Backtrack Dairies

Week ending 17th May 2017

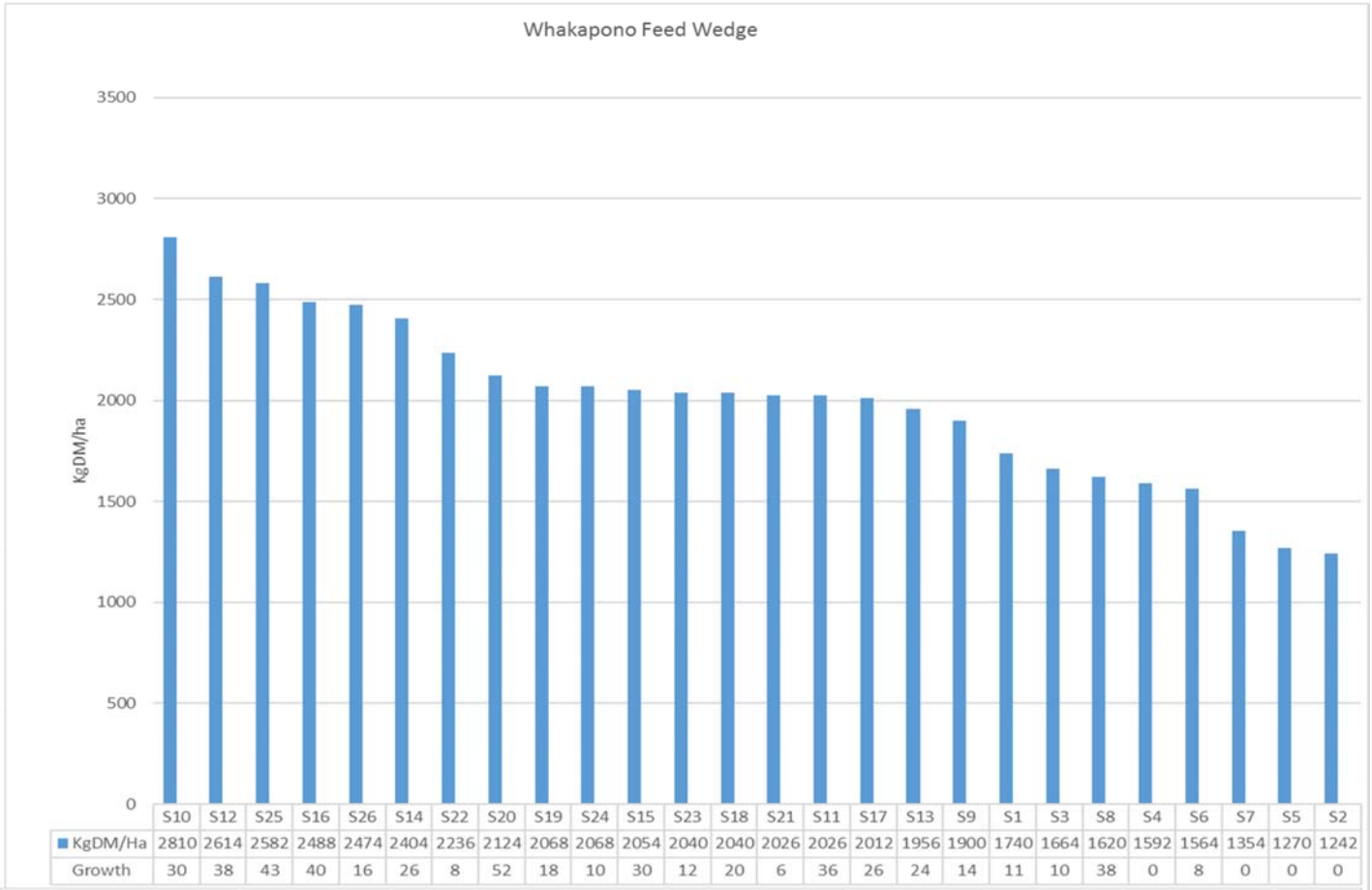
Backtrack Dairies
Two farming systems. One Kinsey-Albrecht (Whakapono) and one conventional (Waiora). Both farms have a stocking rate of 3.1 cows/ha at peak.

Week Ending	10/5/17		17/5/17	
Backtrack Dairies	Whakapono	Waiora	Whakapono	Waiora
Farm grazing ha	155	210	155	210
Peak Cows	483	636	483	636
Stocking Rate (cows in milk/ha)	2.9	2.8	2.9	2.8
Cows in Milk	451	584	451	584
% of cows in Sick Herd	0.7	0.6	0.5	0.3
Cows in Vat	448	580	449	582
Ave. Pasture Cover	2052	2021	1996	1960
Ave. Pasture Growth	27	23	23	26
Area Grazed	3.04	5.46	3.74	6.30
Grazing Interval	51	38	41	38
Pasture Intake (est kgDM/cow)	9	9	8	8
Grass Silage Fed (kgDM/cow)	8.1	5.6	8.0	6.0
Grain/PKE Fed (kgDM/cow)	1.3	1.7	1.3	1.7
Total Fed KgDM/cow	19	21	22	19
Milk Solids (Kg/cow/day)(inclu calf milk)	1.35	1.28	1.31	1.21
MS/ha/day	3.94	3.57	3.80	3.37
Nitrogen applied (kg N/ha)	0	0	0	0
Rainfall (mm for week)	0	0	10	10
Irrigation applied (mm for week)	0	0	0	0
Soil Temperature at 9am	8	9	9	9
Soil Moisture (between 65-76%)	111	84	112	84
Cell count (000's)	118	138	119	130
Mastitis Cases (%)	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0
Lameness Cases (%)	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.2
Body Condition Score	4.5	4.4	4.5	4.4
Totals To Date				
Milk Solids to factory	225185	287027	229308	291986
Milk Solids inclu calf milk	231653	296526	235776	301485
MS/ha	1451	1365	1478	1389
MS/cow (peak cows)(inclu calf milk)	480	466	488	474
Nitrogen applied (kg N/ha)	84	124	84	124
Supplements Fed (kg/cow)	567	495	628	544
Deaths %	1.7	3.5	1.7	3.5
Culls %	9.1	9.0	9.1	9.0

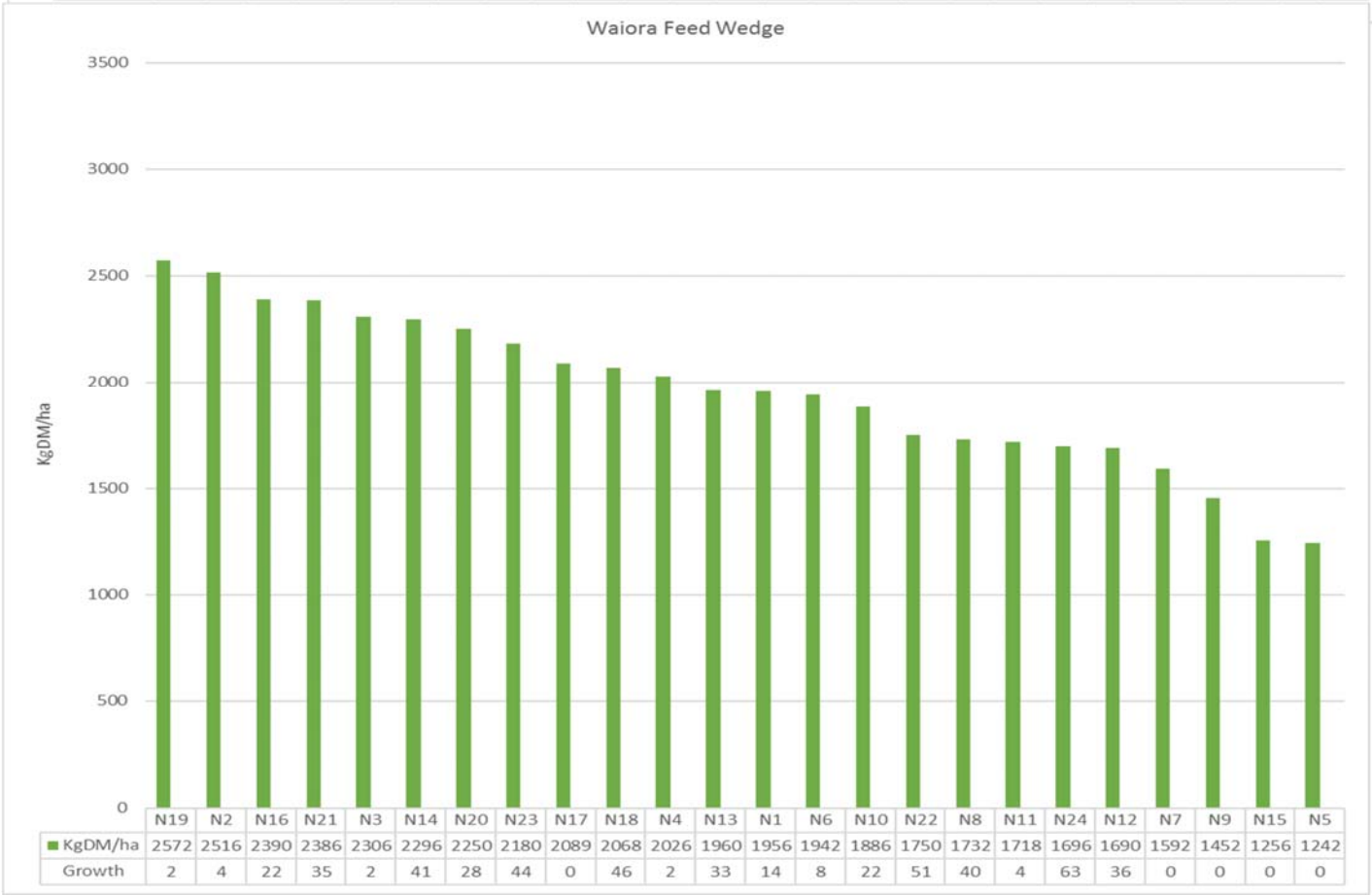
Summary

- Average pasture cover on Whakapono on the 10th of May was 2052 kgDM/ha, which has dropped to 1996 KgDM/ha for this week which is expected and reflects demand dropping due to reducing pasture area and doubling silage intakes on dry days.
- Waiora had a cover of 2021KgDM/ha and has dropped another 60 to 1960 KgDM/ha which is a bit of a worry and reflected in low growth rates.
- Growth rates on Whakapono are close to demand (27) at 23 which seems right given they are receiving 9kgDM as pasture and the rest as silage (8) and PKE (1), while Waiora at 26 seems accurate in dropping cover with 6kg silage and 2 kg PKE. Demand is 17kgDM/cow.
- Silage is not fed on wet days and cows receive double their normal area which obviously shortens the rotation and is reducing our ability to build up feed to milk on with.
- 10mm rainfall only this week has meant we have been able to extend the rotation to 48 days helped also by combining the Waiora herds into one of 580
- Milk production has held 1.31 kgMS/cow on Whakapono and slightly lower on Waiora at 1.21 kgMS/cow probably due to reducing pasture area and feeding more pasture silage trying to get back days lost due to wet.
- Pasture samples taken each week on the next two paddocks are about to graze a weighed and dried for DM% similar at 15 -18% (see table below).
- Clover was typically 30% on Whakapono and 20% on Waiora has fallen markedly in recent samples to only 7% and 1% as ryegrass kicks in again with cooler soil temps.
- Per cow production has really taken a hit since the bad weather and not being able to push feed in front could seriously hamper our chance of a good finish.
- Grain finished so feeding only PKE in shed at 1-2 kg/cow.
- NDF closer to 40% on Waiora restricting intake, 35% on Whakapono.
- Round length moving to 48 now and doubling up silage to gain back days lost by moving cows on during wet weather which will drop per cow production but try to gain more days in milk.
- 10 Jersey bull calves still on farm.
- 100 R2 year heifers left the farm (75 sold $1600 in hand).
- Culls 43 left the farm last week truck weighed averaged 516 kg liveweight at $1.50 per kg no costs
- Whakapono total N to date 84 kg/ha to date with total spend on fertiliser $602/ha including lime and dolomite and extra fert put on silage paddocks.
- Waiora total N will be 123 kg/ha and total spend on fertiliser $408/ha with no lime and no extra fert to silage paddocks so a bit light.
- Average fert spend in Canterbury $600/ha.
- Whakapono had 62% in calf early (August calving) compared to Waiora's 58%.
- Lameness eased off on Whakapono, but starting to appear on Waiora which is normal after a big rain and tracks in need of some maintenance.
- Whakapono at distinct disadvantage with one bigger herd, longer walks over tracks which get wet from pivots so any extra wet weather quickly accentuates any lameness problems.

Feed Wedges – 16th May



	S10	S12	S25	S16	S26	S14	S22	S20	S19	S24	S15	S23	S18	S21	S11	S17	S13	S9	S1	S3	S8	S4	S6	S7	S5	S2
KgDM/Ha	2810	2614	2582	2488	2474	2404	2236	2124	2068	2068	2054	2040	2040	2026	2026	2012	1956	1900	1740	1664	1620	1592	1564	1354	1270	1242
Growth	30	38	43	40	16	26	8	52	18	10	30	12	20	6	36	26	24	14	11	10	38	0	8	0	0	0



	N19	N2	N16	N21	N3	N14	N20	N23	N17	N18	N4	N13	N1	N6	N10	N22	N8	N11	N24	N12	N7	N9	N15	N5
KgDM/ha	2572	2516	2390	2386	2306	2296	2250	2180	2089	2068	2026	1960	1956	1942	1886	1750	1732	1718	1696	1690	1592	1452	1256	1242
Growth	2	4	22	35	2	41	28	44	0	46	2	33	14	8	22	51	40	4	63	36	0	0	0	0

Animal Health

	Whakapono	Waiora
No of Mastitis Cows	0	0
No of Lame Cows	0	1
Sick Herd %	0.5	0.3

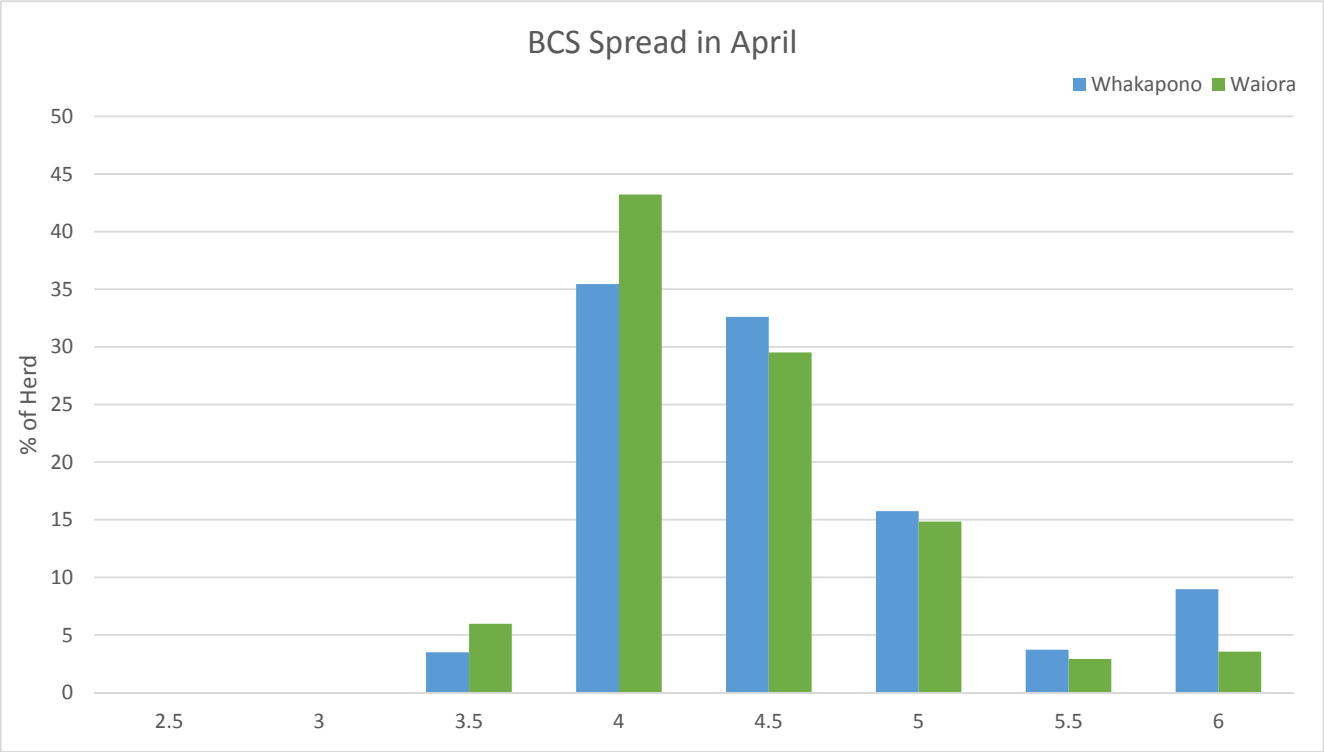
Mating

	Whakapono	Waiora
Submission Rate	91%	87%
Non-cyclers	43 cows	77 cows
AI length	6.5 weeks	6.5 weeks
Mating length	10 weeks	10 weeks
MT Rate	14%	15%
Detection Method	Manager/2IC checking cows every morning and tail paint	Manager/2IC checking cows every afternoon and tail paint

Timeframe of Mating	Dates
Planned Start of Mating	30th October
Metri-checking & PG 1	21st November
PG 2	1st December
AI Finished	15th December
Bulls entered herd	8th December
Bulls removed from herd	9th January
Pregnancy Scanning 1	31st January

Pregnancy Scanning 2	28th February

Cow Condition



Average cow condition for Whakapono is 4.5 and for Waiora is 4.4. The percentage of cows below CS 4.0 for Whakapono is 4% and Waiora is 6%.

Industry targets are 4.4 average condition and no more than 10% below CS 4.0.

Pasture Quality for this week:

	Whakapono	**Waiora**
DM%	18	15
Ryegrass (%DM)	93	99
Clover (%DM)	7	1
Weeds (%DM)	0	0
Herbs (%DM)	0	0