already slipped in Q1, led by lower cow numbers in Northwestern Europe.

Euronext announced it will offer cash-settled dairy futures contracts next year based on European butter (82%) and food grade skim milk powder (originating from the Netherlands, Germany, France, Belgium, Denmark, and Ireland). The contracts are scheduled to launch in Q2 2026, pending regulatory approval. The contracts will be listed on the Euronext Paris Commodity Derivatives Market (MATIF).

Eastern Europe

Russian market milk production increased 2.6% in the first quarter of 2025, reaching 6.3 million tons.

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The largest gains came from agricultural enterprises (larger industrial livestock farms), where output rose 3.7% to 5.2 million tons; overall supplies remain ahead of 2024 levels.

OCEANIA DAIRY MARKET

New Zealand

Following Global Dairy Trade (GDT) event 387, a group in New Zealand that forecasts milk prices decreased their milk price forecast for the 2025/2026 season by 22 cents from \$10.27 per kilogram milk solids (kgMS) to \$10.05/kgMS. The spot value of milk decreased to \$10.32/kgMS from \$10.72/kgMS. The group noted prices for skim milk powder and whole milk powder were both below market expectations at GDT event 387, leading to a decline in the milk price forecast.

Earth Sciences New Zealand recently released their weather outlook for September-November. The outlook projects above normal temperatures for the spring months across the country, with normal to above normal rainfall anticipated across the North Island, and in the Nelson, Marlborough, and Tasman regions, and normal to below normal rainfall projected for the rest of the South Island. However, snow accumulation is expected in the Southern Alps in early September. Ocean temperatures in the equatorial Pacific are currently El Niño Southern Oscillation (ENSO) neutral, meaning temperatures are close to average, though cooler temperatures are developing, potentially signaling a shift to La Niña conditions toward the end of the calendar year. A La Niña pattern can result in increased rainfall events in New Zealand, though the outlook reports a 60 percent chance of such conditions developing between September and November. Elevated rainfall and higher than average sunlight throughout the Oceania winter months resulted in strong pasture growth conditions leading into spring.

Australia

Milk production data from Australia for July 2025 were recently released by Dairy Australia. These data show total July 2025 milk production was 556.1 million liters, down 23.3 million liters (4.0 percent) year over year. July milk production increased year over year in New South Wales (up 2.5 percent) and Queensland (up 3.2 percent), but decreased in all other states. Year-over-year production was down 5.1 percent in Victoria, 9.6 percent in South Australia, 7.9 percent in Western Australia, and 6.1 percent in Tasmania.

The August 2025 Production Inputs Monitor Report was recently released by Dairy Australia. August rainfall totals in Victoria, South Australia, and Tasmania were average or below average as drier conditions returned, while

New South Wales and Western Australia recorded above-average rainfall totals. Water storage levels improved from July, but remained significantly below year-ago levels. Hay prices decreased month over month based on optimism surrounding production conditions, while fertilizer prices remained elevated due to limited global supply. The number of cows culled in August decreased from July. Cull-cow prices increased, reflecting strong global demand for Australian beef.

Dairy Australia recently released export data for Australia showing milk export volumes in July 2025 totaled 15,587 metric tons, up 19.0 percent year over year.

With international support, Australia announced the development of an mRNA vaccine guarding cattle against foot and mouth disease (FMD), the first such vaccine for FMD. The vaccine was successfully tested in large animals. Once domestic production begins, the breakthrough will allow for rapid responses to future FMD outbreaks.

SOUTH AMERICA DAIRY MARKET

Milk production varies from steady to stronger throughout South America. Industry sources note Argentina milk production is up 12 percent year over year for the first half of 2025. More favorable feed costs, margins, and weather during 2025 is contributing to milk production increases for many South American countries. However, some stakeholders convey margins are starting to tighten and this may cause some slowdown in milk production growth for Q3/Q4. Aside from UHT (ultra-heat treatment) milk, for which prices are stable, milk prices are somewhat weaker.

Demands for skim milk powder (SMP) and whole milk powder (WMP) are mixed. Stakeholders indicate drying operations are more focused on WMP than SMP with seasonally higher milk volumes beginning. Algerian buyers are noted as more active than Brazilian buyers. Market tones are mixed for both WMP and SMP. Stakeholders anticipate SMP and WMP prices to weaken during the remainder of Q3 as milk production increases. Market tones for mozzarella cheese are somewhat bearish.

Global Dairy Quarterly Q3 2025: Milk Supply Growth on the Rise

Firm dairy product prices have pushed farmgate prices in New Zealand and Europe, rising 27% and 18% YOY, respectively. Well-supplied global feed markets have kept a lid on prices. Overall, good farmgate margins are supporting increased milk production, led by the US and New Zealand.

Firm dairy prices boost margins and milk output in key regions. Big-7 supply to peak in 2H 2025; demand

remains soft amid inflation and weak confidence.

Milk production across the Big-7 exporting regions will peak in 2H 2025, with growth continuing in 2026, but at a more moderate rate. On an annualized basis, milk supply in the Big 7 is forecast to increase by 1.6% in 2025 and 0.6% in 2026, resulting in a combined growth of 7.1 m metric tons across the two years. The slowdown in milk production growth in 2026 is largely due to strong year-on-year comparables.

In the US, milk production is gaining pace, on the back of herd expansion. In South America, milk collections are strong against weak comparables. The outlook across Europe is mixed, as a slow recovery is underway in regions affected by the bluetongue disease. Some regions are grappling with dry conditions, but supply growth in the EU is expected to be positive, led by Ireland and Poland.

The Oceania spring flush is fast approaching. October will be the peak volume month for both Australia and New Zealand. While Australia is facing a weaker spring peak due to feed shortages and a smaller herd, New Zealand has a solid footing for a strong peak. The forecast payout is currently set at a record high, and seasonal conditions are broadly ideal in many regions in Oceania.

Foodservice channels remain a key area to watch for demand settings. Foot traffic is sluggish in many major economies, and ongoing weakness in consumer confidence continues to weigh on discretionary spending among low- and middle-income consumers.

Dairy demand in grocery channels is also underwhelming in many countries. Households are paying more for dairy products, as inflation in the dairy aisles is on an upward trend in some regions.

New Zealand's Dairy Trade Soars in 2025

New Zealand's dairy industry is riding a wave of strong global demand and favourable domestic conditions. Fonterra, which produces 80% of the nation's milk, has raised its 2025/26 farmgate payout forecast to NZ\$10.00 per kg of milk solids, with production up 3.1% in the year to December 2024. Exports are expected to reach 1.49 billion kgMS, supported by whole milk powder prices surpassing US\$4,000 per metric tonne at Global Dairy Trade auctions.

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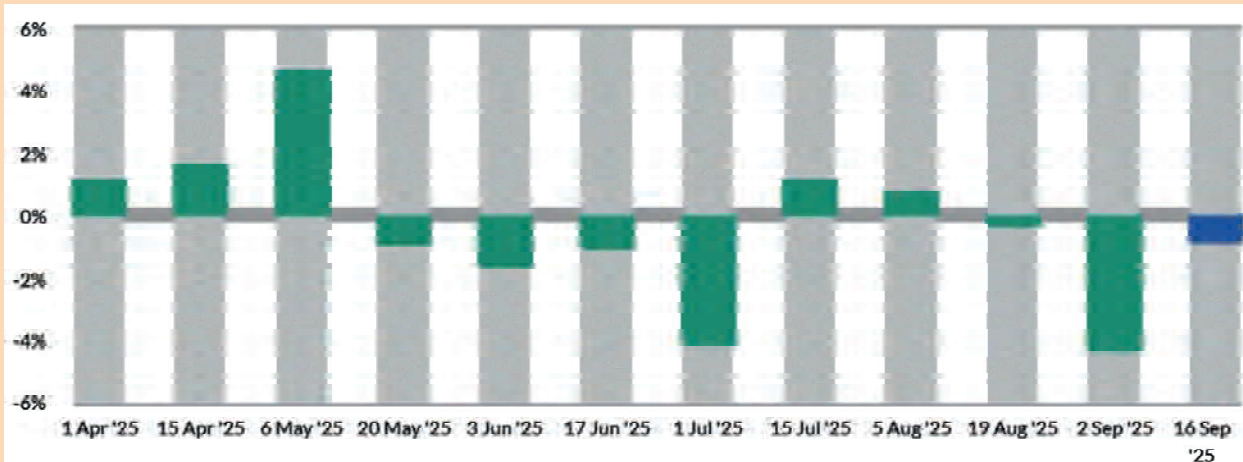
Dairy Market Softens with 0.8% Drop in GDT Index

On 16th September 2025, GDT Trading Event 388 recorded a 0.8% decline in the overall GDT Price Index. The average price landed at US \$4,041 per metric tonne. Among key product movements:- Mozzarella fell sharply 9.6% priced at \$3,860/MT; Anhydrous Milk Fat (AMF) down by 1.5% to \$6,802/MT; WMP and Butter declined by 0.8%, now at \$3,790/MT and \$6,892/MT respectively; Cheddar up by 2.2% to \$4,814/MT; SMP dropped by 0.3% to \$2,615/MT. The Trade Event witnessed participation from 165 registered bidders, with 123 emerging as winning

bidders across 20 competitive bidding rounds. Sellers offered between 36,884 MT and 44,757 MT of dairy products, with 39,093 MT successfully sold.

Whole milk powder (WMP) and skim milk powder (SMP) were among the weaker categories, while cheddar showed mixed performance.

The auction's modest fall comes against a backdrop of higher offered volumes and softer demand from several regions, reinforcing a cautious tone across international dairy markets.



...continue from Page 67

Trade reforms have played a key role. The resolution of the Canada-New Zealand dispute under CPTPP in July 2025 allows smoother access for butter, cheese, and milk powder, potentially adding NZ\$157 million annually. Domestic measures cutting export bureaucracy further speed market entry, enabling New Zealand to explore new opportunities, including a potential FTA with India.

Environmental concerns remain, particularly rising nitrate levels in Canterbury due to intensified farming. The industry is responding with precision irrigation, nutrient management, and emissions-reduction technologies to maintain productivity sustainably.

Analysts highlight that combining trade access, innovation, and ecological management positions New Zealand to maintain its global dairy leadership. With smart strategies, forward-looking farmers are set to capitalize on expanding markets and rising demand well into the next decade.

Tight Supply of Dairy Cow Replacements Could Limit Growth in US Milk Production

The US dairy industry is facing a significant shortage of milk cows, with the number of replacement heifers-young females intended to join the milking herd-at a 20-year low. According to CoBank research, this shortage could deepen over the next two years, with heifer inventories projected to fall by roughly 800,000 head before beginning to recover in 2027. This shortfall comes at a critical time, as the industry is seeing a historic \$10 billion investment in new dairy processing facilities expected to come online over the same period. These developments raise concerns about whether the nation's dairy herd can meet growing demand for milk and dairy components.

The decline in replacement heifers is closely tied to cattle market dynamics. Limited cattle supplies and record-high beef prices have prompted many dairy farmers to produce more calves for beef rather than milk. Historically, raising dairy heifers was often unprofitable due to low heifer values and high rearing costs. While heifer prices have surged in recent years, replenishing the milking herd remains a multi-year process, as it takes approximately two years for a newborn heifer to mature and enter the milk-producing herd.

Artificial insemination practices have accelerated the shift toward beef production. Most US dairy farmers breed their cows using artificial insemination, which allows for selection of both sex and breed. Many farmers have opted for beef semen to produce calves suitable for

beef markets. Data from semen sales reveal the extent of this trend: total US beef semen sales nearly tripled from 2.5 million units in 2017 to 7.2 million units in 2020, with the majority purchased by dairy farmers. By 2024, dairy farmers accounted for 7.9 million of 9.7 million beef semen units sold. This reflects the economic incentive for dairy operations to prioritize beef calf production amid tight cattle supplies and high beef prices.

To address the shortage of dairy heifers, farmers have adapted herd management strategies. Many have reduced cow culling to maintain herd numbers and have increasingly used gender-sorted semen to produce more female calves. Despite these efforts, rebuilding replacement heifer inventories will take time, and the shortage is expected to persist through 2026.

Corey Geiger, lead dairy economist at CoBank, notes that the industry is at a unique inflection point. Beef sales contribute an increasing share of dairy farm profitability, and the market for beef-on-dairy calves shows no signs of slowing. In the near term, maintaining sufficient milk cow numbers will require careful management, especially as new dairy processing plants increase demand for milk and its components, particularly butterfat and protein. Rebuilding the national herd to historic levels will require several years of strategic breeding and herd replenishment.

Overall, the US dairy industry faces the challenge of balancing economic incentives for beef production with the need to sustain milk supply. The shortage of replacement heifers, combined with rising milk demand from new processing facilities, presents a multi-year issue. While current management strategies-such as reduced culling and targeted breeding-can help stabilize production, full recovery of heifer inventories and national milk output will not occur until 2027 and beyond, making careful planning essential for the industry's near-term growth and sustainability.

Cornell, NGOs Launch Awards to Boost Dairy Sustainability

Cornell Atkinson Center and NGO partners (The Nature Conservancy, Clean Air Task Force, Environmental Defense Fund) have announced the inaugural Dairy Sustainability Awards. These are designed to fund research & action in reducing greenhouse gas emissions in the dairy industry. Projects selected include: improving calf nutrition, feed additives that reduce methane, manure digesters for biogas, and developing better emissions monitoring via satellites/aircraft. Funding increases with the number of NGO collaborators per project.

...continue on Page 72

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This initiative is a strong indicator of where dairy is headed globally: toward sustainability as not just a regulatory obligation, but a competitive differentiator. For farms, this means innovation investment will likely shift toward emissions reduction-feed additives, better calf diets, and using digesters-areas that were once "nice to have" but are now increasingly essential.

Rabobank's Global Dairy Top 20 Report Signals Shifts Ahead

Rabobank's latest Global Dairy Top 20 report reveals a modest yet stable growth outlook for the dairy sector-combined turnover among the top companies rose by 0.6% in 2024, with a projected increase of 0.5% in 2025 FoodBev Media+1. Despite overall steadiness, the competitive hierarchy is in motion: eight companies shuffled positions in the latest ranking, underscoring intensifying competition driven by shifting consumer tastes and efficiency gains FoodBev Media+1.

The real transformation, however, is poised for 2026, as a wave of mergers and acquisitions is set to reshape the global dairy landscape. Notable developments include: • The strategic merger between FrieslandCampina and Milcobel • A consolidation of Arla Foods and Deutsche Milchkontor (DMK) • Yoplait's

integration into Lactalis and Sodial. Unilever's divestment of its ice cream business, potentially making room for Magnum and Swiss giant Emmi to enter the Top 20.

Rank	Company	Approx. Revenue (USD, 2025)
1.	Lactalis (France)	\$31.9 billion
2.	Nestlé (Switzerland)	\$23.9 billion
3.	Dairy Farmers of America (USA)	\$23.0 billion
4.	Danone (France)	\$20.7 billion
5.	Yili (China)	\$15.8 billion
6.	Arla Foods (Denmark)	\$15.0 billion
7.	Fonterra (New Zealand)	\$14.7 billion
8.	FrieslandCampina (Netherlands)	\$14.0 billion
9.	Mengniu (China)	\$13.9 billion
10.	Saputo (Canada)	\$12.8 billion
11.	Amul (India)	\$11.0 billion
12.	Unilever (Global, ice cream / dairy segments)	\$8.7 billion
13.	Schreiber Foods (USA)	\$7.4 billion
14.	Savencia Fromage & Dairy (France)	\$7.4 billion
15.	Müller (Germany)	\$6.7 billion
16.	Sodial (France)	\$6.3 billion
17.	Agropur (Canada)	\$6.1 billion
18.	DMK Deutsches Milchkontor (Germany)	\$5.9 billion
19.	Froneri (Global ice cream co.)	\$5.7 billion
20.	Grupo Lala (Mexico)	\$5.6 billion

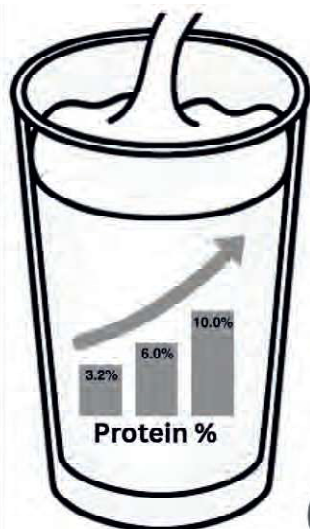
As market consolidation accelerates, dairy manufacturers must position themselves adeptly-focusing on strategic partnerships, product innovation (especially in premium, functional, and organic dairy categories), operational excellence, and sustainability to stay resilient in the face of evolving market dynamics.

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