

## HORTICULTURE WATER STORAGE CASE STUDY

## A SMART TRANSITION TO SUSTAINABLE WATER MANAGEMENT

## **MURRAY AND RUTH MIERS CASE STUDY**

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"WHEN I WENT DOWN TO THAT SHOW AND FOUND THAT TANK, I COULDN'T BELIEVE IT. I THOUGHT TO MYSELF, 'I'M NOT GOING TO LOOK AT ANYTHING ELSE NOW; THIS IS SO MUCH EASIER, SO MUCH BETTER IN THE LONG RUN"

In the heart of Aongatete, nestled along the Tauranga Harbour's edge, Murray and Ruth Miers have cultivated their dream - a thriving agricultural and horticultural family business. With over 30 years of experience in the horticulture industry, they understand the importance of water storage for safeguarding their orchard against frost and ensuring vital irrigation during dry summers.

By 2021, Murray and Ruth's irrigation pond, a vital water source for their orchard, was showing signs of age, and the couple knew it was time for a change. The open pond was a significant safety risk to people on and around their property. Murray was adamant that replacing the pond with a safer, more sustainable option was the way forward. On Murray's search to find the ideal water storage solution, it was an encounter at a local packhouse that first piqued his interest in KlipTank. The real turning point, however, was a visit to an Agricultural Show in Hastings. Here, Murray laid eyes on KlipTank's unique water storage tanks, featuring a fully enclosed durable structure and a commitment to sustainability. "When I went down to that show and found that tank, I couldn't believe it. I thought to myself, 'I'm not going to look at anything else now; this is so much easier, so much better in the long run'" Murray recalls.

With confidence in their choice, Murray and Ruth approached KlipTank. The team at KlipTank understood the need for a swift solution before the looming spring frost threatened the orchard's wellbeing.



The challenge, however, lay in the location of the existing pond - the sole suitable spot for the new tank. Decommissioning the pond, removing it, and restoring the area required complex civil engineering due to the pond's location below sea level. Once the foundation was prepared, the installation of the custom 800m<sup>3</sup> Roofed Water Tank proceeded at an impressive pace. "I was shocked at how quickly they built it once they got going" Murray said.

The entire project including purchase, fabrication, site preparation and installation was completed in three months between June and September 2021, the installation itself only taking one week, a testament to the collaborative efforts of Murray, the KlipTank team, and their shared commitment to a safer and more sustainable water management solution.

The tank's innovative "rainwater harvesting roof" design was custom-developed by KlipTank to

meet Murray's specific needs. It serves a dual purpose by providing a blackout cover to prevent algae growth and keep out dust, leaf debris, birds, rats, and insects. Simultaneously, it efficiently harvests rainwater through a specialised filtration system, effectively removing any leaf debris. This unique feature aligned with Murray's commitment to sustainability and resource efficiency in his orchard.

Two years have passed since the tank's installation, and Murray couldn't be happier with his choice. He also values the enduring relationship formed between himself and the KlipTank team, saying, "They would send someone up that very day if I needed anything." Murray and Ruth Miers have not only secured the future of their kiwifruit orchard but have also made a safer, more sustainable approach to water management.

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JOIN THEM AND COUNTLESS OTHERS IN MAKING THE SMART CHOICE FOR WATER STORAGE AND MANAGEMENT.

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