



Media Release

Monday 10th March 2009

Farmers informed on milk price

Over 200 dairy farmers attended milk price decrease information sessions arranged by Murray Dairy last week. The sessions took place in Cohuna, Lockington, Katunga and Kyabram.

Natalie Akers, Murray Dairy CEO said "We're really pleased with the number of farmers that attended the sessions and feedback has been positive".

Each session had a presentation from a Dairy Australia representative to explain how world economic pressures have influenced the milk price decrease.

"Farmers were shown that the dairy products were not the only commodity to be impacted on; fuel, metals and raw materials are also experiencing a slow down in light of the international economic uncertainty", said Ms Akers.

Following on from a global overview farmers were provided with a presentation on how they can assess and manage their business.

"The clear message from the farm business session was that how each farm manages the price decrease will be different and farmers were encouraged to get a trusted advisor to discuss their individual circumstances", said Ms Akers.

The final session provided an overview of how farmers can re-negotiate contracts such as extending delivery periods, arranging grade and grain swaps and ensuring deliveries are at their required specification.

"If farmers are worried about existing contracts they were encouraged to talk to their suppliers", said Ms Akers.

"All presentations made last week are available on Murray Dairy's website at www.murraydairy.com.au. A special edition fact sheet on contracts that Dairy Australia's Grains 2 Milk program developed is also available," said Ms Akers.

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