

Macalister Demonstration Farm, Dairy Australia, Extension Project

Projects on the farm are funded by Dairy Australia, the Gardiner Foundation, Sustainability Victoria, DPI VIC, Department of Agriculture Food and Fisheries, with support provided by GippsDairy.

Macalister Demonstration Farm Update 343 (Week ending Apr 5, 2013)

The Macalister Demonstration Farm is milking 280 cows grazing 71 hectares, a stocking rate of 3.9 cows per hectare. The daily allocation is one 40th of the grazing area and the actual grazing rest time is 30 days.

Compared to the previous week, milk production per cow is down from 1.52 to 1.39 kg milk solids (MS) per cow per day. Litres per cow per day are down from 18.2 to 16.4. Milk fat test has fallen from 4.90% to 4.87% (fat yield is down from 0.89 to 0.80 kg per cow per day). Milk protein test is up from 3.45% to 3.59% (protein yield is down from 0.63 to 0.59 kg per cow per day). This time last year, milk production was 19.7 litres, 1.62 kg MS, 0.89 kg fat, and 0.73 kg protein per cow per day.

The daily pasture consumption from the grazing area is down from 26 to 24 kg dry matter at (DM) per hectare per day. The pasture consumption per cow is down from 6.5 to 6.2 kg DM per cow per day. This time last year, pasture consumption was 30 kg DM per hectare per day, and 7.8 kg DM per cow per day.

3.0 mm of irrigation water, 0.6 kg of nitrogen element, and \$0.19 of pasture renovation, all per hectare per day, have contributed to the current pasture consumption. The daily spend on these pasture inputs totals \$3.15 per hectare per day. Based on those cash inputs only, the consumed pasture price is estimated to be \$132 per tonne of dry matter.

Supplementary feed includes 5.3 kg DM per cow of a complete pellet containing minerals and Rumensin, at a price of \$397 per DM tonne, 0.6 kg DM of the farm's own silage, and 2.7 kg DM of PKE.

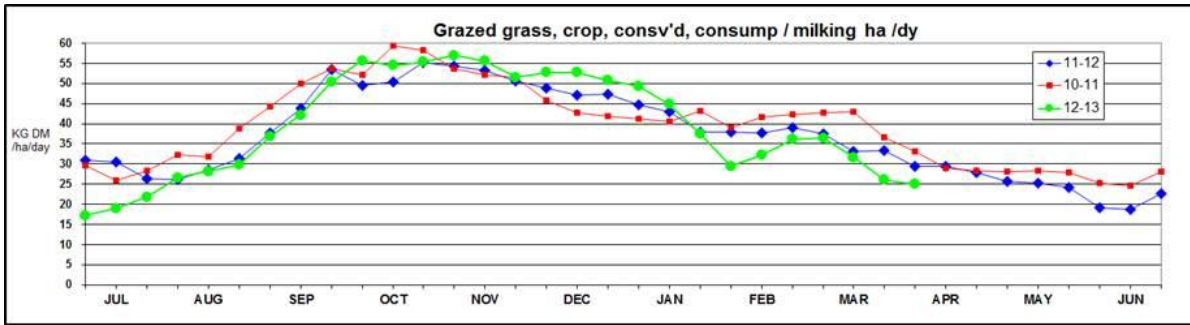
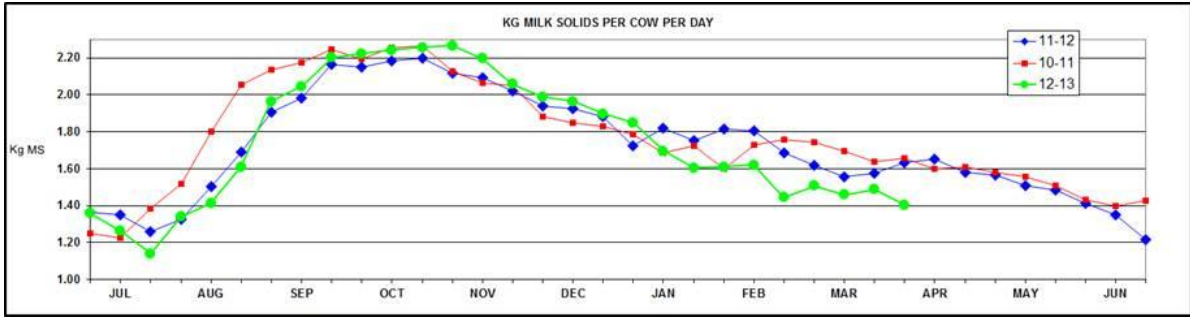
The Bulk Milk Cell Count for the week was 157,000, up from 149,000. This time last year the BMCC was 162,000.

The milk price (less compulsory levies) the MDF anticipates receiving for the week's milk is \$5.25 per kg milk solids, or 44.4 cents per litre. This time last year it was \$6.01 and 49.4 cents.

Milk income per cow per day is up from \$7.20 to \$7.30, made up of \$2.72 for the fat (down from \$2.78), \$5.01 for the protein (up from \$4.89), and minus \$0.43 for the litres. This time last year milk income per cow per day was \$9.76.

Feed cost per cow per day (including pasture and supplements) are down from \$4.09 to \$3.84 per cow per day, leaving a Margin over All Feed (MOAF) per cow of \$3.41, up from \$3.11. This time last year the feed margin per cow was \$6.52. The margin over all feed per hectare is \$13.46 (last year \$25.26). The whole farm feed margin is \$956, up from \$9870 per day. This time last year the whole farm feed margin was \$1,793 per day.

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WEEKLY FEEDING PERFORMANCE	Last Year	Last week	This week	Units
Week to date:	6-Apr	29-Mar	5-Apr	
Milker graze area	71	71	71	ha
Milker nos	275	280	280	head
Stocking rate	3.9	3.9	3.9	cows/ha
Grazing allocation 1/	30	40	40	th of graze area
Average graze rest time	28	28	28	days
mm irrigation/hectare/day	0.0	3.0	3.0	mm water/ha/day
Element Nitrogen	0.9	0.6	0.6	kg element/ha/day
Element Phosphorus	0.03	0.00	0.00	kg element/ha/day
Element Potassium	0.15	0.00	0.00	kg element/ha/day
Renovation	\$0.19	\$0.19	\$0.19	\$/ha/day
Topping	\$0.45	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$/ha/day
Estm'd pasture consmp'n (incl cons'vd forage)	30	26	24	kg DM/ha/dy
Pasture consum'd per cow	7.8	6.5	6.2	kg DM/cow/dy
Daily spend / milking ha	\$2.31	\$3.15	\$3.15	\$/ha/day
Estm'd pasture price	\$77	\$124	\$132	\$/T DM
Conc (incl additives)supp fed/cow	6.9	5.8	5.3	kg DM/cow/dy
Hay/silage supp fed/cow	0.0	0.8	0.6	kg DM/cow/dy
PKE supp fed/cow	1.3	2.7	2.7	kg DM/cow/dy
Estim'd supp waste	3%	5%	4%	%
Conc (incl additives)supp avg price	\$335	\$397	\$397	\$/T DM
Purch hay/silage supp avg price	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$/T DM
PKE supp price	\$271	\$322	\$322	\$/T DM
Total feed intake/cow	15.6	15.4	14.5	kg DM/cow/dy

WEEKLY FEEDING PERFORMANCE	Last Year	Last week	This week	Units
Estm'd body cond't'n change	0.10	0.00	0.00	kg LWT/cow/dy
Litres/cow	19.7	18.2	16.4	l/cow/day
Fat test	4.52%	4.90%	4.87%	%
Protein test	3.70%	3.45%	3.59%	%
Fat per cow	0.893	0.891	0.800	kg/cow/dy
Protein per cow	0.731	0.627	0.589	kg/cow/dy
MS per cow	1.62	1.52	1.39	kg/cow/dy
Anticipated final milk price (less levies)	\$6.01	\$4.74	\$5.25	\$/kg MS
Anticipated final milk price (/litre)	\$0.494	\$0.396	\$0.444	\$ per litre
Fat return per cow	\$3.37	\$2.78	\$2.72	\$/cow/dy
Protein return per cow	\$6.91	\$4.89	\$5.01	\$/cow/dy
Volume charge per cow	\$0.52	\$0.48	\$0.43	\$/cow/dy
Milk income/cow	\$9.76	\$7.20	\$7.30	\$/cow/dy
All feed cost/cow	\$3.24	\$4.09	\$3.88	\$/cow/dy
Margin over all Feed/cow	\$6.52	\$3.11	\$3.41	\$/cow/dy
MOAF /ha /day	\$25.26	\$12.26	\$13.46	\$/ha/day
Farm MOAF per DAY	\$1,793	\$870	\$956	\$/day
MOAF per month	\$54,692	\$26,550	\$29,157	\$/month
Energy density of diet	12.2	11.7	11.7	MJ ME/kg DM
Crude protein % of diet	18.7%	22.2%	22.2%	% CP
NDF Fibre level of diet	30.4%	34.5%	34.9%	% NDF
FCE kg MS per tonne DM food	102	96	93	
Tonne feed /day	4.4	4.2	4.0	tonne DM /day
Milk Return /tonne feed	\$614	\$482	\$513	\$/tonne DM
Average Price of feed	\$204	\$274	\$274	\$/tonne DM
Margin /tonne feed	\$410	\$208	\$239	\$/tonne DM
BMCC	162	149	157	