

TARANAKI REGION

DAIRY FACTORIES IN THIS REGION TODAY:

**Kapuni, Eltham
and Whareroa**

START YOUR RESEARCH WITH THESE HISTORIC SITES:

**Hawera, Pungarehu,
Inglewood, Opunake,
Toko, Cardiff, Mokau,
Whangamomona,
Bell Block, Frankley Road,
Royal Arms, Kiore, Oxford
and Moa Farmers**



1955

NUMBER
OF COWS

260,039

2005

NUMBER
OF COWS

615,592

HISTORICAL FACTS ABOUT DAIRYING IN THE TARANAKI REGION

A few Taranaki dairy cooperatives were set up in the mid-1880s, but they were soon replaced by privately owned factories. The co-operative system that formed the basis of the Taranaki dairy industry was founded in the 1890s.

Co-operatives were controlled by an elected board of farmer shareholders and run by a professional manager and staff, with factory hands hired from the

surrounding district. Some of these early undertakings had as few as a dozen suppliers. The larger ones had outlying skimming stations or creameries which contributed to the main factories.

By 1901 Taranaki had 95 butter and 31 cheese factories. After a slump in butter prices in 1905, many butter factories converted to cheese-making, which became very important in Taranaki.



THE SWISS

In the early 1890s a group of South Island gold miners, originally from Northern Italy's Valtellina Valley, moved to the kauri gumfields in Northland. Later, some became dairy farmers in Taranaki. This chain continued until World War 2. The Swiss became an important dairy farming group in Taranaki. In 1916, nearly half of the 670 Swiss-born living in New Zealand were in that province. Chinese migrant and storeowner Chew Chong set up the Jubilee Dairy Factory in Eltham in 1887 and other factories in Taranaki.

Have been sourced from www.teara.govt.nz

Regional museums that might be able to help you with your research: **Aotea Utanganui Museum of South Taranaki, Hurworth Cottage and Puke Ariki**. For more museums that may be able to assist, visit www.nz museums.co.nz

Historypin DairyNZ Time Capsule Project <http://bit.ly/12VV8Au>

www.rosieseducation.co.nz