



TASMANIAN DAIRY INDUSTRY AUTHORITY

New Regulations progress...

As previously advised the TDIA have been developing new Regulations under the *Primary Produce Safety Act 2011* (PPSA).

The main reason for new Regulations was that the existing *Dairy Industry Act 1994* offered little guidance to the TDIA in terms of regulating and enforcing food safety standards within the dairy industry in Tasmania.

As previously explained these new Dairy Regulations are not intended to apply increased expectations and/or requirements on farmers and/or dairy businesses, instead they are designed to assist the TDIA in being more efficient and effective, ensuring safe food continues to be produced and supplied to the community.

The new PPSA (Dairy) Regulations 2024...

The final version of the *Primary Produce Safety (Dairy) Regulations 2024* have been endorsed by the TDIA Board at its recent meeting. A copy can be found on the TDIA website at [Tasmanian Dairy Industry Authority | Tasmanian Dairy Industry Authority \(tdia.tas.gov.au\)](https://tdia.tas.gov.au)

What's included in the Regulations...

Preliminary

- Prescribe primary production activity
- Dairy food safety scheme
- Periodic fees and penalty for default
- Fees generally
- Application for accreditation to take into account offences under certain Acts

Dairy Food Safety Scheme

- Application of dairy food safety scheme
- Chief Inspector powers and functions designated to Authority
- Standard and code applying under dairy food safety scheme
- Requirement to be accredited
- Requirements for accreditation
- Requirement to prepare and implement a dairy food safety program
- Auditing requirements
- Register of accreditation

Offences

- Dairy products must be lawfully produced
- Infringement notices

Schedules

1. Fees and Penalties
2. Infringement Notice Offences

With the introduction of the new Regulations dairy transport businesses will become subject to licence fees, similar to those applied to all other stakeholders.

If you wish to discuss any aspect of the proposed new Regulations, please feel free to contact TDIA at enquiries@tdia.tas.gov.au.

Next Steps...

Following input from the Stakeholder Reference Group, the *Primary Produce Safety (Dairy) Regulations 2024* were finalised and are now proceeding through the normal Government processes to allow them to be enacted. It is likely after many years in the *drafting* stage, the new Regulations will come into effect during the spring session of State Parliament.



The Regulations will provide improved powers which will allow the TDIA to better regulate the industry.

The new Regulations will have minimal impact on the licence fees currently paid to the TDIA under the Dairy Industry Act 1994.

A Reminder - why are new Regulations necessary...

Q. Why is there a need for change?

A. The *Dairy Industry Act 1994* (DIA) was legislated before the deregulation of the industry, and when TDIA's role focused on buying all market milk in Tasmania and on-selling it to factories. Post deregulation in 2000, some sections of the DIA were repealed, however there has been no attempt to amend the Act to include the regulation of the industry in line with the requirements of Food Safety Regulations, which is now a primary focus of the TDIA.

Q. How will Regulations under the PPSA improve things?

A. At present, the TDIA needs to operate under both the *Food Act 2003* and the DIA, and options for effective regulation are limited. It is difficult to effectively regulate those who can potentially, by their actions, put the whole Tasmanian dairy industry at risk.

Q. Will my licence fees increase?

A. The TDIA Board has a policy it will only increase fees when required to directly support TDIA operations, and for those activities which focus on the regulation of the industry.