Dairy Sustainability Framework
5th Floor, Avenue Des Nerviens 9-31
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Belgium

www.dairysustainabilityframework.org

Global Criteria: Water Availability and Quality

Revision Date: December, 2018

Strategic Intent: Water availability, as well as water quality is managed responsibly throughout the dairy value chain.

Indicators:
1. Effluent management plan (EMP) adopted to minimize impacts to water quality;
2. Water use efficiency for production and processing is measured.

Theory of change: A well-developed effluent management plan will help maintain the quality of surface and groundwater by minimizing the negative impacts of effluent discharge containing organic matter, nutrients, salts, or chemicals and by minimizing erosion from effluent discharge. Measuring water use efficiency will allow farmers/facilities to benchmark water use and track improvements to help ensure water availability is managed responsibly.

Reporting Strategy: Each participating member organization that has prioritized this criterion will define what constitutes an EMP. Member organizations will report if they have implemented an EMP during the period. Member organizations report water use efficiency, measured as the volume of water (liters) required to produce a volume of product (kg) using the IDF Water Footprinting approach or similar methods. Reporting members must calculate the arithmetic mean plus the range (highest & lowest values) for each part of the supply chain within their organization (producer, processor, retail, etc.). Member organizations at processing level will report water use efficiency, measured as the amount of water (liters) required to produce a volume of product (kg), using the IDF Water Footprinting approach or similar methods. Members must calculate the arithmetic mean plus the range (highest and lowest values) for each part of the supply chain within their organization (producer, processor, retail, etc.).

Reporting Schedule: Baseline established 2017
Annual reporting period is calendar year (January 1- December 31)
Reports submitted to DSF by March 31 each subsequent year

Examples of resources for Effluent Management Plan development and water use efficiency:

International Dairy Federation (IDF) Water Footprint Approach
https://www.fil-idf.org/idf-standing-committee-environment/life-cycle-assessment/water-footprint/

Agriculture Victoria: Managing Dairy Shed Effluent
http://agriculture.vic.gov.au/agriculture/dairy/managing-effluent/managing-dairy-shed-effluent

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National Water Quality Management Strategy: Effluent Management Guidelines for Dairy Sheds in Australia, 1999
http://www.agriculture.gov.au/SiteCollectionDocuments/water/effluent-management-dairy-sheds.pdf

Effluent and Manure Management Database for the Australian Dairy Industry, 2008
http://www.dairyingfortomorrow.com.au/tools-and-guidelines/effluent-and-manure-management-%20%20database-for-the-australian-dairy-industry/

Dairy Australia Fert$mart Fertiliser Management Plan:
http://fertsmart.dairyingfortomorrow.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2013/05/PM.16.001-F.-Smart-Soil-Fertiliser-Management-Plan.-Example-1.pdf

Dairying for Tomorrow Smarter Irrigation for Profit:
http://www.dairyingfortomorrow.com.au/tackling-specific-issues/water/smarter-irrigation-for-profit/

https://geocatch.asn.au/funding-opportunities/dairy-effluent-management/