

//Case Study

Sourcing Sustainably: Mooving our spent grain.

DB has a continual focus to develop a supply chain that supports local communities and smaller businesses, reduces our environmental footprint and ensures a consistent supply of raw materials for our business.

With 11,000 tonnes of malt being used in the brewing process at our Waitemata site there is the potential to produce a large amount of waste as a result. DB Breweries is proud of our circular economy approach that ensures 100% of our malt is recycled at the end of the brewing process.

Our locally sourced malt is delivered to site and loaded, in a contained environment, into the storage silos. From the silos the malt is transferred to the Brewhouse to be used in the beer brewing process. Once the malt is pressed, with all extracts removed all that remains of the original malt is the spent grain. The spent grain is then sent to the spent grain silos, where a local supplier comes to collect it on a regular basis. The spent grain, which is in high demand, is then sent to farms around New Zealand to become a highly effective and in demand feed for cows.

Allan Upton, of Upton Farms located in the Coromandel is one of many recipients of our spent grain, or as the farmers call it – brewers grain. Allan's farm gets a delivery every 10 days. Once it has been delivered it gets mixed in with various other feeds, generally maize and silage to produce a balanced feed for his stock. Upland Farms then feed this delicacy to their cows twice a day during the milking season.



The farmers tell us that our “brewers grain” helps increase milk production, and is a nutritious option for their stock. And it’s a win win for DB with 11,000 tonnes of spent grain diverted from waste each year.



“all 11,000 tonnes of the malt we use each year is recycled, it all goes back to the farmers, and back to New Zealand to keep New Zealand beautiful”

Steve Bailey, Cellar & Filtration Brewer

Watch the video below to find out more



**During the delivery and unloading process of the malt at the brewery a large amount of dust is produced. This delivery occurs in a contained environment to capture the dust to ensure no pollution or damage to the environment occurs. The dust that is captured is supplied to local pig farmers as a feed for their stock.*