

Macalister Demonstration Farm

Macalister Demonstration Farm Update 438 (Week ending December 16, 2016)

What's been going on at the MDF?

There has been some reduction in herd numbers through culling again this fortnight, with total number of milkers now sitting at 312. Cell count and number of cows on withhold have reduced as a result. Milk production holding steady compared with last fortnight, and is sitting virtually even with last year on a daily basis. Grain has been increased slightly from 4.4kg to 4.5kg per day as pasture quality begins to decline. Millet crop of 2.6ha is growing well, with first grazing expected around the end of December.

More silage has been done this past week, with 10ha yielding 68 rolls. This brings the total for the season to 250.

There are 50 calves already weaned and moved off the farm to agistment, with the remaining 25 going on Monday (19/12).

We are now (including last report) factoring in a cost for irrigated pasture at 14c/kgDM.

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	16/12/2016	
<u>Production</u>			
Cow numbers (herd and vat)	320 herd and 320 vat	312 herd and 309 vat	
Cow production/day	24.3	24.3	litres
Fat %	4.3	3.88	%
Protein %	3.4	3.47	%
Kg milk solids/cow /day	1.75	1.78	kgMS
BMCC	185,000	148,000	
<u>Grazing and Feeding</u>			
Concentrates	3.96	4.05	kgDM/day
Cost of concentrate (wheat)	\$0.29	\$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	13	12	kg DM/cow/day
Pasture demand (kgDM/ha/day)	58	57	kg DM/ha/day
Area in rotation (ha)	69	70.4	ha
Rotation length milkers (days)	23	24	days
Grazing Area (ha per 24 hours)	3	3	ha
<u>Daily Income over Supplementary Feed Costs (IOSFC)</u>			
Milk Price (on current tests)	\$4.31	\$4.38	\$/kg milk solids
Milk Price	33.1	32.2	c/litre
**Income/cow	\$7.54	\$7.80	\$/cow/day

Supplementary Feed Cost/cow	\$1.33	\$1.35	\$/cow/day
IOSFC/cow	\$6.21	\$6.45	\$/cow/day
IOSFC/milking ha	\$28.80	\$28.31	\$/ha/day
Net litres/cow	18.7	20.1	Litres/day
Irrigated pasture cost	1.82	1.68	\$/cow/day
Irrigated pasture cost	14	14	c/kg DM
Net margin after supplements and irrigated pasture	\$4.39	\$4.77	\$/cow/day