



## Milk Crate Recovery Program



### MILK CRATES: THE FACTS

- 2,000 Dairy Farmers milk crates go missing in New South Wales every day
- That's one crate lost every 43 seconds, with more than 700,000 lost every year
- This equates to 2 tonnes of plastic a day, or 730 tonnes a year is used to replace the Dairy Farmers milk crates that are removed from the recycling system in this state.
- If you stacked up all the Dairy Farmers milk crates that go missing in New South Wales in a day, the stack would measure 640m - that's twice as high as Sydney's Centrepont Tower - Australia's tallest building.

Every day approximately 2,000 milk crates are taken out of the Dairy Farmers system - that equates to 60,000 a month, 720,000 a year or over 650 semi-trailer loads full!!

Dairy Farmers is currently running a Milk Crate Recovery Program in New South Wales which is designed to raise public awareness of the theft and misuse of our milk crates.

The aim of the campaign is to return as many of our crates back into the system, limit the number of crates taken out for unauthorized use and reduce the number of crates Dairy Farmers is required to purchase in order to replace the ones that have been taken out. That equates to three million dollars, money that is taken out of the pockets of our farmers.

To allow people to hand back any crates they have, or report where they have seen crates, Dairy Farmers has established the following special telephone hotline number - **1800 883 534** - and email address: [milkcrates@dairyfarmers.com.au](mailto:milkcrates@dairyfarmers.com.au)

Dairy Farmers will then arrange for these crates to be picked up.

**"Give our farmers a break - Bring back a crate"**

Dairy Farmers in conjunction with Waste Services NSW are assisting residents to recycle their milk crates by establishing designated drop off points at each of the following Waste Management Centres in New South Wales as part of the Dairy Farmers Milk Crate Recovery Program:



- Artarmon
- Auburn
- Belrose
- Chullora
- Eastern Creek
- Jacks Gully
- Lidcombe
- Lucas Heights
- Rockdale
- Ryde
- Seven Hills

It's amazing the number of leads that we have received from our special 1800 number and milk crate email address.

The Exodus Foundation in Ashfield (NSW), which assists homeless and abandoned youth and other people in need, contacted us after they realized that 1,000 milk crates used for storing and delivering their essential food supplies and Christmas gifts, in fact belonged to Dairy Farmers.

"When we realized the crates belonged to Dairy Farmers and it was the farmers themselves that were covering the replacement costs, we knew the crates needed to be returned. Our concern however was that without them, our food storage and delivery system would be under enormous stress," said Reverend Bill Crews, founder of Exodus Foundation.

After learning about the charity's dilemma, Dairy Farmers immediately took action and donated 1,000 specially made yellow crates clearly marked, 'property of the Exodus Foundation', to enable the Dairy Farmers milk crates that they were using to be returned to the system.

The following Pyramid of 2,000 dairy crates - the number currently misplaced everyday in NSW



Reverend Bill Crews with Dairy Farmers' former Corporate Affairs Manager, Stuart Silver



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