

Job Information

Job Opportunity:	Contract Milker
Business Name:	Riverina Farms Ltd
Region:	Waitotara, South Taranaki
Reports to:	Farm Owners - Duncan & Jane Wilson
Property Summary:	Riverina Farms Ltd is a family-owned farming business, based in the rural farming area of Waitotara, South Taranaki. Their operation comprises of a 250ha dairy platform adjoining their 750ha sheep, beef and cropping property. The dairy unit, converted in 2013, milks 700–750 Friesian cows under a System 4 operation. It is a consistently high-performing farm, achieving around 530kg MS per cow. Cows are milked through a 60-bale automated rotary shed equipped with ACRs, in-shed feeding and Protrack. Riverina Farms supplies milk to Open Country Dairy. The dairy platform is flat to rolling and is supported with 2 centre pivot irrigators covering 100ha. They have also recently implemented halter technology. The drystock unit provides key support to the dairy operation, including machinery resources and calf rearing.
Position Overview:	We are pleased to present this Contract Milking opportunity to the market. After six years on farm, the current Contract Milker is moving on to new ventures. If you have 2–3 years' experience as a Farm Manager or are currently Contract Milking, this role offers an excellent chance to step into a larger herd and a consistently high-performing operation. The farm owners have invested in strong infrastructure to enable top-level performance. As the Contract Milker you will be fully responsible for the day-to-day management of the 250ha dairy platform. Our clients are looking for a CM with a high level of stockmanship, strong understanding of animal health and exceptional attention to detail in feed management. The owners will closely support the CM with machinery requirements such as tractor and feed out wagons, the successful CM will need to supply their own bikes and calf rearing equipment.



Skills, Experience, and Attributes Required:

- 2-3 years of Farm Management or Contract Milking experience.
- Proven pasture management and feeding skills.
- Have good staff Management and be able to lead an efficient team / HR experience
- High level of animal health and compliance knowledge.
- Ability to run to dairy industry standards and execute the basics well.
- The ability to take ownership of the operational management of the dairy platform.

Staff Structure:

Contract Milker
4 full time staff (including CM)
With part-timers as required

Career Opportunities & Benefits:

There is the opportunity to work within a well-established farming operation. With strong policies and excellent infrastructure in place, this allows you as the Contract Milker to get on with job.
To work with owners that will support you to succeed within their operation.

Partner Work Opportunities:

Yes, full time work. The owners see this ideally as a couple's role with 3 full-time staff members and part-timer. If a single contract milker, you would need 4 full-time staff members.

Lifestyle Information

Accommodation:

Accommodation, currently there is a large 4 bedroom home, on the drystock farm, 5 km from the dairy platform. Or there is the option of the owners looking to shift a new 3-bedroom home on to the property, 3 bedroom, 2 bathrooms, this is to be confirmed.

For your team: there are two, 3-bedroom homes and single-man quarters available

Farm Location & Community Information:

It is a great wee farming community in the Waitotara/Waverley district, Waverley has a very strong rugby club catering form children right through to adult teams, and it has been rated as one of NZ's best 18 hole golf courses. There is also a great country racing club as well. The area is surrounded by open farmland, outdoor recreation, and is only a short drive to the coast for beach access. With Whanganui and Hāwera nearby, it's an ideal spot for those who enjoy nature, space, and a relaxed way of life.

Schooling:

There is the local primary school at Waitotara 3.5km and a primary school in Waverley which is 14km away, larger school, no bus to either school.



From Waitotara Village there is a bus to Whanganui for various high school options, which is 30 minutes away.

Farm Information

Farm Area (total/effective):	Dairy platform 250ha.
Contour:	Easy rolling country.
Soil Type:	Mixed soil with good structures and types.
Annual Growth:	16T
Rainfall:	Between 1200-1500ml per annum.
Subdivision/Fences:	Conventional boundary, internal electric fences and they have now put the cows on Halter for ease of pasture management.
Shed Size & Type:	60 bale rotary, 12 years old.
Plant & Brand: (Cup removers, bails, in-shed feeding)	Waikato shed, with ACR's. In shed feeding, from silos through auger system with mineral mix and feed into shed. They are using Protrak.
Machinery:	Riverina Farms Ltd will supply machinery, this includes tractor, telehandler and a silage and mixer wagon for the feedpad. The CM will supplied bikes and calf trailer.
Calf Rearing Facilities:	There is a 7-bay calf shed and another 5-bay supporting shed.
Feed pad/in-shed feeding/trailer:	Feed pad, holds 400 cows.
Other Buildings on Farm:	Implement shed and workshop, hay shed.
Water:	Fully reticulated farming system, water bore for irrigation and solar system for the stock. The farm has both its own water scheme and on the local water system.
Races:	Good stock races, it is a highly maintained farm.

Farm Policy & Systems

Production System	System 4.
Cows - Breeds/Number:	Friesian cows, herd size is between 700-750 cows.



Young Stock Policy:	Rear 25% of the calves to 95kgs. Negotiable within the contract. Additional calves go to the drystock farm.
Winter Policy:	The cow's milk twice a day and will dry off May/June. Some of the cows are winter on the dairy platform and others wintered off.
Mating Policy:	The cows are AI and follow up with bulls for 2-3 weeks.
Calving Dates:	Mid July calving, for 8 weeks.
Feeding Systems:	There is insbed feeding and a concrete feed pad. If it gets dry, they may feed out in the paddocks.
Animal Health Practices:	Best practice animal health plan with vet.
Cropping Policy:	30ha cropping on the platform, chicory/brassicas.
Effluent Systems:	Effluent, they have a travelling irrigator and pond system that can go through the pivot.
Irrigation Systems:	2 centre pivots, that water 100ha.
Roster Systems:	The staff and rosters are the Contract Milker's responsibility.
Production – kgMS per cow:	530kgMS per cow. Target for the farm is 400,000kgMS.



Photos





Map

