

THE STANDARD

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HD ONE of the largest dairy operations in the south-west
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ONE of the largest dairy operations in the south-west has been turned over to a quarantine operation following its sale to Landmark Global Exports.

The 1600-hectare operation, consisting of two separate dairies, formerly owned by Kauri Coast Properties, went on the market late last year after the company went into receivership.

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The properties are a 500-hectare farm on Slatterys Road, west of Woolsthorpe, and a second property of 1059 hectares created by consolidation of smaller farms near Hawkesdale.

Nick Allen, of selling agents Charles Stewart, said he was not free to disclose the name of the buyer or the purchase price due to a confidentiality agreement.

However, independent sources have confirmed that Landmark Global Exports bought both properties. The properties were expected to bring around \$12 million, but the actual sale price has not been disclosed.

In the lead up to the sale the properties were leased and used for raising dairy heifers for export.

Landmark Global Exports, which is partly owned by Chinese interests, bought the properties and will use them to quarantine stock prior to export.

The company already owns a 700-hectare quarantine property, Winberack, on the Woolsthorpe-Ballangeich Road.

The farms were converted to dairying eight years ago. Each has an 80-unit rotary dairy, 33,000 litre vat and extensive silos.

Both have milked more than 1000 cows in recent years but neither will be used for dairying in the short term.

However, Mr Allen said he believed the dairies would eventually be put back into production.

"There is some very good infrastructure in place but it needs some work. I believe this will be put to use the long term."

Landmark Global Exports is the export division of Landmark Operations Ltd whose agents give it access to Australia's largest livestock sourcing network.

It has supply chains into China and Russia and nine other countries and is a major player in the dairy heifer export market.

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