

MURRAY CREEK DAIRY FARM LIMITED

VOSM WINTER/SPRING 2016 UPDATE



Jason & Sandy Herrick



Hi all, this year has been a complete reverse of the previous two winters and spring.

We wintered 750 cows off farm and wintered 242 cows on farm this year with mixed results, with one grazier being really good and one I had to fight a lot to fully feed cows properly. This was due to the price of grazing being less than last year as a result of the current economic climate of the dairy industry but by the time cows came home they were where I wanted them to be condition wise.

The weather has been fantastic with only an average rain fall of 25mm per month falling over winter and spring. Temperatures are well above normal and it almost feels like the beginning of summer, but time will tell whether the good weather will continue.

The cows have calved down with not many issues and the cows are now producing really well, with early signs for a really good year for production.

This season has seen the demand for beef breed calves continue. This has seen us sell a lot of calves this year at 4 days old and as a result not as many went on the bobby truck as last year. We have 224 heifer replacement calves on hand with the plan to sell 24 of those at 100kgs after weaning and keeping 200 of the best for replacement stock.



We have been making small improvements to the farm, which is making it more aesthetically pleasing to the eye and we plan to continue to do so for this coming season.

The capital improvements made last year to the cowshed and water lines is continuing to show good results, with it all performing really well this spring.



ROGER DICKIE
NEW ZEALAND

PO Box 43, Waverley 4593 PH: (06) 346 5329 www.rogerdickie.co.nz

The good spring conditions have also meant we have managed to get all winter crop paddocks sown back into grass, which is two months ahead of last season.

Again all is looking good and we have had a really good start to the season and long may it continue.

Production

The incredible spring conditions have meant that the early grass growth has helped the cows to have a great start to the season. As of the end of September our production is 19% ahead of target.

