



WestVic Dairy Annual Report

2025-26







Contents

About WestVic Dairy	2
About Dairy Australia	3
The structure of Australian dairy industry organisations	3
Message from the Chair	4
Message from the Regional Manager	6
Our people	8
Collaboration and acknowledgements	9
Key achievements	10
What farmers told us	11
Financial statements and auditors report	12

About WestVic Dairy

WestVic Dairy Inc. is the Regional Development Program for Western Victoria. In partnership with Dairy Australia, it delivers extension services and programs that foster innovation, skills and sustainability.

WestVic Dairy also supports the development of people and leadership in the dairy community and contributes to industry wide strategic and resource planning. It works closely with local farmers and industry stakeholders to identify emerging needs and opportunities, address challenges, and promote the dairy industry across Western Victoria.

Our vision

A vibrant, profitable and valued dairy region.

Our mission

We strive to advance the South-western Victorian dairy industry through engagement to promote innovation, skills and sustainability.

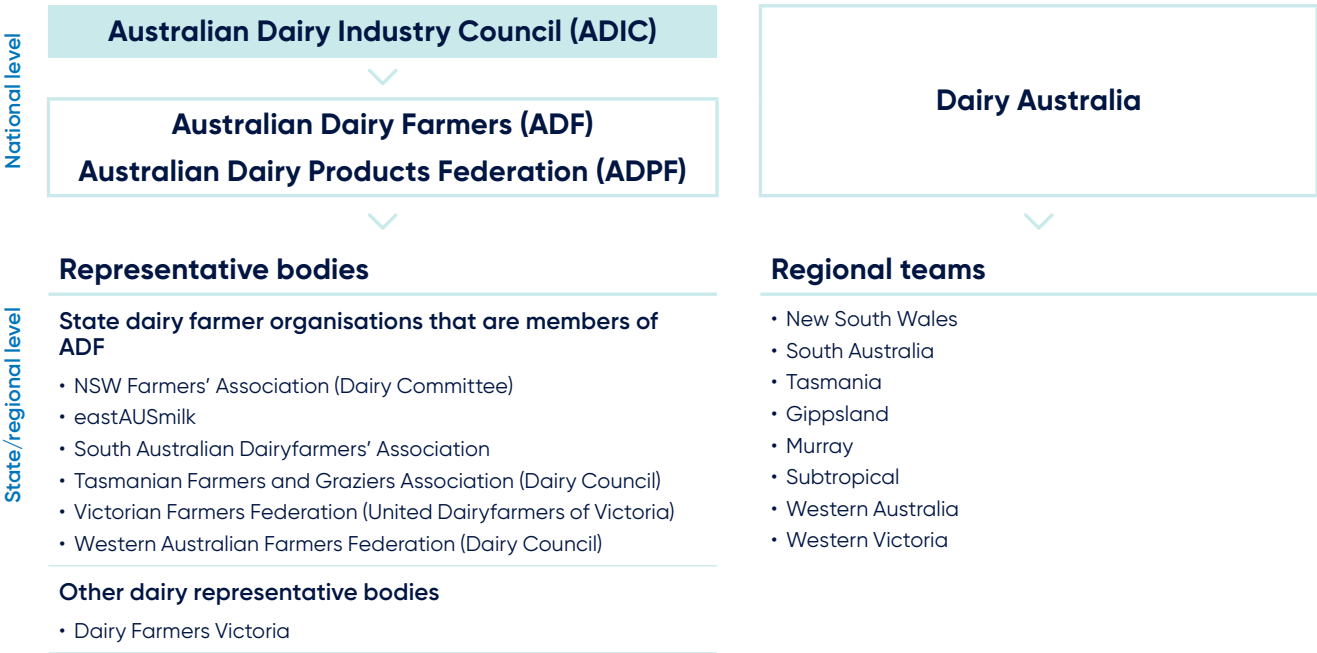


About Dairy Australia

As the industry-owned research and services body, Dairy Australia is here to improve farm profitability by increasing herd and feed productivity, while remaining focused on sustainable practices that farmers do every day. We support policy development, expand market opportunities and promote Australian dairy.

This delivers a proud, successful and valued industry that celebrates dairy, attracts great people and strengthens communities. Dairy Australia works closely with eight Regional Development Programs (RDPs) across Australia to advance the dairy industry.

The structure of Australian dairy industry organisations



Message from the Chair

I would like to begin by sincerely thanking each member of the dairy farming community in western Victoria for your support and engagement with WestVic Dairy during 2025-26. Our work is focused on creating opportunity for dairy farmers in our region and we greatly value the relationships and partnerships that help ensure we have measurable impact.

The start of the 2025-26 year saw our region continuing to manage the drought, which placed enormous pressure on dairy farmers, their families and communities across Western Victoria. For some areas, this was followed by serious bushfires. The effects of these events and the new learning continue to impact decision making on farm, so it is encouraging to see resilient, renewed confidence reported by dairy farmers in western Victoria. It again reinforces that our greatest strengths will be our ability to support each other and learn together.

This sense of community was embodied by Brad Collins, whose loss during the year was deeply felt across the dairy industry. Brad made a significant contribution to WestVic Dairy, first as an Associate Director and later through a full term on the Board. He brought a deep commitment to dairy, a rare ability to introduce blue-sky thinking that stretched and challenged discussion, and a generosity of spirit that connected with people across generations. We aspire to sustain these values in our work for the benefit of our industry.

WestVic Dairy continued to work closely with Dairy Australia in 2025-26, delivering extension and farm engagement activities across the region. We are very pleased to share the impact and success of this work throughout this report. We also continue to explore future ways of working with Dairy Australia as we support Dairy Australia's ambitious new strategic plan, along with our regional priorities in our distinctly regional role.

This regional role was evident through WestVic Dairy's contribution to Dairy Australia's Annual Investment Planning process during the year. Our input was informed by conversations with farmers, regional stakeholders and available data, helping ensure Western Victorian priorities were clearly surfaced in national discussions. Dairy Australia's new strategic plan offers significant opportunity, and WestVic Dairy has an important role

in helping translate that ambition into outcomes that benefit farmers in Western Victoria.

The Board also worked conscientiously to exercise strong fiscal management of the WestVic Dairy budget and we are pleased to report our financial performance and result in this report. It positions us well for future investment in initiatives that benefit our dairy farmers in our region.

In this context, a priority for the WestVic Dairy Board has been the development of the new WestVic Dairy Strategic Plan which will be launched in Financial Year 2026-27. It is not a strategy that will sit on the shelf but an active process that places listening to farmers at its core. We are excited to share this with you in the coming months, along with our first initiatives which will include regional leadership development and innovation.

Partnerships will remain central to achieving impact. The past several years have demonstrated the value of industry organisations working together, and bringing different capabilities, resources and perspectives to regional challenges and opportunities. We look forward to continuing to strengthen those relationships in the year ahead.

This year also marked an important leadership transition for WestVic Dairy. We farewelled Lindsay Ferguson following nine years of service to WestVic Dairy and the region. Lindsay's knowledge of the industry, commitment to farmers and contribution to WestVic Dairy over that period have been significant, and we thank him sincerely for his leadership and service.

We welcomed Libby Swain into the Regional Manager role. Libby brings considerable experience and knowledge of both the region and Dairy Australia's extension work and the board looks forward to working with Libby and the broader team to grow on-farm outcomes for dairy farmers across Western Victoria.

We thank Juanita Paul, for her interim regional management as an extension of her role as Regional Services Manager as we made these transitions.

There was also change at the board level this year. We farewelled Ronda Henry as she retired from the board. We thanked Rhonda for generously sharing her expertise,

combined with a strong commitment to the organisation and the region. We were delighted to welcome Peter Thurn, Stakeholder Engagement Specialist with DataGene, to the Board as a Specialist Director. Peter brings a strong stakeholder and strategy perspective and has been a valued addition to the board.

I extend my sincere thanks to each of the WestVic Dairy board directors for their contribution, insight and commitment to the region. The board responsibility is significant, and, in every instance, the directors bring immense professionalism, collegiality and intellect to their responsibilities.

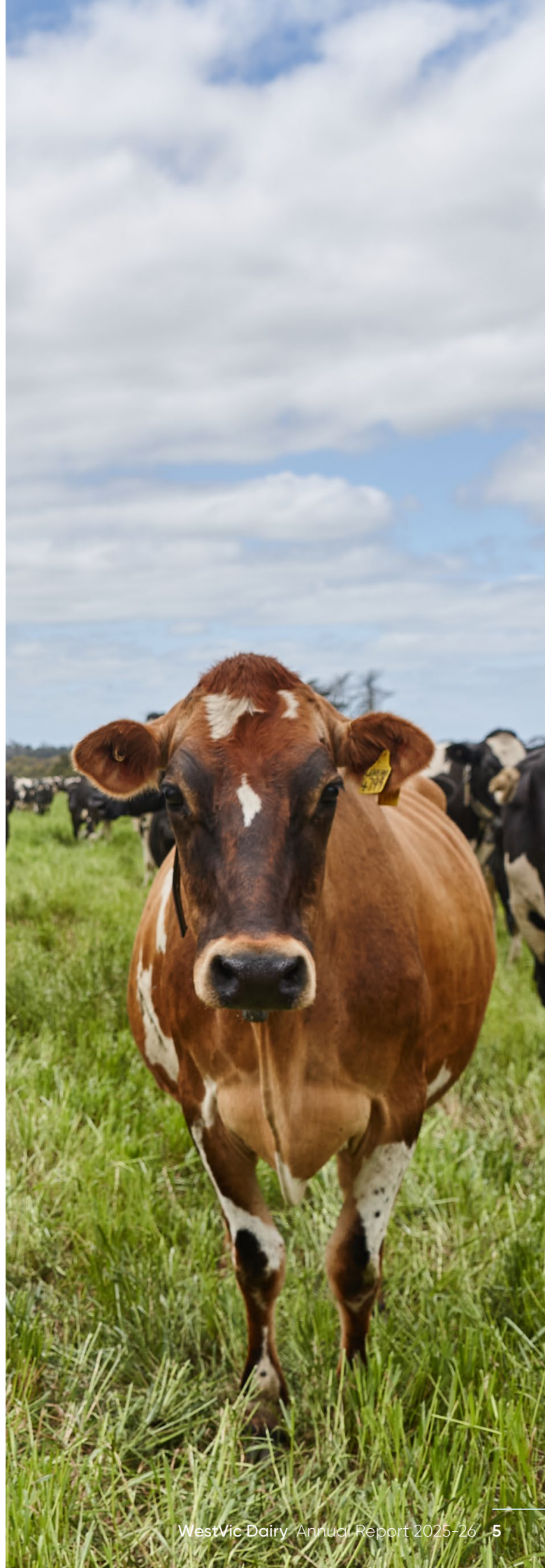
Finally, on behalf of the Board, I thank the regional WestVic Dairy team for their commitment, expertise and engagement with farmers throughout this financial year. Our reason for being is to create measurable impact for our farmers and the work of the regional team is central to our collective ability to achieve this.

As we move into FY27, our focus is firmly on building from the strengths of Western Victoria's dairy industry and ensuring WestVic Dairy continues to create opportunity, strengthen regional capability and deliver value for farmers. We look forward to working with each and every member of our community as we pursue this ambition.



A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several loops and a long, sweeping tail.

Brendan Rea
WestVic Dairy Chair



Message from the Regional Manager

The easing of drought conditions early in the financial year was a welcome relief for farmers across the region following two exceptionally challenging years. For many farmers, spring rainfall delivered an excellent harvest and provided the opportunity to begin rebuilding severely depleted fodder reserves. Many farmers reported record silage yields, with both the quantity and quality of fodder harvested reaching very high levels.

The season demonstrated how quickly conditions can improve; however, the financial impacts of prolonged drought will take much longer to recover from. With this in mind, the WestVic Dairy annual delivery plan was designed with the flexibility to continue supporting farmers through one-on-one farm visits, building on the outreach approach established in the previous financial year. Our goal was to visit every dairy farming business in the region, providing technical information, practical guidance and referrals to the range of support services available.

The experience of the drought highlighted the value of taking time to reflect on decision made during challenging periods. In collaboration with Southern Farming Systems, we delivered three drought reflection workshops. These provided attendees with the opportunity to share their success, challenges and learnings from the drought. Taking the time to reflect and review on decisions made under pressure and in challenging times can assist in making more informed decisions in the future.

Extension activities gradually resumed in late spring and had returned to our planned program delivery schedule by the new year. The drought reinforced the importance of homegrown fodder, both in terms of pasture production and utilisation. As a result, there was strong demand for the Feeding Pastures for Profit program, as farmers focused on improving pasture management and feed utilisation to build resilience for the future.

While seasonal conditions improved across much of the region, the new year was not without its challenges. On 10 January, the region was impacted by dry lightning storms and high winds, which sparked several fires across the area. Most fires were brought under control quickly, however two fires near Carlisle River took hold and burned for more than two weeks before being contained. In total, more than 11,700 hectares were affected, including dairy farm platforms and out-paddocks.

During these events the team continued to focus on delivering practical support for farmers. Our staff are professionally qualified and continually developing both their technical expertise and facilitation skills. As part of the national Dairy Australia team, they also contribute to the development and refinement of extension programs and resources, ensuring participants have access to the latest research, knowledge and industry insights.

This year also brought several staff changes. In July, we farewelled Regional Manager Lindsay Ferguson after nine years leading the WestVic Dairy team. Throughout his time with the organisation, Lindsay provided outstanding

leadership and guidance. His vision and support reflected his deep understanding of the dairy industry and agriculture more broadly, as well as his longstanding commitment to the people and communities it serves.

The team also farewelled Emma Collins and Samantha Andrews, while welcoming Jess Roberts. We are fortunate to have a team of highly experienced and capable staff, and I sincerely thank each of them for their dedication to their roles, our farming communities and the broader dairy industry.

We sincerely thank our sponsors, industry partners and the region's dairy farmers for their ongoing support and participation in our activities and events throughout the year. Feedback, suggestions and ideas on how we can better support farmers and strengthen the dairy industry in Western Victoria are always welcomed.

I look forward to connecting with many of you at our events and activities over the coming year as we continue working together to build a profitable, sustainable and resilient dairy industry for Western Victoria.



Libby Swayn
Dairy Australia Regional Manager



Our people

WestVic Dairy Board

- **Brendan Rea** Chair
Dairy farmer, Allansford
- **Will McDonald** Vice Chair
Dairy farmer, Bessiebelle
- **Ella Credlin** Treasurer
Dairy farmer, Ecklin South
- **Lucy Collins** Farmer Director
Dairy farmer, Dixie
- **Rhonda Henry** Specialist Director
Service Provider, Warrnambool
Concluded at the October 2025 Annual General Meeting
- **Ulke de Kleine** Farmer Director
Dairy farmer, Pirron Yallock
- **Brooke Lane** Farmer Director
Dairy Farmer, Alvie
- **Bruce Officer** Specialist Director
Service Provider, Victoria and Tasmania
- **Peter Thurn** Specialist Director
Service Provider, Victoria
- **Fiona Elgin** Executive Officer

WestVic Dairy Team

Regional leadership during 2025-26

- **Lindsay Ferguson**
Dairy Australia Regional Manager and WestVic Dairy Executive Officer, until July 2025
- **Juanita Paul**
Acting Dairy Australia Regional Manager, July 2025 – January 2026
- **Libby Swayn**
Dairy Australia Regional Manager, from January 2026

Team members during 2025-26

- **Sheeraz Ahmad**
Extension Advisor
- **Sam Andrews**
Farm Engagement Lead
- **Emma Collins**
Administration Coordinator
- **Liza Fahey**
Project Coordinator
- **Peter Gaffy**
Farm Engagement Lead
- **Amanda Heard**
Administration Coordinator
- **Jess Roberts**
Farm Engagement Lead
- **Aylish Tobin-Salzman**
Communications Advisor
- **Debbie Twiss**
Extension Advisor
- **Matt Wood**
Extension Advisor

Collaboration and acknowledgements

WestVic Dairy works collaboratively with a wide range of organisations and individuals to deliver its services to the industry and to champion the dairy industry as a significant part of the regional economy and community.

WestVic Dairy sincerely appreciates the support and financial assistance of many people and organisations during 2025-26.

We would like to extend our thanks to:

- All dairy farmers in Western Victoria
- Agriculture Victoria
- Australian Dairy Farmers
- Corangamite Catchment Management Authority
- Dairy Australia
- Dairy Farmers Victoria
- DemoDAIRY Foundation
- Food and Fibre Great South Coast
- Gardiner Foundation
- Glenelg Hopkins Catchment Management Authority
- United Dairyfarmers of Victoria (UDV)
- The seven other Regional Development Programs across Australia: GippsDairy, Murray Dairy, DairySA, Western Dairy, DairyTAS, DairyNSW and Subtropical Dairy

- The milk processors that source milk from Western Victoria
- The local councils: Corangamite Shire, Warrnambool City Council, Moyne Shire, Colac Otway Shire and Glenelg Shire
- Local dairy farm consultants and service providers
- Southern Farming Systems
- South West Local Learning and Employment Network
- RIST and South West TAFE
- VicWest Rural Financial Counselling Service
- Our sponsors of our major events and projects

Numerous other agencies, educators and private sector service provider businesses are important part of the network. Much of this collaboration occurs informally through strong relationships and formally through the regular meetings of the Southwest Dairy Industry Leadership Group, led by Agriculture Victoria.

Considerable additional input on industry matters is provided by WestVic Dairy in conjunction with Dairy Australia to the wider community on issues such as regional strategy and action plans, infrastructure, water, sustainability, skills and employment, and health and wellbeing.



Key achievements

Resilient dairy farms

Profitable and productive farms

Supported dairy farmers to improve productivity, profitability and resilience through delivery of 114 extension activities that provided tools, information and resources to enable more informed business decisions.

Advanced environmental sustainability

Strengthened farmer understanding of their environmental footprint and actions they can take to reduce it through a coordinated, collaborative approach with multiple stakeholders. This included Effluent Management Workshops delivered in partnership with the Environmental Protection Authority and Agriculture Victoria.

Innovation and technology

Created opportunities for farmers to explore emerging technologies, new ideas and assess their suitability for different farm systems. This is done through trusted peer-to-peer learning environments including discussion groups and the Young Dairy Network. Highlights include the Lakes and Craters Discussion Group Tasmania study tour, the Port Campbell Discussion Group Day to see virtual fencing in action, and the WestVic Dairy – Young Dairy Network South Australia study tour.

Strategic, positive and proactive communication and engagement

More meaningful farmer engagement

Worked directly with 630 farm business to identify their needs and connect them with Dairy Australia programs, resources and services.

Responding to critical issues and events

Ensured support was available for dairy farmers in challenging times. Supported industry preparedness, response and recovery during drought and bushfire, through a coordinated approach with industry partners.

Attracting and developing great people for dairy

Promoting dairy careers

Attended three careers expos and engaged with schools across South-west Victoria to connect with students and job seekers, promoting a career in dairy as attractive and rewarding.

Developing industry leadership and skills

Expanded the leadership capability of the dairy industry in South-west Victoria by providing opportunities for emerging and established leaders to build their skills, confidence and networks through initiatives including: Leadership Great South Coast, Dairy Australia Ambassador Program, WestVic Dairy – Young Dairy Network Leadership team and Nollaig Heffernan masterclasses.

Supported dairy farm employee recruitment, retainment, and development

Strengthened dairy workforce capability by supporting 279 farm businesses to attract, recruit, retain and develop employees through one-on-one support, workshops and industry training opportunities.

Promoting a trusted and valuable industry

Retain social value

Build community awareness of the dairy industry's contribution to regional employment and economic activity through work with local media.

What farmers told us

"The Becoming an Employer of Choice Masterclass with Nollaig Heffernan was a fantastic day, really worth our time with so many take-home messages. Timelines are now going to be set for every action. It was powerful, I thoroughly enjoyed it and big changes will come."

– Andrea Taylor, dairy farmer, Brucknell

"Becoming a Focus Farm has certainly been one of the best things we could have done for our farming career. Being involved in the program has made us make time to stop and draw on others' experience and advice. Recording and monitoring farm system data monthly has allowed us to make more confident decisions or adjust when we need to. It's also really kept us on our toes with monthly budgeting. Having a really good understanding of our finances month to month has really helped the business go forward. We've developed confidence in ourselves, in our decision making, and a feeling of being a little more in control."

– Peter and Marnie Kerr, dairy farmers, Bostocks Creek

"In the worst of the drought, WestVic Dairy aimed to touch base with every dairy farm, checking in really helped.

We had a wonderful debrief session with the Colac Discussion Group after the worst of the drought. It was almost cathartic because we'd all been through a traumatic event. When we explained what we felt, what we did right and what we did wrong, there was understanding, commiserating and no-one beating their chest claiming they'd done everything right."

– Jason Smith, dairy farmer, Swan Marsh

"The Healthy Hooves workshop provided a good understanding of hoof anatomy and how to spot sore feet. Topics also covered prevention and treatment farmers can do in conjunction with any further veterinary treatment. It was a good time to discuss the issues in person and on farm before the season changed because hoof health is notoriously challenging in wetter conditions. It was a well planned and executed day with farmer convenience and practicality in mind."

– Lenise Mantell, dairy farmer, Tesbury

"Feeding Pastures for Profit has been a highlight for both Jason and I this year. This course is one of the best we've done with WestVic Dairy. With a mix of theory as well as hands on activities, Feeding Pastures for Profit has been a fun learning experience alongside other farmers. Phil Shannon was a wealth of knowledge and common sense. We have felt supported to implement new decision-making processes and changes to our business for better outcomes, happier cows and more profit. We would highly encourage anyone within the dairy industry to jump on board, we know we will be committing again, so we can learn even more."

– Nelly & Jason King, dairy farmers, Cooriemungle



Financial statements

For year ended 30 June 2026

WestVic Dairy (non-reporting) Inc. ABN 86 401 992 319

Your Board members present the financial report of WestVic Dairy Inc. for the financial year ended 30 June 2026.

Board

The names of the Board members throughout the year and at the date of this report are:

- **Brendan Rea** Chair
- **Will McDonald** Vice Chair
- **Ella Credlin** Treasurer
- **Ulke de Kleine**
- **Bruce Officer**
- **Lucy Collins**
- **Brooke Lane**
- **Peter Thurn** Appointed 7 October 2025
- **Rhonda Henry** Resigned 7 October 2025

Principal activities

The principal activities of the association during the financial year was as the Regional Development Program (RDP) for the Western Victorian dairy region, and the delivery of dairy extension activities and programs. There were no significant changes in the nature of these activities during the year.

Significant changes in the state of affairs

Dairy Australia's Regional Development Programs (RDPs) are undergoing changes to better align with the organization's strategic priorities and address the evolving needs of the dairy industry. These changes, part of a broader evolution of the organization, aim to improve farmer engagement, streamline research and development (R&D) adoption, and ensure that local needs are met effectively.

No other significant change in the nature of these activities occurred during the year.

Operating result

The surplus from ordinary activities for the financial year amounted to \$52,465 (2025: surplus of \$81,531).

After balance date events

No matters or circumstances have arisen since the end of the financial year which significantly affected or may significantly affect the operations of the association, the results of those operations, or the state of affairs of the association in future financial years.

Signed in accordance with a resolution from the board:



Brendan Rea WestVic Chairperson

Dated at Warrnambool
9 October 2026



Ella Credlin WestVic Treasurer

Dated at Warrnambool
9 October 2026

Statement of income and expenditure

For the year ended 30 June 2026

	2026	2025
	\$	\$
Income		
Program funding	838,000	934,000
Project income	95,479	227,268
Sponsorships	112,784	92,427
Interest received	50,033	50,212
Events	20,764	16,674
Other income and refunds	2,792	256,899
Total income	1,119,852	1,577,480
Expenditure		
Advertising and promotion	4,947	11,033
Amortisation	30,005	30,005
Audit and accounting fees	4,850	4,650
Bank charges	1,752	2,091
Board fees and development	28,705	36,071
Catering	6,022	10,678
Conferences	11,908	31,436
Contractors	232,306	88,501
Depreciation	4,510	4,546
Donations and gifts	9,157	16,126
Electricity and gas	8,104	8,483
Employee benefits expense charged	535,235	879,326
Extension costs	91,334	113,167
Insurance	5,713	5,219
Interest expense	10,138	11,158
Lab tests (soil, plant, animal)	5,790	2,244
Motor vehicle costs	734	152,393
Newspapers and magazines	906	706
Postage	4,999	6,378
Printing and stationery	6,681	18,916
Repairs and maintenance	5,138	5,828
Staff development	1,036	2,539
Subscriptions	158	5,286
Sundry	15,732	7,876
Telephone and technology	9,525	8,608
Tools and equipment	740	1,493
Travelling and accommodation	31,262	31,192
Total expenditure	1,067,387	1,495,949
Surplus /(deficit) for the year	52,465	81,531

Statement of financial position

As at 30 June 2026

	Note	2026	2025
ASSETS		\$	\$
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	2	775,026	538,143
Financial assets		790,320	759,576
Trade and other receivables	3	11,214	170,024
Prepayments		2,226	2,235
Total current assets		1,578,786	1,469,978
Non-current assets			
Leasehold improvements, plant and equipment	4	12,902	17,412
Right of use asset	5	230,038	260,043
Total non-current assets		242,940	277,455
Total Assets		1,821,726	1,747,433
LIABILITIES			
Current liabilities			
Trade and other payables	6	133,067	34,466
Lease liabilities	7	27,351	27,315
Grants received in advance		100,894	160,490
Total current liabilities		261,312	222,271
Non-current liabilities			
Lease liabilities	7	212,950	230,163
Total non-current liabilities		212,950	230,163
Total liabilities		474,262	452,434
NET ASSETS		1,347,464	1,294,999
Equity			
Retained earnings		1,098,712	1,046,247
Extension committee		8,752	8,752
Minimum reserve		240,000	240,000
Total equity		1,347,464	1,294,999

Statement of changes in equity

For the year ended 30 June 2026

	Retained earnings	Extension Committee	Minimum reserve	Total
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Balance at 30 June 2024	964,716	8,752	240,000	1,213,468
Net result for the year	81,531	-	-	81,531
Balance at 30 June 2025	1,046,247	8,752	240,000	1,294,999
Net result for the year	52,465	-	-	52,465
Balance at 30 June 2026	1,098,712	8,752	240,000	1,347,464

Statement of cash flows

For the year ended 30 June 2026

	Note	2026	2025
		\$	\$
Cash flows from operating activities			
Receipts from customers		1,171,799	1,535,843
Payments to suppliers and employees		(914,505)	(1,463,816)
Interest Received		47,267	50,212
GST received/(paid)		(9,583)	17,204
Net cash provided by operating activities		294,978	139,443
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of investments		(30,744)	(500,442)
Net cash (used in) investing activities		(30,744)	(500,442)
Cash flows from financing activities			
Repayment of leases		(27,351)	(25,266)
Net cash (used in) financing activities		(27,351)	(25,266)
Net increase/(decrease) in cash held		236,883	(386,265)
Cash at the beginning of the financial year		538,143	924,408
Cash at end of financial year	2	775,026	538,143

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2026

Note 1: Summary of Material Accounting Policies

The financial statements are special purpose financial statements prepared in order to satisfy the financial reporting requirements of the Associations Incorporation Reform Act (VIC) 2012. The Board has determined that the association is not a reporting entity.

The financial statements have been prepared on an accruals basis and are based on historical costs and do not take into account changing money values or, except where stated specifically, current valuations of non-current assets.

The following material accounting policies, which are consistent with the previous period unless stated otherwise, have been adopted in the preparation of these financial statements.

(a) Revenue and other income

Project Income and Program Funding.

When the association receives project income and program funding, it assesses whether the contract is enforceable and has sufficiently specific performance obligations in accordance with AASB 15.

When both these conditions are satisfied, the association:

- identifies each performance obligation relating to the funding
- recognises a contract liability for its obligations under the agreement – recognises revenue as it satisfies its performance obligations. Where the contract is not enforceable or does not have sufficiently specific performance obligations:
- recognises the asset received in accordance with the recognition requirements of other applicable accounting standards;
- recognises related amounts (being contributions by owners, lease liability, financial instruments, provisions, revenue or contract liability arising from contract with customer)
- recognises income immediately in profit or loss as the difference between the initial carrying amount of the asset and the related amount.

Interest income is recognised using the effective interest method.

(b) Employee benefits

All employee benefits, including annual leave and long service leave are held by Dairy Australia Limited.

(c) Economic dependence

WestVic Dairy Inc. is dependent on Dairy Australia for the majority of its revenue used to operate the business. At the date of this report the Board has no reason to believe Dairy Australia will not continue to support WestVic Dairy Inc.

Note 2 Cash and cash equivalents

	2026	2025
	\$	\$
Total cash and cash equivalents	775,026	538,143

Cash and cash equivalents comprise of cash on hand, demand deposits and short term investments which are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

Note 3 Trade and other receivables

	2026	2025
	\$	\$
Trade debtors	1,950	162,047
Other receivables	9,264	7,977
Total trade and other receivables	11,214	170,024

Accounts receivables are recognised initially at the transaction price (i.e. cost) and are subsequently measured at cost less provision for impairment. Receivables expected to be collected within 12 months of the end of the reporting period are classified as current assets. All other receivables are classified as non-current assets.

At the end of each reporting period, the carrying amount of accounts receivable and other receivables are reviewed to determine whether there is any objective evidence that the amounts are not recoverable. If so, an impairment loss is immediately recognised in the statement of income and expenditure.

Note 4 Leasehold improvements, plant and equipment

	2026	2025
	\$	\$
Leasehold improvements at cost	45,000	45,000
Less accumulated depreciation	(32,098)	(27,588)
Total leasehold improvements, plant and equipment	12,902	17,412

Note 5 Right of use assets

	2026	2025
	\$	\$
Right of use asset - office	300,049	300,049
Less accumulated amortisation	(70,011)	(40,006)
Total right of use assets	230,038	260,043

Leases of property, plant and equipment, where substantially all the risks and benefits incidental to the ownership of the asset (but not the legal ownership) are transferred to the association, are classified as finance leases.

Finance leases are capitalised by recording an asset and a liability at the lower of the amounts equal to the fair value of the leased property or the present value of the minimum lease payments, including any guaranteed residual values. Lease payments are allocated between the reduction of the lease liability and the lease interest expense for that period.

Leased assets are depreciated on a straight-line basis over the shorter of their estimated useful lives or the lease term. Lease payments for operating leases, where substantially all the risks and benefits remain with the lessor, are charged as expenses in the periods in which they are incurred.

Note 6 Trade and other payables

	2026	2025
	\$	\$
Current		
Trade payables	41,250	715
Other payables	77,429	10,413
GST payable	5,371	14,954
Credit cards	9,017	8,384
Total trade and other payables	133,067	34,466

Accounts payable and other payables represent the liabilities at the end of the reporting period for goods and services received by the association that remain unpaid. Accounts payable are recognised at their transaction price. Accounts payable are obligations on the basis of normal credit terms.

Note 7 Lease liabilities

	2026	2025
	\$	\$
Current		
Lease liability - office	27,351	27,315
Non Current		
Lease liability - office	212,950	230,163

No matters or circumstances have arisen since the end of the financial year which significantly affected or may significantly affect the operations of the association, the results of those operations, or the state of affairs of the association in future financial years.

Note 10 Association details

The registered office of the association is: WestVic Dairy Inc., 5 Cressy Street, Camperdown VIC 3260

Statement by members of the board

For the year ended 30 June 2026

The Board has determined that the association is not a reporting entity and that this special purpose financial report should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies outlined in Note 1 to the financial statements.

In the opinion of the Board the financial statements:

- 1 Presents a true and fair view of the financial position of WestVic Dairy Inc. as at 30 June 2026 and its performance for the year ended at that date.
- 2 At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that WestVic Dairy Inc. will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

This statement is made in accordance with a resolution of the Board of management and is signed for and on behalf of the Board of management by:



Brendan Rea WestVic Chairperson

Dated at Warrnambool
9 October 2026



Ella Credlin WestVic Treasurer

Dated at Warrnambool
9 October 2026

INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF WESTVIC DAIRY INC.

Opinion

We have audited the financial report of WestVic Dairy Inc., which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2026, the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of material accounting policies and statement by members of the committee.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the entity as at 30 June 2026, and its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with the financial reporting requirements of the *Associations Incorporation Reform Act (VIC) 2012*.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of our report. We are independent of the entity in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)* (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Emphasis of Matter – Basis of Accounting

We draw attention to Note 1 to the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared for the purpose of fulfilling the committees' financial reporting responsibilities under the *Associations Incorporation Reform Act (VIC) 2012*. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Report

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the *Associations Incorporation Reform Act (VIC) 2012* and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of a financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, management is responsible for assessing the entity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the entity or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the entity's financial reporting process.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the entity's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the entity to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Independence

In conducting our audit, we have complied with the independence requirements of Australian professional ethical pronouncements.

McLaren Hunt.

MCLAREN HUNT
AUDIT AND ASSURANCE

N.L. McLEAN

N.L. McLEAN
PARTNER

Dated at Warrnambool, 13 October 2026





WestVic Dairy
03 5557 1000
info@westvicdairy.com.au
dairyaustralia.com.au

Disclaimer

The content of this publication is provided for general information only and has not been prepared to address your specific circumstances. We do not guarantee the completeness, accuracy or timeliness of the information.

Acknowledgement

Dairy Australia acknowledges the funding from levy payers and contribution by Commonwealth Government.

© Dairy Australia Limited 2026. All rights reserved.

ISSN: 2652-2993 (Print)

ISSN: 2652-3000 (Online)