

Coldstream Downs Dairy Farm Limited



2018/2019 Third Quarter – Summer Report



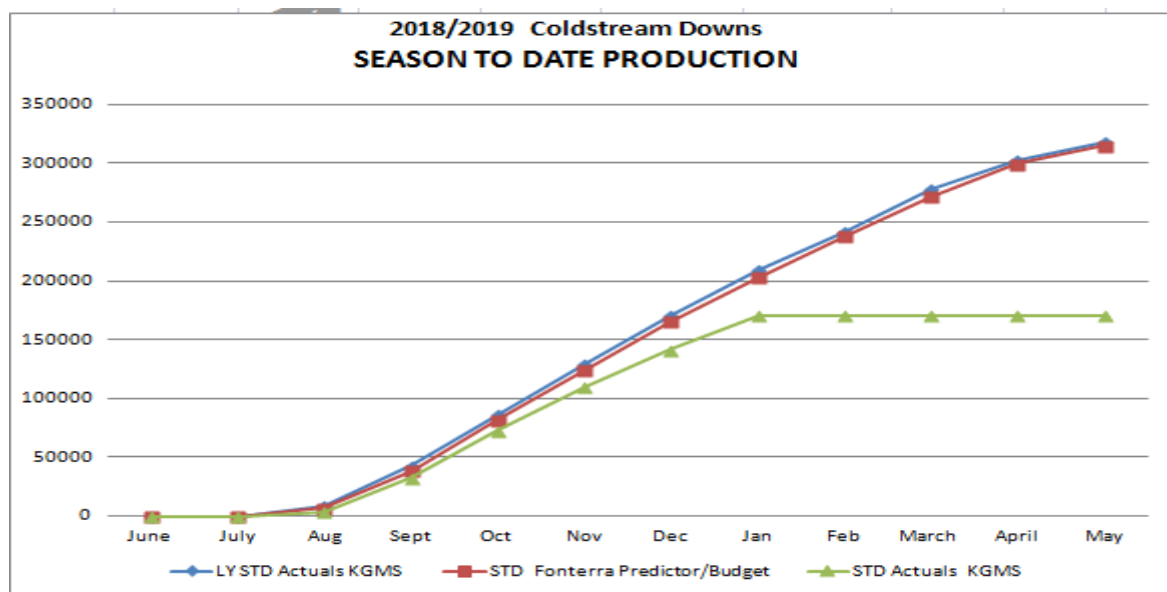
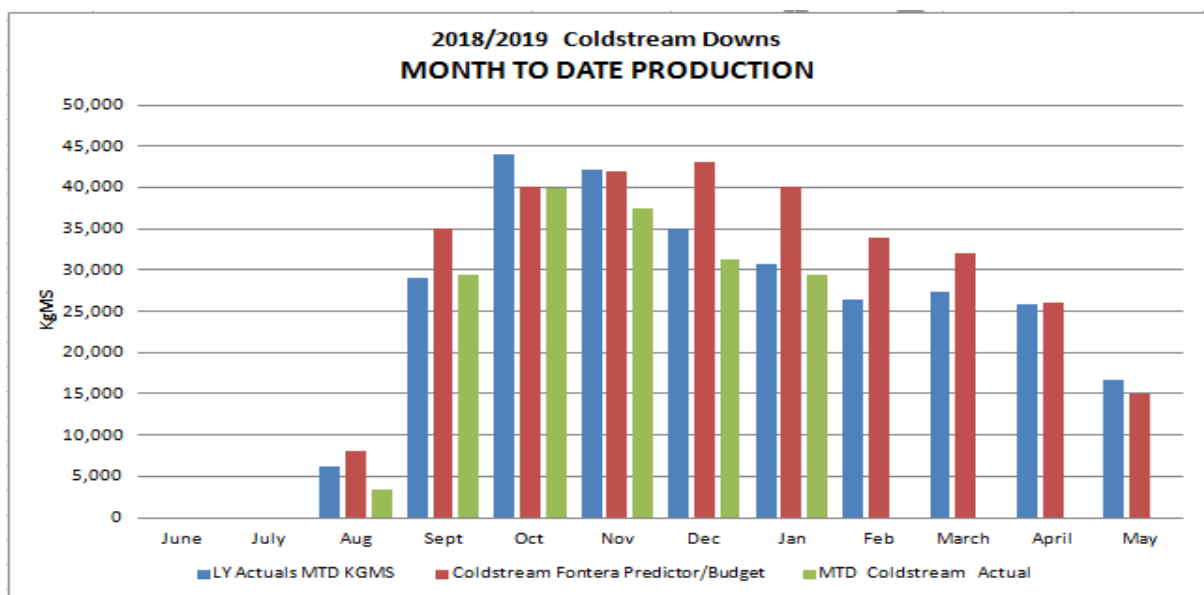
ROGER DICKIE
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Directors Report

It has been a wet third quarter at Coldstream before the Christmas break. Spring saw some very good early growth. Production is behind last years due to the very wide spread calving of the cows. While this is disappointing we hope with the remaining cows milking well we reach 280,000 kilograms of milk solids this season.

The production graphs shows the effect of this November through to January, where you can see production drop off. The farm peak milked 705 cows on our 309 hectares. Somatic cell count (a measurement of bacteria in the milk) is sitting at 149,000 which is around 100,000 less than this time last season. This is a very good indication that our sharemilkers



Dave and Erin are getting on top of the problems with the herd. The farm has now been cleared with two clear tests for Mycoplasma Bovis and that is a huge relief. Our heifers are now being tested for BVD, which has shown up in the bulk milk testing that is completed by the dairy company. We have tested the lowest 30% of heifers plus any carry over cows that have been milked this season. The carry over cows were clear but we have two positives in the two year old heifers and one calf produced by one of the heifers all three have now been culled. We will continue the hunt for any further BVD positives with the help of LIC and our local vets. Next herd test is set for the 27th of February, where we will test the remaining heifers.

The closing forecast pay-out for the 2018/2019 season for Fonterra is \$6.15 which is currently sitting .55 cents behind the payout for last season, this could change.

Currently all the repairs and updates have been completed at the cowshed. Protrack, platform, teat sprayer and plant are all working efficiently, with no problems this season with milk temperature. We are being graded on water quality from the pond and will have to look at putting a separate line to the cowshed for cleaner water. A green wash system also needs to be installed on the backing gate.

SHAREHOLDER FARM VISITS: 26th & 27th March, 2019

The visit for Coldstream has been set for Wednesday 27th March, 2019, at 9am meeting at the farm house.

Shares for Sale

Currently there are shares for sale for Coldstream and they are offered at \$1.90. Shares are also available for Eastbourne Dairy Farm Limited at \$1.00. If you are interested in purchasing additional shares please contact Grant Morris (06) 346 5329 or email grant@rogerdickie.co.nz

Kind Regards



Roger Dickie

Director



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Variable Order Sharemilker Report - Dave & Erin Bradley

Spring has come to an end, so has our busy time on farm. Artificial breeding (AB) mating is now completed for another season with most of the general farm work almost up to date. In our first season at Coldstream we have continued to see a very good grass growth, which in turn, has allowed for our 705 cows to be fed very well over mating and also ensuring going into the New Year we were well setup, with an excellent pasture wedge of good quality grass. We have been able to harvest 217 tonnes of dry matter silage into the silage stack, which was made on farm mid-October. This will be used for feed to assist the cows over summer and next spring.

The crops are poor due to very wet conditions around the time they were sown. Mating has gone well over all, the first week was a little slow, but the second and third week we certainly saw a lot of good numbers being mated on a daily basis. This gave us a 69% submission rate after the first 42 days, which is a pleasing result. The bulls were put out in the 14th of December, which means we did 6 weeks of AB this year. The bulls were out with the cows until the 21st of January. Milk production has been tracking as expected due to the fact that we had a very drawn out and slow calving this season. Currently we are 14,500 kgMS behind for the season and at the moment we are currently 9% ahead of last year on a daily basis. Hopefully we can continue this level of production and perhaps increase the gap even further so that we are looking to get to 280,000 kilograms of milk solids for the season. If this can be achieved it will be a pleasing result, with milking less cows than last season and being able to do more production means that we are getting back on the right track. We look forward to reaping the benefits of the improvements being made at Coldstream for the 2019/2020 season.

The cows are being milked in two herds, one of 483 which are being milked twice a day with the second herd of 202 being milked on once a day.

While we did escape the scare with micro plasma bovis, the herd currently has a higher reading with BVD. We are currently working with LIC through a program to find any cows/heifers that are carriers and shedders and removing them from the herd, along with testing any progeny produced from those animals as they too carry the virus. The BVD virus status is picked up in a dairy company milk pick up check. Initially we tested the lowest producing 2 year olds plus any cows that had been carried over from the previous season as the virus did not show in last years milk testing despite always showing it had never been in the high bracket. This saw 70 animals being tested at the herd test on the 9th of December, 2018. With one positive result and her progeny also tested which showed as positive, these have both been removed from the herd. Following another sampling in early January 2019, this has shown as high again and we have opted to test the remaining 2 year old heifers in the herd to isolate any further positive BVD animals. At the next herd test (27/2/2019) a further 70 animals will be tested at a price of \$12.70 per cow. Any animals culled before that herd test will be tissue sampled. There is one such animal on the farm at present who



is not responding to vet treatment for lameness, she has been isolated and will be tissue tested.

After Christmas we dealt with the water line from the pond not keeping pace with the water required at the shed due to a break down at a trough. It would be good to have an independent line directly to the cowshed, and we need to look at having a green wash system attached to the backing gate to conserve water.

We are having the farm monitored by Civil Tech Limited as it was thought that the effluent pond may be leaking, Murray Gardyne has requested the pond be lowered and sludge beds emptied to further assess as it may just have been that the ponds were over full and spilling and will reassess in 3 months. He has stated that the pond is large enough for 750 cows.

We look forward to seeing you all at the shareholder visits in March.

Your sharemilkers,

Dave and Erin Bradley



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