

Billy & Harry Ferris
Dairy Farm







The Challenge

Harry Ferris farms alongside his father, Billy, in Jerrettspass, Newry. A 4th generation dairy farmer, Harry and his father have a 65 strong herd of Jersey cows, famed for their milk quality, and an 8 point-milking parlour.

Billy & Harry used three electric immersion heaters to heat hot water on the farm. But with plans to increase the herd size to 100 and hopefully add additional milking capacity over the next

few years, Billy & Harry were increasingly concerned that the existing electric-based hot water system would not be able to cope with the increased demand for heating water to wash down the milking parlour & storage tank. Ultimately, a reliable hot water supply is vital for the effective cleaning of milk lines and storage tanks as well as controlling the Total Bacteria Count (TBC) of the milk produced. With very low Bactoscan scores on the farm at the minute, Billy & Harry wanted to ensure their milk quality wasn't compromised with expansion.

With the new hot water system installed, they continue with two hot washes per day. However, they now only need to use detergent every other day to maintain their low TBC count.

The Flogas Solution

Having spoken to Flogas at the Balmoral Show & learnt about Flogas' on-demand Hot Water solutions for the dairy market, a farm visit was arranged with local Flogas area sales executive, Craig Johnston. The farm survey revealed that with three immersion heaters running every other night to heat hot water and one of them running every night, the potential was there to offer a solution that would both save money while being able to cope with future expansion plans.

The solution was simple. A Greenspring Water heater from Worcester Bosch was installed at the farm and then piped to a Flogas LPG tank. The new heating system provides on demand hot water at whatever temperature is required, determined by an easy to use temperature controller that allows the water to be heated from anywhere between 37°C to 84°C. The water heater is designed to heat up to a maximum of 84°C, effectively killing any bacteria.

With the new hot water system installed, Billy & Harry continue with two hot washes per day. However, they now only need to use detergent every other day after the morning milking to maintain their low TBC count. Therefore, as well as savings on electric, they have also cut their usage of detergent-steriliser.



Want to find out more?

If your current system is not providing you with the level of service you require and contributing to high bills, call Flogas for your free on-site survey and quotation for a new system tailored to your Dairy Farm. We will analyse your existing energy costs and outline the savings and benefits you'll enjoy by converting to Flogas LPG.

*Calculations based on energy prices of LPG & Electricity at time of case study (Jan 2016) Additional savings are made through an innovative heat recovery system which draws heat from the milk produced to pre-heat the water entering the Greenspring Water heater. With the water entering the Greenspring Water Heater already anywhere between 25°C & 45°C depending on the time of the day and when milking has occurred, the heater uses less energy to bring the water up to temperature.

Finally, while one heater can produce up to 140 litres of hot water in 10 minutes, the Greenspring Water heater can be installed in multiple cascades of up to 12 units to deliver higher volumes of hot water where required. So, when Billy & Harry are ready to expand the herd and milking points, another heater can simply be added to the system to cope with any increased hot water demand.









On demand hot water FAST – **140 litres of hot water** at 84°C in just ten minutes

Increased control over water
temperatures - from
37°C to 80°C via a
controller

Increased efficiency and significantly reduced running costs

No hot water storage costs throughout the day and night.

Reduced carbon footprint and full
control of the amount
of hot water that is
used.



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