

Macalister Demonstration Farm

Macalister Demonstration Farm Update 436 (Week ending November 18, 2016)

What's been going on at the MDF?

The biggest change on the MDF over the past two weeks has been the shift from barley to wheat being fed in the bail. Cows are getting 4.4kg wheat as fed, where they were getting 4.8kg barley as fed. They have responded well to the change, and have had a small lift in production equating to an increase in net income per cow after feed costs, of \$0.24/cow/day on last fortnight. Daily production remains slightly above the same day last year (both volume and milk solids). There has been an increase in cows out of the vat this week, with a few new cases of mastitis.

The farm received 10mm of rain last Monday (14/11), and another 55 rolls of silage have been made, taking the running total to 180 rolls to date. Last year 265 rolls were made, and the aim is to make more than that this year. Irrigation on allocation has commenced with spill entitlement finishing in the past two weeks. The first irrigation on allocation has occurred and more water has been ordered for Monday (21/11). Sub-surface and lateral irrigation is occurring every night at present, and bike shift irrigation going each night also, for 7 hours.

Joining is going well, with 92% submission rate in the first three weeks. This includes the 100 cows on CIDR program.

MACALISTER DEMONSTRATION FARM	Farm Location: Maffra		
Description: The MDF is located at Maffra in Gippsland Victoria in the Macalister Irrigation District. The farm has a milking area of 73 ha and is fully irrigated.	Two weeks ago	18/11/2016	
<u>Production</u>			
Cow numbers (herd and vat)	328 herd and 320 vat	328 herd and 318 vat	
Cow production/day	26.0	26.5	litres
Fat %	4.05	3.96	%
Protein %	3.31	3.36	%
Kg milk solids/cow /day	1.89	1.94	kgMS
BMCC	176,000	233,000	
<u>Grazing and Feeding</u>			
Concentrates	4.32	3.96	kgDM/day
Cost of concentrate (barley last fortnight, now wheat)	\$0.26	\$0.29	c/kg DM
Additive (mineral)	0.18c	0.18c	c/cow
Cost of hay	0	0	c/kgDM
Silage	0	0	kgDM/day
Cost of silage			c/kgDM
Pasture demand	12.65	13.38	kg DM/cow/day
Pasture demand (kgDM/ha/day)	60.4	64.4	kg DM/ha/day
Area in rotation (ha)	68.4	68.1	ha
Rotation length milkers (days)	25	27	days

Grazing Area (ha per 24 hours)	2.5-3	2.5	ha
<u>Daily Income over Supplementary Feed Costs (IOSFC)</u>			
Milk Price (on current tests)	\$4.31	\$4.34	\$/kg milk solids
Milk Price	31.7	31.75	c/litre
**Income/cow	\$8.15	\$8.42	\$/cow/day
Supplementary Feed Cost/cow	\$1.30	\$1.33	\$/cow/day
IOSFC/cow	\$6.85	\$7.09	\$/cow/day
IOSFC/milking ha	\$32.05	\$33.11	\$/ha/day
Net litres/cow	21.6	22.3	Litres/day
Irrigated pasture cost			\$/cow/day
Irrigated pasture cost			c/kg DM
Net margin after supplements and irrigated pasture	\$6.85	\$7.09	\$/cow/day