MATHS
SSEP EXAMPLE // DAIRY FARMING
DEVELOPED BY // MATAMATA COLLEGE AND FARMER ANDREW KENNEDY

## KEY WORDS

Numeracy | algebra | problem solving | decimals | ratios | number| calculations | measurement | area | perimeter | volume | mass

ALSO USEFUL FOR

Business studies | Economics | Agriculture | Agribusiness | Science
PROGRAMME OUTLINE

## 3 POINTS OF CONTACT

- Dairy farmers come into classroom (x2)
- Workplace visit (x1)


## EXAMPLE

1. Dairy Farmers come into classroom, introduce themselves, background to dairy farming, their careers and how maths is used in the industry.
2. Workplace visit includes tour of the cowshed area, stock feed areas and paddocks. Introduction to the wider agricultural sector including suppliers and farming consultants. Seeing dairy farming 'behind the scenes'
3. Return to the classroom. Student Activity: Dairy grazing and calf feeding


## BREAK FEEDING

| 280 m |
| :---: |
| PADDOCK |
|  |

1. I have 320 cows going to paddock 17.
a) One hectare (ha) is $10000 \mathrm{~m}^{2}$
b) How big in $\mathrm{m}^{2}$ is paddock 17 ?
c) How big in hectares is paddock 17?
2. I want to make the cows daily allocated area 0.17 ha .
a) How many days can I get out of paddock 17?
b) If I want to get 4 days out of the paddock, how big would their daily allocated area be?
c) How big would the daily allocated area be if I want to get 6 days out of the paddock?
3. I want my cows to eat 10 kg of dry matter ( dm ) per cow per day.
a) If there is not enough grass to feed each cow 10kg each, how much do I need to give them in hay to make up the difference?
4. The pasture cover is 4200 kg of dry matter per hectare. There will be 1500 kg of dm per ha once the cows have finished eating.
a) How much is available (or eaten) per hectare?
b) How much is available or eaten in their allocated daily area?
c) How many kg is that per cow?
d) Is that enough?
e) How many kg's do I need to supplement?
f) One bale of hay $=220 \mathrm{~kg} \mathrm{dm}$
g) How many bales of hay do I need to feed each day?


## 2.8 hectares (ha)

5. I have an odd shaped paddock which is difficult to fence. The easiest way to fence it is into 3 even sized breaks.

I don't want to feed hay in here, so I want my cows to get their entire $10 \mathrm{~kg} / \mathrm{dm} / \mathrm{cow}$ totally in grass. The paddock is 2.8 ha's with $4200 \mathrm{~kg} / \mathrm{dm} / \mathrm{ha}$ cover leaving $1500 \mathrm{~kg} / \mathrm{dm} / \mathrm{ha}$ when finished grazing:
a) how big is each day's allocated area?
b) how many cows can I afford to put in these breaks to get $10 \mathrm{~kg} / \mathrm{dm}$ each?

## MEAL FEEDING

My cows are currently in 4 different mobs.
b) Mob 1 is 250 cows eating 4 kg meal/cow/day
c) Mob 2 is 40 cows eating 4 kg meal/cow/day
d) Mob 3 is 160 cows eating 3 kg meal/cow/day
e) Mob 4 is 130 cows eating 2.5 kg meal/cow/day

1. How many cows do I have?
2. How many kg meal am I feeding in total?
3. What is the average per cow?
4. I have a 10000 kg silo. How often do I need it refilled?

## MOLASSES FEEDING

1. I have a molasses vat that holds 3000 litres. My cows get 350 ml of molasses/cow/milking.
a) If I milk once a day, how much molasses am I using per day?
b) How often do I need my vat refilled?
c) If I milk twice a day, how much molasses am I using per day?
d) How often do I need my vat refilled?

MATHS

## CALF FEEDING

1. I have a calf milk vat that holds 8000 litres. I have $\mathbf{3 0}$ cows giving $\mathbf{2 0}$ litres/cow/day to feed the calves.
a) How much calf milk am I getting per day?
b) How many days will it take to fill the vat?
c) BUT I have 50 calves drinking 5 litres of milk/calf/day. How much are the calves drinking per day?
d) How many litres is my vat actually going up by per day?
e) How many days will it take to fill my vat?
2. By the end of calving I have $\mathbf{1 2 0}$ dairy calves and 50 beef calves so $\mathbf{1 7 0}$ calves all together. They are fed different amounts of milk depending on their age and weight. I have:

- 40 calves drinking 3.5 L each
- 40 calves drinking 4L each
- 40 calves drinking 4.5 L each
- 50 calves drinking 5L each
a) How much milk do I need each day?
b) Is my 600 L enough?
c) How much extra do I need to top it up with each day?
d) Cost of each litre is 10 cents. How much does it cost me per day?
e) How much does it cost me per calf?

