

MURRAY CREEK DAIRY FARM LIMITED

Farm Update

Dear Shareholder

October 2013

Calving at Murray Creek is well under way and the weather has been very mild and dry. August was perfect weather for calving with plenty of fine days. The Frosts have experienced a very mild winter this year with very little snow compared to previous years. This has helped tremendously with pasture growth.

The cows were all in good condition at the start of calving with no health problems with the herd to report. The good conditions for the start of the season have meant production is well ahead of last seasons to date. There is however still a lot of potential to preform above the season target of 360,000kgms.

Calving started early August. This is a few days earlier than previous years. We can report that Murray Creek is 17.75% ahead of last season to the end of September.

You will find enclosed the farm quarterly report and correspondence from our sharemilkers. These reports will be uploaded onto the website www.rogerdickie.co.nz

Please find enclosed your copy of the Annual Report, Valuation and Financial Statements for the year ending 31 May 2013. We advise that the Annual General Meeting (AGM) has been set for 2013 and will be held on 5th November at Wellington Airport Conference Centre's DeHavilland room. Included with this posting is your Agenda and Proxy Form. We look forward to seeing you at the AGM.

Regards



Michelle O'Neill

Murray Creek Dairy Farm

August 2013 Farm Report

Interpreted information covering the feed supply & stock on hand taken from the Farmwise Report 6th September 2013

Cover

		Actual	Target
Average pasture cover	kgdm/ha	2158	<2200
Pre graze cover	kgdm/ha	3300	<3000
Post grazing		1600	1600
Growth		95	>50
Round length (days)		55	58
% Farm mown		0%	5%

There is adequate pasture cover, need to focus on controlling the grazing round as per guidelines below.

Rule of thumb guide re round lengths

356 Ha's	Week Start	Round (days)		
	27 -Aug	65	5.48	Ha's/24hrs
	01- Sep	60	5.93	Ha's/24hrs
	06 - Sep	55	6.47	Ha's/24hrs
	11 - Sep	50	7.12	Ha's/24hrs
	16 - Sep	45	7.91	Ha's/24hrs
	21 - Sep	40	8.90	Ha's/24hrs
	26 - Sep	35	10.17	Ha's/24hrs
	01 - Oct	30	11.87	Ha's/24hrs

FEED SUPPLY

			kgsgdm	kgsgdm/ha
Pasture			-	3158
Silage 14 x 3.75	340 m ³ @	200 kgsgdm/m ³	68,000	197
Baleage – 380 bales	250 Bales @	200kgsgdm/bl	10,000	29
Straw	50 bales @	201 kgsgdm/bl	10050	29
Crop – Kale (good) 8ha	12 Bales @	100000kgsgdm/ha	150000	435
Total				2384

There is approximately 68kg of silage per cow on hand. This is the response to applying Nitrogen at the appropriate time. However we still need to be aggressive to maintaining the 30 day round from October and focus on growing grass.

GRAZING TARGETS AS FROM EARLY OCTOBER

	Herd 1	Herd 2	1x/day Herd	Total
	400	400	150	950
M2 cows 24hours	125	120	130	
Ha's per day	5.00	4.80	1.95	11.75
M2 cows 12 hours	62.5	60.0	65.0	0
Ha's per day	2.5	2.4	2.6	0
Round Length (days)		356.0 ha's		30

These targets are based on Jack Ballam's (Farm Consultant) farm visit on the 6th September 2013. The ha's per day are an estimate of what each cow is eating (day).

PASTURE AVAILABLE

	Numbers	M2 Cows	Cows per Ha	Pre Grazing	Post Grazing	Available Ha	Kgsdm per Cow
Herd 1	400	125	80	3100	1600	1500	18.0
Herd 2	400	120	83	3100	1600	1500	18.0
1x/day Herd	150	130	77	2800	1600	1500	15.6

FEED REQUIREMENT

		Pasture (kgsdm)		Supplements (kgsdm)		Total
	Numbers	Per Cow	Per Ha	Per Cow	Per Ha	Per Cow
Herd 1	400	18.8	21.1	0.3	0.3	19.0
Herd 2	400	18.0	20.2	0.5	0.6	18.5
1x/day Herd	150	15.6	6.6	1.9	0.8	17.5
Total	950		47.9		21.6	

Ideally by mid October it will be possible to fully feed milkers grass on a 30 day round. As feed position increases the target of 30 day round could potentially be pushed out to November.



Murray Creek Dairy Farm

SHAREMILKERS NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2013

Hello All,

Winter at Murray Creek has been a good and it is turning out to be a really good spring. The reason for that is the great weather we are experiencing. We were worried early on. There was a lot of rain with a bit of snow in June. This made it a little difficult for the cows to settle onto their crop with a lot of mud and waste at the start. Since then the weather has been on the improve and in the last 6 weeks we would be lucky to have had 10 days of rain. The results of this were the cows came out of winter in really good condition and ground conditions for spring have been great with limited pasture damage.

Cows are calving well with a very low mortality rate in both cows and calves which is great. The cows have lost weight as per usual at this time of the year but hopefully as cows get to the six week mark they will start to pick it back up. We will be almost finished calving by the end of September and hopefully all wrapped up by mid October with no inductions. Replacement calves have been going well. Olivia is loving the weather as well, as it makes calf rearing a lot easier without wet cold sick calves to look after.

The farm is looking great. We started with good cover and the grass has grown well in August so target covers are being achieved. This is positive and we are ahead of target which is always the best way to start! (and how we mean to continue).

The change to Open Country Dairies has been seamless and going well. The cows are well fed at the moment with plenty of grass. We are also feeding a little crushed barley and palm kernel mix in the shed to help the flow and keep energy levels up to promote production.

We have had a man down all through the last month which has not been ideal. The overseas worker we employed in June had difficulty obtaining a visa and has still not arrived. It is very frustrating working with immigration NZ. We have a dire staffing issue in southland with such low unemployment. We hope to have the staff issue resolved soon and be back to full capacity.

Really got to love that good weather, long may it continue!

All the best,
Regards,
Stacey & Olivia Frost

Murray Creek Production

360,000 KG MS

Month	2013-2014	2012-2013	2011-2012	2010-2011	2009-2010	Target 2013-2014
June		0				0
July		0				0
August	9273.79	7651.7	3771.5	5528	5882.9	8633.65
September	37583.03	32140.6	28570.3	23554.3	35220.9	39177.51
October		48472.4	46805.5	38716.3	49835.2	54874.3
November		50053.4	45692.8	40942.9	49719.6	48814.52
December		47941.4	41028.6	36106.3	44700.8	41844.13
January		43906.1	38319.4	33366.2	39553.9	42542.83
February		37754	35555.9	30756.8	32356	35805.92
March		30444.3	33315.6	31543	30542.6	36554.6
April		25581.3	29154.2	25274	22919.7	30878.85
May		21238.9	23227.6	18106.5	10913.1	20873.82
Total	46856.82	345184.10	325441.40	283894.3	321644.7	360000.13

Sep-13

KGMS

Month To Date This Season 9273.79

Month To Date Last Season 7651.7

Variance % 21.2 %up

Year To Date This Season 46856.82

Year To Date Last Season 39792.3

Variance % 17.75 %up