

Melchris P/L

(Mt Gambier, SA)

Average milking herd: 250
 Type of effluent system: Gravity separation



Effluent from the dairy shed and yard gravitates in to a small concrete sump. It is then pumped to one of two clay lined solids ponds. The solids ponds are operated in parallel sequence to allow one to dry out, whilst the other is in use.



Effluent then gravitates in to a third, then fourth clay lined pond via PVC piping.



The pontoon mounted pump can be lifted in to any of the ponds to allow the liquid effluent and sludge to be pumped out through the property's travelling irrigator. The property uses freshwater for yard washing. The pond system can store five - six months of effluent production, plus winter rainfall falling on the catchment area.



Effluent from the fourth pond is injected in to a centre pivot irrigator during the irrigation months. The nutrients in the effluent are accounted for in the property's fertiliser budget.



Nutrients captured at the dairy shed annually:

- 1,680 kg/yr of Nitrogen
- 317 kg/yr of Phosphorous
- 1,178 kg/yr of Potassium

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