



*DairyBio*

*Animal Program*

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# DairyBio Initiative



- **Strategic large scale investment in biosciences**
- **Economic impact excess of \$1.75 b over 20 yrs**  
forage program - \$800 ha/yr  
animal program - \$350 cow/yr
- **Major work at AgriBio, Hamilton and Ellinbank**
- **12 projects**
- **12 science leaders**
- **20 PhD students**
- **Ongoing investment to improve infrastructure and capability**

# Pathway to delivery

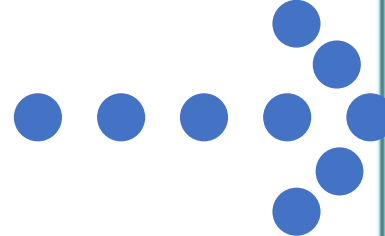
Reliability/robustness of genomic breeding values, crossbreds and Red breeds






Breeding value maintenance (improve prediction)



Breeding values for new traits



Dairy Bio – Better Cattle  
**\$350/COW** p.a.

 <b>+50%</b> <b>GENETIC GAIN</b> From 80% reliable genomic breeding values, 3 generations in 6 years c.f. 9 years	<b>+\$80</b> <b>/COW</b> via DNA based targeted cow management tools 
<b>10% LOWER HEALTH COST</b> Selection for health traits 	

**DELIVERED INTO EXISTING H.I. MARKET**  
with a new focus on cow performance



2016-2017  
DairyBio starts

2017-18  
Heat tolerance ABVs released  
Research complete on gestation length and calving ease  
Testing multi-trait model to improve type ABV completed

2018-19  
Mastitis ABV research finalised  
Improving Herds completed (valuing herd improvement)  
Design of new XT genotyping tool complete

2019-20  
ABVs released for mastitis resistance, gestation length, improved type ABVs, improved calving ease  
Key genetic variants affecting many traits of economic importance  
MIR prediction of fertility  
Red breed & crossbred genomics research complete  
MIR prediction of metabolic profiles  
Evaluation of value from Joint NZ-AUS Cow populations complete

2020-21  
Implementation:  
Updated BPI+HWI including mastitis ABV  
Crossbred and Red genomics  
Prioritised variants implemented  
Updated Feed Saved Methane emissions framework  
Field testing of MIR prediction of fertility



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