



GARDINER FOUNDATION

MEDIA RELEASE

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Second Green Cleaning™ system on show

The second commercial Green Cleaning™ system was on show at a dairy energy field day at Pine Hill Dairies, Henderson's lane at Wangoom, near Warrnambool on the 20th April.

Green Cleaning is a new system to clean milking machines that saves energy, water and chemicals developed in a collaborative project supported by the Gardiner Foundation.

According to Paul Ford, CEO of Gardiner Foundation, the project is a great example of how Government, industry, the research and commercial sectors can work together to re-design a standard farm process to reduce operating costs and benefit the environment.

"The system at Wangoom is the second example to hit the market and has been designed and installed by Cleantec – a division of Ecolab. The system operates at lower temperatures, recaptures the chemical wash solutions and incorporates energy efficient concepts" he said.

"Compared to a conventional hot wash system, the Cleantec Green Cleaning™ system can provide savings of about 85% in energy use, 64% in water and substantial savings (>50%) in chemicals. Early estimates using the Green Cleaning Economics Calculator show a saving of about \$4,000 per year and an annual reduction in greenhouse gas emissions of around 63 tonnesCO₂-e" he said.

Cleantec are using a new alkali sanitiser, which means that the number of cycles used for each wash is minimised. "The new system uses a warm pre-rinse followed by the acid or alkali sanitiser. The different sanitisers are used after alternate milkings and are captured for re-use. This is the most efficient wash regime in Green Cleaning™ systems we have seen so far", Mr. Ford said.

Other Australian dairy equipment and chemical suppliers are also in the process of bringing their products to market. "The project has a unique market-based approach to innovation, which will result in farmers being able to choose a system from several in the market place. Competition between suppliers will drive further innovation and keep a lid on prices" he said.

The Green Cleaning project is being managed by AgVet Projects on behalf of GippsDairy, and is supported by the Victorian Government's Sustainability Fund and the Gardiner Foundation. It includes the major Australian dairy equipment and chemical suppliers as project partners.

“This project has shown that it is possible to clean milking machines in a more cost effective and environmentally friendly way, and has a clear path to market” said Mr. Ford. These factors led the project to be recognised by the Banksia Foundation at Australia’s premier environmental Awards in 2010, as a finalist in the Clean Technology category.

“Driving innovation for the Victorian dairy industry is core business for the Gardiner Foundation and the Green Cleaning project is a good example of innovation in both the project’s structure and its technological outputs” he said.

“With two Green Cleaning™ systems on the market and more to follow, we look forward to this project having a major impact on the Victorian, Australian and international dairy industries”.

More information about Green Cleaning is available at www.agvetprojects.com.au/greencleaning

(491 words)

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