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The top 25 Bulk Milk Cell Counts recognise suppliers whose milk has an outstanding cell count reading and was in the premium band for Thermogenic, Bactoscan and inhibitory substances.

FEBRUARY 2019 SOUTH WEST VIC & SA SUPPLIER NEWS

Bulk Milk Cell Counts

Number	Supplier Name	Region	BMCC Average
1	Carrakoorte North Pty Ltd	Grasmere	35000
2	Peter & Joy O'Keeffe	Glenormiston	44000
3	The Claine Farm Trust	Ecklin South	45000
4	Bidgemah Trust (N & E Hayes)	Nullawarre	51000
4	L & S Dunn	Glenfyne	51000
5	Cyril & Marjo Nijskens	Ecklin South	53000
5	Carl Walder	Heathmere	53000
5	Powell Dairy Farms	Coorimungle	53000
6	Trevor & Carolyn Beasley	Port Fairy	56000
7	Doug & Karren Hunter	Penola	57000
8	Matt & Larissa Gardiner	Tyrendarra	58000
9	Matthew Ross	Heywood	59000
10	Mark & Karen Ryan	Toolong	60000
10	Craig & Joanne Drake	Allansford	60000
10	Howard Partnership	Cobden	60000
10	Ballangeich Run Pty Ltd	Ellerslie	60000
11	Kangerton Farming Pty Ltd	Purnim	61000
12	D C Johnson Pty Ltd	Minhamite	62000
12	Araluen Pastoral Holdings	Cobrico	62000
13	Lyndon & Joyce Cleggett	Glencoe	64000
14	Tyson Sinclair	Princetown	65000
15	Nolane Investments	Scotsmans Lead	66000
16	HW & BE Elliott	Willatook	68000
17	Glenmead Pty Ltd (I,V & N Smith)	Mepunga	69000
17	Andrew Buckley	Laang	69000
SDA Southwest BMCC average			176255

Regional Field Services Round-up

Gippsland

Gippsland farmers continue to manage their businesses to cope with the sustained dryer than average season. Strategies include reviewing stock numbers, feed budgets, financials and water budgets. The dry is now being experienced across a larger part of the region with reports of stock water becoming an issue in some parts.

Northern Victoria

The North continues to be smashed with hot conditions but milk intake is tracking above plan. Temporary water is now at \$500 + per ML. International Dairy Week was down on numbers probably due to the general Industry sentiment and the weather forecast for continual post 40 degree days.

NSW/Sydney Region

Summer heat waves, dry regions and electrical storms have all played havoc with NSW milk production this month. Suppliers have bravely battled on and seen a rise in BMCC among some herds. Given our large geographical spread, some areas have improving seasons, however NSW is still much in need of soaking rains. NSW Field Services continues to roll out Milk Care and had informed discussions on HACCP programs at our Milk Care days.

South-west Victoria / SA

Milk production is edging closer to the seasonal low point with many suppliers beginning to dry off cows. Dry, hot conditions are now starting to impact some summer crops across the region. We look forward to catching up with suppliers at the Sungold Field Days.

Tasmania

Seasonal conditions throughout January have been extremely dry which is expected. Production is holding well and milk quality continues to track at a very high level. Well grown fodder crops combined with higher than average silage and hay yields all bodes well for a good second half to the season.

High thermoduric counts: how is your vat looking?

Over the last few weeks, conditions have been ideal for elevated thermoduric counts (>2000 cfu/ml). Vat cleanliness is an important step in controlling thermoduric counts. At least monthly, it is recommended that you:

- inspect the interior surfaces of your vat for the accumulation of milk deposits
- ensure agitators are working and spray balls are not blocked with foreign material
- check the outlet is clean and chemical dosing equipment is working correctly
- address any issues or enlist the help of your Field Services Officer or chemical representative as soon as possible.

Top tip: Malfunctioning peristaltic pumps and blocked tubing is a common cause of poor vat cleaning. Regularly monitor chemical usage by marking the level of chemical and recording the date. If it is not going down at the expected rate, check your dosing equipment.

What do I need to do to prevent high thermoduric counts?

High thermoduric counts can be caused by poor cleaning of any of the milk contact surfaces. Successful cleaning requires (as a general guide):

Water volume	At least 6-8L per cluster per cycle (e.g. 25 units = 200L/cycle) and 5% of volume of the vat (e.g.500L for a 10,000L vat).
Water temperature	Water should be at least 85°C at the beginning of the wash cycle to result in a temperature of 75°C within the milking system. The pre-rinse should be warm (around 35°C) to aid removal of milk residue and avoid cooling the pipework.
Water quality & chemical dosage	Water hardness (greater than 150 mg/L CaCO ₃) and suspended organic material reduces cleaning effectiveness. Your chemical representative can assist you with water testing and making the right chemical choices.
Turbulence or "scrubbing" action	Should be 12-15 well formed slugs during the wash cycle at a speed of 7-10 metres per second. There should be a good strong swirling action in the receival can with a little solution entering the sanitary trap. Your machine tech or field services officer can assist you in checking that the speed of your slug is adequate.
Contact time	3-5 minutes of recirculation at greater than 60°C. Water should be discarded before it falls below 60°C or after 5 minutes.
Drainage	Poor drainage can encourage microbial growth, cause residue contamination & reduce cleaning performance. Check drain valves regularly to ensure correct operation.
Equipment maintenance	Change all rubberware regularly. Fact: bacterial contamination of liners after 4000 cow milkings is six times higher than liners after 2000 cow milkings. Ensure milking machines are regularly serviced. Insufficient working vacuum level, effective reserve, milk pump capacity and air leaks can all reduce cleaning capacity. Also check wash lines and jettors regularly for cleanliness and obstructions.

Should you require further assistance our Field Services teams are well equipped to assist you with plant hygiene checks and quality troubleshooting.

Who to ask, what to grow, what are my best options?

It's the time of year that you need to start planning (if you have not already) what seed to put in what paddocks.

Has the grass survived the summer? What variety do I sow, cereal, diploid or tetraploid ryegrass? Early, mid, late flowering? What entophyte (SE, AR1, Endo5, NEA2, AR37) coated or bare? What's the sowing rate? There are so many questions!

On top of that, you probably have numerous pasture seed brochures received through the post, in the newspaper or that you've seen on TV or heard on the radio. Theirs are always the best and the 'brightest, newest and highest yielding' from their trial results however these may be from a different part of the state or country and have no relevance to your farm. They may have their own blends too, just to confuse you more.

This is where your local MG Trading Agronomist and Field Service Officer can help. With our on farm presence and local knowledge, MG Trading Agronomists and Field Service Officers can come on farm and help you plan your farming seed requirements taking in to account, dryland or irrigation, soil type, rainfall, dry off time and calving and summer cropping programs, stocking rate, fertiliser program to maximise your on farm D/M production to suit your own farm.

MG Trading also provide independent advice and able to supply seed from PGG Wrightson Seeds, Agricom, Cropmark, Heritage Seeds, AGF Seeds and UMS just to name a few, and can guide you in what suits your farm best.

MG Trading Agronomists and Field Service Officers are experts in what they do, know the local area and more than likely, have trials on different farms. They know what works in your local area and what doesn't, and at the end of the day, the more you can grow on your own farm and the less you have to buy in, the more profitable you will be in the long run.

MG TRADING AGRONOMISTS & NUTRITIONISTS IN SOUTH WEST VIC & SA		
Colac	Harold Hanlon	0488 009 286
Koroit Fertiliser Depot	Kelvin Monigetti	03 5565 8611
Koroit	Melinda Haberfield	0428 406 378
Timboon Fertiliser Depot	Tim Keogh	03 5598 3725 0429 653 278

Do your numbers on feed

Not everyone has the luxury of having a good season so the reliance on bought-in feeds to keep the cows milking this summer is paramount. With water, grain and hay at record prices, knowing exactly what you're feeding and the return you are getting back from every kilo of dry matter fed is crucial.

Key points to consider in building your ration:

1. Know what feed sources are available to you and the price delivered to your farm
2. Work out each feed on spec for nutrient value. That will help eliminate or potentially consider different feed options
3. Work out the practicalities of what feeds will work in your current dairy situation
4. Design a few rations with the feeds you think will work and fine tune the ration that gives you the most nutrient value at least cost

Following these 4 steps and doing the numbers on feed can save you money over time.

An example of a ration for a 200 cow herd averaging 20 litres/cow/day

Feed	KG dry matter	Megajoules	Crude protein	\$/cow/day
Pellet	7	82	1.12	4.06
Silage	4	36	0.64	1.60
Canola hay	4	40	0.68	1.49
Sorghum	2	18	0.26	0.60
Pasture	1	11	0.18	0.13
TOTAL	18	187MJ	2.88 Kg CP	\$7.88

While the above ration works well and will meet the production requirements of the herd, it is extremely costly. The addition of palm kernel meal adding 3 kg DM/cow/day and backing off the cow pellets to 4 kg DM/cow/day would still meet the requirements of the herd and save \$94/day (\$658 over a week) in feed cost. Feeding PKE would require more labour but when feed costs are high all options have to be looked at and evaluated.

Once pasture is no longer in the ration or in at very low levels, fine tuning the ration should be done on a weekly basis to measure milk production responses from your ration.

Antibiotic / Residue Investigation - February 2019



Key Learnings

- > Dry Cows treated with dry cow antibiotics need to be clearly marked and kept well away from the milking herd
- > Running treated cows within the milking herd is high risk:
 - Treated cows may be missed, especially if not marked clearly
 - Test buckets: high producing cows, or failing to empty buckets after every cow, may lead to test bucket overflow
- Test buckets may be connected incorrectly or to the wrong cow or not at all
- Residual milk volume in clusters and milk lines can be enough to cause a residue detection
- > Therefore, wherever possible, treated cows should be separated from the milking herd and milked last, with the vat hose disconnected.

- 50% Treated cow(s) not separated from milking herd and accidentally milked
- 33% Dry cow returned to herd and accidentally milked
- 17% Treated cow(s) not clearly marked and milked into vat

Contacts

Field Services

Allansford Office (WCB & SDA)	03 5565 3200
Mt Gambier Office (WCB & SDA)	08 8724 7660

Transport

WCB Allansford/Ballarart	0438 405 883	03 5565 3115
WCB Mt Gambier	0408 974 158	
SDA Transport		13 Milk (136455)

Feeds

SDA Feeds Koroit	0427 494 776	1800 643 333
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Dairy Services

Simpson 24/7	03 5594 3006	Koroit 24/7	03 5565 8738
Tim Rolling	0488 008 915	Glen Wright	0447 537 614
Peter Bignell	0488 010 428	Jason Knight	0447 662 223
Phillip Weller	0419 431 839		

Classifieds

FOR SALE:

Friesian cows

- 160 Friesian/ Friesian cross cows to calve Mid-February onwards, in calf to AI then mopped up with Friesian bulls
- 220 Friesian/ Friesian cross cows, calved in spring, PCR test available,
- Located Millicent, SA

Contact Harry: 0417 849 617

Packo Milk Vat for sale

- 8,000 ltrs, built 2004 Good condition

Phone Darryl: 0429 351 393

Vats

- Delaval 9000 Ltr vat, Laser Vat

Phone: 0400 068 665

Various

- Complete Flynn three head diaphragm milk pump with 1.5 hp single phase electric motor - \$300
- Massport vane vacuum pump, includes muffler, oiler and 5.5 hp single phase electric motor to suit 20 units - \$500
- Complete 18 unit swingover milking plant. Electronic pulsation - \$2,000

Contact David: 0458 929 024

Princetown area

- 10700 Lt Frigrite vat chilled water system with plate cooler. \$25k ono.
- Delaval complete milking plant with cup removers. \$10k ono
- Jantec auto draft system \$10k ono

Phone Martin on: 0419 885 172

Cablevey for feed system

Quantity of Cablevey for feed system

Phone John: 0429 171 214

GEA T-Cool 12000 Lt Milk Vat

- 20 months old, Current model \$65,000 plus GST

Contact Dave: 0400 587 699

Email: telfies@hotmail.com

Various Items for Sale

- 7800 Lt Alfa vat complete with compressors
- 10000 Lt Picton Muck Runner
- Mobile Pond stirrer

Contact Phil: Mobile 0417 814 468

Wesfalia combi (automatic calf feeding system)

Four stations, 2009 model, recently serviced.

Phone Scott: 0412 422 411

POSITION WANTED:

Wanted position in SW Victoria dairy farming

- Wide experience across variety of positions, Good references

Contact Mick Buckley: 0407 732 796

110 Medium framed AI holsteins

Whole Herd for sale

- 1st -3rd calvers,
- 1/2 Heard has 48 years of AI
- 500 plus kg/MS, Minimal Bale Feeding
- Top 100 Cell Count 2018
- Ranked 62 BPI, Calving 1-5-19
- Latest BMCC 56,000
- 38 AI Holsteins 2 year olds
- In calf to Holstein, Calving 1-5-19

Genuine Reason for selling

Contact Carl Walder: 0400 419 838

LEASE

Lease/purchase/sharefarm

250-400 cow dairy farm

Have cow machinery x2 labor units.

Current farm selling

Phone Graeme on: 0428 369 115

Want to place a Classified Ad?

Contact Kym Mathew E: kym.mathew@saputo.com M: 0478 455 525. Send in by the third Friday of the month to ensure your Classified appears in the following month's edition.