

Media Release

The Hon Jaclyn Symes MLC

Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council

Minister for Regional Development

Minister for Agriculture

Minister for Resources



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NEW PASTEURISER FOR CAMEL DAIRY PROMISES MORE WHITE GOLD

Victoria's first licensed camel milk dairy farm will be able to significantly increase production thanks to support from the Victorian Government, supporting the investment in the purchase of a new pasteuriser and dairy filler.

Minister for Agriculture Jaclyn Symes was in Kyabram today to meet with the owners of Camel Milk Co Australia to hear more about their planned expansion, facilitated with a \$25,000 Small-Scale and Craft Program grant.

With all milk currently pasteurised on the Williams' farm, a new pasteuriser and dairy filling system will enable the business to upscale their production, promote new products and access growth opportunities.

Demand for camel milk has soared in recent years due in part to its growing popularity among health-conscious consumers, but camels only produce a fraction of the milk that a dairy cow will produce, leading to it be named 'white gold.'

Megan and Chris Williams started Camel Milk Co Australia in 2014 with just three camels and now that number has grown to over 250, with more expected to join as the calving season begins.

Camel Milk Co Australia is working to keep up with demand, with industry figures saying demand for local camel milk has more than tripled in the last three years.

Camel Milk Co Australia currently exports its products to Thailand, Singapore and Hong Kong, and produces a range of products including freshly bottled milk, freeze dried milk powder and camel feta cheese.

Alongside dairy products the business has also expanded into body care, finding a market for their artisanal camel milk soaps, lip balms and body butters.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Agriculture Jaclyn Symes

"Camel milk is a niche industry with huge growth potential – regional businesses like Camel Milk Co Australia are the reason that Victoria has a global reputation as producer of quality agricultural products."

"As we move into an economic recovery phase, Victoria's regions are well positioned to lead the state's economic recovery. These grants will help businesses to grow and diversify, boosting our regional economies and building resilience."