

The editor
Dairy Mail Africa
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Mailbag

Please note that, due to limited space, we are unable to publish all the letters that we receive. The letters that appear here, are shortened versions of the originals.

Amani Shanabwato of Mutumbi Nest Farm in Zambia, writes:

I request to be put on the mailing list of your very educative, interesting, informative magazine. As a small dairy farmer in the Magoye area of Mazabuka district, dairy farming is becoming a serious business through the Magoye Smallholders Dairy Farmers' Cooperative, where I am a member.

Darlington Shem Chigara from Arda Sanyati Estate in Zimbabwe, writes:

I came across your publication, *Dairy Mail Africa*, and was so grateful to be reminded of the dairy activities that I was part of at one time. I worked

for veterinary services then, and was part of the team that helped establish one of the first rural dairy programmes in Zimbabwe – Tsonzo Rural Dairy – at Watsomba Business Centre in Manicaland Province.

I am currently employed by Arda Sanyati Estate in the livestock section. Around Sanyati there are farmers who are advocating for the establishment of rural dairies, and I am trying to help them with the little knowledge that I have. I hope with time they will succeed.

The purpose of writing is to be put on the mailing list of this publication. I hope your dairy publication will add value to the little knowledge that I am trying to share with the would-be dairy farmers around Sanyati.



Christopher CG Karivky from the Mirangine FC Society in Mirangine, writes:

I am a farmer of the Mirangine FC Society scheme, dealing with mixed crops and also dealing with dairy animals zero grazed. I would like to know more about your publication because it can help me.

We are dairy farmers, and we have started a milk cooler to cater for our milk. I would like to seek more advice from you about necessities for our cooler and other dairy milk by-products, and other necessities of the cooler. Please include me in your publication's distribution list.

Paul W Kabae from Ruiru in Kenya, writes:

I humbly wish to inform you that I have come across your publication, *Dairy Mail Africa* and I was deeply impressed to read it through.

I am a small-scale dairy farmer in central province of Kenya and I supply raw milk to Brookside Dairy Limited. I wish to be put on the mailing list of your dairy publication.

Simon Kamau Kirori from Thika in Kenya, writes:

I received your Volume 3 No 1 April 2008 of your *Dairy Mail Africa* magazine and I was very impressed with the contents thereof.

I am a small-scale dairy farmer and would like to improve the same in future. I am therefore requesting you to send me your quarterly copy so that I can have adequate information on how

to sustain, improve and expand my dairy herd. Looking forward to your copies in future.

ARDA/DDP in Uganda, writes:

The write-up about the Ugandan dairy industry (in *Dairy Mail Africa* December 2007) was okay, except that the pictures used did not depict the Uganda dairy industry sufficiently. There has been a series of transformations in the industry, making it unique compared to the rest of the East African countries. Please note the following with regard to the articles published in the said issue:

- The dairy industry in Uganda does not advocate carrying milk in plastic containers. The picture used in the article was silent about this. A caption would have sufficiently explained the practice as far as Ugandan regulations are concerned.
- Selling unpasteurised milk in Kampala – the picture accompanying the article portrays vending in jerry cans as the only way in which unpasteurised milk is sold in Kampala. Other facilities with coolers and freezers were not demonstrated.
- You stated: "Despite the ban, milk is still sold unpasteurised in Uganda." Note that Uganda has never put a ban on the sale of unpasteurised milk. What was declared, was an intended ban which never took place. In Uganda, apart from few pickup points, we also have organised milk collection centres.
- Transformation of the dairy industry holds important events in the industry. Boiling milk for commercial purposes in hygienic environment/premises was changed into batch pasteurisation in Gazetted/designated clean premises. This was a very important step towards complete transformation from informal to formal marketing of milk.
- Regarding the carrying/transportation of milk in plastic containers, note that a big percentage of milk is now being carried in aluminium cans and transported in road tankers. **DMA**