

## CASE STUDY – ALIGN FARMING GROUP

### FARM INFORMATION

**Operator:**

Align Farming Group  
General Manager, Rhys Roberts

**Location:**

Six farms located in Mid-Canterbury

**Size:**

4000 cows on 1700 Hectares

**Staff Employed:**

27 Staff

"Farm Tune has given us the skills and tools, templates and structures to empower our team to evolve. I thoroughly recommend it"

**Rhys Roberts, General Manager**  
Align Farming Group



Aligns farming philosophy is driven by a view to the future by providing intergenerational and sustainable farms that allow the team on the ground to thrive and deliver results. FarmTune is a natural fit for this philosophy.

Rhys first took part in FarmTune three years ago and continues to put all his farm managers and teams through the programme. "On average it has saved us 1.8 hrs per day per farm by identifying and cutting waste" says Rhys. "For Align, FarmTune has been brilliant in terms of identifying inefficiencies, cutting waste and building the competency and confidence to complete tasks on farm."

Some of the key gains Rhys and his team have made include:

**Milking Efficiencies**

- Shorter milking times through improved washdown procedures
- Shorter and more effective meeting structures

**Health and Safety**

- Clear templates and structures for identifying risk
- Enhanced the on farm "ME & I" Health & Safety programme

**Time Savings**

- Has built trust with the team and empowered them
- Organised storage and tidy work spaces has saved time

The increased trust and levels of empowerment within the team have been important for Rhys and Align. "There is more trust within the team now and they are empowered to make decisions. For example, they understand the impact on capital of ordering supplies so waste from overordering has been minimised."

Learning the FarmTune structures and templates for identifying risk then developing solutions took time but spending that time has been vital. "Understanding the building blocks is really important to understand how to look for efficiency opportunities" says Rhys. "The three month course duration works well to provide this understanding, especially with the time constraints we have to deal with in farming".

Do you want to see your staff communicate better and become more organised? This is a programme that will help develop team culture and behaviours to focus on continuous improvement and better, safer work. To find out more, or to register your interest in the next FarmTune series of workshops visit [www.dairynz.co.nz/farmtune](http://www.dairynz.co.nz/farmtune)

Take waste out of your business, empower your staff and grow your bottom line with FarmTune, the LEAN Management Programme for Dairy Farmers.

## WHAT TO EXPECT

Built on the principles of LEAN FarmTune is proven system developed by DairyNZ for farmers that gives you the tools to learn how to:

- Sharpen Your Operation
- Find the Opportunities
- Identify and Eliminate Waste
- Improve Health and Safety
- Streamline Milking Times
- Eliminate Frustration
- Engage and Empower Your Team
- Improve Team Communication

FarmTune courses are delivered by trained and accredited FarmTune consultants. The workshops engage you and your farm team to practically learn and implement LEAN farm management.

To find out more, or to register your interest in the next FarmTune series of workshops visit [www.dairynz.com/farmtune](http://www.dairynz.com/farmtune), or contact your local FarmTune consultant.

## PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

Over a 3 month programme of 7 half day workshops your farm team will learn:

### WORKSHOP 1: FINDING THE OPPORTUNITY (OFI)

- Introduction to LEAN Thinking
- Establish the Why?
- Waste
- Value Stream Mapping
- Identifying Opportunities
- Toolbox Meetings

### WORKSHOP 2: PROBLEM SOLVING

- OFI Management
- Defining the Problem
- Identifying Root Cause
- People Problems
- Prioritising OFI

### WORKSHOPS 3 AND 4: IMPLEMENTING SOLUTIONS

- Value Adding Solutions
- Future State VSM
- Checkpoints and Checklists
- Standard Operating Procedures
- Visual Controls
- Process Controls Summary

### WORKSHOPS 5 AND 6: EMBEDDING THE BEHAVIOURS

- Workplace Solutions
- 6S Planning
- 6S Implementation
- 6S Audit

### WORKSHOP 7: SUSTAINING PROGRESS

- Continuous Improvement Culture
- Roll Out Plan
- 6S Audits
- Toolbox Meetings

## LOCAL CONSULTANT

### PeopleMAD

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[www.dairynz.co.nz/farmtune](http://www.dairynz.co.nz/farmtune)

