

OSP Demo Farm – Summary of Key Facts 2017/18 Season

Production

<u>2014/15 Season</u>	<u>2015/16 Season</u>	<u>2016/17 Season</u>	<u>2017/2018 Season</u>
(Pasture and Crop Only)			
85,350 Kg milk solids	152,086 Kg MS	166,800 Kg MS	171,025 Kg MS
	+ 66,763 Kg MS	+ 81,450 Kg MS	+ 85,675 Kg MS

The value of the total additional milk solids produced since the farm's first season in 2015/16 can be calculated as follows :

<u>2015/16 Season</u>	66,763 Kg MS @ \$4.00 Kg MS	=	\$266,994	
Less	Direct cost of additional imported feeds	=	<u>\$265,291</u>	
Apparent net benefit of additional strategic feeding for the season was therefore				\$ 1,703
<u>2016/17 Season</u>	81,450 Kg MS @ \$6.13 KG MS (Est)	=	\$499,288	
Less	Direct cost of additional imported feeds	=	<u>\$192,000</u>	
Apparent net benefit of additional strategic feeding for the season was therefore				\$307,288
<u>2017/18 Season</u>	85,675 Kg MS @ \$6.70 Kg MS	=	\$574,022	
Less	Direct cost of additional imported feeds	=	<u>\$231,052</u>	
Apparent net benefit of additional strategic feeding for the season was therefore				\$342,970

<u>Farm Facts</u>	<u>2014/15</u>	<u>2015/16</u>	<u>2016/17</u>	<u>2017/18</u>
Effective Hectares	100	78	78	78
Cow Numbers at Peak	260	276	273	260
Stocking Rate at Peak	2.6	3.54	3.5	3.38
Production per Hectare	853.50	1949.82	2138	2221

Body Condition Score

01 August 2015	5.0
21 October 2015	4.6
09 December 2015	4.63
31 May 2016	4.80
09 May 2017	5.18
31 July 2018	4.90

Conclusions

- Production gains during the season were not as pronounced as 28 percent of the herd was heifers
- Herd improvement through the use of selected semen has resulted in animals that are more suited to being well fed and the average per cow production is still over 600 milk solid even with high heifer numbers
- Due to heavier soils on the slightly hilly farm, the intention is not to breed cows that are too large.
- Fewer cows producing more per hectare are normally a key motivation and is being achieved.
- Investment in an uncovered feed pad with rubber matting has proven invaluable as it has improved silage bunker storage close to the feed pad.