



Grant McLaggan with his EZ Link device

Embrace Technology and its Benefits

Use EZ Link at Your Next Herd Test



More than 75% of LIC's herd tests are done using EZ Link.

Waikato farmer Grant McLaggan, used EZ Link recently for the first time and says it "definitely speeds the process up... Once you get the hang of it it's quicker and easier."

For the past seven years Grant has been managing the family farm, which milks 420 cows.

The family has herd tested for at least 30 years, completing 3 or 4 tests each season.

Until their herd test March 2023, the farm has stuck to the conventional method, in which the animal management tag number is written on the herd testing flask and placed into the associated numbered tray.

However, that method traditionally had its challenges inside the herringbone shed, Grant says.

"After reading 400 numbers, the reader is bound to call the odd one out incorrectly or the writer will record it wrong."

"You don't know about the duplicates until you take the flasks out to put them in the trays."

Another challenge was damp conditions and wet spray that came from hosing out the shed during milking.

"The flasks often get wet and you can't write on them with the (Posca) pen."

Grant was recently convinced by his LIC Agri Manager to utilise EZ Link as an efficient and accurate solution to what he describes as a often laborious conventional herd test process.

"In the end it was simple; if there was a mistake it would tell you straight

away and you could change it then and there."

"When putting the flasks away you don't have to put them in their individual numbers – normally the office is set up with all the trays laid out."

The new process and system meant the farm was even able to drop a labour unit in the shed at herd test time, because separate people weren't needed for reading and writing.

For more information on EZ Link go to LIC's Herd Test page on its website, or to trial at an upcoming herd test contact your local LIC Agri Manager.