## WATER STORAGE

## Do you need water or dairy effluent storage?

Flexi Tanks are an astonishingly simple concept that provides farmers, horticulturists, industry and domestic clients with cost-effective solutions for storing water or effluent.

Father and son, Anton and Andre Meier, along with Anton's partner Jacky van der Poel, have operated Flexi Tanks for almost eight years. Based in Cambridge they supply a vast range of clients throughout the country with quality bladder tanks for all liquid storage needs. Whether looking for a 1,000 litre tank, right through to a 2,000,000 litre tank, the team is keen to provide genuine advice to solve your storage problems.

Flexi Tanks supply and install the best quality bladder tanks available in the New Zealand market today. They have been manufactured in France since 1959 and are built to last: they are manufactured from multi-layered, ripstop technical fabric with tensile strength of 450kg per 5cm.

The tanks come with a full 10 year manufacturer's warranty for textile and manufacture and have an expected life, under normal conditions, of up to 20 years.

Not only are they reliable but they are cost-effective too and come in as a cheaper and more economical solution to other effluent storage alternatives. Flexi Tanks can be depreciated as they are a tangible asset which can be rolled up and used somewhere else if needed.

The tanks are fast and easy to install: simply level a pad, unload the tank, roll it out, connect the valves, connect to your system and fill.

The tanks are used for horticulture and agricultural water storage, dairy farm effluent and leachate storage. There are several industrial uses too, such as firefighting, liquid fertilisers, fuel and liquid leachate storage. Domestic clients use them for rainwater harvesting, potable (drinking) water and non-potable water storage.

Originally 90% of sales were for



effluent storage but now, with the increasing need to store and conserve water, sales are now roughly half for effluent and half for water storage.

More details and several testimonials are available on their web site www.flexitanksnz.com

## Flexi Tank solution

Tim Le Gros of Titoki Nursery at Brightwater uses his Flexi tank to capture water off his Crop Cover roofs at the nursery. "It's been useful for us," he says, "and in use all the time. We have 900-1000 square metres of cover, therefore it solves a run-off problem to capture rainwater and re-use it to water plants. Plus, we have it as another option when wells are low in dry summers." Tim says although their Flexi-tank bladder is only 160,000 litres, the system works well as they are constantly drawing off water to water plants, allowing it to re-fill. It's also there for summer, when ideally we would keep it full in case water restrictions are imposed.

During the 2019-2020 drought,

Willisbrook Orchard at Brightwater, near Nelson, were anxious about losing their high value late apple varieties due to lack of water. The Wai-iti dam was extremely low and Tasman District Council were sending warnings about moving water restrictions toward no-take. Faced with this dilemma, Sue Watts, Administration Manager at the orchard, was given the task of finding a solution and then given the go ahead to order a Flexi-Tank and oversight its installation with the orchard crew

They filled the tank slowly on the days they didn't use all their water take. Sue says, this was a cost-effective and easy solution for a very real problem at the time. This enabled them to have a contingency supply available for when the no-take rule became active. Sue says, no sooner had they set it up and filled the tank Than rain arrived. Murphy's law, she supposes.

The tank remains in place and ready should it be required for the orchard again or even for fire.

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