



Biofuels Association
of Australia

Meredith Dairy and Smorgon Fuels – a 100% Partnership

When you think of the epitome of dairy products in Australia, it's hard to go past Meredith Dairy. The largest on-farm producer of sheep and goat milk in Australia with 1450 hectares about 100km west of Melbourne, Meredith Dairy's speciality cheeses and yogurts are sold throughout Australia and around the world.



The owners of Meredith Dairy – Sandy and Julie Cameron – have decided to go that one step further for the environment and use 100% biodiesel to run their cheese factory, milking plants, refrigeration and other pieces of equipment. The Cameron's have extensively researched animal husbandry, cheese making techniques and sustainable agriculture practices and ongoing R&D is an extremely important part of Meredith Dairy's future. When calculating the carbon foot print it was decided that to be truly sustainable, renewable energy was the future. The Camerons purchased a 10,000 litre biodiesel tank and now run the milking and manufacturing facility on biodiesel.

"We look at the methane and CO₂ emissions from our farming and manufacturing enterprise" said Sandy. "Using solar and farmed timber fuel boilers we found we could replace our gas boilers. Biodiesel will replace our mains electricity. We believed that we could go that extra step by using alternative fuels and were excited to find a commercial supply of 100% biodiesel, made from used cooking oil, juncea (a mustard seed) and – in the future – algae".

Commonly known as B100 (100% biodiesel), the biodiesel will be supplied by Smorgon Fuels in Melbourne, which produces BioMax Biodiesel. Smorgons has a long history of manufacturing and recycling in Australia and uses economical and clean sustainable energy to help create a cleaner environment. Smorgon Fuels owns and operates a 100 million litre biodiesel plant in Laverton, Victoria.

"We wanted to use BioMax biodiesel products because we needed a reliable supply of a quality product, backed by a team of experts who know what they are doing" said Julie. "It's vital to avoid break downs, down time and disruption to the manufacturing of our cheese. Smorgons are a good link for us with their focus on R&D – their work on future feedstocks such as juncea and algae are really at the forefront not only in Australia but around the world, and we're excited to be a part of that growing bank of knowledge in the field."

Substantial reductions in CO₂ emissions and harmful noxious gases can be achieved through using biodiesel as a replacement for mineral diesel. And of course using Australia's own sources of fuel removes our reliance on imported fossil fuels that cost us an ever expanding \$17billion trade deficit.



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The Cameron family have been rewarded with numerous awards for both their dairy products and their entrepreneurial farming. These awards include an Australian "Grand Dairy Award" a "Farm of the year Award" and "Landcare" awards.

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