

## **Sarah Jelbart, beef farmer, Loch**

Starting out ... so, where do I start?

I love the outdoors and, in particular, being involved in primary production of the food that we eat.

I grew up on a dairy farm in Wales which my parents converted to organic during my teenage years. As well as enjoying the production element to the cows it's good to know that you're creating a top-end product. That was really exciting.

I made the move to Australia in 2004. It was not easy, but I have no regrets.

Now, with my own family, I am starting out in the agricultural industry and I would like to share with you the main drivers that have made me start this journey...

- Financial
- Buying land vs a house in town
- Land can make a return
- Experience
- 'Do what you're good at'
- Academic, growing up on a family farm
- Family relationships > going on our own > breaking the zone
- Planting trees: Melbourne Water's 'Slow the Flow' project
- Passion
- Doing whatever you do properly, no shortcuts
- Quality of product
- Welfare
- Somewhere to call 'home'
- Make our mark
- Confidence
- To give it a go

First six months were a major challenge eg: house renovations and a change of work  
We're only just starting out but in a short time we have made great improvements to the property.