

"I trust my new automated system 100 per cent"

- Graham Douglas

When Graham and Kay Douglas has the opportunity to pipe-and-riser 68ha of their Leitchville dairy farm through the On-farm Efficiency Program, they jumped at the chance.

The installation by G&M Poly of 2.2km of poly pipe and 32 risers, all controlled by a fully automated computer program (Aquator) has made life on the farm, and in particular irrigating, a whole lot easier.

"These works mean I can throw away the shovel and I certainly don't have to worry about leaking bay outlets, blowouts or spraying channels anymore," Graham laughs.

With just over a quarter of his 129ha farm sown down to lucerne and plans to sow even more in the future, along with additional summer pasture, irrigation plays a major role on Graham's farm. The irrigation season is often a busy one and these works have really helped take the pressure off and ease the work load.

Installing the G&M Poly "Aquator" computer program has also been a significant factor in reducing that workload.

The computer based automation system opens and closes all types of outlets, controls pumps, flow, and pressure, while offering the security of monitoring channel or reuse levels, engine temperature

and soil moisture from the convenience of the home PC, phone or laptop.

The easy to operate software basically provides flexible options for all types of irrigation systems.

"I trust me new automated system 100 per cent. It is just a matter of getting the watering times correct for each bay and once that is done, there is really no more work to do."

Graham admits he is no expert on the computer but he has learnt his way around the program quite easily.

"I can do what I need to do and I have no trouble with the day to day running of the program."

On the odd occasion that Graham has needed a bit of help, Corey Power from G&M Poly has been quick to assist and point him in the right direction.

"The work on my new farm was completed on time and I have been very happy with both the service and back-up service I have received.

"There is no way we could ever afforded these works without the On-farm Efficiency Program and this whole program is a step in the right direction for the farming community. This is the only way the Government should be getting water, and that's through programs like this."



