



Fact Sheet:

DairyTas: Your Levy at Work

What is DairyTas?

DairyTas is one of eight Regional Development Programs (RDPs) Dairy Australia established in the 1990s in each of Australia's dairying regions.

The RDPs aim to drive region-specific innovation in research and extension by using local knowledge and skills, and working collaboratively to identify and implement local needs.

Eight directors make up the DairyTas board, with the majority being practising dairy farmers. An executive officer manages the day-to-day running of the organisation.

Who pays for it?

Dairy Australia's annual investment in all RDPs is determined by each region's milk production. DairyTas works to leverage additional funds from Natural Resource Management bodies, State Government and other interested investors.

What does DairyTas do?

DairyTas initiates a range of large and small projects to help local farmers increase productivity.

Flagship investments include:

1. Dairy Smart extension

Run in conjunction with the Tasmanian Institute of Agricultural Research (TIAR), Dairy Smart helps farmers increase skills and business management by working in regional groups to focus on farm management priorities.

Dairy Smart delivers:

- improved profitability for those participating
- practical and timely support when dealing with seasonal farm management issues.

2. Nutrient management extension

DairyTas works to build awareness of the benefits of improved nutrient management through targeted nutrient applications and improved input efficiency.

Nutrient management extension delivers:

- input cost efficiencies
- improved profitability.

3. Promoting the image, growth and development of the Tasmanian dairy industry through activities such as benchmarking, dairy industry investment, young farmer development, and school programs.

Other programs to assist **farm management and information support**, include:

- Small project grants such as electricity contracts sessions, remote sensing technology, focus farm monitoring, irrigation management
- Demonstration Farm project and large herd development
- Lameness management workshops
- People in Dairy
- Taking Stock.



DairyTas Board talking with Ouse dairy farmer Grant Rogers (2010 Dairy Farmer of the Year award winner)

What does DairyTas do? (cont.)

DairyTas also supports a range of **industry promotion and general development** to improve awareness and access to resources, including:

- Dairy Industry Strategic Plan
- Industry Skills Action Plan
- IntoDairy resources and website promoting dairying
- Agfest dairy pavilion
- Dairy Business of the Year award and benchmarking
- Cows Create Careers, Picasso Cows and school programs
- Tasmanian Dairy Conference
- Young farmer development activity.

In addition, DairyTas has instigated a range of **environmental projects** to help farmers develop sustainable practices and improve knowledge, including:

- farm-ready climate change adaptation
- on-farm greenhouse gas mitigation
- effluent management information and incentives.

How can I get involved?

For more information on DairyTas, or to get involved phone (03) 6432 2233 or visit www.dairytas.com.au

“It’s through DairyTas that we see the value of our levy investment at an on-farm level. DairyTas tailors the information produced by Dairy Australia to ensure it is relevant to Tasmania, and it is useful in the day-to-day running of our farm.”

Duncan Sadler, dairy farmer

Dairy Australia:

- aims to build a sustainable and internationally competitive dairy industry for the benefit of farmers.
- delivers the best possible dairy research, development, extension and industry services across the supply chain.
- is funded by a combination of farmer levy, Government and leveraged funds.

DairyTas is just one of many examples of Your Levy at Work. For information on your levy investments, visit www.dairyaustralia.com.au

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