

EASTBOURNE DAIRY FARM LIMITED

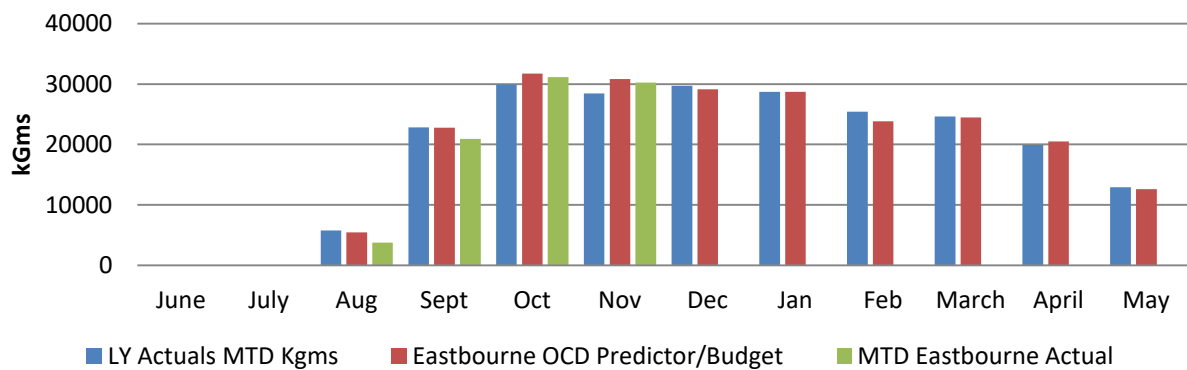
2017 SPRING REPORT



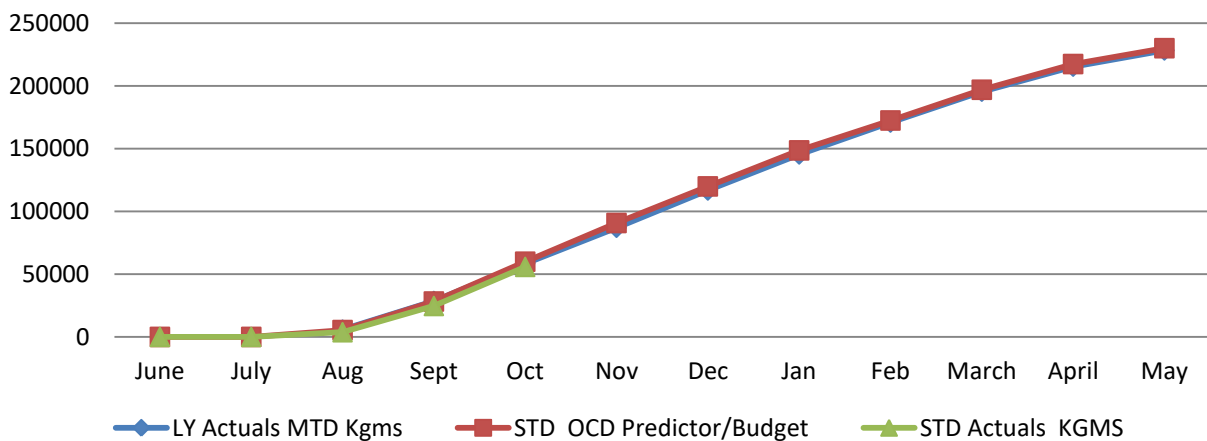
Once again Eastbourne has got off to a great start, production in these early days is fractionally behind previous seasons, but the amount of additional supplement being fed to the cows is also lower, so from a cost of production view point we're in a great position.

Open Country's predicted settlement amount continues to sit at \$6.45 - \$6.75.

2017/2018 Eastbourne Dairy Farm Limited MONTH TO DATE PRODUCTION



2017/2018 Eastbourne Dairy Farm Limited SEASON TO DATE PRODUCTION



Welcome to our new Farm Administrator

We would like to welcome Dot McDermott to the Roger Dickie (N.Z.) Limited team; Dot takes over from Kate Murdoch as farm administrator and is enjoying her new role. Dot has just moved back to New Zealand this year after living in Canada for 20 years. Dot has previous 50/50 sharemilker experience in New Zealand worked in Corporate farming for Dairy Brands before moving to Canada where she worked 4 years as a Dairy Farm Manager before joining the banking sector.



Welcome to Dot - our new farm administrator

Farm Inspection

At the start of December our Farm Administrator Dot got the opportunity to visit Eastbourne with Will Dickie. This was a great chance for Dot to become familiar with the property and meet Ben.

Shares for Sale

There are a number of shares available for Eastbourne Dairy Farm Limited.

There are also shares available in another of our dairy farms Murray Creek Dairy Farm Limited and our sheep and beef station Pukekaka Sheep & Beef Farm Limited.

If you are interested in purchasing additional shares please contact Richard Bourne on (06) 346 5329 or email richardb@rogerdickie.co.nz.

Kind Regards



Roger Dickie
Director



ROGER DICKIE
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VOSM SPRING REPORT – Ben Worker

With calving wrapping up at the end of October, we rolled straight into mating.

We started AI mating on the 2nd of November and would do this for 6 weeks then let the bulls finish off the second 6 weeks. We nominated the bottom 20% of the herd with the lowest BW(genetics), and they would get mated with Hereford semen. We do this to ensure we don't keep replacement heifer calves with poor genetics, therefore improving the herd.

The 6 weeks of AI went well, putting up 87% of the cows in the first 3 weeks (dairyNZ target is 90%) and after 6 weeks 98% of the herd had at least 1 mating, with no intervention.

The bulls went out with the cows after 6 weeks.

The R2 heifers are currently running with the bulls, with their mating starting on the 26th of December.

The 141 replacement heifer calves are all fully weaned off milk, with half of them fully weaned off meal and the other half still on meal. They are all growing well and meeting their weight targets.

Like most of the country we

have had very dry weather over November and

December, the farm is in a good growing state with good quality grass thanks to the mowing.

However, we wouldn't mind a few inches of rain over the next few weeks, Eastbourne is usually a summer safe farm, even we are getting dry and growth is slowing down.

Following Jack Ballam's farming system we still have enough feed ahead of the cows going into summer.

All the ex crop/sacrifice paddocks at the runoff have been sown in grass and are growing well. They could do with a good drink of water though just to give it a helping hand.

The cows are milking well and are in good condition heading into summer, like the previous few seasons we will look at changing the milking frequency to 3n2 in early January, this is to take pressure off the cows so they can hold their condition heading into Autumn and dry off in May.

I wish you a safe and happy 2018.

Your Sharemilker

Ben Worker



Ben and Dot inspect the yard

