

# Dairy Farm Monitor Project

## 2018-19 South West Victoria Overview

- The Dairy Farm Monitor Project provides industry and government with timely, farm level data for developing **targeted strategy** and **decision making**.
- Encourages the application of whole farm analysis principles on Victorian farm businesses.
- In South West Victoria, **25 farms** are analysed.

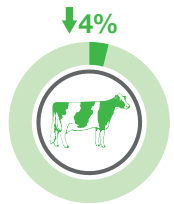
### Dairying in South West Victoria



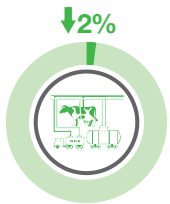
Approximately **1,170** dairy farms in South West Victoria produce **2.01 billion litres** of milk per year, accounting for **36%** of Victoria's milk production.

### Physical farm characteristics

- On average, participant farms in the South West reduced milk production per cow. For some farmers, this was to manage seasonal risk.



Average herd size  
**364 cows**

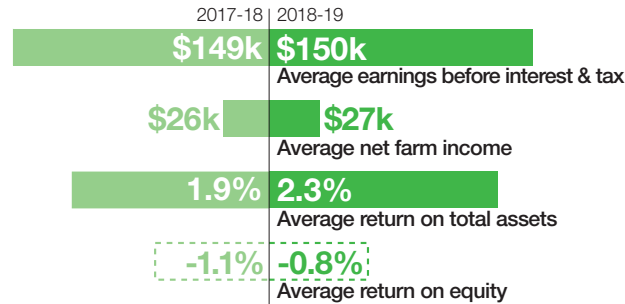


Milk solids sold  
**492 kg MS/cow**



Home grown feed  
**68% of metabolisable energy consumed**

### In 2018-19, 19 of the 25 participants in the South West had a positive EBIT



### Farm profitability was influenced by



Average seasonal conditions with **93%** of long-term average rainfall



**14% ↑** in purchased feed costs to **\$2.09/kg MS** as prices increased



**25% ↑** in homegrown feed costs to **\$1.13/kg MS** as greater pasture harvested



**6% ↑** in milk price to **\$6.15/kg MS**

### Return on total assets and milk price

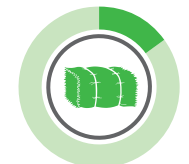


### Future expectations 2019-20



**92%** of farmers expect farm profits to **improve**

- Issues ranked in order of importance as reported by farmers:



**Acknowledgements** - Dairy Farm Monitor Project is provided with funding and support from the Victorian Government and Dairy Australia. This project is delivered primarily through partnerships between the Agriculture Victoria, Dairy Australia and service providers.

**Further information** - Refer to the Dairy Farm Monitor Project Victoria Annual Report 2018-19 for further information - [www.agriculture.vic.gov.au/dairyfarmmonitor](http://www.agriculture.vic.gov.au/dairyfarmmonitor)

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