

SE News

HD Freedom Foods, China New Hope strike dairy deal.

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Australia's Freedom Foods Group and Perich Group have signed an agreement with China's New Hope Group that sees millions invested in Australian dairy farms.

Under a Memorandum of Understanding, signed on Tuesday (18 November), the parties will work to develop and implement growth in long term **dairy milk** supply, through the establishment of new "large scale intensive" **dairy** farms in South East Australia, for supply to Freedom's operations and other potential **dairy** processing operations in Australia.

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Rory Macleod, MD of Freedom Foods **Group** said: "Australia has a unique advantage in the supply and manufacture of high quality premium agriculture based foods. With increasing demand from markets in **China** and SE Asia for high quality value added product, Australia, through companies such as Freedom Foods **Group** and Perich **Group**, are well placed to play an important role in the development of this supply chain".

New Hope has established an investment fund of A\$500m for the development of agricultural and food processing activities in Australia, with "a substantial proportion" to be invested in long term **dairy** farm and processing activities.

Under the agreement, Freedom Foods **Group** and New Hope **Dairy** have agreed to build on the existing relationship for the supply of UHT **dairy milk** for export and **sale** in **China** through a number of initiatives. These include reviewing other processing opportunities in **dairy milk** both in Australia and overseas, as well as the development of a **business** plan to take existing and/or new products Freedom Foods products for **sale** in **China**.

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co ausnfh: Freedom Foods Group Limited

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