

# **SCOTTISH DAIRY CATTLE ASSOCIATION**

Representing the Dairy Cattle Industry of Scotland

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## **Press Release July 2021**

### **Scottish Dairy Farms Continue to Reduce in Number**

In the first six months of 2021 Scotland had a net loss of 7 dairy farms with a total now of 836 herds. Cow number have increased by 1,611 totalling 177,949 making the average herd size 213 cows, an increase of 4.

Ayrshire, Kintyre and Lanarkshire each lost 2 herds whereas Dumfriesshire gained 2 new dairies showing there is still confidence to invest in dairying.

The total number of cows being officially milk recorded totalled 126,762 with an average herd size of 226 cows over 71% of Scottish dairy herds. The majority of dairy herds continue to be monitored for disease to ensure healthy cows and profitability.

Commenting on the latest figures, Janette Mathie the Secretary of the Scottish Dairy Cattle Association who maintains the data base said 'Compared to this time last year there is more stability in the dairy industry with increased milk and cattle prices. Cow numbers have also increased but so has investment with new parlours and cattle housing being installed. However, we are aware of some herds who will cut back or even cease production during the next few months, giving dairy farmers throughout the country the opportunity to invest in good breeding cow families'.

**END**

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