

MIDLANDS MILK

(Pty) Ltd

CONDITIONS FOR THE TRANSPORTATION OF MILK IN BULK

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Within the Midlands Milk group, the offering for sale and the transport of ^{Word.Ink} milk has until now been conducted on an *ad hoc* basis. This has led to instances of conflict or at best, disquiet among those involved. This document is an attempt to formalise the rules and conditions pertaining to the sale and transport of raw milk in bulk from the premises of the primary producer to that of the processor. All role players in the production, collection and transport of bulk raw milk to Midlands Milk and/or buyers from Midlands Milk are required to comply with the following provisions.

These provisions may be modified from time to time as deemed necessary by the Board of Midlands Milk (Pty) Ltd.

1. THE PRODUCER

The Producer undertakes to ensure

- 1.1 That his premises, dairy herd and milk comply with the legal requirements applicable to the supply of raw milk for further processing. (Appendix A contains an extract of the legal requirements. A full copy of these legal requirements is available on request from Midlands Milk).
- 1.2 The following criteria from the legal requirements are applicable to determine whether milk may be collected
 - 1.2.1 Temperature of the milk shall not exceed 5°C. The Producer must ensure that the milk temperature is at or below this temperature at the agreed collection time but no later than 08h30. Should circumstances at a dairy mean that milk will not be down to the acceptable temperature by this time each day, the Producer must liaise with the transport manager to have his milk collected at a later time. However, the transporter is under no obligation to schedule a later

Legal
requirements

Temperature

collection time.

1.2.2 Should Midlands Milk decide to collect milk earlier than the agreed-to time, and the milk temperature is above 5°C, all risk associated with that milk as well as all milk with which the warm milk is mixed, passes to Midlands Milk.

Old milk

1.2.3 No part of the milk may be older than 48 hours.

1.2.4 Milk must pass an alcohol stability test when tested with Alizarol of 72% strength.

1.2.5 The farm tank or farm silo must be equipped with an agitator that can sufficiently mix milk within 5 minutes so that a representative sample of the milk can be taken. If the efficiency of the agitator is insufficient, an interval time-switch must be installed to obtain a representative sample after 5 minutes of stirring.

Agitation

1.2.6 The transporter and/or the milk buyer may require a representative daily milk sample. To this end, the Producer must ensure the available facilities are conducive to the obtaining of such a milk sample.

Milk sample

1.3 That the farm tank/s or silo indicates the correct volume on the litre chart when the calibration thereof is tested against an assized volumetric measure. The following is also applicable with regard to volume measurement.

Bulk tank &
litre chart

1.3.1 Clearly legible printed litre chart/s must be available in the milk room.

1.3.2 Midlands Milk must be supplied with a clearly legible up-to-date copy of litre chart(s) applicable to the tank(s) in use.

1.3.3 The litre chart must show the numerical number and serial number that correspond with the numbers of the farm tank/s against which it is volumetrically tested. The tank, dipstick and litre chart must show the same serial number.

1.3.4 The litre chart must show the date on which the last calibration was done, as well as the signature of the person who checked the calibration.

1.3.5 Readings on litre charts may not be extrapolated to

measure a higher volume than the original volume on the chart. Should the tank be filled beyond the maximum calibration mark, the maximum calibration mark alone will be recorded.

1.3.6 No milk may be offered for transportation from a bulk tank that does not have a compliant litre chart. Should the Producer not be able to make other arrangements and is forced to use such a tank, then Midlands Milk may at its sole discretion collect that milk from pending calibration and assizing but will only make use of the flow meter readings obtained at the point of offloading to determine the volume of milk sold from that tank.

Assizing of tanks

1.3.7 Should Midlands Milk, the milk transporter appointed by Midlands Milk or the Producer in the interim suspect that a bulk milk tank is reading incorrectly, a recognised assizer may be employed to test the calibration accuracy of the tank. Should the tank be found to be reading within 0.4% above and 0.4% below the assizer's figures, then the tank will not be adjusted and the cost of assizing will be carried by the party that requested the assizing. Should the tank need to be adjusted, the cost of assizing will be borne by the Producer. Under no circumstances may retrospective adjustments be made to milk receipts as a result of an assizing adjustment.

1.4 That only milk produced on the registered premises is offered for transportation.

Only own milk

1.5 That the access road is continually kept in good driveable condition. The access road is the road from the numbered road to the milking complex and also includes the following:

Roads and road conditions

1.5.1 The access road must not have bends of which the radius is less than 17 meters.

1.5.2 There must be a turning circle of at least 34 metres at the milk room, or a drive-through facility should be provided so that it would not be necessary for the tanker to reverse.

1.5.3 Access road must not have sharp objects that can damage vehicle tyres.

1.5.4 Weirs in the access road must be of such a nature that the landing struts of the trailer are not damaged.

- 1.5.5 Preferably there should not be gates on the access road, but should it be unavoidable, there should preferably be one gate at the most, with a user-friendly securing mechanism. Should gates have to be locked, arrangements must be made with the transport manager to supply duplicate keys or remote control devices as necessary.
- 1.5.6 If the gate is in the access road at the intersection with the numbered road, it must be in a passageway so that the tanker-combination will not be in the numbered road if it is parked in front of the gate.
- 1.5.7 The connection of the access road with the numbered or district road must be of such a nature that there will be 50 metres unobstructed view in both directions of the numbered road.
- 1.5.8 If there are trees next to the access road, these must be kept pruned back sufficiently so that branches will not damage the vehicle.
- 1.5.9 The area in front of the milk room where the tanker will be parked while collecting milk must be kept clean and clear of animals and obstacles that may hinder the access of the tanker to the milk room.
- 1.6 That the milk room is furnished with working inside lights and if night-collection has been negotiated, there should be sufficient outside-lighting to illuminate the area where the vehicle is parked.
- 1.7 That, should the milk room be locked, the key is readily available to the tanker driver and accessing the key will not cause undue delay.
- 1.8 There must be a table or writing surface in the milk room.
- 1.9 That contact telephone numbers of the Producer and of a representative of the Producer are clearly displayed in the milk room or preferably on the cover of the receipt book. These should be telephone numbers where these persons can most likely be contacted during the time when the milk is normally scheduled to be collected.
- 1.10 That there is sufficient washing water in the milk room and that a rubber pipe is provided for washing or rinsing purposes.

Milk room

Contact persons

Electric connection

- 1.11 That a standard three-phase electric plug is provided. This plug must be placed in such a way that the connection on the pump on the collection vehicle can be reached with a cable of no more than eight meters.
- 1.12 That the tanker-personnel are not disturbed in the execution of their work. If there is a problem, rather than confronting the driver, the Producer should contact the milk transport manager.
- 1.13 If the electrical switches to be used by the driver of the tanker are no longer standard, a clear written instruction must be provided on the use of the switches. The switches must be inside the milk room.
- 1.14 That farm tanks are placed in such a way that the outlet of each tank can be reached with a pipe of no more than eight meters. Outlets may not be linked to one another and no pipe extensions are allowed.

Hose length

2. MIDLANDS MILK

Midlands Milk undertakes to ensure that:

- 2.1 A receipt book is supplied for each active farm tank.
- 2.2 A receipt is made out for each milk consignment removed from the premises. Under normal circumstances, except for the temperature reading, the Producer or his representative would complete the milk receipt. Should the Producer not have completed the receipt, then it is understood that the Producer has effectively given the tanker driver permission to do so on the Producer's behalf.
- 2.3 The temperature of milk in each farm tank is determined by the tanker driver and that the temperature is recorded by the tanker driver on the milk receipt. Should the driver omit to record the milk temperature, it will be assumed that the milk is below 5°C. In such a case, the Producer is exonerated from all liability should there subsequently be milk spoilage due to high temperature.
- 2.4 The acceptability tests are done on milk in each farm tank to determine whether the milk complies with the conditions set out in 1.2.
- 2.5 Should milk not be acceptable, the tanker driver will cancel the

Receipt books

Milk temperature

Unacceptable milk

receipt and the reason for the non-acceptance indicated on the cancelled receipt. The driver of the tanker must inform the transport manager of the non-acceptance of the milk as soon as possible, preferably before leaving the premises. The transport manager will in turn inform the Producer.

- 2.6 The volume of milk in each farm tank is determined, either by the Producer or his representative or, failing which, by the tanker driver and that the volume is indicated on the milk receipt. In the event that the tanker driver should disagree with the volume reading indicated on the milk receipt by the Producer or his representative, the driver must contact the Producer or his designated representative to resolve the dispute. Should neither the Producer or his designated representative be available, the driver will contact the transport manager who will make a decision on the correct volume reading.

Volume

- 2.7 Should the driver not be able to collect all the milk for whatever reason, he should indicate on the Milk Receipt the closing dipstick reading and closing litres together with the volume actually collected. In this case the producer or his representative must confirm the closing reading.

Milk left behind

Should that milk be collected at a later stage a new Milk Receipt must be completed. In the event that milk must be left behind, the driver must ensure that sufficient milk is left in the tank so that it can be properly measured by means of the dipstick. Flowmeter readings are not acceptable.

In the event that the volume of milk not collected cannot be either measured (because it does not reach the dipstick) or read (because the dipstick reading is off the chart of that tank), that volume of milk is deemed to have been collected at that time. In the event that not all the milk in a farm tank is collected at one time, then the balance of the milk from that tank, including any milk that may subsequently have been added to that which had been left behind, may not be rejected at a subsequent collection other than for reasons of the detection of inhibitory substance(s).

Cannot reject milk left behind

- 2.8 If more milk is produced than the capacity of the farm tank, no milk from other containers is collected.
- 2.9 The Producer is informed timeously if the collection time is changed to any significant extent.
- 2.10 Milk that is frozen or partially frozen is not collected.

- 2.11 The driver of the tanker rinses the farm tank outlet properly before the suction pipe is attached.
- 2.12 The driver of the tanker approaches the milk room with consideration for other vehicles, people and animals.

3. SPECIAL TRANSPORT CONDITIONS

- 3.1 Midlands Milk will collect milk every day under normal circumstances unless otherwise agreed to and committed to writing. Producers who intend to supply on alternate days must apply in writing to the milk transport manager to do so.
- 3.2 Midlands Milk shall not be held responsible for losses incurred by the Producer due to milk not collected because of non-compliance to the acceptability criteria as set out in 1.2.
- 3.3 Midlands Milk shall not be held responsible for losses incurred by the Producer due to non-collection of milk because of impassable roads and bridges.
- 3.4 The Producer may not make any direct arrangements with the driver of the tanker, but should contact the transport manager.
- 3.5 Due to the high risk of bulk transportation of milk, the Producer is requested to inform Midlands Milk of any events that may increase that risk.

Collection or non-collection

4. PROTOCOL FOR TESTING FOR THE PRESENCE OF INHIBITORY SUBSTANCES AND ANTIBIOTICS IN MILK

- 4.1 Milk is collected from the producer and taken to the processor's premises where it must be tested for the presence of antibiotics or other inhibitory substances before it is pumped from the collection tanker. Once the milk is pumped out of the tanker it is deemed to have been accepted and Midlands Milk can no longer be held responsible for that milk.
- 4.2 The Twin-Sensor test is usually used to determine if there are any antibiotics or other inhibitory substances present in the milk. A positive result is indicated when the lines on the top or bottom of the control line on the test strip are lighter than the control line or not visible at all. As soon as possible after a positive result on the Twin-Sensor test has been obtained, the

Antibiotics in milk

transporter must notify both Midlands Milk and the producer.

- 4.3 Before the milk may be rejected an incubation test must be performed to confirm the positive result. A positive result in this case is indicated when the medium turns from a purple to a yellow colour. The milk must then be rejected. The rejected milk must be returned to source by the transporter. This will be at the expense of the producer.
- 4.4 Should the milk that tested positive for inhibitory substance(s) have been mixed with other milk in transport, the producer of the affected milk will be required to compensate other producer(s) whose milk also had to be discarded. Midlands Milk must be informed of the producers and volumes of milk involved. It is incumbent on the transporter to at all times load compartments of tankers so that, should milk to be loaded have to be rejected at a later stage, cross-contamination of other suppliers' milk is minimized.
- 4.5 Hereafter, it is the responsibility of the producer to show to the satisfaction of the milk buyer that his milk is free of antibiotics and ready for collection. He may do this by requesting Midlands Milk to test milk samples on his behalf or to take samples to the dairy for testing.
- 4.6 Unless agreed to by both the producer and the buyer, testing of samples by third parties may not be used as a substitute for the above testing for milk rejection of acceptance.

Appendix A

The following regulations are extracted here for information purposes only.

The original regulations are to be consulted:

Published under Government Notice No. R. 1555 of 21 November 1997

As corrected by:

Government Notice No. R. 1278 of 29 October 1999 Government Notice
No. R. 488 of 8 June 2001

As amended by:

Government Notice No. R.9 of 7 January 2000

Government Notice No. R.53 of 28 January 2000

Government Notice No. R.755 of 28 July 2000

Government Notice No. R.837 of 25 August 2000

Government Notice No. R. 1052 of 27 October 2000

Government Notice No. R.489 of 8 June 2001

Restrictions

No person shall use or sell raw milk intended for further processing which -

(a) contains the following:

(i) Antibiotics or other antimicrobial substances in amounts that exceed the maximum residue levels stipulated in the Regulations governing Maximum Limits for Veterinary Medicine and Stock Remedy Residues that may be present in Foodstuffs (Government Notice No. R. 1809 of 3 July 1992, as amended) (hereinafter referred to as the Maximum Limits for Veterinary Medicines and Stock Remedy Residues Regulations) or which by virtue of a presumptive test is suspected to contain antibiotics or other antimicrobial substances in amounts that exceed such maximum residue levels;

(ii) pathogenic organisms, extraneous matter or any inflammatory product or other substances which for any reason whatsoever

may render the milk unfit for human consumption;

(b) gives a positive result when subjected to the clot-on-boiling test described in paragraph 6 of Annexure A

(c) gives a standard plate count of more than 200 000 colony forming units per 1,0ml when subjected to the standard plate count test described in paragraph 7 of Annex A or the dry rehydrated film method for standard colony count described in paragraph 10 of Annex A;

(d) (i) on application of the test described in paragraph 4(4) of Annex A, exceeds the most probable number (MPN) of 10,0 coliform bacteria per 1,0 ml milk or, if the test for coliforms described in paragraph 5 or 11 of Annex A is used, the number of colony forming units exceeds 20 per milliliter of milk; or

(ii) on application of the modified Eijkmann test, the VRB MUG agar method, or the dry rehydrated film method described in paragraphs 2, 5 and 11, respectively, of Annex A, is found to contain any Escherichia coli in 0.01ml or raw milk. When the Eijkmann test is used, or any Escherichia coli in 1,0ml of raw milk if the methods described in paragraph 5 or 11 of Annex A are used;

(e) when subjected to the Standard Methods for Counting Somatic Cells in Bovine Milk, is found to contain an average of 500,000 or more somatic cells per 1.0ml of bovine milk or an average of 750,000 or more cells per 1.0ml goat's or sheep's milk after three successive readings at intervals of at least seven days during the test period, of which shows any other signs of abnormal secretory activity of the mammary gland(s);*

** The Standard Method for Counting Somatic Cells in Bovine Milk is set forth in International Dairy Federation (IDF) Bulletin No. 114 of 1979.*

(f) fails the ethanol stability test described in paragraph 9 of Annex A;

and

(g) is not packed in a closed container.

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