

George Te Hira
Nukuroa,
Oruawharo
Wellsford
January 2010



George talking to Denise Cochrane, representative for Agrifeeds.

In the year 2007 Harry Owens (AB Technician) suggested to George he might like to try molasses. George did just that and was buying drums of molasses to feed his cows over mating. He said he became the local drum depot with all his empty drums. (anyone want drums)

In 2008 Dean the manager at RD1 Wellsford sent Denise out to talk to George in seeing if he would like to save some money and buy a 5 ton tank so he could receive bulk molasses instead of buying drums.

By the time George started milking in 2008 he was all set up with his 5 ton tank and was ready to start feeding his cows. George puts the molasses into a Normanby mobile feeder and sets it at the exit race. George uses molasses all year round. He starts with Himag, Rumag 300 and then moves onto Rumol 300 and this year he is going to use Zinmol over summer. Then when they are dried off he uses feedgrade molasses.

George said the first few months of continuous use he thought he did not see any difference in his cows. But 12 months later his submission rate was all over in 4 weeks and his AB man had no work at his farm. 169 cows calved.

George feed right through winter when cows were dry as it was very wet and no feed. When cows were on the stand off area he gave them PKE and molasses together. Most nights they cleaned it up.

He had 3 metabolic problems.

Age of herd is 50% over 9 year olds.

No heat stress seen in his herd over the summers. He did see it all the time when he was not feeding molasses.

This January 2010 his cows are on OAD and all are eating the molasses, plus George is taking the molasses to the cows so they can still have it twice a day.

George is very impressed with the delivery of the molasses. They come at different times of the day and do a great job.

George is very happy using molasses. He had been advised over the years he did not need molasses. If George could turn the clock back he would have used it years ago.