

Dairy Beef Opportunities

The Dairy Beef Opportunities (DBO) programme is a four-year, \$20.9 million joint initiative between New Zealand's dairy and beef industries and the New Zealand Government.

The programme aims to unlock more value from non-replacement dairy calves by strengthening dairy-beef integration and developing innovative, New Zealand-focused pathways for raising them for beef.

The DBO programme has three pillars:

Pillar 1

Maximising efficiency gains via genetics and systems

Increase carrying capacity by increasing feed conversion efficiency



Lead: **B+LNZ**

- Improved sires
- Rearing and finishing systems
- Greater integration of farm businesses into a supply chain

Pillar 2

Increase the proportion of calves suited to beef production

Dairy mating strategies to deliver value for dairy and beef systems



Lead: **DNZ**

- Extended lactation systems
- Mating programs

Pillar 3

New products and value chains

More calves become viable by new products



Lead: **MIA**

- New products (earlier finishing)
- Differentiated to create value
- Processing system preparedness

How is B+LNZ involved?

B+LNZ is leading Pillar 1 which focuses on maximising efficiency gains via genetics and systems.

By focusing on the way calves are bred, reared and finished — alongside better tools, supply chain coordination and farmer capability — the work aims to **unlock more value from non-replacement dairy calves** and strengthen dairy-beef integration.

What are we working on?

Improving genetics to support better dairy-beef outcomes

This includes the Beef-on-Dairy Progeny Test run by B+LNZ, as well as developing better tools to identify high-quality calves.

Improving calf rearing and finishing

Enhancing calf breeding, rearing and finishing systems to ensure calves are bred well, fed well and grown well.

Strengthening supply chain coordination

Strengthening coordination across the supply chain as part of improving dairy-beef systems.

Building farmer capability

Building farmer capability and increasing confidence in dairy beef as a profitable and sustainable pathway.

 Find out more at beeflambnz.com/dbo

