BK & HM McHugh & Sons

(Mt Compass, SA)

Average milking herd: 190
Type of effluent system: Gravity separation

Effluent from the dairy shed and yards gravitates via two underground PVC pipes in to a trafficable solids trap (TST).

The existing overland drainage was modified to allow all the effluent to be piped in to the new TST.

The heavy, fibrous solids and sand fall out of solution in the trap, whilst the liquid effluent passes through the vertical separation area (vertical steel panels). The TST can be cleaned out using the property's front end loader. The vertical orientated steel panels trap horizontally floating items like undigested roughage and wood chips.

Effluent passes through the separation area in to a concrete sump that drains to the solids pond. They are connected via an underground PVC pipe.

Additional solids can gravitate out of solution in the solids pond, and then liquid effluent gravitates in to the effluent storage pond. The PVC T-piece in the solids pond prevents floating solids from passing in to the effluent storage pond.

Effluent will be recycled for yard washing and the surplus irrigated on to either dry or irrigated land. Effluent recycling will reduce the property's freshwater consumption by up to 1,095kL annually.

Nutrients captured at the dairy shed annually:

- 1,642 kg/yr of Nitrogen
- 304 kg/yr of Phosphorous
- 1,130 kg/yr of Potassium

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