

How your levy was invested 2024/25

The future of dairy is in the same hands it has always been in – yours.

Farmers are successful because you share your wins and lessons, setting up each generation to be better than the last.

The levy is invested into three core priorities to deliver a positive future for New Zealand dairy farming: drive productivity, strengthen farm systems and compete on sustainability.

Working alongside farmers, DairyNZ continues to prioritise initiatives that can accelerate and expand our positive impact and influence to benefit more farmers, faster.

Your return on investment

\$341 million of levy revenue for DairyNZ has generated an estimated \$2.98 billion of value for the dairy sector.

Source: Independent economic analysts Nimmo Bell (2020–2025)

- Equates to 26 cents per kgMS per year or \$187 per hectare per year.
- By way of productivity gains, and costs avoided.

The future

- Pursuing OneBW for farmers to have one trusted reliable metric to drive productivity.
- Solving surplus dairy calves to help us compete on sustainability.
- Harnessing the power of data partnerships to strengthen farm systems.
- Meet DaiSY our AI-powered website tool to help you uncover what you need from our extensive, trusted library.



Research and science discoveries:

Home-grown feed:

\$350/ha

On average, operating profit is \$350/ha higher for each extra tonne of pasture and crop eaten on the milking platform.



Genetic gain:

50kg more

The top 25% within each herd on average make 50 kgMS more milk per cow = \$317 net profit once feed costs are included.



Environmental mitigations:

~40 to 50%

Nitrogen (N) | Low Nitrogen farmlet trials indicate ~40% to 50% reduced nitrogen leaching. Plantain farmlet trials have shown 26% nitrogen leaching reduction over four years.



Environment:

Emissions & profitability

The Emissions and Profitability project found farms with higher profit and lower emissions intensity have more home-grown feed, less purchased N surplus and less purchased feed with high-embedded emissions.



Research and development:

Developed

Three commercially available products, with a fourth in development, as part of the Reducing Sprains and Strains project. The project won the Innovation category at the 2025 New Zealand Workplace Health and Safety Awards.



Extended lactation:

49kg MS/ha more

Extended-lactation study found that in its first year, profitability was similar to a standard 12-month calving interval – producing 4% more at 49 kg MS/ha.



Pasture:

Quantity & quality

Genetically Modified High Metabolisable Energy ryegrass potentially improves the quantity and quality of livestock feeds.

Preliminary results suggest that cows grazing fresh forages emit less methane than currently estimated.





Advocacy and policy:

Signed

Foot and Mouth Disease
Operational Agreement.

19 Submissions

Including:

- » 13 submissions to Central Government
- » 1 submission to the Climate Change Commission
- » 5 submissions or written feedback to regional council processes

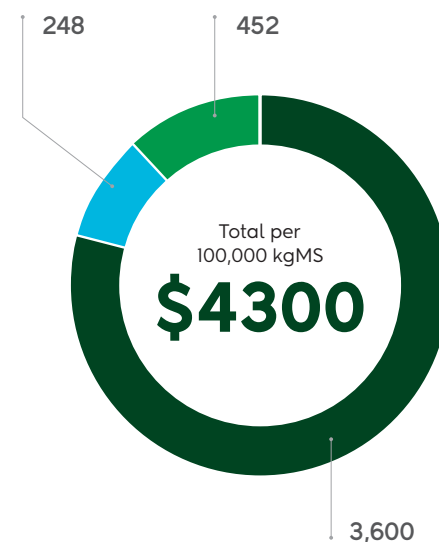
Read more about what these
submissions achieved on page 20
of our Annual Report.

Find out more
in this year's
Annual Report
2024/25



Funding (income):

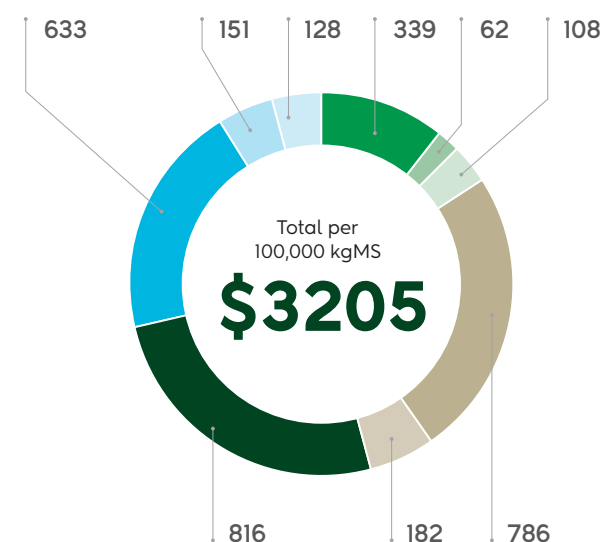
Expressed as dollars per 100,000 kgMS



Key:

- Government funding
- Other
- Levy

Funding invested into strategic programmes (77% of total expenditure):



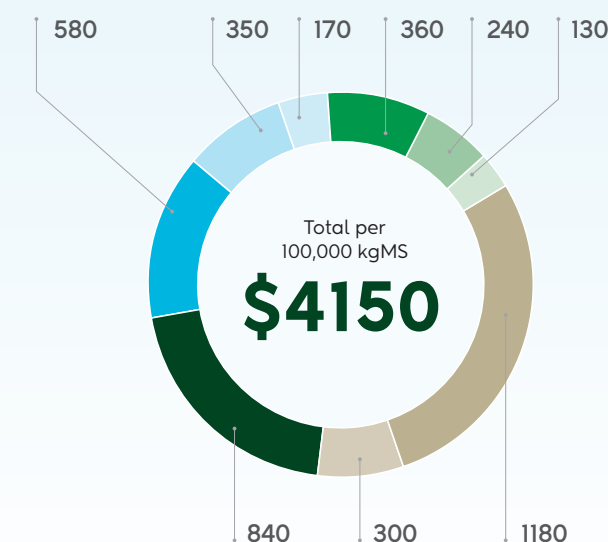
Key:

Programmes
and examples of
work included:

- **Genetic gain**
National Breeding Objective, Dairy Industry Good Animal Database, animal evaluation
- **First in forage**
FVI, Resilient Pastures programme
- **Power up our people**
Extended lactation, wearables, partner sponsorships
- **Future farm systems**
Regional research, extension activities, partner delivery
- **Economic insights**
DairyBase, economic insights, reporting
- **Biosecurity systems**
TBfree, FMD readiness, system strengthening
- **Water quality**
LowN, plantain, catchment & freshwater programmes
- **Animal care**
Wintering, dry cow therapy, heat stress
- **Greenhouse gases**
Trial work with Partners e.g emissions

Levy expenditure targets:

2026



* Excludes operational costs and overheads