

Australian Dairy Trial Using Performance Direct Fed Microbials (PR-01)

Farm: Wyuna, Victoria

RHA: 10,000 litres (+), 370kg butter fat, 318kg Protein

Dairy: 90 degree @ 10 / side milking twice daily.

Herd: Registered Holsteins x 55 (27 on first calf).

Calving: 25% Autumn, 75% winter / Spring

Feed: Mixes own silage, with grain delivered.
8 kg grain / head / day
approx 30 kg silage and pasture mixture / head / day

Return:

Quota =	\$0.48 / litre
Above quota =	\$0.29 / litre
Protein (kg) =	\$5.64 / kg
Fat (kg) =	\$2.35 / kg

Protocols: The trial protocols were prepared by an independent Veterinarian and the trial was carried out under veterinarian supervision. The aim of the trial was to measure the basic commercial benefits of feeding Performance to lactating dairy cows.

The trial was conducted by dividing the herd into two groups of 28 treated cows (Performance) and 27 cows in the control group. The groups were split as evenly as possible having regard to the following criteria:

- a. Genetic merit
- b. Age
- c. Stage of lactation
- d. Liveweight.

The two groups were run together with the only difference in their treatment being the daily inclusion of 1 ounce (28.4 gms) of Performance Direct Fed Microbial powder with the grain of the treatment group at the morning milking. Performance Bovine Microbial Gel was given to each cow in the treatment group on day one of the trial at 5cc / head.

The following measurements were taken throughout the trial at each herd test:

- a. Milk yield, butter fat, protein and SCC (all cows).
- b. Weight. (all cows), albeit both groups have unlimited access to pasture.
- c. Rectal temperatures (all cows).
- d. Several manure samples from each group.
- e. Record of illnesses and medical costs.
- f. Anecdotal observations.

Results of Performance Trial (PR-01)

