

Lely A5 Astronaut Milking Robots

Supported by Lely Center Gippsland



The trusted choice for AMS in Gippsland



Lely Center Gippsland

Our promise

When you invest in robots with Lely Center Gippsland, you get more than a milking system — you get a complete support network to help you achieve your goals in pasture-based automation.

With specialist technical support on the ground in Warragul, a team of robot farm experts to guide you ongoing, and a community of local Lely robot farmers that are excelling and sharing knowledge.

It's one of the reasons Lely is the trusted choice in Gippsland.

Our goal is to support farmers through the transition to automated milking and into the future, so you can take advantage of the data and technology that is transforming the dairy industry. We love what we do and we truly believe that helping you excel with automation now will help ensure we're all still here supporting each other for many years to come.

*Greg Cole and Dale Serong
Lely Center Gippsland*



Why Lely robots?

Trusted technology



Lely's Astronaut milking robots have been trusted on dairy farms for over 30 years, including 20 years on pasture in Australia. Today's A5 robots are built on these foundations while optimising for energy efficiency and animal comfort.

Experienced support crew



Lely Center Gippsland supports over 70 Lely robots, providing 24/7 technical support and robot farm management guidance, as well as customer education sessions and discussion groups.

Proven results



Local Lely farms are seeing greater yields and better health outcomes — such as lower rates of mastitis and lameness — thanks to free cow movement, consistent milkings and early detection of potential issues.

Lely A5 Astronaut Robot Features

The biggest factor in the performance of any milking system is the cow. Our robots are built around the animal's needs and natural behaviour, ensuring they are motivated to continue visiting the machines.

3D camera and laser

- 3D camera atop the stall directs the robot arm to meet the cow where she is and move with her, for freedom of movement inside the box.
- A laser system provides the most accurate teat position for attachment, independent from light or background.

User-friendly software

- Lely's software program, Horizon, reports on milk production, cow health, reproduction and robot performance.
- It gives recommendations based on data collected from all equipment to make managing the herd as simple as possible.

Easy walk-through design (i-flow)

- Stall design allows cows to walk straight through the robot, no weaving required.
- 4% improved cow flow compared to no i-flow.

Milk quality control (MQC)

- MQC system continuously monitors milk per quarter to ensure quality output.
- Located inside the robot arm for quick response to milk flow changes and potential quality issues.
- MQC-C option indicates Somatic Cell Count.



Central unit

- One central unit is required per pair of robots, stationed up to 15 metres away.
- Features a vacuum pump, boiler, chemical dosing and cleaning system.

Hybrid arm

- Hybrid arm combines accuracy of electrical-driven movement with the power and softness of air.
- Provides fast and secure attachment with 30% less power usage than previous models.
- Cups are fixed to the arm so if a cup is kicked off it will not fall to the floor and risk contamination; it will simply reattach.
- Quarter-based pulsation and take-off ensures each cow is milked to her specific needs.

Designed for serviceability

- Specially designed for maintenance to be quicker, easier and required less often, with easy-access internal systems and long-life components.
- Helps reduce the lifetime cost of ownership.

Precise pre-milk disposal

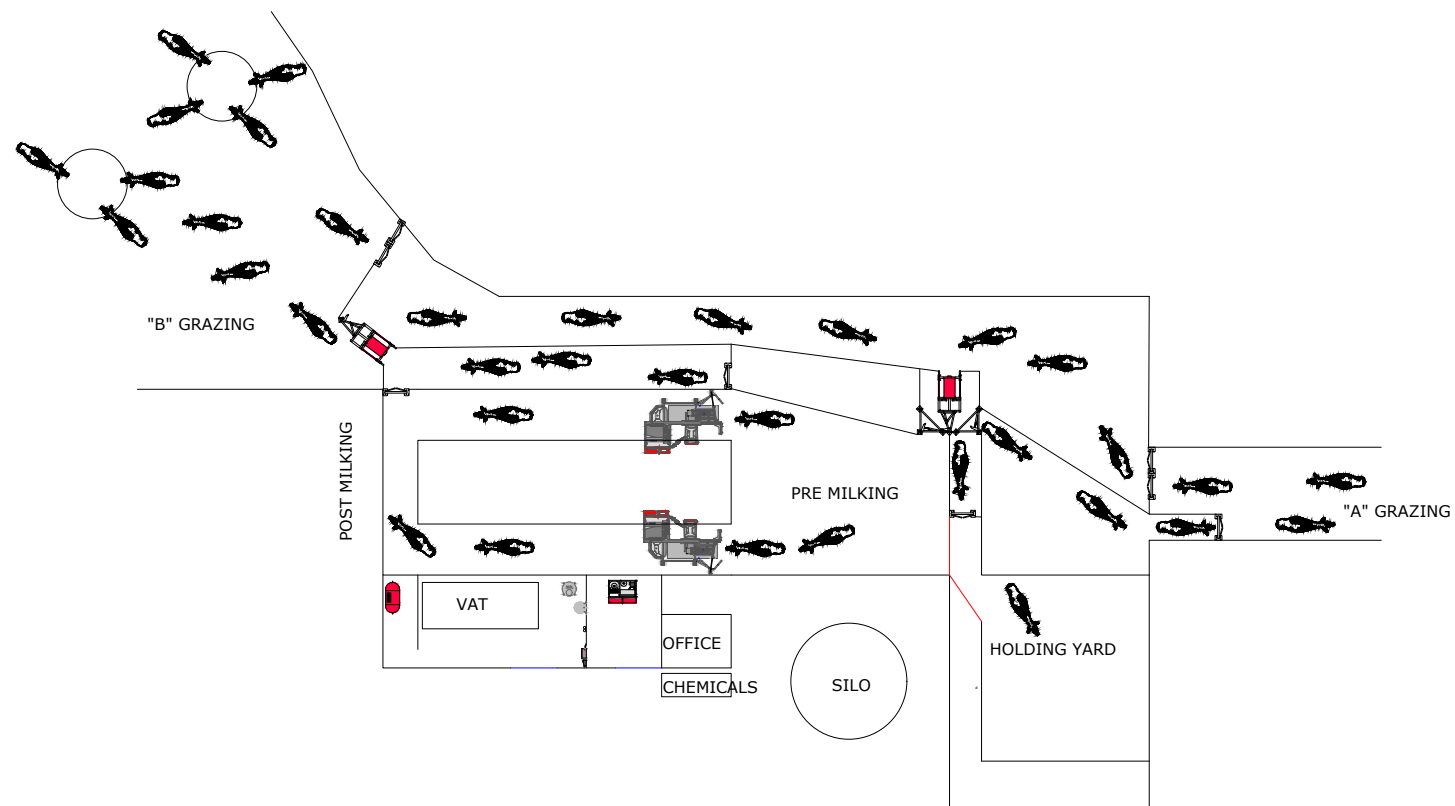
- Only the first 9ml of milk from each quarter is disposed of each milking.

Dual-action brushes and PURA option

- Uses brushes for pre-milking treatment, which stimulate the teats for let-down and ensure dirt is removed before contact with cups.
- Keeps cleaning chemicals away from liners to minimise deterioration and replacement.
- PURA option steam cleans cups between milkings, reducing bacterial transfer.

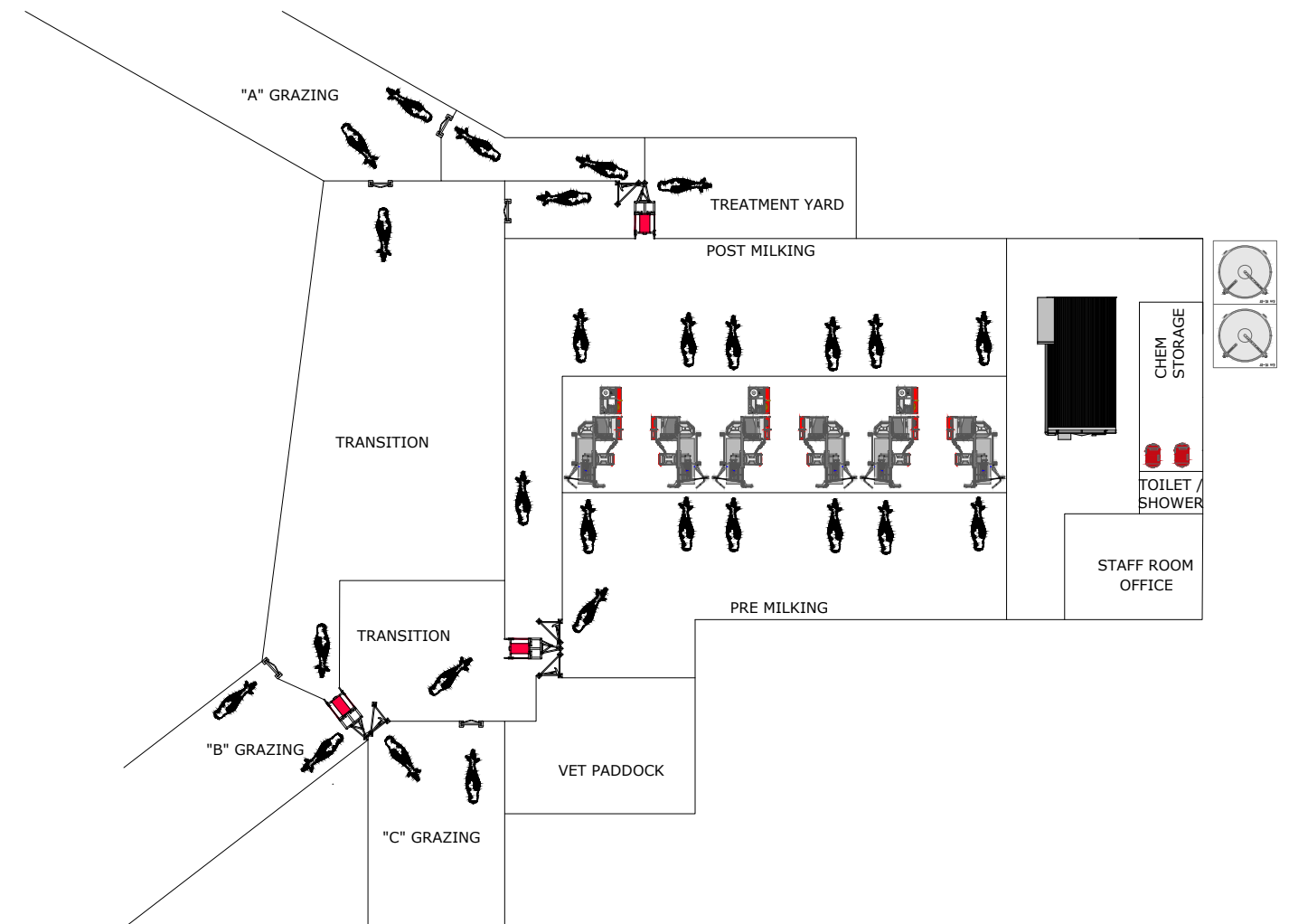
We can design a system to suit your needs

Herringbone retrofit 2-robot design



- 2 Lely Astronaut robots
- Two-way (AB) Grazing
- Suitable for 120-140 cows

Greenfield 6-robot design



- 6 Lely Astronaut robots
- Three-way (ABC) Grazing + Feed Pad
- Suitable for 360-400 cows



The Lockett Family

Gordie and Marg Lockett converted their small herringbone shed into a robotic dairy in 2018 by placing a Lely robot on either side of what was the old pit. No new sheds or buildings were required, they kept the same paddocks and laneways, and they've seen great success with a simple two-way grazing system.

The Williams Family

Grant and Leesa Williams installed their first Lely robots back in 2009, one of the first farms in the area to adopt the technology. In 2021 they added another six Lely robots to their home farm and decommissioned their last remaining rotary, now milking over 600 cows with ten Lely robots across two locations.

HERD:	LOCATION:	FARM SIZE:	NO. ROBOTS:	GRAZING TYPE:	HERD:	LOCATION:	FARM SIZE:	NO. ROBOTS:	GRAZING TYPE:
420+ cows	Neerim North	330 hectares	9 (2 farms)	2-way, with plans for 3-way	600 cows	Athlone	270 hectares	10 (2 farms)	3-way

Higher milk yields

"It's roughly a 10% increase in production across the board. They're not pedigree cows, just your run of the mill mix, and they're averaging just as much or not much below our full Holstein cows."

Calmer cows

"We've had cows who are violent in the rotary. We've sent them over to the robots and within a few days they just walk into the robot, get milked, they don't move. Within a few weeks you can nearly walk up to them in the yard."

Improved conception rate

"The guys at Lely Center Gippsland came out and generated a report and made it automatically draft the cows that are on heat, which helped with the conception rate by 20%. The last joining here I think we're down to about 10% empties."

"We had a big cow on the rotary that would only ever do around 32-33 litres. She spent a week doing 50 litres a day on the robots this lactation."

— Gordie Lockett

Work-life balance

"It's a great lifestyle. It's still farming, you're just not having to put cups on cows while they're kicking and you're stretching to reach their udders. We want to keep farming, we love it. But we didn't want to be doing the physical slog of putting cups on for another 20 years."

Future-planning

"The reason we went down the AMS milking system initially was to try and keep it a family run business."

Improved herd health

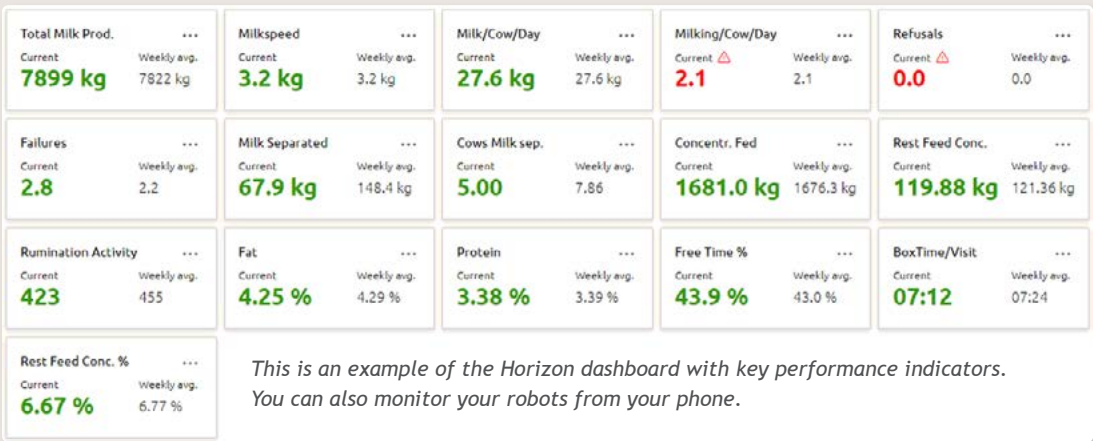
"Cow health is a major thing. The reports that you can get off the system is amazing. You can pick up cows that are sick very quickly. In the old rotary system you had to be watching all the time."

"It gives me the flexibility to be with our kids and grandkids and still be part of the farming without being tied morning and night to an actual milking role."

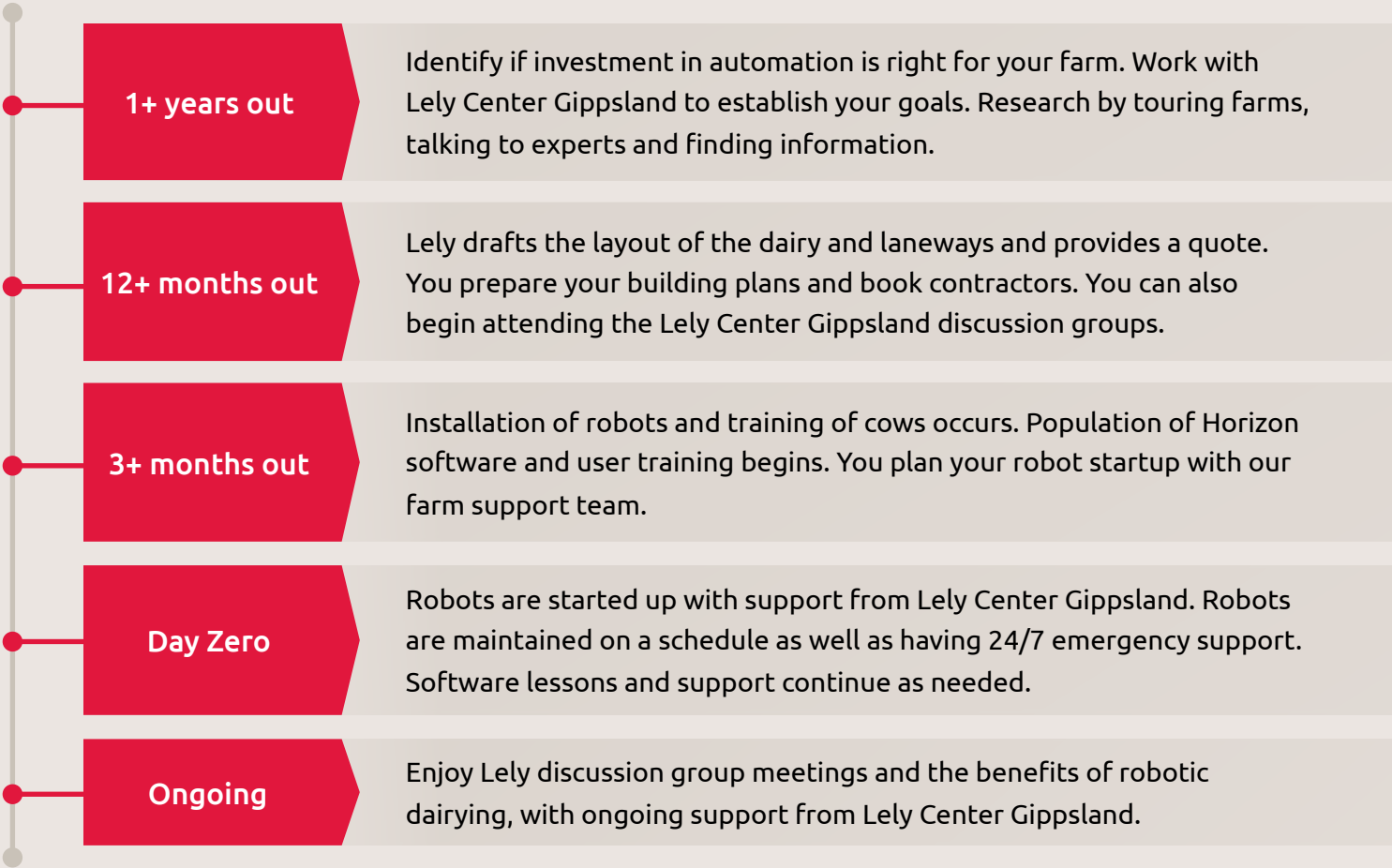
— Leesa Williams

Horizon Software

Horizon is the name of the software that interprets the data from Lely robots and turns it into usable actions and alerts. It helps to identify the tasks and priorities of your daily routine, such as cows to dry off or that are cycling. The dashboard is a snapshot of your key performance indicators, while reports highlight information such as suspicions of mastitis. Our farm support team will teach you how to use the software.



Timeline to robots



Your Lely Gippsland team

The level of service and support you receive from your robot provider is a critical factor in your success.

With Lely Center Gippsland you'll get a world-class support team, including experienced robot technicians and farm management advisors, based on the ground in Gippsland.

We deliver 24/7 emergency technical support across the region and stock a large range of consumables and spare parts to minimise downtime.

We also provide ongoing training, customer meet-ups and general support to help you get the most out of your Lely system.

- ✓

Experienced robot technicians
- ✓

Farm management support (FMS) team
- ✓

Calf feeding specialist
- ✓

Plus a local network of Lely robot users



Also available from Lely Center Gippsland

CALM Calf Feeders



LUNA Cow Brushes



JUNO Feed Pushers



PROVICO Milk Powders & More



Get in touch!

Call or drop in to speak with our team about how robots could work on your farm

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Specialists in pasture-based automation



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