



Australia's animals are one of our most important natural resources. Governments at all levels work to protect the integrity and biosecurity of the national herd, while individual farms monitor their livestock.

Keeping track of the health and habits of hundreds – and possibly thousands – of livestock is a challenge, especially during busy periods of the year where labour is already stretched thin.

Activity collars automatically track health metrics on cows so that farmers can quickly and easily identify health issues when they arise.

### How

Activity collars are attached around the neck of cows to monitor a variety of health metrics.

These health monitoring applications empower dairy farmers to detect developing health issues in the transition period such as ketosis, displaced abomasum, metritis and mastitis early on, before they show up in milk or as a serious metabolic problem, and often well before production drops or clinical signs appear. Real-time detection and alerts provide actionable insight into individual cows' health at high-risk times, including before, during and immediately after calving, enabling timely intervention that can save money and provide peace of mind.

Information is beamed from the collars to receiver towers that can be dispersed throughout the farm. The range of these towers varies, but is usually lineof-sight.

## Why

- Activity collars provide dairy farmers with timely and actionable insight that enables optimised decision-making for herd-wide health, wellbeing, and productivity.
- Rather than painstakingly monitoring each individual animal through time and labour-intensive manual tests, the activity collars allow farmers to quickly and easily identify potential problems as they develop.
- Collars allow active monitoring of cows, particularly in the critical three weeks after calving, to make sure they are in good health as they recover.
- In some cases, these real-time insights can be the difference between life and death.
- Long-term monitoring can afford farmers an opportunity to quantify improvements in herd health, whether its feed conversion efficiencies or disease resistance.

Dairy

Animal welfare Productivity



# Benefits

#### Herd health

Keep your animals healthy and productive.

#### **Rapid response**

Real-time data provides insights as they happen.

#### Labour effective

Saves on time-consuming manual monitoring protocols.

## **Getting started**

- 1. Obtain activity collars and monitoring software from reputable suppliers.
- 2. Attach collars to animals that you want to monitor.
- 3. Set up receiver towers on all relevant areas of the property.
- 4. Set up software to receive data and begin monitoring the herd.

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# More Info

For more information on how you can deploy this technology on farm, give us a call or visit our website via the link below or QR code.





agriculture.vic.gov.au