

MEDIA RELEASE

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Lion Landcare Grant helps improve milk quality for South Australian dairy farm

Two South Australian dairy farmers, Lyn and Kaye Gale, are set to use a Lion Landcare Grant to significantly reduce energy consumption and optimise milk quality at their Strathalbyn property by halving hot water heating time.

The Strathalbyn dairy was one of 11 farms awarded a share in \$100 000 in 2015 as part of the Lion Landcare Grants Program, which aims to boost sustainability in the production and supply of milk.

The Gale's will use their grant to install a Heat Recovery System in the refrigeration unit of the milk vat. The system uses the heat removed from the milk as an additional and renewable source of energy to partially heat water. This preheated water is then utilised in the hot water service for vat and plant washing.

Mr Lyn Gale said the Heat Recovery System was a cost-effective way of reducing electricity usage and greenhouse emissions.

"To halve our hot water heating time is a remarkable achievement for the installation of a Heat Recovery System. We are very pleased to have this grant from Lion Landcare Grants 2015," Mr Gale said.

Murray Jeffrey, Lion's Head of Agricultural Procurement, said that through the Lion Landcare Grants Program, Lion is able to help make Australian dairy farms more sustainable for the long term.

"The grants program helps Aussie dairy farmers to achieve sustainability while also reducing costs, which is great for the environment and for their business. Lion is really proud to support such a fantastic program," Mr Jeffrey said.

Landcare Australia CEO, Tessa Jakszewicz, said the dairy program showed that economic and environmental aims could be complementary.

"The range of projects that have been funded through this partnership demonstrate innovative ways of optimising results for the dairy industry, our land, water and sustainable farming for the future," Ms Jakszewicz said.

The Lion Landcare Grants Program was set up in 2014. Each year, selected farmers are tasked with reducing energy consumption, enhancing biodiversity or improving on-farm nutrient management.

To date, improvements have been made in areas as diverse as recycling effluent nutrients to reduce fertiliser use, preventing dairy farm run-off from entering waterways and recycling composted organic nutrients on pastures.

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About Landcare Australia

Landcare Australia Ltd is the leading not-for-profit organisation responsible for raising awareness and funding for the Landcare movement to support its role in protecting, restoring and sustaining the productivity and value of Australia's natural environment.

The Landcare movement is made up of more than 6000 Landcare and Coastcare volunteer groups that work on environmental projects in their local communities. The groups that fall under the Landcare umbrella are varied in nature and don't necessarily include Landcare in their names, including our sub-brand Coastcare, as well as productive farming groups, 'Friends of', Bushcare, Rivercare, Dunecare and indigenous ranger groups.

www.landcareaustralia.com.au

About Lion

Lion is a leading beverage and food company with a portfolio that includes many of Australia and New Zealand's favourite brands.

Lion employs close to 7,000 people across Australia and New Zealand predominantly, and takes great pride in its local manufacturing footprint, which spans over 36 sites across the Tasman.

Lion is one of the region's largest purchasers of agricultural goods and an integral component of the retail, hospitality and tourism industries, with a total direct plus indirect contribution to the Australian and New Zealand economies estimated at more than \$5 billion annually.

Lion builds marketplace success from the foundations of great people and great brands, with a portfolio of household-name brands such as Tooheys, Dairy Farmers, Steinlager, Tasmanian Heritage, XXXX, PURA, Hahn, Berri, Speight's, King Island Dairy, James Boag & Son, Dare, Yoplait, Wither Hills, St Hallett and COON.

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