

# Dairy Farm Monitor Project

## 2021-22 South West Victoria Performance



Approximately **1,030** dairy farm businesses in South West Victoria produced 1.91 billion litres of milk in 2021-22, accounting for **35 per cent** of Victorian milk production output and **22 per cent** of Australia's milk production.



**11% ↑** increase in average milk price to **\$7.39/kg MS**

**13% ↑** in herd and shed costs to **\$0.65/kg MS**

**40% ↑** in total feed costs to **\$3.47/kg MS**

**8% ↑** in overhead costs to **\$2.90/kg MS**

### Physical farm characteristics

More cows were milked at similar production per cow leading to an increase in average total milk production. Greater quantities of supplements were fed as lower quantities of homegrown feed were harvested.

**4% ↑**



**Average herd size**  
390 cows

**Stable**



**Milk solids sold**  
527 kg MS/cow

**8% ↓**



**Homegrown feed**  
62% of  
metabolisable  
energy consumed



14% decrease in homegrown pasture and conserved feed due to adverse (wet) seasonable conditions

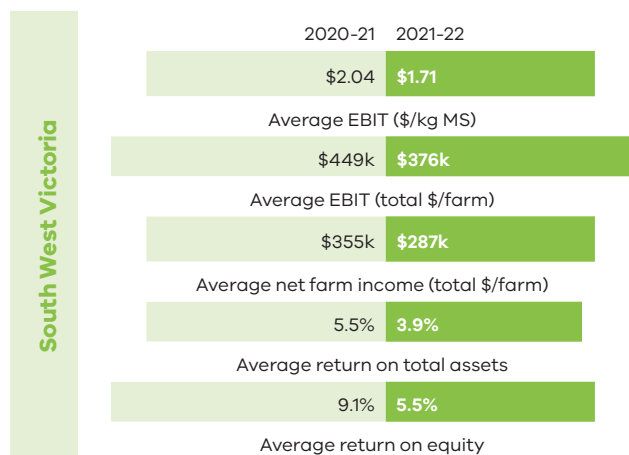


0.7 t DM/cow increase in average supplements fed (total 4.4 t DM/cow)

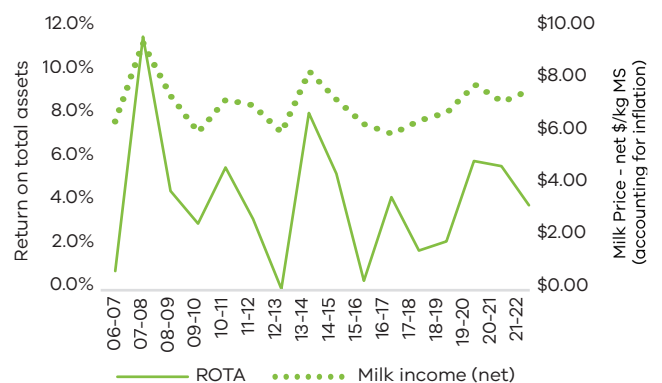


Highest total costs (variable and overhead) in 16 years of DFMP

**In 2021-22, nearly all participants (24 of the 25) recorded a positive return on total assets**



### Return on total assets and milk price



### Future expectations 2022-23



Two-thirds of farmers expect business returns to improve

### Concerns as reported by farm businesses:



**Input Costs**  
18%



**Pasture/Fodder**  
17%



**Succession planning**  
16%