

New Zealand Certificate in Agriculture Dairy Farming

Level 3

The new Level 3 qualification offers the majority of learning through an online learning system – Mahi Tahi.

Ideally suited for Farm Assistants, this comprehensive qualification provides learners with a solid knowledge-base across a range of on-farm tasks and prepares them to tackle all seasonal activities throughout the farming calendar year.



Topics include:

Assist with Operating Dairy Effluent Management Systems

- Understand what effluent is and the benefits and risks of application
- Characteristics of a dairy effluent management system
- · Environmental protection practices.

Assist with Mating, Calving and Neonatal Care

- Mating management and understanding the tools that support a successful mating programme
- Assisting with parturition management, understanding of birthing presentation and animal records
- Monitoring body condition score (BCS) of pregnant cows to ensure a successful start to the season
- Principles of rearing young stock including the importance of colostrum, identification, and welfare practices
- Understand and explore the structure, development and function of the ruminant reproductive system, and interventions to assist reproduction and improve reproductive performance.

Health, Wellbeing and Biosecurity

- · Implementing steps to help reduce fatigue and stress
- · Creating professional learning goals
- Biosecurity, types of diseases and how to apply best practice to mitigate risks
- Identification and care of healthy livestock, ill health and ill thrift
- Use of preventative animal health measures
- Obligations and practices with regards to animal welfare requirements.

Livestock Feed Supply and Demand

- Livestock feed demand during the season and the impacts on production
- Identification of New Zealand pasture species
- · Grazing management methods
- Principles of feed budgeting and the nutrition value of feed and digestibility
- Introduction to pasture management and soil management, including soil health and fertility
- · Fundamentals of water supply systems.

Assist with Milk Harvesting and Optimising Milk Quality

- Nutritional value of milk, quality milk supply and preventing contaminants
- Understand the milking plant and the function of the milking components
- · Milk quality testing and grading
- Milk quality post calving, mastitis, treating teat disorders and handling of unsuitable milk.

The programme a learner will start will depend on the season. Graduates will be capable of working under limited supervision with responsibility for their duties and work outcomes.

For more information please contact

