

Whai Hua PGP Programme – New Dairy Products and Value Chains
Summary Report for Q1 2014-15.

This programme seeks to develop immune enhancing dairy products and enters its second full year of work. Progress to-date includes:

- Experiments indicate that the target compounds in bovine milk act in a similar way to their counterparts in human milk, binding with a wide range of bacteria. Results have been drafted into a scientific paper that will be used to support product claims.
- The natural production profiles of the target compounds have been shown to be repeatable within and between years. An elite herd of 510 cows has been assembled to determine compound profiles throughout a full production season.
- A spring calving trial that investigates different immunization procedures has proven to be acceptable from an animal ethics and welfare perspective. Work that is required for ACVM vaccine registration has been put on hold until further efficacy data are available.
- Optimal processing specifications that retain functional activity have been refined to include lower temperature procedures. These specifications will be validated in early 2015.
- Marketing desk studies have been completed and target market segments defined. Work during the next quarter will determine the level of information that prospective customers will require, in order to proceed with further product development.