

# Implementation of sustainable land management activities on dairy farms through *Dairying Better N Better for Tomorrow*

**Location:** South East Queensland  
**Region:** South East Queensland Western Catchments  
**Industry:** Dairy  
**Group:** Queensland Sub Tropical Dairy  
**Issue:** Profitability, competitiveness and sustainability through the uptake of better on-farm natural resource management practices

**Key Outcomes:** A process to help groups of dairy farmers increase profitability, competitiveness and sustainability through the uptake of better on-farm natural resource management practices

## Background

The *Dairying Better N Better for Tomorrow* farm management system program has received endorsement and support from the peak dairy farmer organisation in Queensland as well as the Queensland Farmers' Federation. The project has received strong support from a number of community groups including local landcare groups, catchment management associations and regional natural resource management (NRM) bodies. This support provides important credibility for the process and indicates a strong willingness from the dairy farming community to work with other stakeholders to contribute to the regional planning process and collectively address NRM issues.

## The project

This project will be implemented over a 12 month period and will involve approximately 30 per cent of the dairy enterprises in the NRM-SEQ region. Workshops will provide more detailed information about resource condition and trends and recommendations for the implementation of improved on-farm practices for priority NRM issues.

## Outcomes

The project will improve dairy farmers' understanding of NRM issues on-farm and the relationship with sub-catchment and regional NRM issues, priorities and targets through the draft plan for the NRM-SEQ region. It will enable farmers to identify and prioritise NRM issues on each farm. It will also build farmers' capacity through technical and extension support and group facilitation and learning processes and will enable them to develop and implement an action plan which is consistent with EMS requirements.

## The Future

The project includes the option for each landholder to continue the process and develop a sub-catchment plan with neighbouring landholders or a full farm management system. As well, the project could be used as a case study for further collaboration between regional NRM bodies and the dairy industry.

