

## South Island Dairying within the NZ Dairy Industry

- Dairy farming – NZ's largest single industry
- 96% of New Zealand's milk production is exported
- New Zealand's 12,000 dairy farmers work with or employ another 30,000 people on farm.
- Thousands more are employed in associated businesses and in dairy factories.
- Production - 1.44 billion kilograms of milksolids processed from 16.5 billion litres of milk.
- Population – NZ Average herd size 376; 11,691 herds; 4.4m cows [2009/10 season]
  - SI average herd size 565 cows; 2718 herds; 1,535,060 cows.
- South Island dairy production – fastest growing, now represents over 39% of total NZ Milk solids production, from 23.2% of NZ's farms and 35% of NZ's cows.
- Overall the South Island has larger farms, larger herds, and higher production per cow and per hectare.

SOUTH ISLAND REGIONAL DAIRY STATISTICS (2009 - 2010)						
Region	Herds	Cows	Total effective ha	Ave Herd Size	Ave effective ha	Ave cows/ha
Nelson/Marlborough	241	83,119	29,891	345	124	2.78
West Coast	368	143,558	64,613	390	176	2.22
North Canterbury	649	475,245	142,058	732	219	3.35
South Canterbury	242	176,085	52,804	728	218	3.33
Otago	368	198,747	69,293	540	188	2.87
Southland	850	458,306	169,749	539	200	2.70
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,718</b>	<b>1,535,060</b>	<b>528,408</b>	<b>565</b>	<b>194</b>	<b>2.91</b>
Change from previous season (Sth Is)	3.74%	7.23%	5.72%		1.57%	
<b>South Island % of NZ totals</b>	<b>23.2%</b>	<b>34.9</b>	<b>33.8</b>			
TOTAL NZ	11,691	4,396,675	1,563,495	376	134	2.81

Region	Ave kg MS/herd	Ave kg MS/cow	Ave kg MS/ha	Total MS production	% of Sth Is	% of NZ
Nelson/Marlborough	111,234	323	897	26,807,294	5.3%	1.9%
West Coast	120,022	308	684	44,167,917	8.8%	3.1%
North Canterbury	280,935	384	1,283	182,326,607	36.3%	12.7%
South Canterbury	270,731	372	1,241	65,516,933	13.0%	4.6%
Otago	200,519	371	1,065	73,791,163	14.7%	5.1%
Southland	202,689	376	1,015	172,285,585	34.3%	12.0%
<b>South Island averages</b>	<b>207,835</b>	<b>368</b>	<b>1,069</b>	<b>564,895,499</b>		<b>39.3%</b>
Change from previous season (Sth Is)	8.44%	3.66%	5.01%			
New Zealand	123,043	327	920	1,438,496,707		100.0

[Adapted from NZ Dairy Statistics 2009-10 LIC-DairyNZ]

- Canterbury and Southland have been the areas of largest growth over the last 10 years.
- The West Coast is currently experiencing the highest percentage growth/development.
- The traditional dairying areas around the cities/large towns are experiencing land use change, primarily to lifestyle blocks. Many of these farmers are relocating their businesses to growth areas, and increasing the scale of their operation.
- The South Island has a significant number of large corporate farming businesses.