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Super dairy farm now operational

President Hifikepunye Pohamba recently officially inaugurated the Aimab Super dairy farm situated just outside Mariental in Namibia. The farm was built at a cost of N\$120 million by Namibia Dairies, a subsidiary of the Ohlthaver & List group of companies.

The Aimab super dairy farm already produces 30 000 litres of milk per day from about 1 000 cows, accounting for approximately 50% of the country's milk needs. The farm was built with technology from Israel and South Africa.

The farm has four cow houses accommodating 400 dairy cows each. Next to the milk production plant, some 250 hectares are being cultivated to produce fodder for the cows. About 30 000 tons of fodder is required annually. According to Namibia Dairies, farmers nearby will also be contracted to produce lucerne and hay for silage.

The Development Bank of Namibia and the Agricultural Bank of Namibia (Agribank) funded the project. – *New Era*

Dairy body warns of fake products

Uganda's Dairy Development Authority (DDA) has warned the public against buying and consuming fake milk powder. The market has been filled with adulterated milk products of Nido, which are packaged in old tins. Agnes Baguma, DDA head of quality control, said: "The seals to the product in question have been tampered with and resealed using super glue."

Baguma said in an interview that during a marketing survey by the Uganda National Bureau of Standards, two tins of fake Nido were found in lock-ups 003 and 030 in the new taxi park. She said the case was reported to the police and in-

vestigations were continuing. Baguma added that the tins were old and contained low quantities of milk powder and a lot of sugar. In Uganda Nido is imported by Translink LTD and supplied to by Transglobe LTD.

Raj Thakrara, the managing director of Transglobe, said quality and regulatory experts had arrived from Nestlé Foods Kenya Limited in Nairobi, the company that manufactures Nido, to identify the fake products and withdraw them from the market. – *New Vision*

Clover to invest in Zambia

South African dairy and food processing giant, Clover Group, will invest US\$520 000 in the initial phase of its entry into Zambia, which would see the country transformed into a processing and distribution hub for the southern section of sub-Saharan Africa.

Clover Africa business development manager, Pieter Uys, said the group had decided to enter the Zambian market in order to make Zambia a processing and distribution hub for its products. At the launch of Clover Zambia in Lusaka in August, Uys said the Clover group wanted to make a footprint in Africa and saw Zambia as a strategic entry point.

"We want to grow in Zambia as a dairy production and processing hub for the region and we expect to export dairy products from Zambia to countries such as the Democratic Republic of Congo and Malawi," he said.

Uys said the company, which aims to capture 20% of market share in the first year of operation in Zambia, would also like to contribute to national food security by helping to increase milk production.

He said there is potential for milk processing and consumption in Zambia, where total milk intake was below 20 million litres per year. According to 2006 figures by Parmalat Zambia, the total milk intake was 19 650 000. – *Zambian Times*

Angolan dairy potential restored

The Angolan government is rebuilding the country's dairy potential that existed before the armed conflict. This information was released recently in Luanda by the deputy minister of agriculture, José Amaro Tati. Tati was speaking at the end of a visit to the Angola dairy company (Lactiangol), accompanied by the Portuguese minister of agriculture, rural development and fisheries, Jaime Silva.

Meanwhile, the Portuguese minister said Latinagol is a plant of the future, adding that the country is growing and the Angolan population needs to eat well.

Lactiangol director, José César Macedo, said the country's milk production is still insufficient to cover its needs. Lactiangol produces 50 000 litres of milk, 7 000 litres of yoghurt, 6 000 litres of ice-cream and 3,5 litres of cheese daily. – *Angola Press*

Support for Zambian milk producers

The United States African Development Foundation (USADF) has signed an enterprise expansion grant agreement with Mpima Dairy Producers Cooperative Society (MDPCS). MDPCS is a small-scale milk production cooperative in the Central Province of Zambia. USADF funds will help the cooperative and its members produce more milk, which will then be sold to meet market demand. USADF's support to enable milk processing, will stimulate economic growth, create jobs within the community and improve the income of MDPCS members.

To date, the cooperative has expanded from 34 to 49 members, and is looking to employ four additional employees to help implement this project. – *Press release*

Expired products sold in Ghana

Investigations by the *Ghanaian Journal* has revealed that certain products on the market, are past their consumption expiry dates. Products such as Tampico and Fan Ice from Fan Milk Ghana Ltd were being sold after having expired.

Three Fan Milk Ghana vendors also confirmed that they have been receiving complaints about the weird taste. However, Angel Nelson, Fan Milk Ghana LTD quality assurance manager, blamed the company's agents and described them as neglectful in their handlings of the products.

According to Nelson some retail shops purchase and store the products for too long periods, before selling them. – *Ghanaian Journal* 