GREEN to GOLD

AUTUMN 2025

There's always room for improvement

LIC®
LIVESTOCK IMPROVEMENT

Building on strong foundations

Welcome to this autumn edition of Green to Gold. Our Australian team has recently returned from New Zealand, where the District Managers led a delegation of 16 farmers on tour, with a focus on the Taranaki region. Read about this tour on pages 6 & 7.

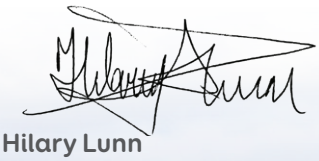
This trip provided an excellent opportunity for our team to reconnect with colleagues at LIC's head office in Newstead. During the visit, the team explored the latest research, innovations, and genetic updates, as well as an afternoon training session to review their hands-on AI skills and techniques. With a strong focus on planning for the year ahead, the team were treated to a visit at Brendan White's farm, whose predominantly Jersey herd is ranked 4th for gBW across the country*. Not only does Brendan's herd rank well in gBW, but he places a keen focus on TOP traits as well, with a strong appreciation for outstanding capacity and udders in his herd. It was a productive and insightful experience for everyone, setting the foundation for an exciting year ahead.

LIC dominates across the Holstein Friesian, Holstein Friesian x Jersey (KiwiCross®), and Jersey categories in NZ, as the company breeds the types of bulls farmers are asking for in NZ and globally. Our exceptional Holstein Friesian bulls have proven they can deliver a high milk yield on a higher-input system, and in this issue we revisit Greg and Kim Peddle's impressive herd, first featured in the Spring 2021 Green to Gold issue. With their cows averaging 500-550 kg and producing 9,500 litres per cow annually, this is a great read to learn more about how they've been tracking since then. See pages 3-5.

Hilary Lunn | Country Manager

On page 13, we introduce Casey Inverarity, LIC's International Product Manager and our unofficial 'Bull Guru'. Her extensive knowledge is invaluable in helping us select the best bulls for the Australian market, with recommendations based on her observations of their daughters on New Zealand farms. We've highlighted some of our exciting new bulls for 2025 and included Casey's comments.

Enjoy the read and all the very best for the season ahead.



Hilary Lunn
Country Manager

* LIC gBW update Feb 2025

Cows grazing at Maharee Farms Limited, Taupiri, NZ

Greg and Kim Peddle on their 1650 acre farm in Gippsland

Maximising production: LIC Holstein Friesians thriving in a high-input system

We revisit Greg and Kim Peddle's farm in Gippsland and their impressive herd of LIC Holstein Friesians to explore how they are consistently achieving exceptional production results in a high-input system. Since our visit in 2021, their herd has continued to thrive, and we're excited to learn more about the strategies and management practices that contribute to their remarkable success.

The Peddle farm spans 1650 acres, with 970 acres under irrigation, including the 500 acres dedicated to the milking platform.

Using LIC genetics for 20 years, and running a high-input enterprise, they focus on three key factors: litres, milking speed, and staff retention.

With a herd based on the strong genetics of LIC Holstein Friesian bloodlines, these three benchmarks are helping Greg and his wife Kim find the sweet spot in their production system near Yarram.

By focusing on selecting bulls for milking speed, Greg can now milk 800-850 cows in the same amount of time it used to take to milk 650. His in-calf rate now stands at around 90%, and he is grateful for the support of a dedicated, long-term workforce.

The herd's average liveweight is currently between 500 and 550 kg, with each cow producing an average of 9,500 litres.

Average annual production for the herd sits at approximately 700 kgMS per cow. Greg adds, "We used to aim for 12,000 litres per cow, but we found that this impacted fertility, so we scaled back and have now found the perfect balance.

"We prefer a medium-sized cow, nothing too large. We like a classic cow: long-lasting, easy to milk, not too big, but not tiny either."

Their breeding programme is 100% artificial insemination, with Greg's criteria for selecting bulls focusing on litres, milking speed, conformation, and temperament.

He explains: "One major change we noticed when switching to LIC semen was the improved temperament of the heifers, making them much easier to manage."

Milking speed is a key factor in Greg's culling criteria

Rising 1 year olds

When asked about his primary reasons for selecting LIC genetics, Greg cited improved fertility and milking speed. “Prior to using LIC genetics, fertility was much lower, and infertility was on the rise. We were seeing more than 20% not-in-calf, and it wasn’t uncommon to hear of rates as high as 30%.

“With 100% artificial insemination, we’ve managed a 10% or lower not-in-calf rate. If you get your fertility right, you can increase numbers coming into the herd, then cull the lower-producing and problematic cows.” Says Greg.

Milking speed is also a key factor in Greg’s culling criteria. “We don't keep any cows that require two rounds to milk. Greg remarks. “I started this practice about 10 years ago after noticing slow milking was the number one trait passed from mother to daughter.

“A smoother milking improves efficiency and makes milking a faster, more pleasant experience. Happy workers are essential.”

The staff includes four full-time employees and three casual workers. Greg explained that split calving not only secures the best price premium from the processor but also smooths out the work curve, providing consistent employment for calf rearers. Casuals can rely on 9-10 months of steady work each year, with most calf rearers returning each season.

“Most of the workers take just as much pride in the cows as we do,” said Greg, highlighting 18-year-old Mick Mattern, whom he describes as “Passionate about the cows - he knows all the cows, and is familiar with their sires.”

In 2024, Mick participated in the LIC AI course held at LIC headquarters in New Zealand, focusing on improving artificial insemination (AI) skills for better breeding efficiency. The intensive one-week DIY course combines theoretical instruction with hands-on practice in real-world settings, offering attendees a unique opportunity to perform DIY insemination on their own herd and master AI techniques for herd improvement.

This training has equipped Mick to handle all the armwork, with support from the local herd improvement centre.

Mick’s favourite cows are Gauntlet daughters, and Greg also values Gauntlet for his consistency. Greg adds “We’ve used a lot of Gauntlet, he doesn't have the wide variations or extremes, and most of his offspring are at the high end, which makes him stand out. He's one of those ideal bulls, and we have a lot of his offspring in the herd.”

Good genetics are just the starting point for the Peddle herd. Calf-rearing, managed and overseen by Kim, lays the essential foundation for developing these future herd stars.

Kim explains, “Calf-rearing is all about giving them the right start. I make sure not to wean them too early, allowing them to grow strong. Once they're weaned, we focus on grass - no grain. They get what they need from the pasture."

Greg adds, “If you don't rear them properly, they won’t get in-calf. Calf-rearing has turned into a major expense for dairy farms - it's a huge investment. To ensure the animal makes it into the herd, you should do the job properly to get a worthwhile outcome for all the effort and expense it takes to get a heifer calf on the ground.”

Greg typically selects three proven bulls each year and uses them across the entire herd.

Greg and LIC Country Manager, Hilary Lunn check out the herd

“We milk a herd of 800 cows - not 800 individual cows. We choose bulls that will take the whole herd in the right direction, rather than focusing on individual cows.”

For heat detection, the team initially drafts using tail paint and confirms oestrus with collar activity data.

The team uses 75 sexed straws and conventional semen across the herd during the first 21 days. The unmated cows are followed up with a synchrony programme designed to achieve the best results with non-cycling cows towards the end of each joining period.

“So, it would be a combination of the genetics and the AI programme which leads to the reasonably high heifer numbers coming into the herd each year. That, alongside the ability to cull with flexibility, is important to us.

In the past, during extreme wet conditions or something similar, we’ve culled all mature cows producing less than 22 litres a day, to ease pressure on pastures.

The addition of maize has led to a significant improvement in fertility, according to Greg. “We're seeing better fertility in the autumn calvers.”

“Previously, it was about 50/50 between spring and autumn calving, and it wasn’t an issue. We start joining on 20th July for autumn calving and 20th November for spring calving, we've seen a substantial increase in the fertility of the autumn calving cows. We’re successfully getting cows in-calf more easily because we’ve been feeding them maize consistently through the winter and joining period. Now, we start feeding maize silage to the cows in December without hesitation, increasing fertility for the spring joining period.”

The family owns and operates its own harvest equipment, overcoming the dependency on contractors. The farm also boasts an impressive irrigation infrastructure covering a total of 970 acres, with six centre pivots, a linear-move and 200 acres of bike-shift lateral irrigation. The 500-acre milking platform is mainly sown to perennial ryegrass.

Water management and targeted fertiliser use have significantly boosted pasture production. Fertiliser is applied after each rotation, and the milking platform pasture is topped every rotation from October to April . In addition, paddocks across the irrigated area receive 1 t/ha of magnesium potash lime blend, every 6 months.

Apart from being fed maize silage as much and as often as required for eight to nine months, the cows receive two tonnes of crushed wheat per year, along with 300-400 kg of DDG pellets “We find it increases their appetite to eat more grass,” said Greg. “They also get half a kilo of mineral pellets daily.”

He notes that pasture feed management has changed over the last five years, driven by the wide variation in seasonal conditions.

“We had high humidity in late November, which caused about 30% of the grass to die. We’ve never experienced that before. As a result, we had to replant many areas, which was challenging. That's why we started including annuals, putting annual ryegrass into some of the problematic wet areas.

When asked - where to next? Greg replied, “We want to explore whether we can run the farm with paid labour so we can take time off too. Taking holidays is something we've never really done before, so we’re not sure how to do it,” he said. “Maintaining the herd, production, and having good systems in place will enable us to run the farm with paid labour and allow us to take time off.”

Greg’s Top Tips

Greg shares his top tips for farmers looking to get into the industry and improve the profitability of a high-input system.

“For young people wanting to get somewhere in life, bite off more than you can chew and give it everything you’ve got.”

“Figure out what works for you and your farm through benchmarking, trial and error. Milk a herd, not individual cows, and choose the bulls that will head the whole herd in the right direction.”

He adds, “In my opinion, it’s harder to maintain something than it is to get there!”

NZ farm tour: Dairy farming from a different perspective

The group at LIC headquarters on day one of the tour

A group of 16 Australian dairy farmers recently embarked on an eye-opening tour of New Zealand's renowned dairy regions, Waikato and Taranaki. The journey provided them with a first-hand experience of different farming systems, sustainability initiatives, and cutting-edge dairy technology that set New Zealand's industry apart.

Day one: a deep dive into genetics at LIC and a successful low-cost dairy operation

The tour kicked off with a visit to LIC (Livestock Improvement Corporation) headquarters near Hamilton in the Waikato, where the group observed a bull semen collection and received presentations on the breeding scheme, genomics and reproduction strategies. Farmers were particularly impressed with the genetic advancements LIC has made by utilising genomics to drive breeding improvements.

One of the biggest highlights was the methane research barn, where LIC and CRV scientists are working on breeding cattle with lower methane emissions. Seeing first-hand how the industry is tackling environmental challenges left a lasting impression on the group.

The tour then ventured 20 minutes to Emma Gardiner's farm in Gordonton. Emma, who works in LIC's genetics team, is a 50/50 sharemilker who took over the business from her father. She and her business partners, Ben and Caleb, currently milk 220 crossbred cows with the help of a farm manager. The herd produces a commendable 1.6-1.8 kgMS per cow, per day, and is currently participating in a 24-month lactation observational study with DairyNZ.

Following this visit, the farmers took a scenic drive to New Plymouth, stopping for fish and chips in Mokau and sampling the famous whitebait fritters before settling in for the night.

Day two: growing farm businesses and a surprise speaker

A visit to Brice and Leeane Hunger's Holstein Friesian operation provided insights into how collars were being introduced for easier management of their 350 cow herd. Their journey from sharemilking to farm ownership showcased how farmers can gradually build their businesses in New Zealand's dairy industry.

Next up was Fraser Cartwright, a young 50/50 sharemilker, who's managing a challenging 700 cow farm on mixed terrain.

His operation, which features multiple breeds, is well-supported by his family, with his father running a Jersey herd on a neighbouring farm. The tour group was inspired by Fraser's entrepreneurial spirit and the way he has leveraged family support and capital investments to grow his business.

The cows lined up for a scratch at Emma Gardiner's farm in Gordonton

The tour also included a special guest speaker, Robyn Barrett, a local Taranaki dairy farmer and mother of eight. She knows a thing or two about top-notch breeding, having raised a champion sporting family - including three All Blacks and a Special Olympian - alongside quality dairy cattle! Robyn captivated the group with her talk about raising a large family on a dairy farm without reliance on technology, instilling resilience and values in her children. Her story of balancing family and farming deeply resonated with the Australian visitors.

During the tour, farmers were happy to have in-depth conversations about their operations

Day three: high-input farming and something different

A visit to Steve and Maria Poole's intensive, high-input farming operation provided insights into their daily monitoring of feed and automation processes. The couple, who started as sharemilkers and later bought multiple farms, demonstrated how careful planning and smart investments lead to long-term success.

Their Holstein Friesian herd was a standout, and their interest in Australian dairy systems created great discussions among the group.

Something out of the ordinary was a visit to a large-scale sheep milking operation owned by Parininihi ki Waitōtara. The corporation, which is owned by the local Maori iwi, also owns 15 farms and 7,000 cows.

With 5,000 milking sheep and new infrastructure in place, the investment is yielding promising returns. This stop offered a fascinating contrast to traditional dairy farming and sparked discussions about alternative dairy production methods.

Day four: well-bred Jerseys and advanced technology

Graham Robinson's high-altitude farm was a visual delight, with great big Jerseys and a backdrop of stunning Mount Taranaki.

The group on Graham Robinson's farm with the backdrop of stunning Mount Taranaki

The farm's tight calving pattern and use of short gestation semen to manage calving spread impressed the group.

The final farm visit brought the group to Peter Morgan's 510 cow Jersey and crossbred operation, where they saw Halter collars in action. These collars, which allow for virtual fencing and precise herd management, sparked an interesting conversation between the farmers.

A farmer's perspective: Paul Nichols reflects on the tour

Tasmanian farmer Paul Nichols joined 15 other Australian farmers on the tour to New Zealand.

Paul runs two farming operations alongside his parents, Brian and Margaret, who are stepping aside to make way for the next generation. At Greenacres in Smithton, Paul manages 1,550 spring-calving crossbred cows on 400 hectares, supported by a team of seven full-time staff, including two casual workers. Meanwhile, at Christmas Hills, two full-time staff oversee the 184 hectare farm, milking 400 autumn-calving cows. The systems are pasture-based, feeding 1.2 tonnes of supplement per cow, per year and efficiently produce 468 kgMS per cow with an average liveweight of 500 kg.

When asked about his ideal cow Paul says, "We want easy-care animals, no-fuss cows that efficiently convert feed into milk solids, are fertile, get in-calf easily, and require low maintenance.

Our breeding philosophy revolves around capacity, udder quality, and fertility - everything that makes an efficient crossbred cow. LIC has been instrumental in providing genetics that align with these goals."

Over the years, Paul has experimented with various breeding companies but consistently finds LIC superior in key areas: better udders, enhanced fertility, and access to a broad range of KiwiCross™ bulls.

Throughout the tour, Paul was particularly struck by the scale of the New Zealand dairy industry and the strong push for crossbred cows. The large-capacity Jersey cows also impressed him, as did the country's innovation in genomic testing and data-driven breeding systems. "Internationally, we need to adopt these advancements to stay competitive," he says.

A visit to LIC headquarters, based at Newstead, left a lasting impression, "I was in awe of the place. It really brought home the amount of work that goes into producing the sires of the future."

Paul says he highly recommends the tour to fellow farmers.

A trip to remember

The tour blended education with unforgettable experiences, from learning about innovative dairy practices to enjoying New Zealand's famous pies and local delicacies. Each farm visit brought fresh insights into dairy farming methods, leaving the Australian farmers inspired and eager to apply new ideas back home.

LIC Australia would like to thank the DemoDAIRY Foundation for their sponsorship and support of the tour.

If you are interested in joining any future farm tours, please contact your local District Manager.

Choosing the right bulls for next spring: Why it's more important than ever

Farming in Australia has never been easy, and today's farmers continue to navigate a tough landscape. From unpredictable weather to fluctuating milk prices, these pressures demand careful financial planning to make every dollar count. While the challenges aren't new, history has shown that resilience and smart farming practices remain the key to long-term success.

Past investments in resilient, efficient herds are paying off for farmers today. Their high-genetic-merit, easy-care cows convert feed into profit efficiently and get back in-calf quickly, helping farmers weather current challenges.

While the seasonal challenges faced may be short-term, breeding is a long game. Successful farmers have always remained focused on genetic gain, their herd improvement goals and breeding the right cow for their system.

The selection pressure levers that drive herd improvement remain the same:

- the pipeline of calves entering the herd
- the team of elite bulls that sire the next generation
- the cows retained for production and used for breeding replacements

Herd improvement is well within reach for every farmer:
It can be achieved by focusing on four key pillars...

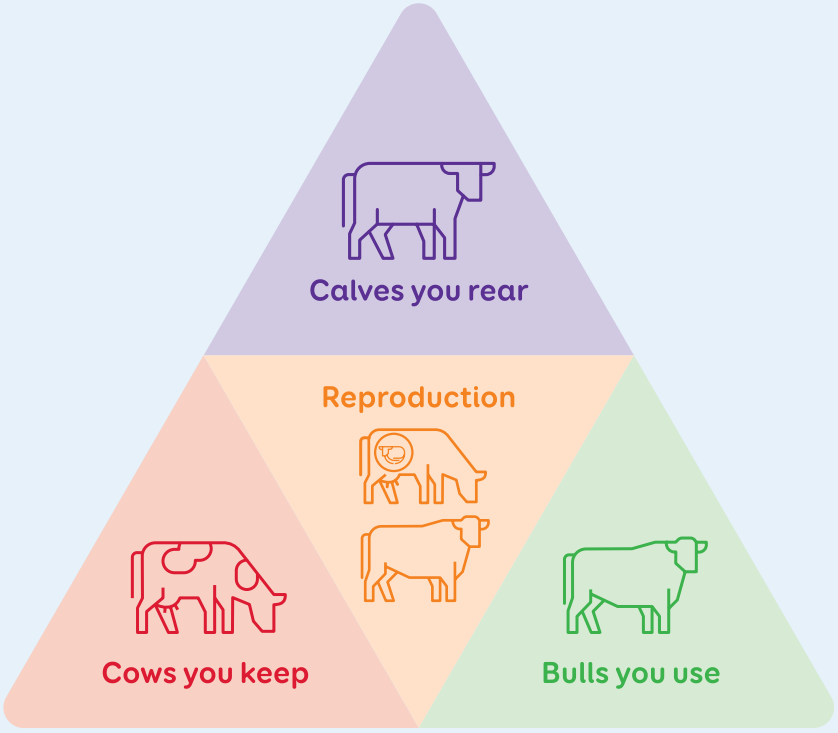


Figure 1. Herd improvement pillars

Herd improvement begins with selecting the right bulls to produce the best replacement and surplus calves, as determined by the farm breeding objectives.

While you can exert significant selection pressure on females through breeding and culling choices, or by selling off surplus calves, the biggest genetic impact on your herd comes from the team of bulls you use, because bulls have the greatest influence on the DNA profile of the next generation.

Efficient reproduction underpins the three selection pressure areas in Figure 1. Reproductive performance impacts all three: the number of AI heifer calves born, the number of conceptions from the AI sires used, and the opportunities for cow selection after empty cows are removed. Capturing reproductive gains can be a real game-changer on some farms.

Efficient, profitable cows are superior in both good and bad years, locking resilience into farm systems.

They set the farm up to tackle both current and future challenges, maximising milk production from their feed inputs. With the right breeding programme, they also produce daughters who will one day outperform themselves. High gBW bulls mated to the right cows will breed high-yielding, efficient replacements.

A recent study of over 1 million 2-8-year-old milk-recorded NZ cows shows the value of gBW on farms, (Table 1). When ranked within herds, there was a 75 kgMS and 173 gBW point average difference between the top and bottom quartile gBW cows.

The highest gBW quartile had a 22% production efficiency advantage over their bottom quartile herd mates, producing 0.16 kgMS/kgLwt more over the lactation period analysed.

This data highlights the strong relationship between genetic merit and cow performance on commercial farms and the value of investing in high gBW bulls.

You can accelerate your herd's genetic gain by mating your top-performing cows and your yearling heifers to elite LIC sires for a superior line of replacements. Options for the bottom-end of the herd include short gestation length beef or dairy semen. Using SGL Compact™ dairy sires you can gain more days in milk and have more recovery time for the cows before the next mating period starts. By selecting appropriate SGL Beef sires, you can produce dairy x beef calves that are more valuable in the marketplace.

Even when times are tight, farmers who value herd quality, remain focussed on investing in the very best genetics for their herd. This way, they can reap the ongoing performance benefits of genetic gain in the years ahead, as superior heifers join the herd and continue to produce into their mature years.

Great breeding decisions today will lock in benefits for the future, building on past generations of breeding a resilient, efficient and profitable herd.

All breeds weighted average

Ranked by gBW	No. of Animals	Average gBW	Average kgMS	Lactation Length (days)	Est. Mature Liveweight (gBV + 500 kg)	Breed Makeup (16ths Friesian)	kgMS / kgLwt
Q1	267120	322	436	233	508	10	0.86
Q2	267918	259	409	232	511	10	0.8
Q3	263058	214	390	231	513	11	0.76
Q4	233487	149	361	229	515	11	0.7
TOTAL	1031583						

Q1 vs Q4

+ 75 kgMS
-7 kg lighter est. mature liveweight
+ 22 % production efficiency (kgMS/kgLwt)

Table 1. Comparison of phenotypic performance of over 1M NZ milk-recorded cows in the 2023/2024 season, ranked by gBW quartile and analysed within age group and herd. Source: LIC, February 2025.

Pulling the levers to drive herd improvement

Reproduction practices: Cow condition on target, sound heat detection, time for recovery between calving and mating, excellent AI practices, good cow health, heifers grown well.

The best team of bulls from genomic and daughter proven offerings: The younger generation contain the best genetics and enable farmers to cut down on the generation interval, while the best proven bulls reliably produce highly efficient daughters.

Culling options: Use culling to remove more of the bottom end in the milking herd, improving herd and milk quality.

Yearling matings: The younger generation is the best source of genetics. Mate and breed replacements from them to increase the rate of genetic gain.

Cow selection at mating: Selectively breed AI replacements from your better cows to get a boost in genetic merit in your next generation of calves. For example, breed replacements from the top-80 to top-90% of the herd and put the rest to either beef, to gain higher value beef-on-dairy calves, or to SGL Compact™ sires to gain more days in milk.

Sexed Semen: An average 90% chance of getting a heifer, as opposed to the average chance, from non-sexed semen sitting at 50%, sexed semen allows farmers to target more of their top cows for breeding replacements. Use this strategically in heifers or when mating top cows. Starting with frozen sexed product ahead of the planned start of mating date can help keep the calving pattern tight.

Selection in the calf pen: This depends on having a surplus of calves, and comes back to reproduction. Identify the best calves to rear and those you wish to sell.

A selection of our new bulls for 2025

Holstein Friesian

121083 MAIRE TS JAGER-ET S1F

This one's got it all! Big litres, huge solids, and best of all, he doesn't sacrifice fertility. Delivering compact calving at -8.9 days gestation length, Jager is also from the same stud as Gauntlet and Fire-up. With the dam producing 8,000 L and over 780 kgMS in her last lactation, you know the genetics are solid.

$504/90% gBW REL

Breeding Details	
NASIS	NZGJAGER
Breed	F16
Pedigree	SUPERVISOR x MINT-EDITION

NEW ZEALAND DETAILS

Daughter Proven

NZ Breeding Values			142 Daughters
Milk Volume (litres)	1130	Fertility %	1.4
Fat kg	61	Body Condition Score	0.13
Fat %	4.9	Functional Survival	3.3
Protein kg	49	CCD/REL	0.7/99
Protein %	3.9	HCD/REL	6.0/52
SCC	-0.15	Gestation Length (days)	-8.9
Liveweight	68	Beta-Casein	A1/A2

NZ Evaluation Data		Traits other than production
Management	gBV	-0.5 0 0.5 1.0
Adaptability to Milking	0.43	
Shed Temperament	0.43	
Milking Speed	0.22	
Overall Opinion	0.48	
Conformation (100 daughters TOP tested)		
Stature	0.98	
Capacity	0.44	
Rump Angle	-0.21	
Rump Width	1.15	
Legs	0.10	
Udder Support	0.29	
Front Udder	0.20	
Rear Udder	0.35	
Front Teat Placement	0.02	
Rear Teat Placement	-0.21	
Teat Length	-0.42	
Udder Overall	0.34	
Dairy Conformation	0.52	

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Holstein Friesian

121040 SPRING RIVER GG SPYRO S1F

Spyro is a half-brother to Spring River Scott, offering outstanding udders with great front teat placement and high fertility. His genetics are top-notch, with his dam standing out in a large-scale operation in the South Island, NZ.

$515/89% gBW REL

Breeding Details	
NASIS	NZGSPYRO
Breed	F16
Pedigree	GOVERNOR x PRICELESS

NEW ZEALAND DETAILS

Daughter Proven

NZ Breeding Values			140 Daughters
Milk Volume (litres)	383	Fertility %	6.4
Fat kg	57	Body Condition Score	0.17
Fat %	5.5	Functional Survival	5.6
Protein kg	34	CCD/REL	3.2/98
Protein %	4.2	HCD/REL	10.4/55
SCC	-0.36	Gestation Length (days)	-2.8
Liveweight	68	Beta-Casein	A2/A2

NZ Evaluation Data		Traits other than production
Management	gBV	-0.5 0 0.5 1.0
Adaptability to Milking	0.25	
Shed Temperament	0.25	
Milking Speed	0.19	
Overall Opinion	0.37	
Conformation (111 daughters TOP tested)		
Stature	1.07	
Capacity	-0.08	
Rump Angle	0.21	
Rump Width	0.32	
Legs	-0.27	
Udder Support	0.99	
Front Udder	0.73	
Rear Udder	0.89	
Front Teat Placement	0.32	
Rear Teat Placement	0.94	
Teat Length	-0.33	
Udder Overall	0.95	
Dairy Conformation	0.17	

21/02/2025

KiwiCross®

Ultraplus

521060 STONY CREEK NEPTUNE-ET

Neptune ticks every box, and the graphs really do speak for themselves. With Neptune scoring the highest overall opinion gBV of any LIC bull ever, farmers absolutely love to milk his daughters.

gBW $549/92% REL

Breeding Details	
NASIS	NZGNEPTUNE
Breed	J10 F6
Pedigree	PREMONITION x TERRIFIC

NEW ZEALAND DETAILS

Daughter Proven

NZ Breeding Values			254 Daughters
Milk Volume (litres)	43	Fertility %	5.2
Fat kg	64	Body Condition Score	0.09
Fat %	6.1	Functional Survival	3.4
Protein kg	22	CCD/REL	-1.2/99
Protein %	4.2	HCD/REL	-4.0/96
SCC	0.17	Gestation Length (days)	-6.1
Liveweight	15	Beta-Casein	A2/A2

NZ Evaluation Data		Traits other than production
Management	gBV	-0.5 0 0.5 1.0
Adaptability to Milking	0.97	
Shed Temperament	0.99	
Milking Speed	0.46	
Overall Opinion	0.96	
Conformation (118 daughters TOP tested)		
Stature	-0.33	
Capacity	0.51	
Rump Angle	-0.14	
Rump Width	-0.20	
Legs	0.19	
Udder Support	1.05	
Front Udder	1.14	
Rear Udder	0.95	
Front Teat Placement	0.45	
Rear Teat Placement	1.08	
Teat Length	-0.48	
Udder Overall	1.12	
Dairy Conformation	0.48	

21/02/2025

KiwiCross®

521002 PAYNES MANOEUVRE-ET

This is another outstanding cow family from the Paynes stud, with daughters that have consistently proven themselves across the country. Solid all-rounders, Manoeuvre's daughters are especially impressive, delivering teats longer than average.

gBW $492/90% REL

Breeding Details	
NASIS	NZGMANOEUVRE
Breed	F9 J7
Pedigree	PRESTIGE x BOUNTY

NEW ZEALAND DETAILS

Daughter Proven

NZ Breeding Values			180 Daughters
Milk Volume (litres)	112	Fertility %	2.8
Fat kg	41	Body Condition Score	0.07
Fat %	5.5	Functional Survival	3.5
Protein kg	31	CCD/REL	-1.0/98
Protein %	4.4	HCD/REL	-1.5/83
SCC	0.10	Gestation Length (days)	1.8
Liveweight	-7	Beta-Casein	A2/A2

NZ Evaluation Data		Traits other than production
Management	gBV	-0.5 0 0.5 1.0
Adaptability to Milking	0.23	
Shed Temperament	0.24	
Milking Speed	-0.01	
Overall Opinion	0.31	
Conformation (129 daughters TOP tested)		
Stature	-0.26	
Capacity	0.23	
Rump Angle	-0.29	
Rump Width	-0.13	
Legs	0.07	
Udder Support	0.68	
Front Udder	0.50	
Rear Udder	0.50	
Front Teat Placement	0.18	
Rear Teat Placement	1.05	
Teat Length	0.14	
Udder Overall	0.54	
Dairy Conformation	0.18	

21/02/2025

321053 GREENMILE LQ TAKAHE

Our top-ranked Jersey graduate, Takahe truly stands out! With exceptional udders that consistently produce higher milk volumes and a larger liveweight, his daughters have become a favourite among our farmers, who appreciate the added value these cows bring.

$560/88%
gBW REL

Breeding Details	
NASIS	NZGTAKAHE
Breed	J16
Pedigree	QUADRANT x BALTIC

NEW ZEALAND DETAILS

Daughter Proven

NZ Breeding Values			128 Daughters
Milk Volume (litres)	-139	Fertility %	4.4
Fat kg	55	Body Condition Score	0.01
Fat %	6.1	Functional Survival	2.7
Protein kg	22	Calving Difficulty (cow)	-1.7/97
Protein %	4.4	Calving Difficulty (heifer)	-8.8/62
SCC	0.26	Gestation Length (days)	1.7
Liveweight	-29	Beta-Casein	A2/A2

NZ Evaluation Data		Traits other than production
Management	gBV	-0.5 0 0.5 1.0
Adaptability to Milking	-0.07	
Shed Temperament	-0.08	
Milking Speed	0.08	
Overall Opinion	0.04	
Conformation (85 daughters TOP tested)		
Stature	-0.67	
Capacity	0.38	
Rump Angle	-0.28	
Rump Width	0.08	
Legs	0.08	
Udder Support	0.57	
Front Udder	0.73	
Rear Udder	0.90	
Front Teat Placement	0.19	
Rear Teat Placement	-0.10	
Teat Length	0.19	
Udder Overall	0.83	
Dairy Conformation	0.46	

21/02/2025

320029 ROCKLAND LQ BERKLY

Berkly is still a fan favourite. As Berkly's daughters finish their 2nd lactation, they are showing strong production consistency. He's all about efficiency, giving great results without sacrificing on milk yield or liveweight. With a Jersey dam consistently hitting over 520 kgMS on once-a-day (OAD) milking, and she does it all in tough terrain country - that's pretty solid genetics, if you ask us!

$596/97%
gBW REL

Breeding Details	
NASIS	NZGBERKLY
Breed	J16
Pedigree	QUADRANT x LARSON

NEW ZEALAND DETAILS

Daughter Proven

NZ Breeding Values			1307 Daughters
Milk Volume (litres)	-223	Fertility %	4.2
Fat kg	58	Body Condition Score	-0.03
Fat %	6.3	Functional Survival	3.2
Protein kg	25	CCD/REL	-1.3/98
Protein %	4.5	HCD/REL	-8.3/89
SCC	-0.10	Gestation Length (days)	2.1
Liveweight	-18	Beta-Casein	A2/A2

NZ Evaluation Data		Traits other than production
Management	gBV	-0.5 0 0.5 1.0
Adaptability to Milking	0.50	
Shed Temperament	0.49	
Milking Speed	0.46	
Overall Opinion	0.73	
Conformation (230 daughters TOP tested)		
Stature	-0.24	
Capacity	0.35	
Rump Angle	-0.33	
Rump Width	-0.30	
Legs	-0.02	
Udder Support	0.66	
Front Udder	0.67	
Rear Udder	1.14	
Front Teat Placement	-0.03	
Rear Teat Placement	-0.07	
Teat Length	0.63	
Udder Overall	0.84	
Dairy Conformation	0.49	

21/02/2025

A trusted expert in herd improvement and genetics

Casey brings a wealth of expertise to the team, having worked for LIC in New Zealand for over 13 years. Her knowledge extends beyond her role at LIC, as she is also a dairy farmer. We are delighted to have Casey support the LIC Australia team to help ensure we offer the very best bull options to Australian farmers. Her deep understanding of New Zealand's diverse cow families and her ability to identify desirable traits, coupled with her certification as a Traits Other than Production (TOP) scorer make her an invaluable asset to the team.

Before assuming her current role, Casey was the bull acquisition manager for LIC NZ and led this team for a number of years. Her passion for dairy was sparked on the family farm in Northland, and she continues to balance her career with hands-on work with her husband on their farm in North Waikato, New Zealand.

Casey explains, "We milk 260 Jersey/Jersey-cross cows using a once-a-day (OAD) system.

Additionally, we manage a purebred Wagyu herd, raising and finishing all animals on the farm. Our Wagyu beef is sold directly to consumers through our online store, and we also supply premium cuts to the hospitality industry.

Casey's dedication to the dairy industry is evident not only in her support of LIC Australia but also in her hands-on approach to observing LIC daughters in the field. Casey adds, "I have travelled the world looking at cows and visiting various AB companies, as well as nearly all of the prominent breeder herds in New Zealand. I am truly passionate about genetics and the work I do."

This connection to cow family lineage allows her to provide valuable insights to the LIC team, ultimately helping Australian farmers achieve their herd improvement goals.

Casey Inverarity | Product Manager International

Identify more cows on heat this season

Use LIC Scratch Patch heat detectors to help choose the best time to inseminate your cows. These cost-effective, self-adhesive heat detection aids come in five highly visible colours and use friction base technology to accurately detect mating activity, minimising false positives. This gives you more cows in-calf, extra milk in the vat and higher profitability on farm.

ON APPLICATION | 1 MOUNTING | 3-5 MOUNTINGS | OVER 5 MOUNTINGS

Indicative results dependent on the amount of bulling activity that has occurred.

Contact your District Manager for more information or to order your free sample pack.

Using the short straw for long-term gain

If there is one thing every dairy farmer would agree on, it's that every extra day in-milk counts.

Maximising days in-milk means more revenue, and a compact calving can help generate these vital extra days at the high-producing end of the season. Farmers can compact their calving by using short gestation length (SGL) semen within their breeding plan.

With its growing popularity in Australia, let's explore how this innovative breeding approach is transforming the dairy industry.

Gestation length explained

Natural variation means some animals have shorter gestation lengths than others. The average gestation length of dairy cattle is 282 days, with a spread of +10 days around the expected calving date. The trait is highly heritable, with genetics explaining around half of what you see on farm. Gestation length is also influenced by non-genetic factors such as calf gender, dam age and multiple births.

The great news is that the strong genetic component means farmers can selectively shorten the gestation length of a pregnancy through their breeding choices. For example, a cow mated to a bull with a gestation length breeding value (BV) of -10 days is expected to calve approximately five days earlier than if she was mated to a bull with a BV of zero.

The biggest gains in days-in-milk can be achieved through the use of LIC's SGL Compact™ semen. The product is the result of an LIC breeding programme that today delivers a bull team that reduces average gestation length by up to 12 days on farm (the team breeding value is -24 days).

Figure 1. The use of SGL semen tightens the calving period, resulting in more days-in-milk and increasing the chances of pregnancy when joining arrives.

More milk, more profit

SGL Compact™ semen offers farmers more early-lactation days in-milk , bringing in significant additional milk revenue. Based on an $8.50 milk payout at $1.87 kgMS per cow per day, a dairy farmer could stand to earn an extra $190 worth of milk from each cow calving 12 days earlier.

More recovery time = more cows in-calf

Cows that calve earlier in the season have significantly more time to recover before joining begins. Every day earlier makes a difference. Research indicates that with more time to recover, cows are more likely to cycle and get back in-calf within the first six weeks of the breeding period. SGL Compact™ semen is particularly beneficial for late-calving cows, which are inherently at greater risk of reproductive failure.

The value of getting the cow in-calf cannot be under-estimated. A pregnant cow is one fewer that needs replacing, which provides the opportunity for discretionary culling of the cow you would rather see exit the herd.

More efficient alternative to service bulls

Going all-AI (artificial insemination) is an increasingly attractive option for any farmer concerned about biosecurity and risks involved in handling service bulls.

SGL semen offers a safer, cost effective, and more efficient alternative to introducing bulls to the farm. It can reduce dangers to staff and avoid the long list of bull-related challenges like disease introduction, lameness or injury, infertility and fatigue in bulls, or territorial behaviour and infrastructure damage.

It Is important to note that SGL Compact™ offspring must not be kept as replacements or bred from.

To avoid accidentally rearing the offspring, it is recommended that farmers should identify and calve cows in-calf to SGL Compact™ semen separately to those in-calf to replacement semen, as the calves are indistinguishable from replacement KiwiCross® progeny.

Farmers that cannot do this, or who wish to add another revenue stream, can use SGL Hereford semen to produce a dairy x beef calf that is easy to identify amongst the herd.

By strategically using SGL semen, Australian dairy farmers can bring calving forward, not only unlocking more days in milk, but also improving reproductive efficiency, and enhancing overall herd management. The result? A more productive, profitable, and sustainable farming operation.

Speak to your District Manager about how to get the best results with SGL semen.

View LIC's SGL products here: licnz.com.au/sgl

Out and about: With LIC Australia

LIC Chief Executive, David Chin and District Manager, Rowan Priest - proudly point to Rowan's exceptional Priests Sierra bull featured on the 'Hall of Fame' wall at LIC headquarters.

Mike Waite, District Manager attends 'Grounds for Growth - Soil and Pasture Biodiversity', 3 day event held in early March.

It's a family affair. Facebook competition winners - Bevan & Emma Smith sporting their LIC gear. Enjoy your LIC goodie bag!

Mike Waite and Rowan Priest deep in conversation; admiring Brendan White's jersey herd atTaupiri, NZ.

Connecting with farmers in Tasmania: Boots on tour!

A quick 'on the road' snapshot. Rowan Priest, Hilary Lunn, & LIC New Zealand's Trina Dunning, Emma Blott.

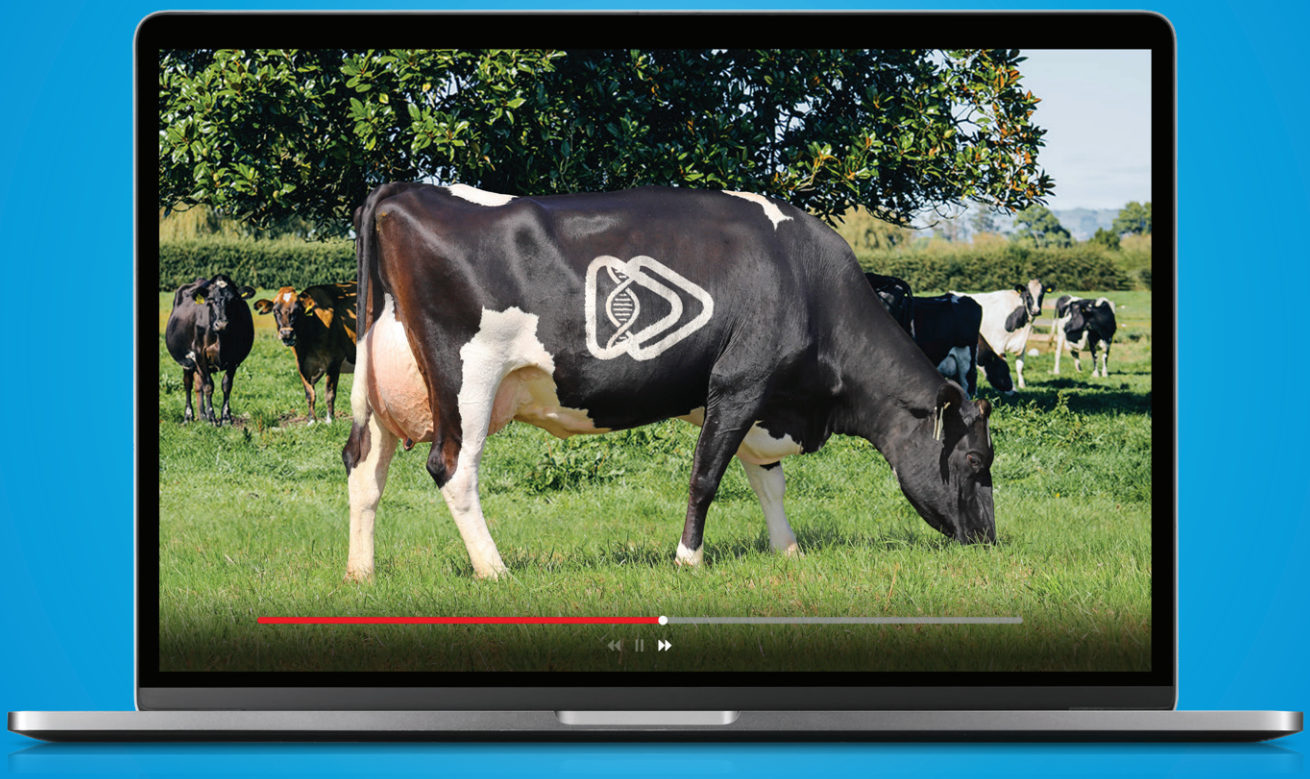
Christmas cheer at 40 South Dairies with Ashley, Tim and their happy cows.

Fostering connections with Jeffrey Gijsbers, Hayden Matthews and Rory Wellwood.

Connecting in the field on Brad and Rebecca Couch's farm in Timboon.

The LIC Australia team on-farm and learning what's behind TOP scoring.

Maharee Farms Ltd, Taupiri, NZ.



Fast forward
your genetic gain

Imagine fast-forwarding your genetic gain by years. Imagine the improved efficiency, the increased fertility and the extra profits.

LIC's Fast Forward Team makes that a reality for Australian dairy farmers. Our Fast Forward Team gives you elite young bulls so you can breed better cows, faster. The team come from top KiwiCross® and Holstein-Friesian genetics, delivering high breeding worth, with excellent fertility and conformation traits.

Get results on-farm sooner. Talk to your district manager about the Fast Forward Team™.

1800 454 694 | admin@licaus.com.au

FAST FORWARD Team™

LIC®
LIVESTOCK IMPROVEMENT