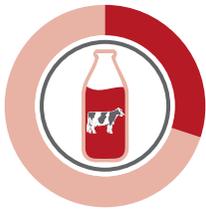


# Dairy Farm Monitor Project

## 2018-19 Northern Victoria Overview

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

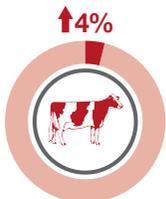
### Dairying in Northern Victoria



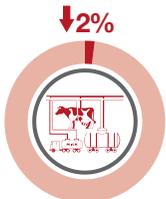
Approximately **1,130** dairy farms in Northern Victoria produced **1.69 billion litres** of milk in 2018-19, accounting for **30%** of Victoria's milk production.

### Physical farm characteristics

- On average, farms in the North maintained stocking rate but increased average herd size.



**Average herd size**  
399 cows

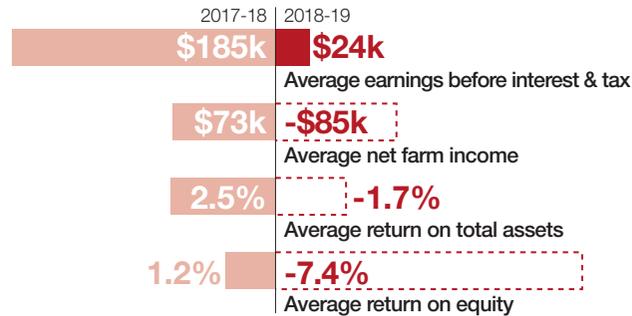


**Milk solids sold**  
524 kg MS/cow



**Home grown feed**  
60% of metabolisable energy consumed

**2018-19 was a challenging year for Northern Victorian dairy farms with only 10 of the 25 farms recording a positive EBIT**



### Farm profitability was influenced by



**92% ↑** in irrigation costs to **\$0.79/kg MS**; price of temporary water increased substantially



**46% ↑** in concentrate costs as price increased to **\$513/t DM**



**69%** of long-term average rainfall with **336 mm** in 2018-19



**7% ↑** in milk price to **\$6.28/kg MS**

### Return on total assets and milk price

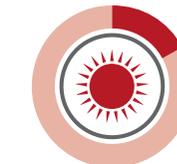


### Future expectations 2019-20

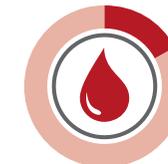


**71%** expect farm profits to improve, up from **65%** the previous year

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



**Climate/seasonal conditions**



**Water**



**Input costs**

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

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

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