

Farmer optimism on the rise. **PAGE 3**

DAIRY NEWS



WINTER GRAZING
Southland is prepared
Page 39

DAIRY EXPO
Pelletised
rations
Page 22



FEBRUARY 4, 2025 **ISSUE 559**

// www.dairynews.co.nz

HELPING IN TOUGH TIMES



“Through challenging times, we play an integral part in connecting rural people to each other and to the communities.”

– Rural Support Trust national chair Michelle Ruddell

PAGE 4



REDEFINING THE MILKING EXPERIENCE

GEA Engineering
for a better
world.

Combining the latest innovations in automatic milking technology with the essence of true pasture-based farming, GEA is proud to present the DairyRobot.

LET IT FLOW
GEA DAIRYROBOT

APPLY NOW
0800 GEA FARM



Silage cover reduces wastage

WAIKATO FARMER Dave

Muggeridge was fed up with water seeping in through his maize silage cover and spoiling feed.

About 17.5ha of maize is planted on the farm and around 350 tonnes of maize harvested and stored in a bunker as feed for 330 Friesian cross cows.

He came across an article on GeoSmart Eco Silage covers and decided to attend an environment field day where the product was being exhibited. He liked what he saw and started using GeoSmart Eco Silage covers in March last year.

He told *Dairy News* that the covers have reduced the wastage from 10% to 3% by just preventing holes that let water and air in.

"They are much easier to cover the stack with,"

he says.

"We don't need to put tyres all over the stack: you do not need as much labour to put the covers on.

"By investing in GeoSmart silage covers we have ensured that every bit of maize silage is utilised and of good quality. We have less wastage, the covers are easy to use and good for the environment as they are reusable for many years."

Muggeridge is building a new silage bunker and will be using GeoSmart Silage covers.

Also a Tatua shareholder and director, Muggeridge owns 141ha (135ha eff) that produces around 137,000 kgMS. It is run by contract milkers.

The farm also grows 11ha of chicory, used to feed cows from late December until May 1.

GeoSmart Eco Silage covers reduced the wastage from 10% to 3% by just preventing holes that let water in.



Powerful Value. Delivered.

Find us at the NZ Dairy Expo!



ROBUST, DURABLE

GEOSMART SILAGE covers are reusable, robust, durable and environment friendly.

GeoSmart is 1mm thick making it highly puncture resistant. It has a factory backed 10-year UV degradation warranty meaning it will last for longer, reducing plastic going into landfill.

Very low oxygen permeability of GeoSmart EPDM ensures excellent quality silage with less spoilage.

ARE YOU HITTING YOUR TARGET MARKET?



Phone your local sales contact for more information

Auckland **Stephen Pollard** Ph 021-963 166

Waikato & Wellington

Lisa Wise Ph 027-369 9218

Christchurch **Kaye Sutherland** Ph 021-221 1994

DAIRY NEWS
 ■ BREAKING NEWS
 ■ MACHINERY REVIEWS
 ■ MANAGEMENT STORIES
 ■ AND MUCH MORE...
www.dairynews.co.nz



Your equipment solutions provider.

With exclusive rates, flexible payment options, and world-class support, Brandt is here to deliver the equipment you need, when you need it.

brandt.ca/nz
 0800 872 2867

