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Sustainability Report released: reduction in GHG emissions remains on track

Synlait Milk Limited (Synlait) has published its 2022 Sustainability Report, which demonstrates a continued improvement in the milk nutrition company's greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, with significant progress made on-farm through the efforts of its farmer suppliers.

Synlait's farmer suppliers experienced a particularly challenging 2021/2022 season, leading to reduced milk volumes supplied. Due to reduced milk production, Synlait's on-farm emissions intensity, per kg of milk solids, increased 1% over the past year. This equates to a 9% reduction compared to Synlait's FY18 base year when targets were first set.

However, Synlait's absolute on-farm emissions decreased by 3.2% compared to FY21. This reduction was despite growth in our supply base. Alongside GHG reduction, our farmers have reduced nitrogen loss per kg of milk solids by a staggering 29% against an FY18 base year, and by 9.4% since FY21.

Total off-farm (scope 1 and 2) emissions have remained steady since last year, with a 1% reduction. Emissions intensity per kg of product has reduced by 21% compared to FY18. Significant reductions in off-farm emissions are expected in FY23, with the completion of two key decarbonisation projects.

Synlait CEO Grant Watson commented: "We are extremely proud of Synlait's continued world-class commitment to sustainability, a journey that began in 2017. It is imperative we continue to prioritise our environmental and social impact."

"Disruption has tested our resilience in recent years, but we remain committed to building a future where food production positively impacts people and the planet. We are also committed to continuing to lead the way in sustainability and engaging our farmers, customers, staff, and wider community with us on this journey."

"We continue to make notable progress against our environmental targets, and the effort by our farmer suppliers towards reducing their impact on the environment stands out in our FY22 results."

This is Synlait's fourth Sustainability Report which reviews the company's social and environmental performance and achievements for the year ended 31 July 2022. The report can be viewed here.

Synlait's Greenhouse Gas Inventory Report was also released today and can be viewed here1.

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¹ This inventory is prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Greenhouse Gas Protocol and ISO 14064-1:2018 specification. Where relevant, the inventory is aligned with industry or sector best practice for emissions measurement and reporting. On-farm emissions are directly obtained from OVERSEER®, a New Zealand farm management software.