



Well what a variation in seasonal conditions we are experiencing this year from region to region. Much of the Western District has had significant rain this winter leading into spring while Gippsland varies from wet to extremely dry in the East. Let's hope the rain comes at the right time in all regions and we have a good spring season.



Annual General Meeting

Hico's Annual General Meeting will be held on Thursday the 30th August at the Colac Otway Performing Arts & Cultural Centre at 11.30am. All shareholders are encouraged to attend with a light lunch to follow.

Staff Changes

I am pleased to report the appointment of Allison Potter as our Farm Services Manager. Allison will manage our herd testing and livestock services throughout our service regions. A profile on Allison is included in this newsletter.

Shawn Hollingworth has been appointed as our Sales & Marketing Manager managing our sales team as well as responsible for our marketing and customer newsletters.

Mistro Software

We have recently appointed David Gorst to our Mistro department to provide software development for our Mistro Farm & Finance software. We look forward to being able to share with you in the future as these software updates are released.

If you have any suggestions about content in our newsletter we welcome your feedback.

Regards,

Michael Lee

Meet Hico's Allison Potter - Farm Services Manager

Hico are pleased to announce that Allison Potter has joined the Hico team after recently being appointed as Farm Services Manager.

Allison brings to Hico many strings to her bow along with still having a hands on approach with running her own dairy farm with her husband Aaron. They currently milk 140 cows at Poowong North.

Off farm work is not a 1st for Allison with having been a Field Services Officer for Murray Goulburn for over 5 years and then more recently working part time as a Farm consultant for On Farm Consulting.

Allison's role at Hico will involve the management of the Herd Recording and Livestock Services staff members. When you ask Allison what she is looking forward to most in her new role she comments " I am looking forward to managing a team of people and working close with everyone of them to ensure the Hico customers needs are met."

Being a farmer herself allows Allison to understand the needs of the Hico customers alot easier as most times Allison will be experiencing the same issues or needs as the customer on her farm.

Allison and Aaron have 3 children with the youngest being only seven months. Aaron is kept busy with the children while also running the dairy farm.

**Allison can be contacted on
0418 562 625 or
apotter@hico.com.au**



Quick overview of the recent August Proof Release.

Top 10 BPI Proven Holsteins

NAME	BPI	TYPE
Coastal-View Mookie	385	105
Delaberge Pepper	375	110
S-S-I Shamrock Mystic	356	101
Busy Brook WTP Vector	351	97
Cookiecutter Harper	342	99
Seagull-Bay MVP	340	110
VH Beacon Booth	339	103
Calister Maebull	335	104
Mr America Chacal	329	103
Bomaz AltaBetman	328	101

Top 10 BPI Genomic Holsteins

NAME	BPI	TYPE
ABS Jeronimo	407	102
Wil Hotspot P	372	102
St Gen Director Chairman	364	100
Peak AltaAraldis	356	103
Peak AltaAnchor	354	101
Westcoast Perseus	349	101
Ocd Alltime Latrobe	348	100
Bomaz Accolade	346	103
Wilara Rookie Jo	344	100
Wilara Hero Kade	344	104

Top 5 BPI Proven Jerseys

NAME	BPI	TYPE
Sunset Canyon David	351	112
Ahlem Valentino Regal	294	109
Sunset Canyon Dazzler	290	106
VJ Hjort	288	100
Sunset Canyon Dividend	279	111

Top 5 BPI Genomic Jerseys

NAME	BPI	TYPE
White Star Patrick	325	107
Crescent Excell Misty	318	100
Evleen Integrity Larson	305	96
White Star Doorman	298	106
White Star Douglas	296	102

Top 5 BPI Red Breeds

NAME	BPI	TYPE
Johville Park Scarebear	274	97
Blackwood Park Blackwood	273	99
Beaulands Abbott	272	95
V Foske	268	104
Vr Niki	240	101

Meet Hico Director Andrew Verboon, one of the seven Hico board members.

When you meet Hico board member Andrew Verboon you instantly sense the strong passion he has to be a profitable dairy farmer. Andrew thoroughly enjoys the lifestyle of dairy farming and has represented the younger generation of shareholders for four years now on the Hico board.

Andrew and his wife Rebecca have been farming for over 12 years now and currently run a 480 cow dairy farm at Ruby, near Leongatha South. Recently purchasing the long established family farm from his parents Bill and Leanne has been a major stepping stone and achievement for Andrew and Rebecca.

Being a board member is in Andrew's blood with his mother Leanne being a former director of the Hico board and his father Bill a former director of Murray Goulburn.

When asking Andrew where he sees dairy farming in ten years from now Andrew comments "I hope that the outlook is better than where it is today, if farmers can get in control of the pricing I think it has a good future."

Andrew enjoys being a Hico board member as it is something different. "I enjoy being on the board as it makes me think differently." Andrew comments.

In his spare time Andrew still enjoys having a kick of the footy with local club Stony Creek and spending time with his wife and kids.

Andrew and Rebecca have three children aged 6, 4 and 1 which keep them both busy and on their toes.



**Do you wish to receive this newsletter electronically?
Please send us your email address to receive this newsletter electronically.**

**Have you got feedback?
Please email us at info@hico.com.au**

Customer Feedback

We have a customer feedback reporting system that records compliments, complaints & suggestions from users of our services. This includes feedback about an actual service as well as the staff that performed that service.

This feedback is recorded and copies are tabled at each month's board meeting. The report also looks at options for improving our services as well as highlighting the good things that are being supported.

If you have some constructive feedback please feel free to talk to one of our service staff or contact one of our offices.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR UPCOMING EVENTS:

August 2018
Hico AGM - Colac

September 13th 2018
YDN Heat Detection Information Evening
Fish Creek Hotel

September 18th 2018
Women in Dairying - Finding your fabulous
in times of frustration - Duart Homestead Maffra

September 26th and 27th 2018
South Gippsland Dairy Expo



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