

# SLICK Genetics Now Available for Heat-Stressed Dairy Herds in Australia



Image 1: Vala Sunsation Harpoon-P

## SLICK Genetics – At a Glance

### What is it?

Dairy genetics carrying the SLICK gene for improved heat tolerance.

### Why does it matter?

Heat stress reduces feed intake, milk yield and fertility.

### Reported benefits:

- Improved feed efficiency
- More stable milk production
- Fertility performance maintained
- Better body condition in hot conditions

### Available in:

Holstein-Friesian, Jersey and crossbred lines

**Australian dairy and beef farmers can now access a proven genetic solution to thrive in the heat. Tropical Resilience Genetics (TrRG) launched its breakthrough All SLICK genetics catalogue at the International Dairy Week (IDW) 2026, Tatura Park, Shepparton**

Heat stress remains one of the costliest challenges in dairy systems, particularly in tropical, sub-tropical, and increasingly warmer regions in Australia. Reduced feed intake, lower body condition, poor fertility and milk production losses are common during extended periods of heat.

SLICK cattle carry naturally occurring genetic traits that enable improved heat dissipation. Research conducted internationally has demonstrated that cattle carrying the SLICK gene maintain lower body temperatures, especially under hot conditions, allowing them to sustain appetite, milk production and reproductive performance.

Published studies have reported improvements, including:

- Higher milk yield in heat-stressed environments (up to 1,000–1,200 litres per lactation in comparable systems)
- Improved feed efficiency under heat load
- Earlier puberty and improved fertility performance

TrRG now offers SLICK sire semen across three dairy options - Holstein-Friesian (Australian and NZ), Jersey and crossbred lines, enabling farmers to select genetics aligned to their herd structure and feeding systems.

Farmers will be encouraged by the high BPI ratings of the Australian bulls, which will appear in the Good Bulls guide from the April run.

“As climate variability increases, producers are looking for new long-lasting tools that build resilience into their herds. Our launch is timely, given the recently released report of positive outcomes for SLICK genetics in the University of Queensland herd at Gatton,” said Dr Dave Hayman, Managing Director of Tropical Resilience Genetics. “Genetics is one of the few permanent solutions available, and we are also aware that export markets will soon be calling for SLICK heifers available for export, which will further encourage the uptake of Sexed SLICK semen.”

John Pio has been appointed for Australian Customer Development and Support to engage directly with farmers and herd improvement providers across key dairy regions, to discuss practical SLICK integration into herd breeding programs. John is based in Toowoomba, Queensland, and can be contacted by phone or WhatsApp on 0417 224 306, or email, john@tropicalgenetics.com. The Sire catalogue can be downloaded from [www.TropicalGenetics.com](http://www.TropicalGenetics.com).

## About Tropical Resilience Genetics

Tropical Resilience Genetics (TrRG) specialises in delivering heat-resilient dairy genetics for producers operating in tropical, sub-tropical and heat-stressed environments. By combining global research, world-class cow families and on-farm validation, TrRG provides practical genetic solutions designed to improve productivity, fertility and profitability under heat stress. ■■

## Contact

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