

# Focus Farm Report

Date	July 2016	Region	DairyTas
Farmers	Peter and Jo Jones	Milking area	254 Hectares
Farm location	Kayena	Irrigated	187 Hectares

## Production

Cow numbers	760	Fat %	5.35
Kg Milk solids/cow/day	1.49	Protein %	3.8
Litres/cow/day	16.2		

## Grazing and Supplement Feeding

Pasture (kg DM)	3-4
Pellets (kg DM)	7.5
Grass Silage (kg DM)	4
Maize (kg DM)	2
Area in rotation (ha)	254
Rotation length	57
Grazing area (ha per 24 hours)	4.46
Average Condition Score	4.3

## Daily Income over Supplementary Feed Costs (IOSFC)

July	Milk price (\$/kgMS)	\$6.87
Income/cow		\$10.23
Supplementary feed cost/cow		\$4.19
IOSFC/cow		\$6.05
IOSFC/ha		\$18.10

## Comments

Managing the pasture over such a wet period is always difficult. To avoid too much damage Peter is using all his available resource. This includes; putting cows on drier paddocks on really wet days, allowing cows to return to the feedpad and not stand around in paddocks once pastures have been eaten, using different gateways where possible to enter and exist paddocks and splitting paddocks length-ways and not cross ways. The wet has increased the amount of mastitis that Peter and Jo are having to manage and has resulted in more silage having to be fed than what was budgeted for. This is also leading to milk production being suppressed as well. All up it is a difficult time to manage, but Peter is working with what he has to make the most of his situation.

# Focus Farm Report

Date	April 2016	Region	DairyTas
Farmers	Peter and Jo Jones	Milking area	254 Hectares
Farm location	Kayena	Irrigated	66 Hectares

Production			
Cow numbers	840	Fat %	5.2
Kg Milk solids/cow/day	1.78	Protein %	3.5
Litres/cow/day	20.5		

Grazing and Supplement Feeding	
Pasture (kg DM)	6
Pellets (kg DM)	7.5
Grass Silage (kg DM)	4
Maize (kg DM)	2
Area in rotation (ha)	246
Rotation length	51
Grazing area (ha per 24 hours)	4.82
Average Condition Score	4.3

Daily Income over Supplementary Feed Costs (IOSFC)		
May	Milk price (\$/kgMS)	\$7.29
Income/cow		\$12.98
Supplementary feed cost/cow		\$4.92
IOSFC/cow		\$8.06
IOSFC/ha		\$26.60

## Comments

All is being made in readiness for the upcoming open day on June 2. For details on the day call DairyTas on 6432 2233. Mating has started with 640 cows submitted for AI within the first 10 days. Peter places a lot of attention on heat detection and works on the theory that an AI straw is cheaper than an empty cow. One person will manage all heat detection which allows for consistency over this time. Peter and Jo have also been managing Salmonella within the stock. Peter has been working closely with their vet to manage the disease. This has resulted in minimal stock losses and the disease controlled quickly. Getting good information has helped with this outcome.

# Focus Farm Report

Date	March 2016	Region	DairyTas
Farmers	Peter and Jo Jones	Milking area	254 Hectares
Farm location	Kayena	Irrigated	66 Hectares

## Production

Cow numbers	620 (in vat)	Fat %	4.5
Kg Milk solids/cow/day	1.92	Protein %	3.5
Litres/cow/day	24		

## Grazing and Supplement Feeding

Pasture (kg DM)	13
Pellets (kg DM)	4.5
Grass Straw (kg DM) estimated	0.25

Area in rotation (ha)	238
Rotation length	32
Grazing area (ha per 24 hours)	7.4
Average Condition Score	4.3

## Daily Income over Supplementary Feed Costs (IOSFC)

March	Milk price (\$/kgMS)	\$6.97
Income/cow		\$13.38
Supplementary feed cost/cow		\$1.93
IOSFC/cow		\$11.45
IOSFC/ha		\$27.48

## Comments

Milk production is ahead of last year with peak daily production of 1.91kg MS per cow last year. Before the end of calving and all cows are in the vat, per cow production is 1.92kg MS for this year. This is being put down to higher average cow condition score prior to calving and more available pasture compared to last year. To provide fibre in the diet Peter and Jo are offering the cows some ad lib grass straw as they leave the dairy. Also happening 16ha are being reseeded, soil sampling to monitor nutrient levels and the farm has also been listed as a finalist in the Tasmanian Dairy Business of the Year Award, winner will be announced March 16.

# Focus Farm Report

Date	January 2016	Region	DairyTas
Farmers	Peter and Jo Jones	Milking area	254 Hectares
Farm location	Kayena	Irrigated	66 Hectares

## Production

Cow numbers	865	Fat %	
Kg Milk solids/cow/day		Protein %	
Litres/cow/day			

## Grazing and Supplement Feeding

Pasture (kg DM)	Not much
Maize Silage for lighter cows (kg DM)	2.5
Hay (kg DM)	5
Area in rotation (ha)	20
Rotation length	
Grazing area (ha per 24 hours)	
Average Condition Score	4.5

## Daily Income over Supplementary Feed Costs (IOSFC)

January	Milk price (\$/kgMS)
Income/cow	
Supplementary feed cost/cow	
IOSFC/cow	
IOSFC/ha	

## Comments

Not much detailed information this month as all cows are dry. All dry stock, consisting of 695 cows and 170 heifers, are utilising only 20 ha of the milking platform. Dry conditions have meant that irrigated area is several restricted. Lead feeding will commence in the next week to 10 days with calving set to start February 5. With plenty of silage on hand, but pasture growth rates severely restricted the feed budget will be reviewed closer on calving. On farm dry season jobs are taking place and holidays are being taken by full-time staff.

Further information on the farm can be found on our facebook page [www.facebook.com/TasFocusFarm](http://www.facebook.com/TasFocusFarm) or on the DairyTas website [www.dairytas.com.au](http://www.dairytas.com.au).

# Focus Farm Report

Date	December 2015	Region	DairyTas
Farmers	Peter and Jo Jones	Milking area	254 Hectares
Farm location	Kayena	Irrigated	66 Hectares

Production			
Cow numbers	710	Fat %	5.25
Kg Milk solids/cow/day	1.24	Protein %	4.05
Litres/cow/day	13.3		

Grazing and Supplement Feeding	
Pasture (kg DM)	6
Pellets (kg DM)	4.5
Brewers Grain (kg DM)	1
Maize Silage	5
Area in rotation (ha)	254
Rotation length	48
Grazing area (ha per 24 hours)	5.3
Average Condition Score	4.5
Nitrogen Use (kg N/ha) (applied to irrigated area only)	30

Daily Income over Supplementary Feed Costs (IOSFC)		
December	Milk price (\$/kgMS)	\$5.43
Income/cow		\$6.73
Supplementary feed cost/cow		\$4.67
IOSFC/cow		\$1.85
IOSFC/ha		\$5.17

## Comments

Fortnightly pasture walks have continued on the farm. In the last month, growth rates have slowed significantly and pasture covers have dropped as a result. With the drop in pasture cover it has led to an increase in the amount of supplements in the diet to help hold the pasture cover and condition score. Dry-off will be around December 20. As budgeted there will be an increased amount of supplementary feeding for the dry cows compared to last season.. All cows will be given a short withholding dry cow treatment plus selenium, B12 and copper injection and wormed when they are dried off.

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# Focus Farm Report

Date	November 2015	Region	DairyTas
Farmers	Peter and Jo Jones	Milking area	254 Hectares
Farm location	Kayena	Irrigated	66 Hectares

Production			
Cow numbers	724	Fat %	4.85
Kg Milk solids/cow/day	1.58	Protein %	3.95
Litres/cow/day	17.9		

Grazing and Supplement Feeding	
Pasture (kg DM)	15
Pellets (kg DM)	2
Brewers Grain (kg DM)	1

Area in rotation (ha)	254
Rotation length	28
Grazing area (ha per 24 hours)	9.1
Average Condition Score	4.5
Nitrogen Use (kg N/ha) (applied to irrigated area only)	40

Daily Income over Supplementary Feed Costs (IOSFC)		
November	Milk price (\$/kgMS)	\$5.26
	Income/cow	\$8.31
	Supplementary feed cost/cow	\$1.04
	IOSFC/cow	\$7.27
	IOSFC/ha	\$20.72

## Comments

With only 190 bales of silage made on the farm, compared to 600 bales made last year feed budgeting has been a key tool. The decision to pre-purchase fodder early has begun to pay off with the feed budget showing that the feed gap can be filled with the left over silage from last year and maize silage that has been ordered. Each feed source option for the farm has been examined on cost per kg MJ ME. Nitrogen, pasture and grain will be used for now and the silage held over until early in the new year when fibre in the diet may become an issue. Further information on the farm can be found on our facebook page [www.facebook.com/TasFocusFarm](http://www.facebook.com/TasFocusFarm) or on the DairyTas website [www.dairytas.com.au](http://www.dairytas.com.au).