

DairyBase Level Two physical data questionnaire

Please note: The Level 1 physical data questionnaire must also be completed to enable DairyBase to enter your Level 2 data.

Completing the questionnaire:

- Use information in the shaded areas for suggestions on where to source answers, or for further clarification on what the question is asking.
- For any assistance, contact DairyBase on 0800 4 DairyNZ.

Submitting your data:

- Save the PDF and email to info@dairybase.co.nz, or print and post to DairyNZ, Private Bag 3221, Hamilton 3240.

Farm business name

Business owner name/s

Season 20xx/xx:

DairyBase 6 digit ID number:

General comments, for example - major weather event, dried off early, first year conversion, new supply number.

Farm dairy description

Farm dairy	Shed type (please select)	Herd calving season (please select)	Dairy size (number of sets of cups)	Number of staff milking (include person on herds)	Milking time (minutes)	Peak number of cows milked	Number of cows that go around twice (rotary only)
Shed 1	Herringbone Rotary Other	Spring Autumn					
Shed 2	Herringbone Rotary Other	Spring Autumn					
Shed 3	Herringbone Rotary Other	Spring Autumn					
Rainfall for season (mm)				Enter if measured, otherwise district average will be used.			
Pasture potential of the farm (t DM/ha)				To find out the pasture potential search "Pasture Potential Tool" on the DairyNZ website.			

Farm physical description

Distance from farm dairy to furthest paddock (km)		Estimate from farm map if available.
% of farm at a different height/altitude to farm dairy		Only needed if a significant portion of the farm is hilly or if the cows have a significant climb to/from the farm dairy.
Average difference in height between farm dairy and hill paddocks (m)		

Stock description

Cow LWT (kg) as at December 1			Jersey	Holstein friesian-jersey cross	Holstein friesian
			375-425 kg	445-485 kg	500-550 kg
		Actual / estimated	The ranges above are approximate weight ranges based on cow breed. Circle whether the figure you provided is actual or estimated weight.		
Herd BW/reliability	LIC CRV	BW /	Circle LIC or CRV to indicate the source of the BW and enter the date that BW/PW was measured. Include replacement two-year-olds. For more information on animal evaluation visit dairynz.co.nz If values are not known, please leave blank.		
Herd PW/reliability	Date:	PW /			

Milk production

This section captures all milk output from herd (except colostrum), whether saleable or not, to gain greater accuracy to estimate the energy requirements.

Discarded milksolids (kg) (Number of cows x days withheld x average kg MS/cow/day)	Discarded/dumped milk (e.g milk from sick cows, chiller faults or penicillin in milk). Refer to animal treatment records for number of cows treated and withholding period. Use average if different treatments have different withholding periods.
Milk fed to calves (L) (Number of calves x litres/calf/day x no. days)	Includes saleable milk taken from vat and fed to both replacement and non-replacement calves (do not include colostrum milk).

Complete the calculation table below if the total is not known – **include replacement and non-replacement calves reared** and exclude colostrum milk fed to calves.

	Number of calves reared	Estimated litres of milk/calf/day (saleable milk only)	Number of days fed milk
Spring			
Autumn			
How long do you feed calves twice a day or adlib?	Less than 1 week 1-2 weeks	3-4 weeks 5-6 weeks	More than six weeks

Milk production – spring herd

Per cow daily production at peak and at end of December are used to calculate monthly drop-off from peak, which can be an indicator of loss of pasture quality.

This section captures all milk output from herd (except colostrum), whether saleable or not, to gain greater accuracy to estimate the energy requirements.

Average daily milksolids per cow for 10 days at peak (KgMS/cow/day 10 day average)		Peak period is when the highest daily per cow production is achieved. Not all cows may have calved, and some milk may be going to the calves so the milk statement may not always reflect peak per cow production. Refer to milk company statements and daily records as a starting point.
Last date of 10 day peak		If peak was on 10 Oct then the last day of 10 day peak would be 15 Oct ~ 5 days after peak.
Milksolids to 31 Dec sold to factory		Refer to December dairy company statement under "season to date production" or dairy company website "1 Jun to 31 Dec production".
Average daily milksolids per cow for last 10 days in December (KgMS/cow /day 10 day average)		Refer to December dairy company statement or website for daily production. Work out the average by dividing daily milk solids for last 10 days in December by number of cows milking at 31 Dec.
Carryover cows		
Number of in-milk carryover cows on 1 June		Number of cows that calved in spring the previous season not in-calf and still in-milk at the beginning of the current season (1 June). (Split calving - dry these cows off at the same time as the autumn herd unless earlier culling/death details are available. Known culls/deaths to be entered as before PSC in calculator.)
Carryover cows in-milk	Date (xx/xx/xxxx)	Number dried off
Number of in-milk carryover cows on 31 May		Number of cows that calved in spring of the current season not in-calf and still in-milk at the end of the season (31 May).

Spring calving herd

Planned start of calving date		Planned start of spring calving for mixed age cows. Can be found on your Fertility Focus Report.
Date when 50% of cows calved		Information can be obtained from Minda Live Calving or your yellow notebook. If yellow notebook is being used, count the cows until you reach 50% of total cow numbers and use that date, or use midpoint of calving from Calving Rate Report.
Number of cows calving in Spring on 1 June		This should include all cows calving from 1 Jun - 31 Dec for spring calving. Information can be obtained from your calving report.
Number of cow deaths		Number of cows that died throughout the season.
Number of cows culled		Number of cows culled throughout the season.
Days in milk per cow		Average days in milk for herd. If known, enter here. If not known, complete Days in Milk table . A separate table must be completed for spring/autumn herds.

Days in Milk table – spring herd

This asks for the number of cow sales and deaths before the Planned Start of Calving. Information can be obtained from your animal removal report. Any animals sold or sent to the works will be recorded in your animal health declaration book and yellow notebook.

	Died	Culled/sold
Cow sales & deaths prior to planned start of calving		

Days in Milk table – spring herd

This asks for number of cows and date they were removed from the milking herd either because of death, culling or drying off. Information can be obtained from animal removal report. Otherwise any animals sold or sent to works will be recorded in animal health declaration book and yellow notebook.

Spring herd	Date (xx/xx/xxxx)	Died	Culled/sold	Dried off

Days in Milk table – spring herd

This asks for number of cows and date they were removed from the milking herd either because of death, culling or drying off. Information can be obtained from animal removal report. Otherwise any animals sold or sent to works will be recorded in animal health declaration book and yellow notebook.

[illegible]

Milk production – autumn herd – details relate to the autumn calving prior to the start of this season

Per cow daily production at peak and at end of August are used to calculate monthly drop-off from peak, which can be an indicator of loss of pasture quality. (Top box not required for split calving herds with a peak milk value in spring.)

This section captures all milk output from herd (except colostrum), whether saleable or not, to gain greater accuracy to estimate the energy requirements.

Average daily milk solids per cow for 10 days at peak (KgMS/cow/day 10 day average)		Peak period is when the highest daily per cow production is achieved. Not all cows may have calved and some milk may be going to the calves so the milk statement may not always reflect peak per cow production. Refer to milk company statements and daily records as a starting point.
Last date of 10 day peak		If peak was on 10 May then the last day of 10 day peak would be 15 May ~ 5 days after peak.
Milksolids to 31 August sold to factory		Refer to August dairy company statement under "season to date production" or dairy company website "1 Feb to 31 Aug production".
Total milksolids produced by autumn herd (kg)		Total kg of milksolids produced by the autumn-calving herd during the season. The season starts in February and runs until the end of January of the following year.
Average daily milksolids per cow for last 10 days in August (KgMS/cow/day 10 day average)		Refer to August dairy company statement or website for daily production. Divide average daily milksolids for last 10 days in August by number of cows milking at 31 August.
Planned start of autumn calving		Planned start of autumn calving for mixed age cows. Note: Enter the calving details for the calving period prior.
Date when 50% of cows calved in autumn		Information can be obtained from Minda Live Calving or your yellow notebook. If yellow notebook is being used, count the cows until you reach 50% of total cow numbers and use that date, or use midpoint of calving from Calving Rate Report.
Number of autumn cows calving		This should include all cows calving from 1 Jan – 31 May for autumn calving. Information can be obtained from your calving report.
Number of cow deaths		Number of cows that died throughout the season.
Number of cows culled		Number of cows culled throughout the season.
Days in milk per cow autumn		Average days in milk for herd. If known enter here, if not known complete Days In Milk table . A separate table must be completed for spring and autumn herds.

Days in Milk table – autumn herd

This asks for number of cows and date they were removed from the milking herd either because of death, culling or drying off. Information can be obtained from animal removal report. Otherwise any animals sold or sent to works will be recorded in animal health declaration book and yellow notebook.

[illegible]

Days in Milk table – autumn herd

This asks for number of cows and date they were removed from the milking herd either because of death, culling or drying off. Information can be obtained from animal removal report. Otherwise any animals sold or sent to works will be recorded in animal health declaration book and yellow notebook.

Autumn herd	Date (xx/xx/xxxx)	Died	Culled/sold	Dried off

Additional information for split calving herds

This is to help capture the days in milk of empty carryover autumn calvers that join the spring herd to continue milking.

Autumn cows dried off (total)		Dry off date (if known)	
Empty cows carried over and combined with spring herd		OR use spring herd dry off date	

Young stock grazed on the effective (milking) area

	Number of animals	Age at the start of grazing (months)	Age at the end of grazing (months)	Stating the age animals started grazing indicates how much feed they will be consuming.
Rising one-year olds				Animals from 3 months weaning to 10 months of age.
Rising two-year olds				Animals from 11 months to 22 months of age.

Young stock grazed off the effective (milking) area. If no stock is grazed off the milking area, leave blank.

	Number of animals	Age at the start of grazing (months)	Age at the end of grazing (months)	Stating the age animals started grazing indicates how much feed they will be consuming.
Rising one-year olds				Animals from 3 months weaning to 10 months of age. If young stock leave in groups, enter number and age of each group on separate lines.
Rising two-year olds				Animals from 11 months to 22 months of age. If young stock leave in groups, enter number and age of each group on separate lines.

Grazing off dry cows – feed eaten by dry cows not grown on the effective area

Number of cows	Mob 1	Mob 2	Mob 3	Mob 4	Age at the end of grazing (months)				
					Number of cows grazed off from 1 Jun, includes in-calf heifers.				
Total days grazed away from milking area					If gradually sent or brought back between grazing and milking platform use average length of time for herd.				
kgDM/cow/day offered					This is feed offered (grass and supplement). Whether cows gained, maintained or lost weight will give some indication of intake.		Friesian	Crossbred	Jersey
						Held condition	10	9	8
						Gained weight	13	12	11
Average MJME/kgDM	11MJME/kgDM or				Average of all feeds eaten at grazing including supplement. Use 11ME for pasture.				
Utilisation %	85% or				Use 85% for pasture unless very wet.				

Feed grown and fed on the milking platform

This section captures all feed grown and fed on the milking platform within the season.

1. What feed did you have on hand on the milking platform on 1 June?

Feed type	Tonnes/DM	Source (made on farm, purchased or imported from the support block?)

2. Did you harvest any grass silage, baleage, hay or crops (cereal, maize, etc) on the milking platform during the season?

Feed type	Tonnes/DM	Hectares

3. What feed did you purchase this season?

Not feed eaten, the TOTAL feed purchased and brought onto the milking platform.

Feed type	Tonnes/DM	Utilisation

4. Did you bring any supplements onto the milking platform from the support block this season?

Feed type	Tonnes/DM	Utilisation

5. Did you send any of the feed you harvested on the milking platform (grass silage, baleage, hay or crops) to the support block or sell any of it during the season?

Feed type	Tonnes/DM

6. What feed did you have on hand on the milking platform on 31 May?

Feed type	Tonnes/DM	Source (made on farm, purchased or imported from the support block?)

7. What crops were grazed on the milking platform from 1 June – 31 May (milking herd and young stock)?

Do not include paddocks which may be out for planting for the following season or grazed prior.

	Hectares grazed	Crop type	kgDM/ha
Summer			
Winter			

Imported supplements – information on dry matter, energy and utilisation of feed

Maize silage	DM 30-38%, MJME 10.0–11.0. Utilisation: bins 75-85%, dry paddock 65-75%, wet paddock 50-60% (includes storage losses).	Baleage/Pit silage	Baleage: DM 30-40%, MJME 8.0–12.0. Pit Silage: DM 25-30%. Utilisation: dry paddock 70-80% wet paddock 60-70%.
Maize grain/gluten	DM 87-89%, MJME 13.5. Utilisation: bins 80-90%, shed 95%.	Kiwifruit	Average DM 14% soft, 20% hard. MJME 9-11 soft, 12-12.5 hard.
Hay	DM 85%, MJME 6.0 – 9.0. Utilisation 60-85%.	Prolia	DM 32-40%, MJME 9-11. Utilisation: 95%.
Concentrates	Most will be approx 90% DM, MJME 13.5. Utilisation 80-95% (includes storage losses).	Lucerne silage and hay	DM 85%, MJME 8.0 – 10.0. Utilisation: dry paddock 70-80%, wet paddock 60-70%
Molasses	DM average 75%, MJME 11.5. Utilisation: 95%.	Onions	DM average 10%, MJME 13.0.
Palm kernel	DM 90-95%, MJME 11.0. Utilisation: bins 80-90%, shed 95%.	Potato	DM average 20%, MJME 13.0.
Cereal silage	DM 30-40%, MJME 9.0 - 10.5. Utilisation %: see maize silage.	Carrots	DM average 12-13%, MJME 13.0.
Barley/wheat grain	DM 86-89%, MJME 12-13. Utilisation: bins 80-90%, shed 95%.	Soybean meal	DM 90%, MJME 12.5. Utilisation: bins 80-90%, shed 95%.
Bread	DM average 63%.	Broll	DM 85%, MJME 9.5-11.0.
Brewers grain	DM 24%, MJME 10.5. Utilisation: bins 80-90%, shed 95%.	Sweet cornsilage	DM average 20%, MJME 9.5-10.5.
Cereal straw	Average DM 85-89%. MJME 6.0 - 7.0.	Tapioca	DM 88%, MJME 12.5. Utilisation: bins 80-90%, shed 95%.

Irrigation (not including effluent spread on pasture)

You can complete this section in one of two ways; either complete section 1 "Irrigation systems" or section 2 "Total/average irrigation".

Section 1: Irrigation systems

Irrigation Type (Centre Pivot, K-line (etc)	Milking area irrigated (ha)	Days of season irrigated (refer to meter records)	Irrigation Interval (days)(time taken for irrigator to return to start point)

Section 2: Total/average irrigation

Milking area irrigated (ha)	Days of season irrigated	Irrigation interval (days)
Water volume (enter one from options below)		
Total metered water (m ³) – preferred		If the water supply is not metered and cannot be entered, then water applied will be derived from flow rate. Only irrigation applied to milking area is of interest, if total metered water includes irrigation for other areas then use flow rate instead.
OR Instantaneous flow rate (l/sec/ha)		
OR Flow rate (bore borderdyke) (l/sec)		

Environment

How do you measure water use on farm?

Select the option that best describes your situation.

I don't measure water use

I can measure water use in the dairy shed only

I can measure total water use on farm

Do you have off-paddock infrastructure?

Yes Uncovered pad

Covered pad

Barn/housed facility

No

If you do have
off-paddock
infrastructure

Can the herd be stood off for more than 24 hours (with access to food and water)?

Yes No

What % of the herd can be stood off for more than 24 hours?

How much land have you planted or retired in bush, wetlands, natives or riparian margins?

ha

How much land have you retired this season?

ha

Business

What are the top
priorities that guide
how you run your farm
business?

Select up to 3

Profit maximisation

Financial security/stability

Animal health

High-quality milk production

Environmental stewardship

Work-life balance

Community contribution

Quality of life for my family

Employee growth and development

Decision-making autonomy

Sector leadership

Career progression

Succession and legacy

Resilience to climate and market changes

Does your business
provide the financial
return you need to
achieve your goals?

Yes

Mostly

Sometimes

Rarely

No

Calving and mating

	Spring herd		Autumn herd		
Start of mating					Use date for mixed-age-cows only (not yearling matings). Available from mating report.
Date AB finished					Available from mating report or from Fertility Focus Report page 2. If no AB used enter date bull withdrawn.
Date bull withdrawn from herd					If bull left with herd for remainder of season enter date which matches culling criteria for calving date.
If short gestation (SG) straws are used after the bull is withdrawn, add the length of time SG is used onto the "Date AB finished" (in the box above) and update "Date bull withdrawn from herd" to final date of mating.					
6-week in-calf rate	Actual	% Estimate	Actual	% Estimate	Percentage of cows pregnant in the first 6 weeks of mating from the Fertility Focus Report. Indicate whether actual or estimate.
3-week submission rate					Number of cows mated at least once in 21 days from PSM.
Not-in-calf rate		%		%	Percentage of cows that failed to become pregnant during both the AB and bull mating periods.
Percentage of cows calved by 3 weeks from PSC		%		%	Percentage from the Fertility Focus Report.
Percentage of cows calved by 6 weeks from PSC		%		%	Percentage from the Fertility Focus Report.
Percentage of cows calved by 9 weeks from PSC		%		%	Percentage from the Fertility Focus Report.
Non-cycling cows treated for anoestrus (aka CIDR cows)		%		%	Total percentage from the Fertility Focus Report of non-cycling cows treated for anoestrus (also known as CIDR cows)

Mastitis and lameness

Number of treatments for lameness		Number of recorded antibiotic and anti-inflammatory treatments for lameness for the season. Refer to treatment register in Dairy Diary or Minda Treatment Register.
Number of treatments for mastitis		Number of recorded antibiotic treatments for mastitis for the season. Refer to treatment register in Dairy Diary or Minda Treatment Register.
Average bulk milk somatic cell count(for the season)		Refer to dairy company website or SCC report. Do not use average herd test results.

Wastage and replacements

This section measures wastage of whole herd from calving through to December and wastage of R2 heifers from 1st lactation to 2nd lactation.

	Spring herd	Autumn herd	
Number of heifer calves reared as replacements			
Number of first calvers at the start of the season			Information can be obtained from Herd Summary Report or stock reconciliation in financial statement (if balance date is 31 May).
R2 heifer liveweight at 22 months (kg)			Target is 90% of mature weight at 22 months (pre-calving).
Number of cows and first calvers milking as at 31 December			This must be less than, or the same, as peak cows milked. Check December herd test.
Number of 1st calvers at the start of the season and still in the herd at the end			See Herd Summary report - do not include empty heifers.