



The
**Co-operative
Difference**



Using green water to wash farm dairy yards

The use of recycled farm dairy effluent water (green water) to wash dairy yards is an accepted practice and has considerable sustainability advantages around water use reduction and the volume of effluent produced.

If you would like to use green water to wash your dairy yard, MPI's Code of Practice for the Design and Operation of Farm Dairies **NZCPI** requires you to meet conditions.

These conditions help to reduce any food safety risks associated with the use of recycled effluent wastewater.





Green water cannot be used within the farm dairy except to clean the dairy yard, in which case:

- Your yard needs to be washed after every milking and needs to be free of residual sediment
- The system needs to operate at low pressure with no detectable mist or aerosol
- The water recovery system needs to consistently deliver water that does not contain excessive sediment or offensive odours
- The system needs to be a fixed design, i.e. it cannot include hand held hoses
- If pumped, the delivery method can be no more than 300mm above ground level
- The system needs to be completely separate from the fresh water wash down system
- The raw milk is not intended for the manufacture of unpasteurised dairy products
- Green water cannot have any contact with the milking area or with the milk receiving/storage areas (no closer than 5m to cups)
- Storage of recovered water must:
 - a) not introduce offensive odours;
 - b) be located at least 20m away from the milk storage area; and
 - c) be enclosed and not exceed 30,000 L capacity per tank if within 45m of the milk storage area
- The recycled wastewater system needs to be supported by an effluent system that is compliant with local regional council rules

Support

If you have questions about implementing a green water wash system, contact your Sustainable Dairy Advisor or the Farm Source Service Centre on 0800 65 65 68.