

SA DAIRY INDUSTRY
FARM WATER USE BUDGET
(Stock watering & dairy washdown)

(A) Water Requirements for Stock	Litres/day		Stock Numbers		
Milking Cows	110 – 150	X		=	
Rep Heifers	50	X		=	
Calves	25	X		=	
Bulls	80	X		=	
Dry Cows	80-100	X		=	
DAILY TOTAL				=	_____ litres

(B) Water use in the Dairy (Calculate estimated water flows using a 5 litre bucket and a clock)	Litres/day		
Equipment Cleaning	Vat	=	
	Machines	=	
Milk Cooling		=	
Teat Washing		=	
Yard Washing		=	
DAILY TOTAL			_____ litres

Note: There is a wide range of water use in dairies. Below are some examples:

50 unit rotary dairy	16,000 – 60,000 litres / day
30 unit Herring bone	6,000 – 26,000 litres / day
18 unit Herring bone	6,000 – 20,000 litres / day

As a rough guide, a 200 cow dairy is estimated to use 15,000 litres per day.

Further Action:

Complete your Water Efficiency Plan showing practical and cost effective ways to reduce water use on your farm.

Refer to:

- The Information Sheet “Farm Water Use” prepared by the SA Dairy Industry Drought Committee May 2007.
- The Dairy Effluent Guidelines for your region (Effluent management for large herds section).
- www.dairyaustralia.com.au (go to “Saving Water in Dairies” link in the “For Farmers” section).