

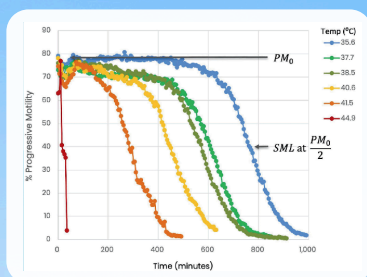
HOT TOPICS

SLICK: A Quantum Leap Forward in Fertility & Feed Efficiency, in all Seasons!

Research and Health data has improved our understanding of how the SLICK gene improves **Fertility** and **feed efficiency** in hot conditions:

- 01** With their lower body temperature, and reduced stress levels, SLICK cows continue to eat and ruminate efficiently, maintaining high production, and body condition. Hence SLICK cows recover faster after calving and cycle 60 days earlier.
- 02** Dynascan studies on Semen Motility Lifetime shows how semen lifetime is extended when the cow internal temperature is lower.

e.g. up to 40% longer in a SLICK cow versus Heat stressed cow, hence an increased chance of conception



- 03** However in a recent study, researchers compared SLICK and non-SLICK dairy heifers grazing during early winter, under both normal and restricted feeding conditions.

The amazing results: SLICK heifers maintained their growth rates significantly better than the control animals especially during feed restriction.

The control group suffered an 87% reduction in growth rate, while SLICK heifers continued to grow at similar rates to those achieved under normal feeding conditions. This recent research from Lincoln University in New Zealand suggests SLICK benefits may extend beyond hot environments. Researchers found that SLICK heifers grazed more efficiently and were resting longer (same as recorded in the heat), indicating behavioural adaptations that helped to conserve energy.

The findings suggest: **the SLICK gene is not simply a heat-tolerance trait. It appears to contribute to overall environmental resilience, helping cattle maintain performance when conditions become challenging.** As dairy systems increasingly face both heat stress and feed variability, genetics that improve adaptability will become even more valuable.

Source: Robb et al. (2024), *New Zealand Journal of Animal Science and Production.*

SLICK GENETICS: RESILIENCE THROUGH EVERY SEASON

Research shows benefits of the SLICK gene extend beyond heat tolerance to support productivity and efficiency in all conditions.

SLICK IS MORE THAN A HEAT TOLERANCE TRAIT

– IT'S A RESILIENCE TRAIT.

Genetics for a changing climate.
Performance all year round.

SUMMER	AUTUMN	WINTER	SPRING
 IMPROVED HEAT TOLERANCE SLICK cattle stay cooler and more comfortable, maintaining intake and productivity during heat stress.	 EFFICIENT & PRODUCTIVE Efficient feed conversion supports strong body condition and prepares heifers for reproductive success.	 MAINTAINED GROWTH New research shows SLICK heifers maintain growth better under winter feed restriction and are less active, conserving energy.	 REPRODUCTIVE PERFORMANCE Better body condition and adaptability contribute to earlier cycling and improved reproductive outcomes.

PROVEN PERFORMANCE

Milk Producer Spotlight: Why IceBlue Genetics Is Investing in SLICK

Michael Hunt of H&S Dairy (IceBlue Genetics) in Kentucky began incorporating SLICK Holstein genetics in 2020 with a simple goal:



to create a more efficient cow for a heat-stressed environment.

Farming in a region where cows experience heat stress from May through September, Hunt viewed the SLICK gene as a way to improve the cow's natural ability to dissipate heat, **reducing reliance on additional cooling infrastructure.**

Field observations since introducing SLICK genetics:

- 💡 Hunt has observed **improved comfort and feed intake** during hot weather.
- 💡 SLICK heifers **continue grazing in the sun** while conventional animals seek shade.
- 💡 SLICK cows **remain at the feed bunk during heat waves** when others are congregating under fans.
- 💡 He reports **no compromise in udder quality or overall conformation**, describing the first generations of SLICK females as exactly what he wants in a modern commercial dairy system.



Michael Hunt (left) and Dr Jeffrey Bewley partners in Ice Blue genetics

The confidence gained from these results has led Hunt to dramatically expand his use of SLICK genetics, with **approximately two-thirds of his breeding program** now focused on producing the next generation of **high-indexing SLICK cattle.**

Why Breed for SLICK?

01

Maintain feed intake and productivity

02

Support fertility and reproduction

03

Stay cooler under heat stress

04

Improve whole-herd resilience

05

Reduce cooling costs

06

Future-proof dairy herds for a changing climate

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS AT TrRG

A promising young Jersey bull coming soon from Tropical Resilience Genetics!

Introducing **RESILIENCE MAT NIMBUS P SS** — born in **August 2025** and showing tremendous potential as one of our upcoming **star Jersey bulls for international markets.**

We are excited about the future this young bull holds and look forward to **offering his genetics globally** in the near future.

This young bull has officially tested:

- ✓ A2A2 Beta-Casein
- ✓ Homozygous SLICK carrier, supporting improved heat tolerance and adaptability in tropical environments passing SLICK gene onto 100% of its progeny



RESILIENCE MAT NIMBUS P SS



Polled and Homozygous SLICK



A2A2 beta casein



It comes from a family of Jersey cows with superb fertility and its Dam is cow named Resilience MM Nicely



DAM OF NIMBUS

Stay connected for further updates as this exciting young bull progresses toward commercialization.

Welcome **Colin Groves** as **Chairman**

Tropical Resilience Genetics is pleased to welcome **Colin Groves as Chairman** of the Board, succeeding Tim Heeley. We thank Tim for his valuable leadership and contribution to the company during an important phase of its development.

Colin brings **more than 25 years** of international business and strategic leadership experience, including serving as **Director of Mergers & Acquisitions for Tetra Laval**, parent company of Tetra Pak and DeLaval. He has also held **senior roles with Informix Software** and **Johnson & Johnson.**

A New Zealand citizen with Cornish and Kiwi roots, Colin is a **chartered accountant, investor, director and business strategist** with extensive experience supporting growth companies in New Zealand and the UK.

His passion for agriculture and dairy innovation is reflected in leadership roles across the agri-tech sector, including serving as **Chair of The Factory**, home of the **New Zealand Agri-Tech Hub and Centre of Excellence.**

We are delighted to welcome Colin and look forward to the experience, insight and leadership he will bring as **Tropical Resilience Genetics continues to grow.**

Colin Groves



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