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Progress on waste

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Page 1 of 1

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NICOLA BELL

The dairy industry's latest sustainability scorecard has been released.

The scorecard found there was a further reduction in the amount of waste produced from dairy manufacturing, with 86 per cent diverted away from landfill, up from 81 per cent in 2024, but there was a slight increase in greenhouse gas emission intensity.

Developed through the Australian Dairy Sustainability Framework, the 2025 scorecard reports on progress across four commitments: best care for animals, enhancing economic viability and livelihoods, improving wellbeing, and protecting the environment.

South Gippsland dairy farmer and chair of the ADSF steering committee Graeme Nicoll said the "scorecard provides a clear, evidence-based view of how the industry is progressing using the most up-to-date data and shows where continued focus is needed."

Mr Nicoll said progress made has enabled them to lift goals higher, particularly under the best care for animals commitment.

Following a review of animal care priorities, goals that had already been achieved have been removed, and new goals aligned with leading practices and current industry needs have been introduced.

One new goal already achieved is the development of a whole-of-industry surplus calf road map, known as Calf-Ways.