

Media Release

10 May 2016

Tactics for Tight Times

Dairy farmers from across the Murray Dairy region now have access to additional support services.

Recent milk price announcements, on top of a dry season, have exacerbated an already significantly challenging situation for many of our Murray Dairy farmers. In response, Murray Dairy has implemented the Tactics for Tight Times Program that follows on from the previous Season Conditions events. This program, developed in conjunction with Dairy Australia, will be delivered in collaboration with a number of supporting organisations.

The Tactics for Tight Times Program includes:

- **Business assessment and support services** - providing one-on-one business support, to assist dairy farm families to collect and analyse current financial and physical data with the aim of clarifying their future farm business options.
- **Workshops, discussion group activities and on-farm days** - focused on business analysis and planning, feed and water budgeting, climatic outlook and cropping/forage strategies relevant to farmers making key decisions on farm.
- **Social and community support programs** – including expanding the Victorian Farmers Federation’s “Look Over the Farm Gate” program.

Murray Dairy’s CEO, Jenny Wilson, said that “the Business Assessment and Support Service delivers one-on-one support to assist dairy farm families or businesses in identifying their current situation and then signposting them onto further assistance if required.” Jenny added that “farmers are supported to collect current financial and physical data with the intention of clarifying their farm business options. .”

The aim of the Business Assessment and Support Service will assist dairy farmers to:

- Understand and manage your budget
- Identify cost saving options
- Manage debt and your balance sheet
- Understand additional support services that can be accessed
- Create an action plan

Jenny added the reminder to all farmers and their supporters at this time to “please remember that you are not alone, please seek support- seek advice”

To gain access to this service, please contact Murray Dairy on (03) 5833 5312 or admin@murraydairy.com.au

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