



SUPPLY FONTERRA

Water Use Management

Meeting the growing expectations for water use management

Fonterra has established a Water Use Management programme as part of Supply Fonterra. Like all Supply Fonterra programmes it aims to support our farmers to reach their production targets while minimising environmental impact.

The key goals for this programme are:

1. Supporting farmers in managing water in a way that provides business benefits as well as protecting our environment.
2. Global market, local community and industry expectations of water use are growing as people want more transparency about food production and the impact on our natural resources. To continue to farm in the future, Fonterra needs to demonstrate that we are managing our impact on water and using it as efficiently as possible.
3. Meeting our commitments under the Sustainable Dairying: Water Accord targets that are aimed at improving water use management on all dairy farms:
 - Farm dairies will use no more water for wash down and milk cooling than is necessary to produce safe and hygienic milk.
 - Irrigation systems will be designed and operated to minimise the amount of water needed to meet production objectives.
4. Supporting farmers to meet the regulations here at home. New Zealand's central government, through the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management (NPS-FM), requires all regional councils to set water quantity limits on every water body in their region.

The NPS-FM took effect on 1 July 2011 and must be fully implemented by councils by 2030. This timeframe recognises that there are significant changes some councils and our farming community need to make to fully implement the freshwater NPS requirements through regional rules. Councils require landowners to comply with their regional rules within the specified timeframe.

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We've developed the Water Use Management Programme to help provide clarity on these new requirements and demands. We'll ensure standards are clear and that Fonterra farmers are provided with time and support to meet them.

The programme will focus on:

1. Regional consents: Informing farmers on when their regional water access rules are changing
2. Water Use Efficiency: Helping farmers realise the benefits of water use efficiency through measuring and monitoring. Farmers will need to install water meters by 2018/9 to start measuring and monitoring their water use.

How to find out when rules are changing

We will let you know when rules in your region are changing. DairyNZ will hold information days which you can attend to better understand the new rules and the consent process. Fonterra strongly encourages you to attend these information days to gather the correct information to gain the appropriate consent, and we will give you details of these information days when they take place in your area.

How to learn more about the water meter and recording capability

See the water use efficiency and water meter installation factsheets available on Fencepost for more information on measuring and monitoring water use, or contact your Sustainable Dairying Advisor.

This fact-sheet is produced as part of Supply Fonterra's Water Use Management Programme. This programme aims to help farmers understand when their regional rules are changing and encourages water measurement and monitoring as part of industry wide commitments to better manage this precious resource.

Other fact sheets in this series:

- Installing water meters
- Water use efficiency
- Regional consent process for water access