

Murray Creek Dairy Farm Limited



2018/2019 Third Quarter – Summer Report

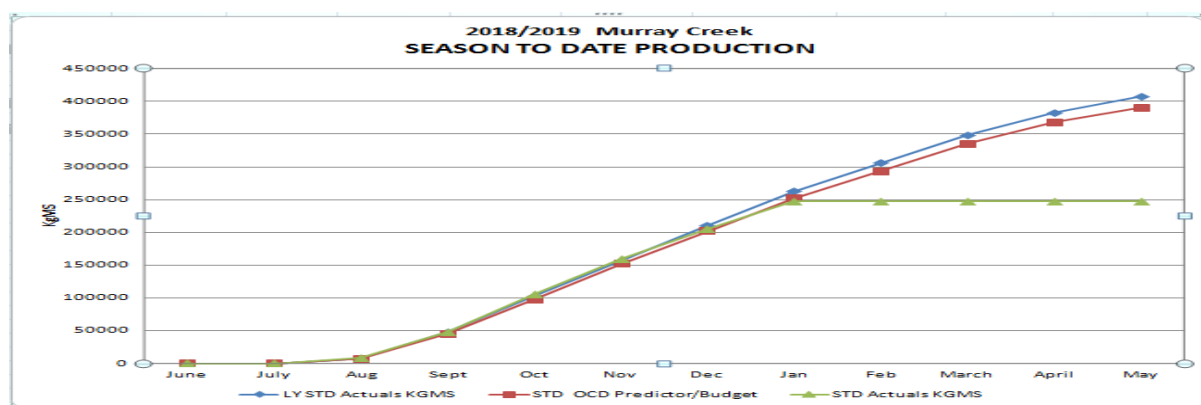
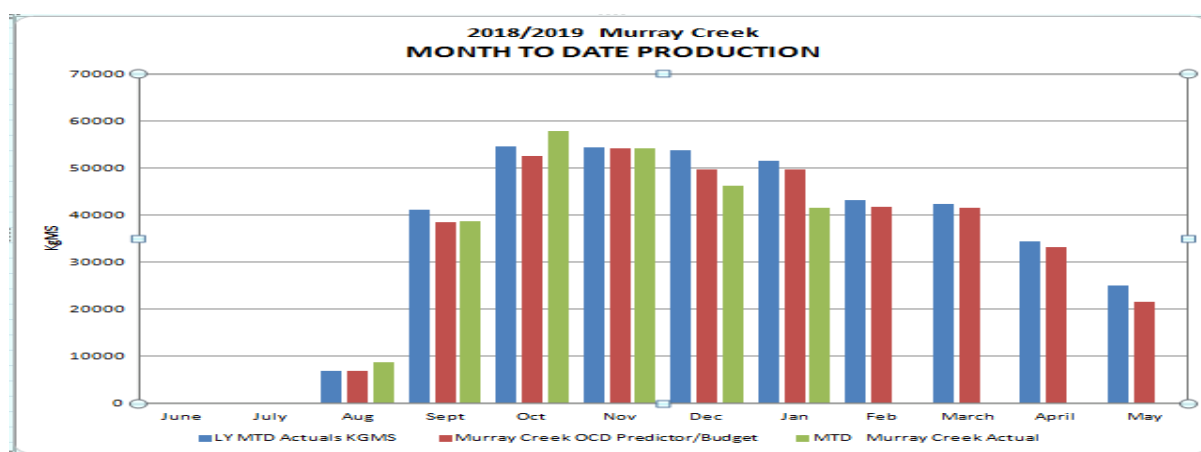


ROGER DICKIE
NEW ZEALAND

PO Box 43, Waverley 4544 PH: (06) 346 5329 www.rogerdickie.co.nz

Directors Report

Production was off to a great start at Murray Creek, pre Christmas we had a very wet patch and could not get on the ground to spread urea or mow paddocks. Quality of pasture did suffer and we are currently 5.24% behind last season at this time. Our somatic cell count has been higher but Jason and his team are working steadily to bring this down. The cows at dry off last season were not given the normal dry cow and just a teat seal was recommended. Jason feels that this is the cause of the higher SCC this season and will go back to the normal dry cow therapy at the end of this season.



Jason and Sandy raised a great amount of calves this season, so we have 30 available for sale. Protrack is now showing its worth on the farm with reports coming in on a regular basis. The proposed house renovations have started and will be complete before the Shareholder Visit in March. We are currently looking at the milk temperatures at the cowshed as with the approaching warmer weather the current chiller and plate cooler system does not bring the milk down to the current required code. We are currently investigating different ways of bringing this within code.



Open Country has forecasted the milk price for the 2018/2019 season of \$6.15 plus seasonal incentives.

Shareholder Farm Visits: 26th & 27th March, 2019

The visit to the farm is planned for March 27th 2019, it's planned to meet for a BBQ lunch at 12pm at the main farm house prior to our farm visit which will start at 1pm- 3pm

Shares for Sale

There are a number of shares available for Coldstream Dairy Farm Limited on offer for \$1.90 and Eastbourne Dairy Farm Limited at \$1.00. If you are interested in purchasing shares in any of the farms please contact Grant Morris on 06 346 5329 or email grant@rogerdickie.co.nz

Kind Regards,



Roger Dickie

Director

Murray Creek Dairy Farm Limited



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Variable Order Sharemilker Report - Jason and Sandy Herrick

Hi all, another spring and summer has past and without a doubt last spring would be one of the toughest in 23 years of dairy farming I have seen. The weather was relentless causing all sorts of issues. Our yearly rainfall well exceeded our average by 500mm of rain.



The affect this weather has had on farm performance has been immense. Ground conditions have had a lot of damage which we will have to slowly repair. The biggest damage is the most important one, being milk production. September and October's production was really good but with the wet conditions and the intensive grass growth we struggled to keep pasture quality which has seen a very big crash in production over the December period.

We are currently behind last season by 5% but hope to pull some of that back by the end of the season. Since Christmas the weather conditions have gone from one extreme to the other and now irrigation is in full swing and the cow's production has been steady for the past month. With aquifer levels we are only allowed 75% of our consented quota but not having to irrigate till later in the season we should have plenty of water to see us through. We did have a big problem when we went to start up the irrigation to find the lightning storms we had pre Christmas had fried our variable speed drive which controls the pump so we had to get an emergency replacement straight away.

We ended up with more heifer replacements this season and currently have 270 out grazing with our regular young stock graziers. Mating through November I am unsure as to the success of it due to the weather conditions the cows had to endure. We will find out at the beginning of March when we pregnancy test them, fingers crossed that things have gone well.

On a positive note we have started renovations to the main house which are going extremely well and progressing slowly and the 1st stage should be completed by the end of February. Once the house renovations are complete we will put a collage together from start to finish for all.

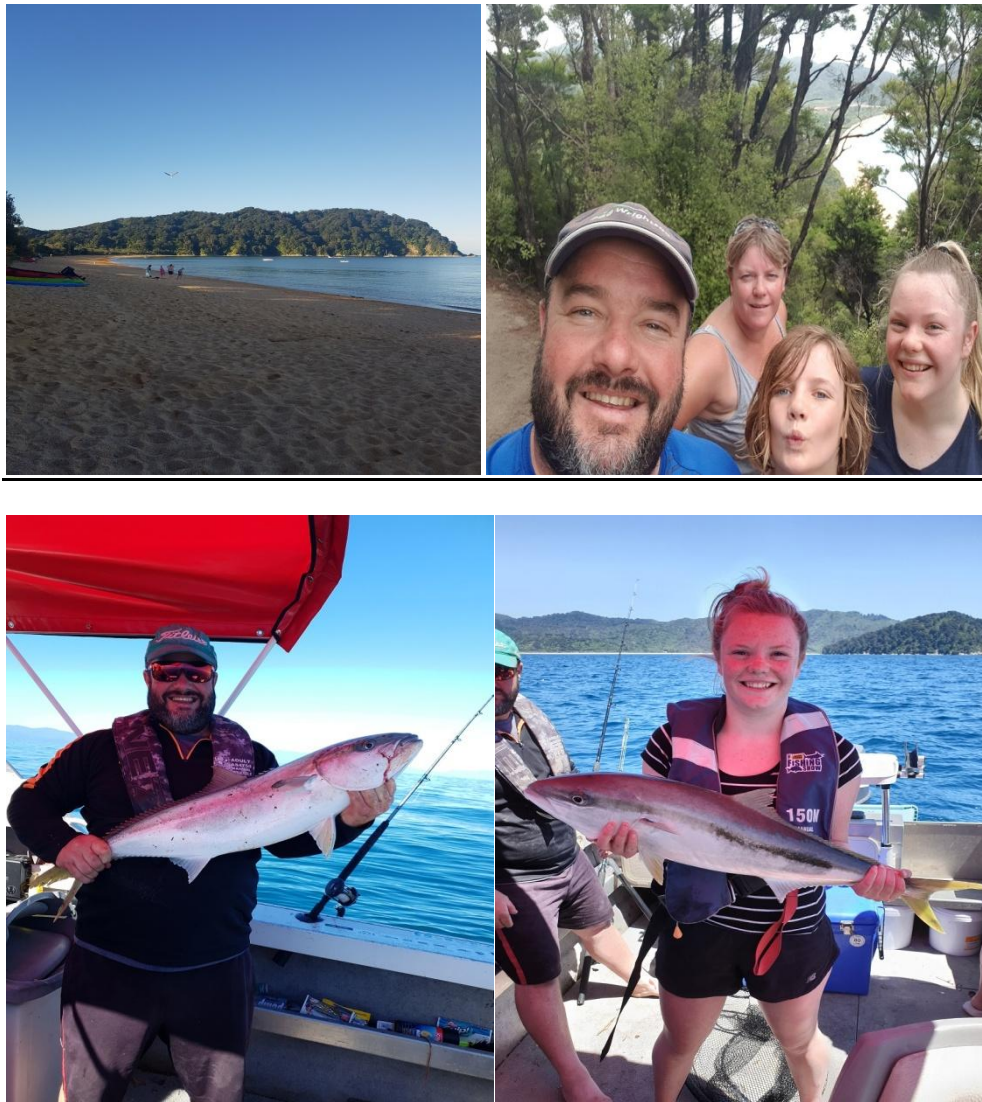


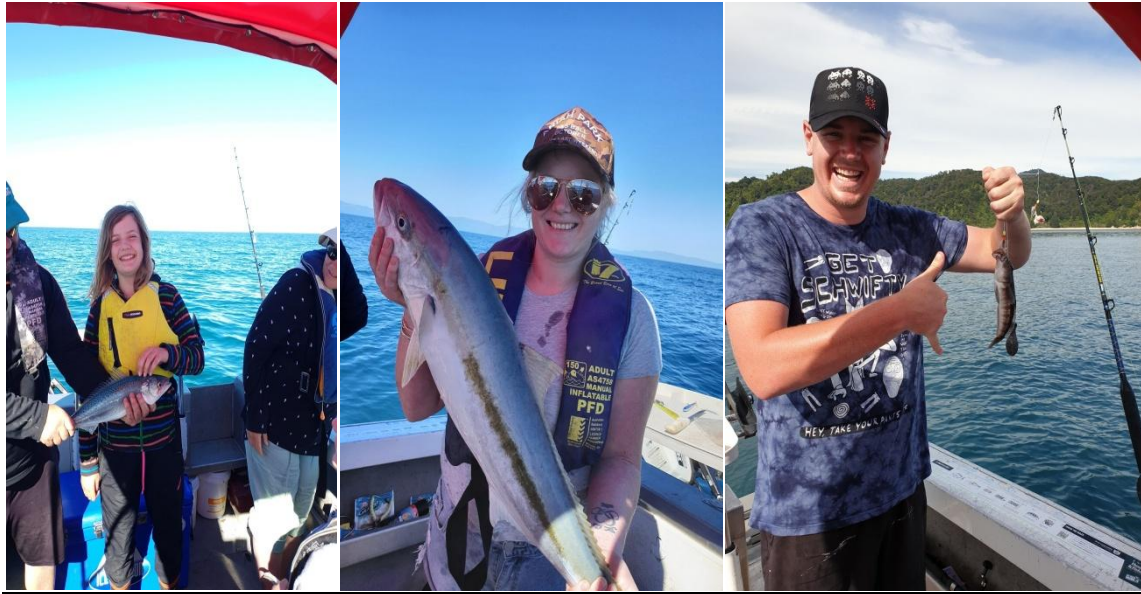
Growing conditions prior to Christmas were amazing but because we could not get heavy equipment on a lot of the farm the cows were left to graze the wet area while we harvested the dryer stoney ground. This year so far we have made 1182 bales of baleage compared to other seasons when we made an average of 500 bales.

We have put in 20ha of winter crop this year and plan to winter 250 cows at home and still have enough crops for cows coming back home in the spring for calving.

Staff has been really stable, we hired extra staff over the Christmas holidays so we could get away for a camping holiday. We spent 2 weeks in Golden Bay which was great to rejuvenate and relax.

We look forward to seeing shareholders that will make it to the farm visit on the 27th of March, 2019.





Your sharemilkers and family,

Jason and Sandy Herrick



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