

## BMPs improve Dairy farm runoff

Dairy farm runoff degrades water quality, putting sediment, nitrogen, phosphorus and faecal matter in waterways. Best Management Practices (BMPs) make a difference.



Sediment



Nitrogen and Phosphorus



Faecal matter

Our research involves:

- Monitoring five dairy catchments throughout New Zealand for flow and water quality;
  - Each catchment is representative of the geoclimatic features of its region and the challenges faced by farmers in achieving environmental sustainability
- Farm environmental practices and soil properties are surveyed at three year intervals by AgResearch, our research partner
- The data is used to identify the key environmental issues in each catchment and to establish the linkages between land use and water quality
- These linkages are used to derive best management practices (BMPs) that are cost-effective
- The BMPs are then integrated into farming practices and the outcomes monitored.



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