



WESTERN DAIRY ANNUAL REPORT

2021/22







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OUR VISION

A thriving and responsible Western Australian dairy community.

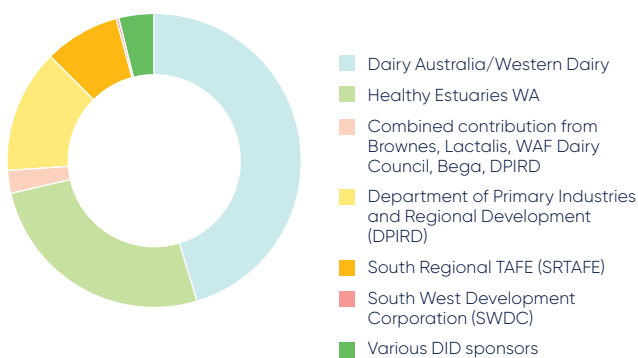
INTRODUCTION

Western Dairy is a not-for-profit association that operates under the auspices of Dairy Australia to facilitate dairy industry research, development, and extension to support the sustainable growth of Western Australia's 116 dairy businesses.

Funded by dairy farmer levies that are matched by the Australian Government, the Western Dairy board and team are committed to ensuring the Western Australian dairy community continues to thrive – now and into the future.

Western Dairy is overseen by a skills-based board of directors that comprises a dairy farmer majority, including the Chair.

The Western Dairy team is led by a Regional Manager and consists of several Regional Extension Officers, a Training Officer and a Communications Officer. The team is based in Bunbury at the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD).



Local funding partnerships assist in ensuring Western Dairy support and deliver exceptional services for WA dairy farmers. The above graph outlines Western Dairy's funding sources for 2021/22 and we thank these organisations for their financial input over the year.

GOVERNANCE

At the 2021 Western Dairy Annual General Meeting (AGM), Denmark dairy farmer Andrew Jenkins and specialist director Nick Brasher were re-appointed for a second three-year term.

They were joined by newly appointed chair Robin Lammie, 2020/21 outgoing chair Peter Evans, and director Scott Hamilton on the five-member board.

Following the AGM, the board was pleased to reappoint Narrikup farmer, Bonnie Ravenhill, for a second term as a co-opted member.

During the 2021/22 financial year, the board met seven times. The board also held one joint meeting with the WA Farmers Dairy Council on 2 June 2022.

Visit westerndairy.com.au for a record of director meeting attendance.

CHAIR'S REPORT

At the 2021 Spring Forum, I was elected to the Western Dairy Chair position – and it is an honour to transition into that role as a farmer to represent the Western Australian dairy industry.

I would like to thank former chair, Peter Evans, for his three-year term. Peter brought great experience, knowledge, and stability to the current board through trying times.

I lead a board of engaged and enthusiastic directors, and we pride ourselves in supporting our state's industry and all that Dairy Australia has to offer.

This year, Peter Evans, Regional Manager Julianne Hill, and I had the pleasure of helping put together the Western Australian Dairy Industry 5-Year Development Plan as part of the WA Dairy Industry Working Group. The 2027 vision for the WA dairy industry is that it has a reputation for best practice, innovation and sustainability that enables growth and builds confidence in our industry to ensure its long-term viability.

The Dairy Farm Monitor Project (DFMP) – coordinated by Western Dairy and Dairy Australia – has been in place since 2015/16 and provides an exceptional insight into WA dairy farm performance. We want to continue its success with support from processors for greenhouse gas and carbon footprint.

Western Australia finally opened its borders earlier this year following lengthy COVID-19 closures. COVID-19 proved challenging for the Western Dairy extension team, especially for our annual Dairy Innovation Day when Western Australian infections were at a peak. However, resilience and some creative thinking ensured it was still a success with approximately 198 people in attendance.

Unprecedented world trading conditions – due mainly to the Ukrainian war with Russia – has seen massive inflation in most cost areas of dairying, including fertiliser and fuel. This comes at a time where labour shortages remain an ongoing issue. However, we have tried to focus immediate attention on the matching of significant increases in milk prices to the huge inflation of these input costs.

Rapid movement in both areas has seen consolidation of dairy businesses, which has come at a time where we are being encouraged to produce more milk. However, I'm sure with continued confidence and an increase in skilled workers, we can achieve stability and growth in the future.

I would like to thank the Western Dairy team who deliver valuable services to our farmers and service providers. To my fellow board members, thank you for your contribution and I look forward to working with you again to continue to deliver positive outcomes for the WA dairy industry.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Robin Lammie', written in a cursive style.

Robin Lammie Chair 2021/22

OUR BOARD



Robin runs a 650-cow dairy in Busselton in partnership with family. Aside from a long familial history of dairying, Robin and his wife Betty have several business interests and previously owned and operated Bunbury Freight Services for 17 years.

Robin Lammie Chair

Appointed 2019



Andrew farms with wife Claire at Denmark and has a keen interest in business management, pasture production and genetics. He contributes a valuable combination of skills and experience to the Western Dairy board.

Andrew Jenkins Vice Chair

Re-appointed 2021



Nick is a director and owner of Bunbury-based Farmwest, WA's only herd improvement data processing and distribution centre. He has a lifelong passion for the dairy industry and helping WA dairy farmers become more profitable via astute use of genetics, data and new technologies. As a Specialist Director, Nick makes valuable technical and strategic contributions to the board.

Nick Brasher Director

Re-appointed 2021



Peter farms at Jindong with son Grant, milking 850 cows in a split-calving herd on 488 hectares. He is a passionate dairy industry advocate, having been Western Dairy Chair from 2005–2007 and again from 2019–2021. Peter was also WAFarmers Dairy Section President from 2007–2012 and Australian Dairy Farmers Vice Chair from 2011–2012.

Peter Evans Director

Appointed 2019



Scott and wife Sharon share-farm at Hithergreen, milking a split-calving herd of 235 cows. Born in New Zealand, Scott came to WA in 1986 and has farmed on the current property of O'Neill Partners since 2003. Scott has a Bachelor of Agricultural Science from Massey University and a Master of Science degree from Murdoch University. He advocates for business sustainability and educational opportunities within the WA dairy industry.

Scott Hamilton Director

Appointed 2019



Bonnie and her husband Ken are dairy farmers in the Great Southern region of WA. Bonnie sees dairy farming as both challenging and rewarding. She also believes it is critical the different physical, financial and environmental resources that are available to all farms are used to enhance not only individual businesses but the whole industry. Bonnie's background in rural lending enhances her skills in business financial management, procedural systems analysis and succession planning.

Bonnie Ravenhill Director

Co-opted 2021

The record of director meeting attendance over 2021/22 can be viewed at westerndairy.com.au

OUR PEOPLE



Julianne leads the Western Dairy team in engaging and supporting WA's 116 dairy farm businesses. Julianne holds an MBA (Griffith University) and Bachelor of Management – Farm Business (University of Sydney). She has developed a range of management and extension skills over three decades working within the agricultural industry in WA and interstate, including more than 11 years contracted to the Grains Research and Development Corporation (GRDC).

Julianne Hill Regional Manager



Dan is an agronomist and manages the Healthy Estuaries WA project, working to improve effluent systems in partnership with the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation. He is experienced in effluent design and works with farmers to produce efficient systems that deliver on-farm benefits as well as improved water quality outcomes within their catchments. Dan also supports the Dairy Farm Monitor Project, Feeding Pastures for Profit and Top Fodder programs.

Dan Parnell Regional Extension Officer



India coordinates Western Dairy's extension portfolio of events, engagement activities and workshops, including the annual Dairy Innovation Day and the WA Young Dairy Network. She holds a Bachelor of Science (Anatomy and Human Biology) from the University of Western Australia and has worked on various dairy farms. India is passionate about animal health, calf-rearing, genetics and pasture management.

India Brockman Regional Extension Officer



Fiona started at Western Dairy in December 2021 as Training Officer. Fiona holds a Bachelor of Science in Agriculture (Hons) from the University of Western Australia and a Masters in Philosophy (Animal Nutrition) from Murdoch University. Her areas of interest include grazing management and ruminant nutrition, which she incorporates into the delivery of the Certificate III and IV in Agriculture (Dairy Production) undertaken by Western Dairy trainees in partnership with South Regional TAFE.

Fiona Jones Training Officer



Gemma leads Western Dairy's workforce development activities, supporting dairy farmers across a range of human resource and safety issues. Through her work, Gemma creates events and engagement around Dairy Australia resources and programs and is passionate about creating a positive image of dairy while supporting the WA dairy community through capability development.

Gemma Longford Regional Extension Officer



Rob mentors dairy trainees and those undertaking Certificate III or Certificate IV in Agriculture (Dairy Production) to help them fulfil their training aims, using industry-accredited and recognised training resources, through Western Dairy's dairy training program in partnership with South Regional TAFE.

Rob La Grange Dairy Training Officer



As Communications and Corporate Affairs Specialist, Jenelle works collaboratively to enhance the dairy industry's sustainability, profitability and reputation. She holds a Bachelor of Arts (Media Studies) from Murdoch University and has worked as a journalist and communications advisor across media, mining and Landcare sectors.

Jenelle Carter Communications Specialist

REGIONAL MANAGER'S REPORT

Following a couple of tumultuous years, Western Australian dairy farmers experienced a more positive 2021/22. A good spring was followed by a more traditional wet winter. The better season was enhanced by some processors offering dairy farmers higher milk prices in the latter part of the year, as well as added incentives for reaching various sustainability markers.

Confidence in the industry's future improved in WA, with increased positivity amongst farmers about their own businesses. This is in the face of a slightly lower total milk production in WA than in 2020/21, dropping from 362 million litres to 343 million litres this financial year, albeit from a larger average herd size. The WA dairy industry still proved to be a valuable contributor to the state economy, contributing over \$187 million this financial year.

The Western Dairy team overcame challenges posed by COVID-19 restrictions to deliver a series of successful events. The annual Spring Forum was held at the Bunbury Dolphin Discovery Centre in November along with the Western Dairy Annual General Meeting (AGM). It was at the AGM that Robin Lammie was elected as the board's new Chair.

The renowned Dairy Innovation Day event was held in a revised format at Dardanup in May and attracted approximately 198 people, even with inclement weather and COVID-19 infections at a peak in the state. Feedback from the day was very positive and we are grateful to host farmers Michael Twomey, Phil and Kevin Depiazzi for holding the afternoon sessions.

The dairy training program, run by the highly capable and newly appointed Fiona Jones, continued to gain momentum with 20 students undertaking the program in 2021/22. Fiona had the task of filling the big shoes left by Rob La Grange, who after many years of service moved to a casual role with Western Dairy in early 2022. The Western Dairy team and I thank Rob, and we wish him and his family all the best for the future.

A highlight in 2021/22 was the launch of a series of YouTube videos developed collaboratively between Western Dairy and the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER). Project Officer Dan

Parnell worked with DairyCare coordinator Bree Brown and Western Dairy Communications Specialist Jenelle Carter to outline current dairy effluent management innovation and technologies in Western Australia. The videos are available to be viewed online at Western Dairy's YouTube channel.

The Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development continued to lend support to help enhance the business acumen of WA's dairy farmers, particularly around human resources and workforce management. This was achieved through assistance in the delivery of Our Farm, Our Plan (OFOP) and the engagement of a dedicated Workforce, Human Resources and Safety team member.

Western Dairy continued to engage, if required, well-respected consultants to lead its various research projects. The Smarter Irrigation for Profit 2 (SIP2) project was led in its third and final year by agronomist Sam Taylor with some good learnings extracted and two field walks conducted.

Contractor Kirk Reynolds and agribusiness consultant Sarah Lang continued to lead the very successful Dairy Farm Monitor Project (DFMP). Participation numbers were slightly down on 2020/21, with 21 farmers taking part in 2021/22.

The board was proactive in endorsing further research work in 2021/22. In partnership with DWER, clay rate and tillage demonstrations were established at Denmark and Scott River. This work aims to improve soil structure, nutrient management and nutrition on South West dairy farms with sandy soils.

A pasture time of sowing trial was also endorsed and conducted at Sabina River. Led by consultant Graham Mussell, the trial aimed to quantify the effect of sowing times on dry matter production and identify any risk associated with very early or dry sowing of ryegrass.

As with many organisations, Western Dairy experienced several staff movements over 2021/22. In addition to the departing Rob La Grange, Jim Medew filled the newly created Workforce, Safety and HR role for a period of four months before applying his skills to the mining sector. This role was then filled by Gemma Longford, who has made it her mission to make the dairy industry an employer of choice.

India Brockman commenced in the role of Regional Extension Officer in August, replacing Jess Andony. India is an amazing asset to the Western Dairy team, with her professional attitude, love of farming and previous dairy experience.

Fiona Jones joined Western Dairy as Training Officer in late 2021. Fiona brings another dimension to the role with her experience in livestock research and extension with a particular focus on grazing management, genetic selection, maternal productivity, and ruminant nutrition.

In April 2022, Jenelle Carter departed Western Dairy to take up a position with the University of Western Australia. Jenelle had been with Western Dairy since 2019 and provided high-level communication and extension materials. The board and team would like to thank Jenelle for her service over this time. Jenelle was replaced by Rebecca Zappia, who came onboard in late June as Communications Officer.

I personally wish to thank the Western Dairy team who continue to punch above their weight. The team remains committed to a 'farmer first' mentality despite the myriad of challenges experienced in 2021/22.

I extend my thanks also to the directors of the Western Dairy board. Thank you for your continued support of the team and commitment to the betterment of WA dairy. A special mention to our Chair Robin Lammie, who I would like to thank for his hard work. I am now fortunate to call Robin both a friend and mentor.

On behalf of the Western Dairy team and Dairy Australia, we will continue to strive to provide highly professional and relevant services to WA dairy farmers. Please reach out to us at any time for further information or industry advice.

Wishing you all the best for a prosperous 2022/23.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Julianne Hill', written in a cursive style.

Julianne Hill Regional Manager

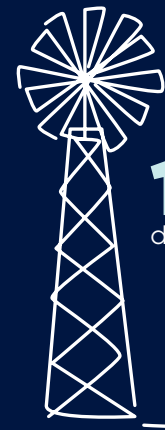


WESTERN AUSTRALIAN INDUSTRY SNAPSHOT 2021/22

344
million litres
OF MILK IN 2021/22



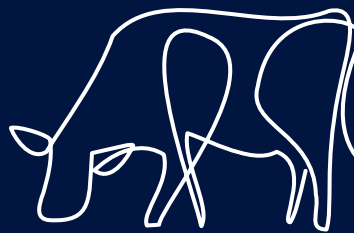
4%
OF NATIONAL PRODUCTION



116
dairy farms



1,200
people
EMPLOYED IN DAIRY



AVERAGE HERD SIZE
431
COWS

TOTAL DAIRY COWS
50,000
COWS

Table 1 Western Australia – key data 2021/22

Indicator	2021/22	2020/21	2019/20	2018/19	2017/18	2016/17
Volume (litre)	343,832,282 (p)	361,928,718	364,299,660	374,401,618	385,448,491	384,827,863
Farmgate value (¢/litre)	54.46 (p)	53.50	52.28	50.17	49.87	50.58
Value generated by milk production (\$)	187,245,569 (p)	193,631,864	190,442,251	187,837,292	192,233,005	194,646,794

(p) = provisional data

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

CLAYING BY INCORPORATION TRIAL

The Western Dairy claying by incorporation trials are examining the novel use of clay amelioration to improve pasture production on the typically sandy and low fertile soils of the Great Southern and South West regions of WA.

The trial methodology is based around the utilisation of varying clay rates and incorporation to determine the best strategy for maximising pasture production, improving soil condition and nutrient use efficiency.

This project also has the potential to reduce nutrient loss to waterways and the environment and is supported by the State Government’s Healthy Estuaries WA.

Trial site – Jenkins, Denmark

Results and discussion

Baseline soil testing was conducted for the claying site on 28 March when the site was established to determine the existing clay fraction within the topsoil and the nutrient status of the soil.

On 25 April, the clay was spread at varying rates (Figure 1) and soil strength measurements taken. The paddock was seeded with 35kg/ha of a pasture mix comprising multiple varieties of ryegrass, clover, brassicas and perennial herbs and 80kg/ha of oats on 7 May.

Plant establishment counts were conducted on 22 May and showed an even distribution of plants across each claying rate and incorporation method. The species make-up observed on 22 May, and again on 1 July, was evenly distributed across each clay rate and incorporation method. However, the brassica varieties in the pasture mix appeared in patches rather than being evenly distributed throughout each plot.

On 1 July, pasture biomass cuts were taken within the plots and GreenSeeker values were measured to determine the plant health status and growth productivity in response to the claying treatments.

Dry matter production

The feed production at the site was uniform across each of the plots in terms of feed composition. Forage grasses/legumes made up around 65 per cent of the pasture, brassicas 25 per cent and 10 per cent weeds.

There was no significant relationship between dry matter production and clay rate across both the incorporated and unincorporated plots. There was a significant biomass response to the incorporated plots versus the unincorporated plots ($p = 0.0016$), but no response to the targeted topsoil clay percentage treatments.

However, there was a significant response ($p = 0.018$) to the applied clay percentages when factoring in the

incorporation. This demonstrates the need to incorporate the clay for it to be effective. This was highlighted in the paddock where the highest clay rate was detrimental to crop production when not incorporated as the clay formed a barrier on the surface and appeared to act like a sponge, restricting water from reaching the root zone.

The mean dry matter across all the incorporated plots was 3.86t/ha, and in the unincorporated plots was 2.9t/ha. Tilling of the soil through incorporation is likely responsible for a proportion of the yield response that has been observed within the trial.

The heaviest rate of applied clay was a penalty when not incorporated. This was observed in the paddock, where the clay appeared to form a barrier on the soil surface, most likely acting as a repellent sponge, reducing plant available water at the roots of the plants.

Table 1 Average dry matter (t/ha) measured across each plot in response to claying rate and incorporation method. Plots were incorporated to approximately 15cm

Clay rate	0%	1%	3%	6%
Incorporated	4.21	3.71	3.49	4.03
Unincorporated	2.68	2.99	3.85	2.07

Figure 1 Pasture composition and biomass of six per cent clay incorporated (right) compared to six per cent clay unincorporated (left).



GreenSeeker

The GreenSeeker data highlights the impact incorporation has on plant health. All incorporated clay plots showed an increased average in GreenSeeker values. This is likely a result of the incorporation allowing the plant roots to access a greater proportion of the profile, through reducing soil strength coupled with the clay increasing nutrient and water availability.

Table 2 Average GreenSeeker value in response to targeted clay rates and incorporation method. The values are expressed as an assessment of plant vigour. Values obtained on 7 July 2022.

Clay rate	0%	1%	3%	6%
Incorporated	0.82	0.82	0.83	0.81
Unincorporated	0.83	0.75	0.78	0.79

Figure 2 Drone imagery taken on 7 July 2022 showing the difference in plant biomass and ground coverage between the incorporated and unincorporated plots

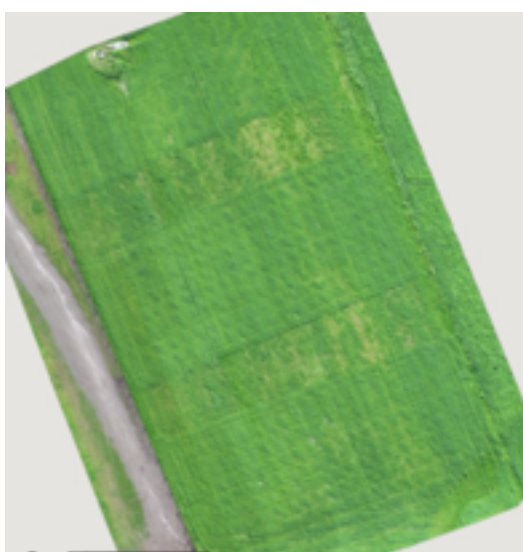
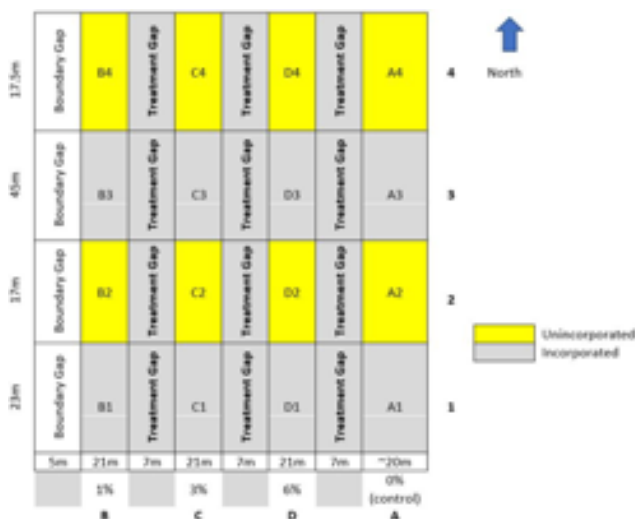


Figure 3 Trial site design at Jenkins property, Denmark



Trial site – Boley’s, Scott River

With an early break to the season, the Scott River trial site was soil tested, compaction tested, clayed, incorporated, sprayed, and seeded by the end of the first week of April. Emergence counts were taken soon after.

Emergence counts

Table 3 Number of emerged plants in each of the clay by incorporation treatments at the Scott River trial site.

Plot	A	B	C	D	Avg
Clay rate	0%	1%	3%	6%	
Incorporated	22	15	12	12	15
Not	17	11	8	8	11
Unincorporated	21	16	12	9	15
Not	20	14	9	6	12
Average	20	14	10	9	

The emergence counts showed the ryegrass seedlings in the highest clay plots were sparser, and the seedlings were also smaller than in the nil plot. There was also a clear increase in ryegrass emergence where the clay had been incorporated.

The seed mix sown by the farmer contained 68 per cent annual ryegrass, 10 per cent balansa clover, 10 per cent persian clover, five per cent leafy turnip, five per cent chicory, and two per cent plantain. Visual assessments and grazing measurements prior to the first grazing showed a huge response of the brassica where the soil had been cultivated to incorporate the clay.

The species difference in the cultivated versus non-cultivated plots was so large that the dry matter measurements on the plate metre were hardly comparable; however, it was obvious more dry matter was present in the cultivated strips compared to the non-cultivated strips. The dry matter difference between the clay rates was minimal.

In July – prior to the second grazing – the nutrient deficiencies that had been seen earlier across the trial site had been somewhat corrected and the brassica mostly eliminated due to a combination of grazing and insect pressures.

The trial site has a much more even species base now and there appears to be a possible difference between clay rates; however, plate meter measurements have not yet been conducted.

A moderate quantity of weeds such as cotula, capeweed and erodium are present in the trial area as the sowing mix rendered broadleaf herbicides difficult to utilise without affecting the pasture.

Going forward

Visual assessments and plate meter measurements will continue to be taken prior to each grazing in addition to drone biomass imagery conducted by Glenn McDonald from the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development.

GreenSeeker and other relevant measurements will be taken where appropriate, and compaction will be re-tested at field capacity. In the second and third years of the trial, liming and fertilisation of the site according to requirements, as well as species selection, will need to be carefully considered.

Figure 4 Post applications of clay, incorporation and seeding on 6 April at the Boley's property in Scott River



Figure 5 A crosshatch showing unincorporated six per cent clay treatment (below right) and incorporated clay treatment (below left) on 9 May. Note the species difference/brassicac more prevalent in the incorporated strip



FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Contact Dan Fay, Project Officer, Stirlings to Coast Farmers Inc. at Dan.Fay@scfarmers.org.au or on 0498 278 177.

PASTURE TRIAL NETWORK (PTN)

Farmers are often asking what options there are for them around grass variety choices and the appropriate agronomy packages to suit.

Dairy Australia recognised this as an opportunity for seed companies to test their numbered lines in a paddock environment. This was the genesis of the Pasture Trial Network (PTN).

The reason the work of the PTN is important is because any dairy farmer in the eastern states currently sowing ryegrass has access to an independent cultivar evaluation tool for ryegrass relevant to their region.

The main driver of the PTN comes from the Forage Value Index (FVI) and its expansion on a national basis to be relevant to all farmers in Australia to some degree.

Dairy Australia have recently added two new FVI regions in both north and south New South Wales to add to their existing regions in Victoria and Gippsland.

Unfortunately, until now, this has not been the case for Western Australian dairy farmers.

The trials in Victoria, Tasmania and New South Wales for annual and Italian ryegrass are reasonably well correlated. Dairy Australia is able to combine these into a multi-environment multi-harvest index that ranks annual and Italian ryegrass cultivars according to dry matter (DM) yield from the most to the least profitable in each region.

When Dairy Australia reviewed the limited pasture variety trial data from Western Australia, it was found that the WA trial results, and performance, were poorly correlated with the same cultivar performances in the eastern states trials. The WA pasture trial variety data had been collected over the past several years at the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD) Manjimup research station along with two trials conducted at Dardanup and Boyanup sites in 2018.

In summation, this means the trial data from the eastern states for these cultivars cannot be used confidently by WA farmers as an accurate reflection of cultivar performance in WA.

The question then arose: How can a FVI be generated that is meaningful for WA farmers if eastern states data cannot be used?

Presently, the PTN organises and conducts trials with varieties from all seed companies present in it across all of Australia.

Both farmers and seed companies are keen to see the expansion of the PTN to get the best outcome for these elite varieties and to express their yield potential.

To this end, Western Dairy have actively worked to find another host property more aligned to most dairy farmers in WA over 2021/22.

Fortunately, Garry Haddon's property at Yoongarillup was secured for this valuable work. The site is being seeded by Ian Guthridge of DPIRD and managed by Graham Mussell, an independent consultant based near Busselton.

Final results will be made available through Dairy Australia after final cuts in late spring 2022.



PTN co-ordinator Tony Butler (left) with Western Dairy Regional Manager, Julianne Hill (centre), and trial co-ordinator, Graham Mussell (right).

Trial information

Aim: Compare annual ryegrass variety dry matter production for the PTN national trials program.

Table 4 Soil test data

pH	PBI	P (mg/kg)	K (mg/kg)	S (mg/kg)	Organic C %
5.1	23.7	28	50	168	3.63

Table 5 Treatments

Variety	Seed rate (kg/ha)	Ploidy	Heading date	Company
SF Rozen	20	Diploid	Mid	Seed Force
SF Adrenalin	28	Tetraploid	Late	Seed Force
SF Speedyl	28	Tetraploid	Late	Seed Force
Hogan	28	Tetraploid	Late	Barenbrug
Astound	28	Tetraploid	Early	Valley Seeds
SF Pinnacle	28	Tetraploid	Late	Seed Force
Buster	20	Diploid	Late	Valley Seeds
Breeder line 1	28	Tetraploid		
Ascend	28	Tetraploid	Mid	DLF (Wrightsons)
Tetila	28	Tetraploid	Early	Various
Breeder Line 2	28	Tetraploid		
Breeder Line 3	28	Tetraploid		

Trial diary - Operations	Date
Summer weeds 3L/ha Glyphosate + 15mls Hammer®	24 Mar
Mulch to 40mm	28 Mar
Soil wetter 30L/ha Lure H20®	31 Mar
Winter weeds 1.8L/ha glyphosate + 15mls Hammer®	6 May
Sown dry (17mm rain on 12 May)	10 May
African Black Beetle 1.5L/ha Chlorpyrifos	10 May
Topdress 41N; 10P; 40K; 10S + CZM	1 Jun
Wintergrass 3L/ha Trammat®	13 Jun
Red Legged Earth Mite 120ml/ha Lemat®	13 Jun
Spray 3.5kg/ha Manganese sulphate	20 Jun
Clover Dicamba/MCPA 2.5L/ha	28 Jun
Topdress 30N; 20K; 15S	28 Jun
1st Harvest	13 Jul
Topdress 41N; 37K; 15S	13 Jul
Topdress 41N; 37K; 15S	5 Aug
2nd Harvest	21 Aug
Topdress 60N; 10P; 40K; 11S + CZM	25 Aug

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Contact PTN Executive Officer Tony Butler on 0432 511 011 or email tonybutler@pasturetrials.com.au or TopSoil Agriculture trial co-ordinator Graham Mussell on 0437 782 272 or email graham.mussell@gmail.com

TIME OF SOWING RYEGRASS TRIAL

At the December 2021 Western Dairy board meeting, the directors determined that they were keen to see further work done on pasture research in the dairying regions of WA. Part of this work has been addressed in this time of sowing trial.

The time of sowing ryegrass trial aims to quantify the effect of sowing times on dry matter production and identify any risk associated with very early or dry sowing ryegrass.

The site selected is loamy sand in a productive silage paddock at Haddon's property at Yoongarillup with an average rainfall of 700mm. It was cut for silage and then hay in 2021. Some ryegrass was seeded down; however, a germination test showed a seed viability of approximately 10 per cent – indicating low soil moisture was limiting the development of viable seed after two cuts.

Table 6 Soil test data

pH	PBI	P (mg/kg)	K (mg/kg)	S (mg/kg)	Organic C %
5.1	23.7	28	50	168	3.63

Soil was tested to 30cm with nutrient levels decreasing with depth. No subsoil constraints were identified through this testing.

In anticipation of a forecast 15mm cyclonic rain in late March, the first time of sowing was planted into dry soil on 24 March. A 50/50 mix of Concord® 11 and Whicher® ryegrass was sown at 25kg/ha with and without insecticide seed treatment (imidacloprid e.g.: Gaucho®).

While the cyclone only produced 7mm of rain on 28 March, a further 17mm of rain fell in the first 10 days of April and another 14mm in the last week of April. There was sufficient soil moisture to germinate the plots in April. However – despite the favourable rainfall – both the insecticide-treated and untreated plots did not germinate. An extreme African black beetle population in excess of 20 adults per m² was identified as the cause of the failed germination.

African black beetle are most active in the warm wet period during autumn and presents a risk to early sowing of ryegrass pastures. When insect pressure is high enough, insecticide seed dressings do not provide sufficient protection against African Black Beetle.

The site was sprayed with chlorpyrifos and bifenthrin and the failed first time of sowing plots resown into dry soil on 29 April. A 'breaking' rain of 17mm occurred on 12 May.

The second time of sowing was planted into moist soil on 31 May with the third sown on 15 June. These two treatments were oversown into the background pasture. However, a wintergrass weed burden was present and ideally a knockdown herbicide would be applied in a commercial situation. Drift risk onto adjacent earlier sowing times made a knockdown too risky.

Ethofumesate (e.g.: Tramat®) was used to suppress/control the wintergrass population. The price of ethofumesate has reduced substantially this year and presents an opportunity for commercial use in problem paddocks where previously it was too expensive. Ethofumesate at 3L/ha in 200L/ha of water was sprayed on time of sowing 1 and 3 on 13 June with ryegrass either at five-leaf or pre-seeding.

Ryegrass at time of sowing 2 was too young to spray at this time and was sprayed at the two-leaf stage on 28 June with 4L/ha of ethofumesate.

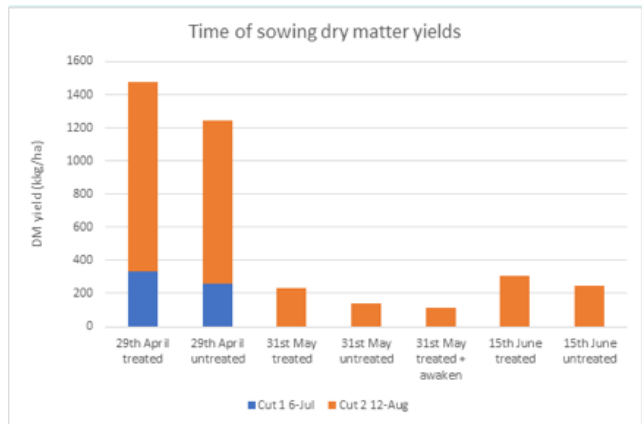
Ethofumesate was effective at suppressing wintergrass. Earlier sprays and those without ryegrass cover were more effective. Early spraying, high water rates (200–400L/ha) and an open canopy (i.e.: spray after grazing) to provide good coverage are essential elements of success with ethofumesate.

Ethofumesate does damage clover; however, established stands seem to be more tolerant. Problem wintergrass or barleygrass paddocks should not be sown down with clover if ethofumesate use is planned.

Each time of sowing was top-dressed with 10kg/ha phosphorus, 41kg/ha nitrogen, 40kg/ha potassium, 11kg/ha sulfur + copper, zinc, molybdenum three weeks after sowing. Manganese sulphate was sprayed across all treatments on 20 June at 3.5kg/ha. 41kg/ha nitrogen, 37kg/ha potassium and 15kg/ha sulfur is to be top-dressed after each cut.

Table 7 Initial results

Sowing date and seed treatment	DM yield (kg/ha)	
	Cut 1	Cut 2
29 April treated	335	1140
29 April untreated	258	989
31 May treated		234
31 May untreated		142
31 May treated + awaken		114
15 June treated		310



Weed competition is significantly reducing yields in the later two sowing times.

Future work

There are gains to be made in autumn dry matter by early sowing and sowing into a background weed population can be costly. Further work is required to measure benefits and risk over different autumn rainfall patterns.

Management of black beetle risk at very early timings was a risk identified this year. Alternative insecticide options are needed for their control if chlorpyrifos is suspended from commercial use. In furrow use of bifenthrin and imidacloprid need to be registered, and their effectiveness against African black beetle with this use pattern needs to be measured.

A treatment comparison simulating a paddock with substantial ryegrass seed set in the previous season would provide useful information on the differences between an early sown treatment at 25kg/ha versus a topdress ryegrass treatment at ~500kg/ha.

Future time of sowing trials should be done in blocks or with large plot buffers to allow for management of each sowing time without affecting adjacent plots.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Contact Graham Mussell on 0437 782 272 or email graham.mussell@gmail.com

SMARTER IRRIGATION FOR PROFIT 2

Under the Dairy Australia-led project *Smarter Irrigation for Profit 2 (SIP2): What's my yield gap? Improving water productivity*, a project of a broader cross-sector research and extension program into irrigation technologies and improved management, one of 10 dairy optimisation sites was established in 2019 under a centre pivot at Michael Twomey's Dardanup property.

The aim was to evaluate the use of installed and trialled scheduling technologies over three irrigation seasons including soil moisture monitors, on changed irrigation management and subsequent improvements in production and profitability outcomes.

A baseline year measured pasture production, water consumption and energy use. Evaluation of this data determined areas where management could be refined to improve productivity over the following two seasons.

To help guide the work at the site, a dairy optimisation site reference group was formed in 2019 to provide valuable input and feedback into the technologies and management options to be investigated. The 10-member group consisted of dairy farmers and industry personnel who prepared four key questions for the site. These are outlined below along with a summary of the main findings from the project.

Q1. Can a green drought scenario be avoided by commencing irrigation earlier in the season (mid-spring) to extend the bi-annual ryegrass?

Earlier watering maintained readily available water (RAW) in the root zone through spring and into early summer and while temperatures were cool, pasture growth rates from the predominantly white clover pasture were high. Establishment problems limited the contribution of bi-annual ryegrass, but had it established successfully, it would have responded to earlier watering.

Q2. Will the adoption of using an irrigation strategy based on depleting and refilling within the RAW zone throughout the dry season increase dry matter production in year two and three of the project?

Unfortunately, this strategy did not result in an increase in measured dry matter production on the focus pivot due to other more limiting constraints outlined above. Anecdotally, this practice was adopted by our host farmer on other pivots on the property. Although not measured, increased dry matter production compared to previous seasons was evident in these areas.

Q3. Is the current pivot irrigation system operating efficiently and according to specification? Is production maximised uniformly across the site?

A formal evaluation was carried out on the focus pivot and it was found to be operating within design specifications. Although a few sprinklers were individually found to be operating outside specification, a distribution uniformity

of 84.5 per cent was measured against a benchmark of 80 per cent; hence, no changes were required.

The pivot pressure was found to be higher than required for even distribution; however, this was the only pivot operating during the evaluation using a pumping system designed to operate four pivots. When all four operate at the same time, the operating pressure of each individual pivot would be reduced to within a more normalised range. Our host farmer is now aware operating pivots separately increases the operating pressure of a single system, resulting in increased power usage and cost per irrigation application.

Q4. If the system takes advantage of off-peak power rates by increasing the application volume but decreasing irrigation frequency, can soil moisture be maintained within RAW?

Soil moisture monitoring equipment provided accurate readings of the effects of rainfall, irrigations and plant water usage upon maintaining soil moisture within the determined RAW across three varying soil types and locations under the pivot.

A change in watering strategy to apply more water less often (12-13mm waterings every second day versus 5-6mm daily waterings) maintained RAW levels through a greater depth of the root zone.

In the late January/February/early March period when water demand was highest, some peak power irrigation was required, but by watering a greater amount less frequently, a moisture reserve was essentially created and this reduced the need for constant irrigation.

Identifying constraints to maximising production under irrigation

An unexpected outcome of this work was pasture production was not improved in the second season despite adoption of the 'improved' irrigation management techniques and technologies. Further site characterisation was required to understand what was constraining pasture productivity as irrigation did not appear to be the limiting factor.

Investigation of plant available nutrient levels in both soil and plant tests showed no deficiencies holding back pasture growth. The soil test revealed Exchangeable Sodium Percentage (ESP) levels (12 per cent ESP) indicated mildly sodic soil in the top 10cm and sodic (20 per cent ESP) in the 10-20cm horizon.

Further to this, irrigation water was evaluated for its suitability and found to have a Sodium Adsorption Ratio (SAR) of 5.2, where ideally it would be less than three. The impact of prolonged use of irrigation water with a high SAR has contributed to soil structure decline (sodicity), ultimately impacting pasture growth rates at this site.



Appropriateness of white clover as the major component of the pasture sward in summer was also investigated as a constraint to maximising production under this pivot. White clover has a preferred heat range for optimal growth between 18°C and 30°C.

As Table 8 shows, during the spring and autumn, when temperature conditions are relatively mild, pasture growth rates achieved were very encouraging. Dry matter measurements taken between 18 October and 12 November revealed a pasture growth rate of 62.8 kg/ha per day when the temperature did not exceed 30°C. From 13 November to 3 December, pasture growth was even greater at 90.5 kg/ha per day. During this period, only two per cent of temperature observations (481) exceeded 30°C. As temperatures increased deeper into summer, pasture growth rates declined.

Table 8 Initial results

Measurement period	kgDM/ha/day	No. of temp. observations	% observations > 30°C
18 Oct – 12 Nov	62.8	600	0
13 Nov – 3 Dec	90.5	481	2
4 Dec – 27 Dec	54	555	12
28 Dec – 18 Jan	50	500	20
19 Jan – 7 Feb	25.6	357	34

Hot conditions in late December, January and early February saw pasture growth rates decline significantly when temperature observations were consistently greater than 30°C.

Similar observations were made for the remainder of February, while pasture growth began to increase marginally to 37.6 kg/ha per day once temperatures cooled from March 1 to March 28. Of 658 temperature observations, only 10 per cent of records were above 30°C.

While the SIP2 Dardanup dairy optimisation site was established to evaluate if enhanced irrigation management, supported by the use of irrigation technologies, would increase dry matter production, site results demonstrate irrigation may not always be the greatest constraint to maximising production.

A wide range site of characteristics needs to be considered to ensure no other limitations are present that negate the effects of improved irrigation management.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Contact Sam Taylor on 0429 332 593 or email sam@agvivo.com.au

Smarter Irrigation for Profit 2: What's my yield gap? Maximising water productivity project is supported by funding from the Australian Government Department of Agriculture as part of its Rural R&D for Profit program and Dairy Australia. It is supported locally by Western Dairy.

SMARTER IRRIGATION FOR PROFIT DAIRY CASE STUDY

Optimising homegrown feed in WA

Adopting new technology and altering irrigation practices has helped one Western Australian dairy farmer grow more pasture.

Dardanup milk producer, Michael Twomey, now uses deeper soil moisture probes to inform irrigation timing and SWAN system forecasts as a guide to watering volumes applied to his homegrown feed. These tools help him maintain the readily available water (RAW) – a measure of water in the soil available for extraction by plants – to ensure maximum irrigation efficiency.

“With the probes up to 400mm deep we were able to monitor the RAW in the ground which meant we basically started watering a lot earlier than we did historically because we were keeping the RAW available to the plant,” he said.

“It’s a different approach to when we started (irrigating) and we’d just go by eye, until we’d think the soil was dry enough.

“Generally, if we are waiting for this (the soil to dry out), it was too late and then we’d spend all summer catching-up the water starved plants. It meant the pasture looked green, but it wasn’t growing. Keeping the water up to the plant meant it kept growing.”

These changes resulted in Michael growing 59 per cent more dry matter – chicory and white clover – tonnes per day under centre pivot irrigation. This additional feed reduced the amount of silage and grain required to maintain the diet of his 400 Holstein-Jersey herd.

Michael adopted this technology and practices following three seasons as an ‘optimisation site’ for the Smarter Irrigation for Profit phase 2 program (SIP2), funded by the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, and Dairy Australia.

This program ran across three seasons and was designed to improve the knowledge and practices of local dairy industry irrigators and service providers.

Michael’s 220-hectare dairy farm includes 100ha of irrigation watered by three centre pivots. This irrigation system was designed to enable all pivots to operate concurrently to maximise the use of off-peak power.

A centre pivot irrigating 12ha was the focus of the “optimisation site” trials.

Guided by the soil moisture probes and SWAN Systems weatherwise daily forecasts, Michael irrigated this trial area earlier and used more water to meet the plants’ RAW.

He said this change meant he grew more pasture, but it also proved “quite costly” to grow grass across the summer. Decisions about feed were not however always straight forward.



Cath Lescun of Dairy Australia (left) and Julianne Hill of Western Dairy (right) meet with dairy farmer, Michael Twomey, at his property in Dardanup.

“There are so many factors that go into feed, for example fertiliser is ultra-expensive and we’ve been able to buy good hay for \$200 a tonne,” he said.

“If it is costing \$300-plus per tonne to grow grass, getting good quality hay might be an option.”

The variability of seasons also adds another dimension to feed budgeting and irrigation planning.

While “every year is different under the pivot,” Michael said a run of 10 days of 32 to 35 degrees Celsius often shuts down the growth of the chicory and white clover.

In contrast, millet, which wasn’t part of the trial but was grown under other irrigation, appeared to thrive – even during hot periods.

As part of the search to find more irrigation-efficient plant species, in the second and third season of the Smarter Irrigation for Profit phase 2 program, millet was over-sown into the white clover and chicory in early spring. This wasn’t successful however due to the strong competition from the white clover and chicory, while growth of other millet under irrigation was limited by soil and water quality.

Michael said the white clover and chicory delivers production benefits of 1 litre per cow per day, so he has no plans to remove this feed mix and replace it with something more heat tolerant.

Looking ahead, Michael will continue to use the soil moisture probes and combine them with his existing GDot soil moisture technology – shallower probes with a light-guide as an indication of soil RAW – to advise irrigation scheduling. The SWAN system will also continue to be used to advise irrigation volumes.

“Sam Taylor (the agronomist and optimisation site coordinator) compared it against the weather data, and it came out pretty good. It would be even better if we could also get rainfall and evaporation data after the fact too, that would make irrigation scheduling even more accurate,” Michael said.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Contact Cath Lescun, Dairy Australia National Soils and Irrigation Lead at
Cath.Lescun@dairyaustralia.com.au.

EXTENSION

The Western Dairy team delivered a total of 66 extension events and activities throughout the 2021/22 financial year, attracting over 1,300 attendees.

Western Australian farmers are leading the uptake of the new Our Farm, Our Plan (OFOP) program with 18 per cent of WA dairy businesses taking part this financial year. Other popular events included the annual Business Breakfast and Spring Forum, as well as online employment webinars, the new Rearing Healthy Calves workshops and farm safety events. Also popular were the new Young Dairy Network discussion groups held on several different farms. Western Dairy's Innovation Day returned despite escalating COVID-19 case numbers in the days leading up. Held in a new hybrid format, 198 delegates attended the morning session at Dardanup Hall followed by farm tours at Michael Twomey and Phil and Kevin Depiazzi's dairies in the afternoon.

A black-tie Gala Dinner at Bunbury Regional Entertainment Centre concluded Innovation Day,

with 75 attendees dressed to impress and ready to celebrate the state's dairy industry in style.

Western Dairy continued to inform farmers and service providers of the latest news and events via monthly Dairy Digest e-newsletters and the hard-copy Tanker Drop, plus regular social media posts on the Western Dairy Facebook and Twitter channels.



The Young Dairy Network (YDN) met a number of times during 2021/22.

Table 7 Extension activities

Event	Attendance	Information
Young Dairy Network (YDN) discussion group 15 July 2021, Busselton	14 YDN members	An on-farm meeting of YDN members to discuss and learn about grazing and pasture management at Stockdale Pastoral.
Western Dairy Business Breakfast 22 July 2021, Busselton	73 industry attendees	An annual event aimed at service providers, presenting the latest WA and Australian insights from Dairy Australia's Situation and Outlook report. The 2021 event also focused on the emerging carbon alternate entry pathways into the industry and demand for alternate processing opportunities in WA.
Western Dairy lunch with the Board 18 August 2021, Northcliffe	5 farmers	The Board moves the location of its meetings to different dairy sub-regions every two months, allowing them to meet with local farmers and discuss regional issues.
Dairy Business Network - Vasse region 24 August 2021, Forrest Grove	9 farmers	A group of farmers meet regularly to discuss their physical and financial performance, seasonal strategies, and to tour the host farm.
Our Farm, Our Plan (OFOP) intensive workshop 7 and 8 September 2021, Manjimup	11 farmers	Adapting the original OFOP delivery, this intensive overnight workshop was a national first.
YDN discussion group 10 September 2021, Boyanup	23 YDN members	An on-farm meeting of YDN members to discuss and learn about calf-rearing and genomics at Elgin Dairies.
WA Women in Dairy Lunch 14 September 2021, Torbay	14 Farmers	WA Women in Dairy network lunch and guest speaker, former RIRDC Australian Rural Woman of the Year Sue Middleton, sharing her change management, farm business and people insights.
Smarter Irrigation for Profit 2 (SIP2) site update and irrigation season prep Workshop 24 September 2021, Dardanup	5 farmers	Presented by Sam Taylor, this update discussed water usage and irrigation issues from the SIP2 site.

Event	Attendance	Information
Cups On Cups Off (COCO) workshop 29 and 30 September 2021, Harvey	7 farmers	Presented by accredited Countdown Advisor Dr Dario Nandapi, this two-day workshop covered best practice milking management and mastitis prevention.
Dairy Business Network – Vasse Region 20 October 2021, Abba River	15 farmers	A group of farmers meet regularly to discuss their physical and financial performance, seasonal strategies, and to tour the host farm.
Murdoch University Careers Day 20 October 2021, Perth	~100 university students	The team promoted dairy as a career with diverse options to existing Murdoch University students.
Western Dairy dinner with the Board 20 October 2021, Margaret River	18 farmers	The Board moves the location of its meetings to different dairy sub-regions every two months, allowing them to meet with local farmers and discuss regional issues.
Brunswick Show 23 October 2021, Brunswick	25,000 public	For the first time, Western Dairy attended the Brunswick Show sharing a tent with WA Farmers Dairy Council. Members of the public chatted to Western Dairy representatives about jobs in dairy and other topics.
Western Dairy Strategic Plan review – Stakeholder Session 17 November 2021, Bunbury	18 industry members	Stakeholder session to workshop the new strategic plan for Western Dairy. Industry members were invited to be part of the discussion as to the future direction of the organisation.
Healthy Estuaries Effluent Demonstration Day 18 November 2021, Denmark	10 industry representatives and 3 farmers	Effluent Demonstration Day for local government, environmental officers and land-use planners at Denmark Agricultural College. Introduced the new Code of Practice to local government and provided on-farm practical demonstrations.
Overseas Workers information webinar 23 November 2021, Online	47 farmers	Informative webinar discussing opportunities and processes involved with the Pacific Australia Labour Mobility Scheme.
COCO Lite Workshop 24 November 2021, Scott River	9 farmers	Presented by accredited Countdown Advisor Dr Dario Nandapi, this intensive one-day workshop covered best practice milking management and mastitis prevention.
Healthy Estuaries Effluent Demonstration Day 24 November, Busselton	10 Industry representatives and 2 host farmers	Effluent Demonstration Day for local government, environmental officers and land-use planners at Denmark Agricultural College. Introduced the new Code of Practice to local government and provided on-farm practical demonstrations.
Rearing Healthy Calves workshop 24 November, Northcliffe	4 farmers	Delivered by accredited trainers, attendees learn best practice in farm safety, animal welfare and guidance for individuals to excel as calf-rearers.
South West Job Seekers workshop 26 November 2021, Bunbury	20 attendees	Western Dairy attended this workshop to promote the dairy industry for job seekers in the area.
Western Dairy Spring Forum and Annual General Meeting 30 November 2021, Bunbury	80 farmers and service providers	The 2021 Spring Forum presented the latest Dairy Farm Monitoring Project results, as well as talks on how to make the most of the emerging carbon market and the ongoing DairyCare project.
Farm Safety tour and workshop 7 December 2021, Busselton	18 farmers	A tour with SafeFarms WA Executive Officer Maree Gooch to learn more about farm safety with a particular focus on new starters and inexperienced workers.
WA Women in Dairy Lunch 7 December 2021, Vasse	13 farmers	A lunch for WA women in dairy with guest speaker Maree Gooch in attendance. Topics covered include farm safety and marketing the industry to consumers.
Dairy Business Network group – North region 14 December 2021, Dardanup	11 farmers	A group of farmers meet regularly to discuss their physical and financial performance, seasonal strategies, and to tour the host farm.
COCO Lite Workshop 28 January 2022, Harvey	6 farmers	Presented by accredited Countdown Advisor Dr Dario Nandapi, this intensive one-day workshop covered best practice milking management and mastitis prevention.
YDN OFOP Intensive pilot workshop 31 January and 1 February 2022, Bunbury	5 YDN members	A national pilot, YDN members explored the use of the existing OFOP framework in planning their own careers.
Dairy Poll: A Bite to Eat and Chat with Western Dairy and WAFarmers 31 January 2022, Busselton	6 farmers and 2 Board directors	Farmers were invited to join directors of Western Dairy and representatives of WAFarmers Dairy Council to discuss the upcoming Dairy Poll and other important industry issues.

Event	Attendance	Information
Dairy Poll: A Bite to Eat and Chat with Western Dairy and WAFarmers 1 February 2022, Wokalup	8 farmers	Farmers were invited to join directors of Western Dairy and representatives of WAFarmers Dairy Council to discuss the upcoming Dairy Poll and other important industry issues.
Dairy Poll: A Bite to Eat and Chat with Western Dairy and WAFarmers 1 February 2022, Dardanup	3 farmers	Farmers were invited to join directors of Western Dairy and representatives of WAFarmers Dairy Council to discuss the upcoming Dairy Poll and other important industry issues.
Rearing Healthy Calves workshop 2 and 4 February 2022, Harvey	14 farmers	Delivered by accredited trainers, attendees learn best practice in farm safety, animal welfare and guidance for individuals to excel as calf-rearers.
OFOP Intensive workshop 7 and 8 February 2022, Margaret River	9 farmers	A group of farmers met to take advantage of the successful intensive format of the OFOP program.
Dairy Poll: A Bite to Eat and Chat with Western Dairy and WAFarmers 9 February 2022, Northcliffe	6 farmers and 2 Board directors	Farmers were invited to join directors of Western Dairy and representatives of WAFarmers Dairy Council to discuss the upcoming Dairy Poll and other important industry issues.
Dairy Poll: A Bite to Eat and Chat with Western Dairy and WAFarmers 9 February 2022, Margaret River	12 farmers	Farmers were invited to join directors of Western Dairy and representatives of WAFarmers Dairy Council to discuss the upcoming Dairy Poll and other important industry issues.
Dairy Business Network - Vasse region 10 February 2022, Scott River	14 farmers	A group of farmers meet regularly to discuss their physical and financial performance, seasonal strategies, and to tour the host farm.
OFOP Intensive workshop 10 and 11 February 2022, Waroona	7 farmers	A group of farmers met to take advantage of the successful intensive format of the OFOP program.
COCO Workshop 15 and 16 February 2022, Denmark	13 farmers	Presented by accredited Countdown Advisor Dr Dario Nandapi, this two-day workshop covered best practice milking management and mastitis prevention.
Dairy Poll: A Bite to Eat and Chat with Western Dairy and WAFarmers 16 February 2022, Denmark	17 farmers, 2 industry	Farmers were invited to join directors of Western Dairy and representatives of WAFarmers Dairy Council to discuss the upcoming Dairy Poll and other important industry issues.
YDN South Coast Meet and Greet 16 February 2022, Denmark	9 YDN members	A social opportunity for South Coast YDN members to meet committee members and advise on future events to be held in the area.
Dairy Business Network - North region 18 February 2022, Bengel	10 farmers	A group of farmers meet regularly to discuss their physical and financial performance, seasonal strategies, and to tour the host farm.
#6Bs "Barbecue in a Bin" 24 March 2022, Boyanup	35 farmers	The team engaged the popular #6Bs initiative to host a mental health night for interested farmers at Vic Rodwell's dairy.
Emergency First Aid training 31 March 2022, Denmark	5 farmers	Provided farmers subsidised access to the St John Ambulance First Aid Essentials Course. Practical skills learnt to save a life across a range of first aid emergencies on-farm.
Emergency First Aid training 6 April 2022, Busselton	6 farmers	Provided farmers subsidised access to the St John Ambulance First Aid Essentials Course. Practical skills learnt to save a life across a range of first aid emergencies on-farm.
Emergency First Aid training 8 April 2022, Northcliffe	5 farmers	Provided farmers subsidised access to the St John Ambulance First Aid Essentials Course. Practical skills learnt to save a life across a range of first aid emergencies on-farm.
Rearing Healthy Calves workshop 19 and 20 April 2022, Busselton	10 farmers	Delivered by accredited trainers, attendees learn best practice in farm safety, animal welfare and guidance for individuals to excel as calf-rearers.
Western Dairy dinner with the Board 20 April 2022, Wokalup	14 farmers	The Board moves the location of its meetings to different dairy sub-regions every two months, allowing them to meet with local farmers and discuss regional issues.
Murdoch University Dairy Seminar 22 April 2022, Perth	15 university students	In conjunction with Holstein Australia representatives, Western Dairy delivered a seminar on showing and breeding cattle to interested Murdoch University students ahead of their field trip to the WA Holstein Autumn Fair.
WA Holstein Autumn Fair 30 April 2022, Brunswick	80 attendees	The annual Holstein Australia cattle show at Brunswick. Western Dairy supported planning of the event and provided assistance on the day.

Event	Attendance	Information
Business Vision and Strategy with Nollaig Heffernan 2 May 2022, Busselton	21 farmers	Dr Nollaig Heffernan presented on how to set a clear and positive vision for dairy businesses and winning strategies that can be implemented to achieve goals.
Employer of Choice workshop with Dr Nollaig Heffernan 3 May 2022, Busselton	13 farmers	Dr Nollaig Heffernan discussed what prospective employees are seeking and how businesses can have the best chance of retaining great people.
Dairy Innovation Day conference and exhibition 12 May 2022, Dardanup	198 delegates	The largest event of the Western Dairy calendar. Dairy farmers and industry members journeyed to Dardanup townsite for morning presentations on carbon accounting, the benefits of DFMP and business strategies. Afternoon farm tours occurred at the Twomey and Depiazzi dairies to showcase on-farm successes.
Dairy Innovation Day Gala Dinner 12 May 2022, Bunbury	75 guests	Following Innovation Day, guests were entertained by Dr Paul Woods AO who urged attendees to be proud of their industry and contributions.
Perth Careers Expo 13, 14, and 15 May , Perth	7,500 Attendees	Western Dairy attended the Perth Careers Expo promoting career opportunities in the dairy industry.
South West Careers Expo 16 May, Bunbury	2,000+ students	Western Dairy attended the South West Careers Expo promoting career opportunities in the dairy industry.
Cows Create Careers (CCC) school visit 17 May 2022, Busselton	Year 8 classes	Western Dairy visited Georgiana Molloy Anglican School to support the students CCC coursework. Students enjoyed taking care of calves loaned by local dairy farmer Oscar Negus.
Feeding Pastures for Profit (FPFP) workshop 18 and 19 May 2022, Brunswick	10 farmers	The FPFP course aims to provide farmers and staff the skills and tools to achieve the profitable balance between home grown feed and supplement use.
CCC school visit 26 May 2022, Busselton	Year 7 classes	Western Dairy visited Cornerstone Christian College to support the students CCC coursework. Students enjoyed taking care of calves loaned by local dairy farmer Scott Hamilton.
CCC school visit 31 May 2022, Manjimup	Year 9 and 10 classes	Western Dairy visited Manjimup Senior High School to support the students CCC coursework. Students enjoyed taking care of calves loaned by local dairy farmers Julie and Wally Bettink.
Western Dairy Board/WA Farmers Dairy Council Meeting 2 June 2022, Bunbury	17 attendees	Combined Western Dairy/WA Farmers Dairy Council board meeting. Attendees took the opportunity to foster stronger relations and discuss regional issues.
CCC school visit 2 June 2022, Donnybrook	Year 8 classes	Western Dairy visited Donnybrook District High School to support the students CCC coursework. Students enjoyed taking care of calves loaned by local dairy farmer Ray Kitchen.
Bunbury Jobs Fair 8 June 2022, Bunbury	400 attendees	Western Dairy attended the Bunbury Jobs Fair promoting career opportunities in the dairy industry.
Dairy Business Network - North region 8 June 2022, Boyanup	15 farmers	A group of farmers meet regularly to discuss their physical and financial performance, seasonal strategies and to tour the host farm.
Dairy Business Network - Vasse region 15 June 2022, Kalgup	12 farmers	A group of farmers meet regularly to discuss their physical and financial performance, seasonal strategies, and to tour the host farm.
CCC Presentation Day 23 June 2022, Online	All WA CCC classes	Students presented their course work in an online forum and were awarded prizes by Western Dairy.
Employing Overseas Workers webinar 23 June 2022, Online	14 farmers	An online webinar with migration agent, Darren Chatt from Visa Go Australia, to learn more about addressing labour shortages via the employment of overseas workers.
YDN Social Night 24 June 2022, Busselton	13 YDN members	Social dinner for YDN members in Busselton. This was an opportunity for members to meet the YDN committee and advise what events they would like to do more of.

BUSINESS PERFORMANCE

Our Farm, Our Plan

Developed by Dairy Australia, with support from Gardiner Dairy Foundation and DairyNZ, Our Farm, Our Plan (OFOP) is designed to help farmers identify long-term goals, improve business performance, and manage volatility.

The Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD) continued to lend support in 2021/22 to help enhance the business acumen of WA's dairy farmers by co-funding the delivery of OFOP.

Western Dairy had a target of 15 farm businesses undertake OFOP in 2021/22. The Western Dairy team, with support from Dairy Australia's Neil Webster and Greg Duncan, delivered above this target with 29 individuals from 17 different dairy farm businesses undertaking the three workshops and two one-on-ones conducted throughout the year.

In 2021/22, some Western Dairy staff and consultants were upskilled to help deliver OFOP including Sarah Lang, Rob La Grange, Dan Parnell and Gemma Longford.

Western Dairy are keen to establish one or two more OFOP groups in 2022/23, which will see more than 25 per cent of WA dairy farmers undertake this program.



The Margaret River Oue Farm, Our Plan group met for the first time with Rob La Grange in October 2021.



Rob La Grange leads the discussion with the Manjimup Our Farm, Our Plan group.

Dairy Farm Monitor Project

With support from Dairy Australia, Western Dairy continued to collect farm financial and physical data from 21 farms to prepare the annual Dairy Farm Monitor benchmarking report for 2020/21.

This critical document provides validated evidence of the performance of WA dairy farms. It enables individuals to compare their own performance against similar systems over the past eight years and make data-driven decisions. Importantly, it provides the rationale to support investment decisions in WA dairy.

The 2020/21 year experienced an improvement in business performance with return on total assets averaging 5.5 per cent, up from 3.9 per cent last year. The median income from milk improved by 1 per cent. Higher beef and export heifer prices saw livestock trading profit increase by 56 per cent; however, this remains a small proportion of gross farm income.

A favourable winter and spring allowed for greater average fodder conservation. Purchased feed costs were down 16 per cent due to a wet early autumn, enabling seeding and cows grazing earlier, coupled with concentrate prices dropping by \$22/t DM to \$481/t.

In 2020/21, the average participant from the 21 businesses achieved a return of equity of 10.8 per cent. Milk price averaged 53 c/L and the average cost of production 50 c/L.

The outlook remains positive with 65 per cent of participants expecting business returns to remain stable with none expecting a decline.

Dairy Business Network (DBN)

Facilitated by Kirk Reynolds, two business discussion groups referred to as DBN North and DBN Vasse meet every six to eight weeks to share business learnings with each other.

Each host farm discusses their physical and financial performance from the previous financial year. They also share their philosophies on resource management of land, labour and cows, as well as what drives their business.

Group members receive an insight into how each business runs and the opportunity to see first-hand the “real” performance of each different farm under the current season.

As part of each meet, members also discuss seasonal strategies and the daily marginal feed performance of each business. The support and discussion around current challenges, coupled with their current margin over feed calculation, helps provide confidence in decision making. Members can then opt to improve on a current practice or look to adopt new skills already tried and tested by a fellow member.

The DBN North group restarted their meetings after many members opted to tackle Dairy Australia’s OFOP program. This year, members took the opportunity to “line-up” their 2020/21 performances in context with seasonal conditions. This powerful comparative insight has developed due to the trust and support developed over many years within the network.

With both groups continually stating how much they value their meetings, they were kind enough to allow access to interested parties to attend one of their sessions in June.

DBN North

Kim Gardiner, Anthony Commisso, Warrick Tyrrell, Matthew Brett, Michael Twomey, Phil Depiazzi, Kevin Depiazzi, Michael Partridge, Victor Rodwell and Dale Hanks.

DBN Vasse

Oscar Negus, Kieran Chapman, Garry Haddon, Scott and Sharon Hamilton, Wes and Sarah Lammie, Scott and Michelle Weldon, Steve and Brad Noakes, Edward Cox, Brad and Sam Boley.



Kirk Reynolds talks business with the DBN Vasse.



ENVIRONMENT

Dairy for Healthy Estuaries WA

The Healthy Estuaries WA – Dairy for Healthy Estuaries partnership between the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) and Western Dairy continued during 2021/22. Healthy Estuaries WA is a four-year State Government program to protect and improve the health of seven key South West estuaries: Peel-Harvey estuary, Leschenault Estuary, Vasse-Geographe waterways, Hardy Inlet, Wilson Inlet, Torbay Inlet and Oyster Harbour.

The aim of the Dairy for Healthy Estuaries effluent project is to reduce the nutrient footprint from dairy effluent by working with dairy farms to drive awareness and provide support to improve effluent management that aligns with the *Code of Practice for Dairy Farm Effluent Management WA 2021* (the Code).

Business case for effluent management and focus farms

As part of the new partnership project, Dairy for Healthy Estuaries, four focus farms will provide opportunities to measure change resulting from the implementation of Best Management Practices (BMPs) that meet the Code.

The project will demonstrate the BMPs are underpinned by good science and monitoring will aim to quantify and demonstrate the farm management and financial benefits of adopting effluent BMPs on WA dairy farms. Additionally, some of the farms will also offer opportunities to link with other nutrient management research activities such as the DWER soil amendment trials.

The focus farms play an important role in extension of the BMPs and engaging farmers in 'what works' for a range of dairy farming systems.

Extension activities will facilitate farmer-to-farmer learning while ensuring practices are being promoted to meet the Code.

Effluent management system reviews

Post-upgrade effluent system reviews have been conducted on the 31 farms involved in the capital upgrades of the Regional Estuaries Initiative/RGW DairyCare program (2016–2020). These reviews showed there were substantial improvements in most areas of effluent management. In particular, effluent storage improved dramatically from five per cent of farms meeting the Code to 86 per cent. Effluent application also improved from five per cent to 76 per cent of farmers meeting the Code.

An area of weakness for effluent systems assessed against the Code was the new standard for solids storage (Standard 2B). Improving this component of effluent management will be a focus of future activities.

Five system reviews of a target of 20 have also been completed on farms that did not take part in a DairyCare upgrade.

Effluent management plans

Effluent management plans provide a detailed report on technical recommendations for effluent management and are a pre-cursor to on-farm upgrades. These plans are provided by qualified effluent system designers and provide farm-specific solutions to effluent management in consultation with farmers and service providers.

Through the Healthy Estuaries WA program, Western Dairy continues to offer these plans to farmers, with four plans being completed during 2021/22 and a further two in the draft phase. Twelve plans will be developed by the end of the project.

Communications: Effluent System Video Series and Factsheets

Western Dairy, in partnership with DWER, produced a series of five social media videos covering effluent treatment technologies and practices that build upon the findings in the Review of Effluent Technologies (Price and Tate, 2021).

The topics featured in the video series were automated backing gate yard wash systems, recycling effluent for yard wash, synthetic lined effluent ponds and effluent application systems. An additional video outlined the importance and usefulness of the Code to farmers, industry (including processors) and government agencies.

The video series were supported by technical factsheets posted on the Western Dairy website for farmers and service providers to refer to when designing effluent systems or for further information.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Contact Western Dairy regional extension officer Dan Parnell at dan.parnell@westerndairy.com.au

DAIRY TRAINING PROGRAM

Western Dairy and South Regional TAFE (SRTAFE) continue to partner to deliver the Certificate III in Dairy Production and the Certificate IV in Agriculture to staff employed on dairy farms in Western Australia.

Since the partnership began in 2016, a total of 54 trainees have completed either certificate.

The certificate courses take approximately 12 months to complete, and trainees are visited monthly by Western Dairy's training officer, Fiona Jones, to support them in completing all units. There have been almost 190 one-on-one student visits over this financial year.

The certificates have many benefits for the industry as they comprise on-farm skills training and knowledge training components.

Staff completing the Certificate III should be confident and competent to effectively carry out most duties on a farm with the knowledge of why they are doing what they are doing. Staff completing the Certificate IV should understand the farm business at the operational management level and be able to contribute to the decision-making process. The Certificate IV is designed for those currently in management roles or who are looking to progress to management level.

21 trainees enrolled in Western Dairy's training program for 2021/22, largely due to the training incentive program introduced by the State Government in 2020. Feedback to date has been positive from both trainees and farmers who have appreciated the financial support and the value gained from the training.

An extension of Western Dairy's contract for the program with SRTAFE from March 2023 is in progress, with the intention of being finalised in the first half of next financial year.

Cows Create Careers

Western Dairy staff participated in the annual Dairy Australia-funded program, Cows Create Careers (CCC), held in various schools in the South West region.

The program is aimed at providing high school students in years 7 to 10 an insight into the WA dairy industry and the many career opportunities available in agriculture.

Participating schools in 2021/22 included Donnybrook District High School, Manjimup Senior High School, Eaton Community College (visited by Carl Dinkelmann of Lactalis), Cornerstone Christian College and Georgiana Molloy Anglican School.

Students had the opportunity to care for two three-week-old calves per school during the term, which were kindly donated by local farmers Scott and Sharon Hamilton, Paul Ieraci, Ray Kitchen, Julie Bettink and Oscar Negus.

India Brockman and Julianne Hill visited four schools as industry advocates and discussed with students their experiences raising calves on school property over the three weeks they were in their care.

The students spent time exploring the many industry roles involved in a successful dairy operation, with Western Dairy representatives supporting the students as they moved through the CCC curriculum.



Students at Georgiana Molloy Anglican School care for their two calves as part of the CCC program.



WORKFORCE, SAFETY AND HR

Farmers and dairy businesses across Western Australia are recovering from a particularly challenging three years.

Chronic labour shortages, continued workforce disruptions due to COVID-19 and a slow return of Australia's international borders reopening have placed significant strain on WA businesses, particularly those in dairy.

In identifying and responding to these challenges, the Western Dairy board successfully sourced external funding for workforce attraction, HR and safety initiatives from the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development. These initiatives support dairy businesses with training opportunities, workshops, extension activities and industry promotion to attract and retain a quality workforce.

Over the course 2021/22, the workforce, HR and safety extension portfolio facilitated various activities to support dairy employers to lead the way in agricultural safety and employment standards.

Employing overseas workers

Attracting an overseas workforce is an area of interest to many farmers interested in diversifying their search for workers.

In November, Western Dairy hosted a webinar outlining opportunities available through the Pacific Australia Labour Mobility Scheme (PALMS). Adrienne Ritchie from Food Industry People Group (FIP) provided updates on the PALMS, including the role of the Federal Government's authorised employers and what they can offer to dairy farmers. Shawn Selles from the Department of Home Affairs also provided information on the Dairy Industry Labour Agreement, the Ag Australia visa and the South West WA Designated Area Migration Agreement (DAMA).

Another webinar was held in June with migration agent, Darren Chatt of Visa Go Australia, to discuss addressing labour shortages via the employment of overseas workers through utilising the DAMA and Dairy Industry Labour Agreement.

First aid training

In April, the Western Dairy board supported farmers wanting to upskill through subsidised first aid training held in Denmark, Northcliffe and Busselton. Participants learnt practical skills to save a life in a range of first aid emergencies on farm.

Feedback on participation in first aid training has been resoundingly positive and was deemed a valuable addition to the calendar.

Becoming an Employer of Choice

The ever-popular employer of choice workshop was held in Busselton by leading dairy management consultant, Dr Nollaig Heffernan, in May. Employers had the opportunity to learn what prospective employees are seeking and how their business can have the best chance of retaining great people.

During the workshop, Dr Heffernan also outlined how to set a clear and positive vision for your dairy business and the winning strategies you can implement to achieve your business goals.

Industry representation

Western Dairy attended three major employment and careers expos across the South West and Perth in 2021/22, promoting the rewarding career opportunities available throughout the dairy industry. These include the 2022 Perth Careers Expo, the Bunbury Jobs and Skills Expo and the South West Careers Expo.

These expos have focused on targeting a variety of jobseekers such as those considering a change in vocation, high school, TAFE and university graduates, and Year 9 and 10 students determining their future study and career pathways.



Western Dairy regional extension officer, India Brockman, with Emily and Josie Marston at the Bunbury Jobs and Skills Expo.

Women in Dairy

In September, Western Dairy in partnership with the Western Australian Women in Dairy network, held the annual Women in Dairy event at the Hortin family's new function centre in Torbay. Former Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation (RIRDC) Australian Rural Woman of the Year and executive director of Brennan Rural Group, Sue Middleton, was guest speaker and shared her tips on change management, farm business and people insights.

A second Women in Dairy event was held in December with special guests Maree Gooch, Executive Officer of FarmSafe WA, and Dr Laura Stocker, WA Farmers Dairy Council executive manager, in attendance to discuss farm safety, HR and visa matters.



Entrepreneur Sue Middleton spoke at the Women in Dairy event at Torbay in September.



Attendees of the Women in Dairy event at the scenic Old Dairy function centre in Torbay.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Contact Western Dairy regional extension officer Gemma Longford at gemma.longford@westerndairy.com.au

ROB LA GRANGE TRIBUTE

Rob La Grange moved from a part-time role to casual during the 2021/22 year, staying on to deliver Our Farm, Our Plan as well as assisting newcomer Fiona Jones move into the dairy training role.

During the latter part of the financial year, ill-health saw Rob step back from his work with Western Dairy. We wish him all the very best.

"Rob has been the Dennis Cometti in WA dairy. Rob is a modest and intelligent man, who nurtured our greatest resource: young people. Rob enthusiastically helped many a young person to begin their dairy career. We wish you all the best Rob and thank you for all you've given."

Robin Lammie, Western Dairy Chair

"I am proud to say I was on the interview panel that was instrumental in bringing Rob to Western Dairy. This was back in a time when it was most unusual to interview someone remotely. Fortunately for the WA dairy industry, we persisted with the technology of the time and succeeded in extracting Rob La Grange from Tasmania to the West.

He was a simply outstanding candidate for the role of Dairy Industry Development Specialist (DIDS) as we called it back then – and his employment was the pre-cursor to the Regional Development Programs being the home of dairy extension.

When Western Dairy employed Rob, no other RDP in the country had a person like him and all were completely envious. For very good reason!

In Rob we could see that all he did had at its very core a foundation in compassion and empathy and a unique ability to see and understand how a dairy farmer, irrespective of age or gender, would think and act.

He was able to combine this with an exceptional technical knowledge of all matters dairy, which gave him the double edge in being able to win the trust of a farmer and genuinely make a difference.

The fact Western Dairy could indeed 'make a difference' to so many farm businesses, farm owners and farm staff is due largely to the remarkable influence of Rob."

Esther Price, former Western Dairy Executive Officer

"Rob's beaming smile and infectious enthusiasm for anything dairy made him a pleasure to be around, and he will leave a lasting legacy on the WA dairy industry."

Dan Parnell, Western Dairy

"Rob was an amazing mentor to me when I started with Western Dairy in 2015. His quiet, unassuming work ethic was inspiring. He had this ability to achieve so much in a day without so much as a worry!

We went on many work trips out to various farms and trials together. During these long drives I enjoyed learning about his previous roles working on dairy farms in New Zealand, his teaching at both school and university level, his love of flying, coffee and of his dear cat, who went back and forth to Fiji with him and Lesley.

Rob, wishing you all the best for your retirement. It is thoroughly well earned! I hope you continue to do the things you love and spend more time with your family."

Jess Andony, former Western Dairy Regional Extension Officer

"In the time I have been with Western Dairy, I have been blessed getting to know Rob La Grange.

Rob is a true gentleman with an amazing compendium of knowledge in his head – not just of dairy, but all things agriculture.

He has the extraordinary ability to connect with any person he comes across – researchers, government officials, students, farmers, board members – and speaks to each as though they are all important.

Rob is an amazing human, and we are so very lucky to have had him in our Western Dairy team."

Julianne Hill, Western Dairy Regional Manager



COMMITTEE'S REPORT

The committee members present their report together with the financial report of Western Dairy Inc for the year ended 30 June 2022 and auditor's report thereon.

Committee member names

The names of the committee members in office at any time during or since the end of the year are:

- Robin Lammie (Chair November 2021 to present)
- Peter Evans (Director November 2019 to present)
- Andrew Jenkins (Co-opted Director to November 2018, Director to present)
- Scott Hamilton (Co-opted Director November 2021, Director to present)
- Nick Brasher (Director November 2018 to present)
- Bonnie Ravenhill (Co-opted Director to November 2022)
- Julianne Hill (Executive Officer from 29 March 2021 to 12 October 2022)
- Jo Saunders (Executive Officer from 7 November 2022 to present)

The committee members have been in office since the start of the year to the date of this report unless otherwise stated.

Significant changes in state of affairs

There were no significant changes in the association's state of affairs that occurred during the financial year, other than those referred to elsewhere in this report.

Principal activities

The principal activity of the association during the year was to organise projects by managing funds received in the best interest of WA dairy farmers.

After balance data events

No matters or circumstances have arisen since the end of the financial year which significantly affected or may significantly affect the operations of the association, the results of those operations, or the state of affairs of the association in future financial years.

Except for the Coronavirus ('COVID-19') and subsequent government actions, the impacts of which on the Association cannot be determined at this time, there has been no matter or circumstance which has arisen since 30 June 2022 that has significantly affected or which may significantly affect:

- 1 The operations, in financial years subsequent to 30 June 2022;
- 2 The results of those operations; or
- 3 State of affairs, in financial years subsequent to 30 June 2022.

Auditor's independence declaration

A copy of the auditor's independence declaration in relation to the audit for the financial year is provided with this report.

Signed on behalf of the members of the committee.



Robin Lammie
Chairperson



Nick Brasher
Committee Member

Dated this 11th day of October 2022



MANAGING DIRECTOR: Leanne Oliver
DIRECTOR: Christopher Tan

4/896 Albany Highway, East Victoria Park 6101
PO Box 386, Victoria Park 6979
0460 040 900
admin@auditpa.com.au

Auditor's Independence Declaration

To the Board of Western Dairy Inc

In accordance with the requirements of section 60-40 of the Australian Charities and Not for Profit Commission Act 2012, as lead auditor for the audit of Western Dairy Inc for the year ended 30 June 2022, I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, there have been:

- a) no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements of the Australian Charities and Not for Profit Commission Act 2012 in relation to the audit; and
- b) no contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'L Oliver', written in a cursive style.

LEANNE OLIVER CPA RCA
DIRECTOR
RCA 463021

AUDIT PARTNERS AUSTRALIA
EAST VICTORIA PARK

Dated at Perth, Western Australia this 11th October
2022

STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

For the year ended 30 June 2022

	Note	2022	2021
		\$	\$
Revenue		908,727	1,227,251
Employee benefits, consultant and contractor expenses		(599,386)	(953,663)
Depreciation expense		(528)	(676)
Advertising expense		(5,607)	(3,883)
Occupancy and utilities expense		(16,375)	(13,955)
Meeting, seminars, travel and catering expenses		(88,559)	(78,748)
Other expenses		(87,816)	(91,123)
Surplus for the year		110,456	85,203
Other comprehensive income for the year		-	-
Total comprehensive income attributable to members of the entity		110,456	85,203

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

For the year ended 30 June 2022

	Note	2022	2021
		\$	\$
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	2	984,725	816,647
Accounts receivable and other debtors	3	25,250	155,621
Other current assets	4	15,003	12,780
Total current assets		1,024,978	985,048
Non-current assets			
Property, plant and equipment	5	5,202	5,730
Total non-current assets		5,202	5,730
Total assets		1,030,180	990,778
Current liabilities			
Accounts payable and other payables	6	34,872	99,765
Other liabilities	7	-	6,161
Total current liabilities		34,872	105,926
Total liabilities		34,872	105,926
Net assets		995,308	884,852
Members funds			
Contributed capital		1,010	1,010
Accumulated surplus		994,298	883,842
Total members funds		995,308	884,852

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN MEMBERS FUNDS

For the year ended 30 June 2022

	Contributed equity	Retained earnings	Total equity
	\$	\$	\$
Balance at 1 July 2020	1,010	798,639	799,649
Surplus for the year	–	85,203	85,203
Balance at 30 June 2021	1,010	883,842	884,852
Balance at 1 July 2021	1,010	883,842	884,852
Surplus for the year	–	110,456	110,456
Balance at 30 June 2022	1,010	994,298	995,308

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

For the year ended 30 June 2022

	Note	2022	2021
		\$	\$
Cash flow from operating activities			
Receipts from customers		1,031,013	671,710
Payments to suppliers and employees		(864,859)	(1,201,284)
Interest received		1,924	3,614
Net cash generated / (used in) from operating activities	9	168,078	(525,960)
Net increase / (decrease) in cash held		168,078	(525,960)
Cash on hand at beginning of the financial year		816,647	1,342,607
Cash at end of financial year	2	984,725	816,647

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 30 June 2022

1 Summary of significant accounting policies

The financial report covers Western Dairy Inc as an individual entity. Western Dairy Inc is an association, formed and domiciled in Australia. Western Dairy Inc is a not-for-profit entity for the purpose of preparing the financial statements.

The committee has determined that the association is not a reporting entity on the basis that, in the opinion of the committee, there are unlikely to exist users of the financial report who are unable to command the preparation of reports tailored so as to satisfy, specifically, all of their information needs. Accordingly, this financial report is a special purpose financial report, which has been prepared to satisfy the financial reporting requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act 2015.

The financial report was approved by the committee as at the date of the committees' report.

The financial report has been prepared in accordance with the Associations Incorporation Act 2015, the recognition and measurement requirements specified by all Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations, and the disclosure requirements of: AASB 101: *Presentation of Financial Statements*, AASB 107: *Cash Flow Statements*, AASB 108: *Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors*, and AASB 1054: *Australian Additional Disclosures*.

The following specific accounting policies, which are consistent with the previous period unless otherwise stated, have been adopted in the preparation of this financial report:

Basis of preparation

Historical Cost Convention

The financial report has been prepared under the historical cost convention, as modified by revaluations to fair value for certain classes of assets and liabilities as described in the accounting policies.

Accounting policies

(a) Revenue

Revenue from contracts with customers

The association derives revenue from contributions including grants, sponsorship and donations. Revenue is recognised as, or when, goods or services are transferred to the customer, and is measured at an amount that reflects the consideration to which the association expects to be entitled in exchange for the goods or services.

The association has applied AASB 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers (AASB 15) and AASB 1058 Income of Not-for-Profit Entities (AASB 1058).

Contributions – grants and donations

A non-reciprocal contribution or grant is recognised when the entity obtains control of the contribution or grant and it is probable that the economic benefits will flow to the entity, and the amount of the contribution or grant can be measured reliably.

If conditions attached to the contribution or grant that must be satisfied before the entity is eligible to receive the contribution, recognition of contribution or income is deferred until those conditions are met.

Contributed assets

The association receives assets from the government and other parties for nil or nominal consideration in order to further its objectives. These assets are recognised in accordance with the recognition requirements of other applicable accounting standards (for example AASB 9, AASB 16, AASB 116 and AASB 138.)

On initial recognition of an asset, the association recognises related amounts (being contributions by owners, lease liability, financial instruments, provisions, revenue or contract liability arising from a contract with a customer).

The association recognises income immediately in profit or loss as the difference between initial carrying amount of the asset and the related amount.

Operating grants, donations and bequests

When the association receives operating grant revenue, donations or bequests, it assesses whether the contract is enforceable and has sufficiently specific performance obligations in accordance with AASB 15.

When both these conditions are satisfied, the association:

- identifies each performance obligation relating to the grant;
- recognises a contract liability for its obligations under the agreement; and
- recognises revenue as it satisfies its performance obligations

Where the contract is not enforceable or does not have sufficiently specific performance obligations, the association:

- recognises the asset received in accordance with the recognition requirements of other applicable
- accounting standards (for example AASB 9, AASB 16, AASB 116 and AASB 138);

- recognises related amounts (being contributions by owners, lease liability, financial instruments, provisions, revenue or contract liability arising from a contract with a customer); and
- recognises income immediately in profit or loss as the difference between the initial carrying amount of the asset and the related amount.

If a contract liability is recognised as a related amount above, the association recognises income in profit or loss when or as it satisfies its obligations under the contract.

Capital Grant

When the association receives a capital grant, it recognises a liability for the excess of the initial carrying amount of the financial asset received over any related amounts (being contributions by owners, lease liability, financial instruments, provisions, revenue or contract liability arising from a contract with a customer) recognised under other Australian Accounting Standards.

The association recognises income in profit or loss when or as the association satisfies its obligations under the terms of the grant.

Interest Income

Interest income is recognised using the effective interest method.

(b) Property, plant and equipment

Each class of plant and equipment is measured at cost or fair value less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses.

Plant and equipment

Plant and equipment is measured on the cost basis.

Depreciation

Land is not depreciated. The depreciable amount of all other property, plant and equipment is depreciated over their estimated useful lives commencing from the time the asset is held available for use, consistent with the estimated consumption of the economic benefits embodied in the asset.

Class of fixed asset	Plant and equipment at cost
Depreciation rates	8–33%
Depreciation basis	Diminishing value

(c) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand and at banks, short-term deposits with an original maturity of three months or less held at call with financial institutions.

(d) Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and purchased assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Tax Office. In these circumstances the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of an item of the expense. Receivables and payables in the statement of financial position are shown inclusive of GST.

Cash flows are presented in the statement of cash flows on a gross basis, except for the GST component of investing and financing activities, which are disclosed as operating cash flows.

(e) Comparative figures

Where necessary, comparative information has been reclassified and repositioned for consistency with current year disclosures.

(f) Trade and other payables

Trade and other payables represent the liabilities for goods and services received by the association during the reporting period that remain unpaid at the end of the reporting period. The balance is recognised as a current liability.

2 Cash and cash equivalent

	2022	2021
	\$	\$
Current		
Cash on hand	984,725	816,647
	984,725	816,647

3 Trade and other receivables

	2022	2021
	\$	\$
Current		
Receivables from contracts with customers	20,857	80,254
Other receivables	4,393	75,367
	25,250	155,621

4 Other assets

	2022	2021
	\$	\$
Prepayments	15,003	12,780
	15,003	12,780

5 Property, plant and equipment

	2022	2021
	\$	\$
Plant and equipment		
At cost	24,862	24,862
Less accumulated depreciation	(19,660)	(19,132)
	5,202	5,730
Total property, plant and equipment	5,202	5,730

6 Trade and other payables

	2022	2021
	\$	\$
Current		
<i>Unsecured liabilities</i>		
Trade creditors	24,084	27,658
Accrued expenses	8,256	42,309
Other current payables	–	–
GST payables	2,532	29,798
	34,872	99,765

7 Other liabilities

	2022	2021
	\$	\$
Current		
Grants received in advance	–	6,161
	–	6,161

Grants received in advance

The above previous year amount relates to grant income received to which the Association has not yet completed all conditions attached to the contribution or grant that must be satisfied before the Association is eligible to receive the contribution. As such the recognition of the contribution or income is deferred until those conditions are met.

8 Events after the reporting period

Subsequent to the reporting period, the Board is not aware of any significant events since the end of the reporting period.

9 Cash flow information

	2022	2021
	\$	\$
Reconciliation of cash flows from operating activities with net current year surplus		
Net current year surplus	110,456	85,203
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation expense	528	676
Movement in working capital changes:		
(Increase)/decrease in accounts receivable and other receivable	130,371	(70,485)
Increase/(decrease) in accounts and other payables and other liabilities	(71,054)	(528,574)
(Increase)/decrease in prepayments	(2,223)	(12,780)
	168,078	(525,960)

10 Entity details

The registered office and principal place of business of the association is:

Western Dairy Incorporated
1 Verscheur Place
Bunbury WA 6230

STATEMENT BY MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

The Committee have determined that the Association is not a reporting entity.

The Committee have determined that this special purpose financial report should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies outlined in Note 1 to the financial statements.

In the opinion of the Committee the financial report:

- 1 Presents fairly the financial position of the Western Dairy Incorporated as at 30 June 2022, its performance and cash flow for the year ended on that date.
- 2 At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Western Dairy Incorporated will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due and payable.

This statement is made in accordance with a resolution of the Committee and is signed for and on behalf of the Committee by:



Robin Lammie
Chairperson



Nick Brasher
Committee Member

Dated this 11th day of October 2022



MANAGING DIRECTOR: Leanne Oliver
DIRECTOR: Christopher Tan

4/896 Albany Highway, East Victoria Park 6101
PO Box 386, Victoria Park 6979
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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

TO THE MEMBERS OF WESTERN DAIRY INCORPORATED

Report on the Audit of the Financial Report

Opinion

We have audited the financial report of Western Dairy Inc (the "Association"), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2022, the balance sheet, the profit and loss statement, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies, and the statement by directors.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report of Western Dairy Incorporated is in accordance with the *Associations Incorporation Act 2015 (WA)* and Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*, including:

- (a) giving a true and fair view of the Association's financial position as at 30 June 2022 and of its financial performance for the year ended; and
- (b) complying with Australian Accounting Standards to the extent described in Note 1, and Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013*.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of our report. We are independent of the Association in accordance with the auditor independence requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* and the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Emphasis of Matter - Basis of Accounting

We draw attention to Note 1 to the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared for the purpose of fulfilling the Association's financial reporting responsibilities under the *Associations Incorporation Act 2015 (WA)* and the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

Responsibilities of the Board for the Financial Report

The Board of the Association is responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and have determined that the basis of preparation described in Note 1 to the financial report is appropriate to meet the requirements of the *Associations Incorporation Act 2015 (WA)*, the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* and the needs of the members. The Board's responsibility also includes such internal control as the Board determines is necessary to enable the preparation of a financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the Board is responsible for assessing the Association's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Board either intend to liquidate the Association or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the financial report.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial report is located at the Auditing and Assurance Standards Board website at: <http://www.auasb.gov.au/Home.aspx>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.



LEANNE K OLIVER CPA RCA
Director

AUDIT PARTNERS AUSTRALIA

Dated at East Victoria Park, Western Australia, this 11th October 2022

Disclaimer

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