

Backtrack Dairies

Week ending 19th April 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.

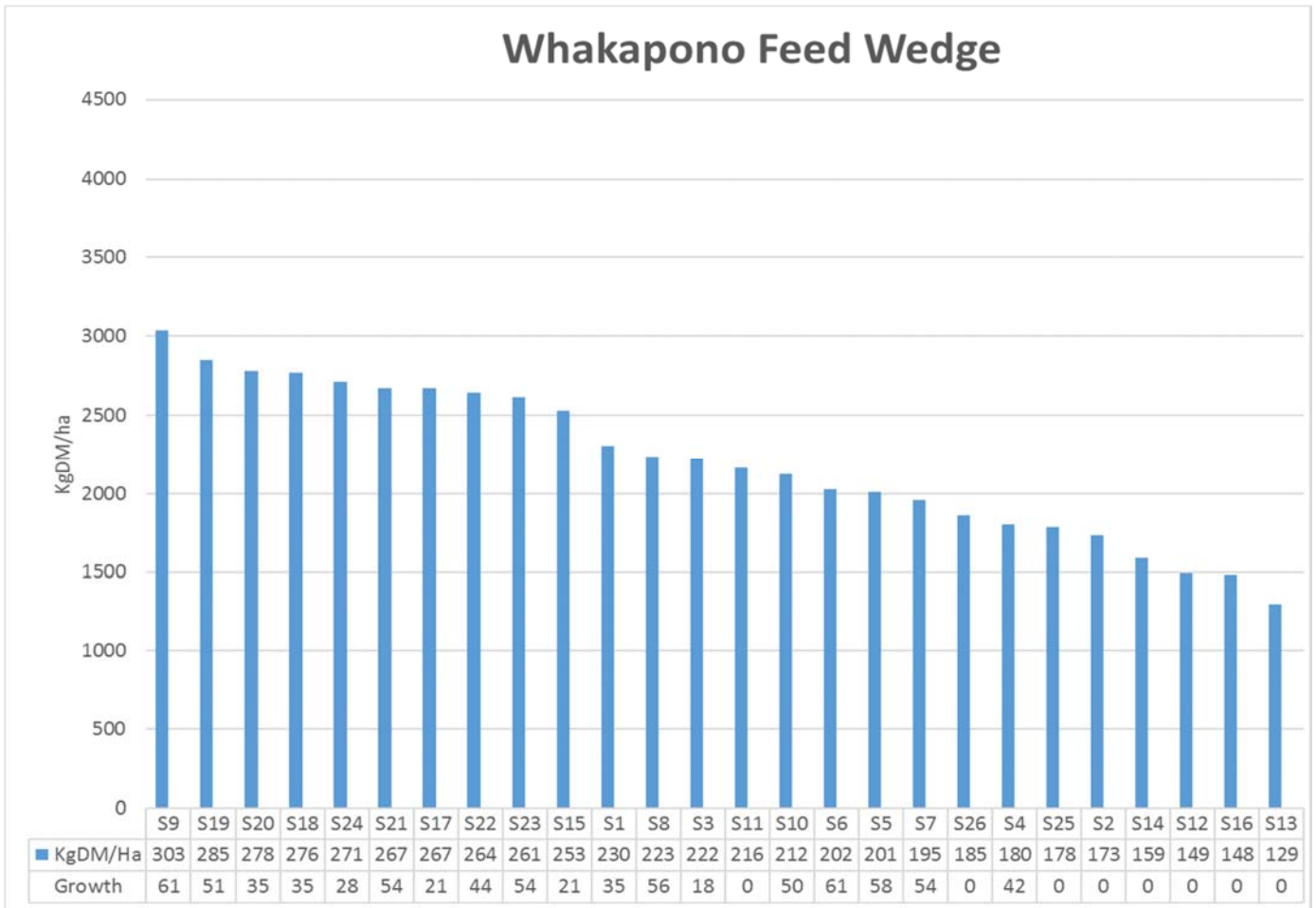
Week Ending	12/4/17		19/4/17	
Backtrack Dairies	Whakapono	Waiora	Whakapono	Waiora
Farm grazing ha	155	210	155	210
Peak Cows	483	639	483	639
Stocking Rate (cows in milk/ha)	3.1	3.0	2.9	3.0
Cows in Milk	479	629	457	626
% of cows in Sick Herd	1.0	1.3	0.7	1.0
Cows in Vat	474	621	454	619
Ave. Pasture Cover	2298	2365	2168	2246
Ave. Pasture Growth	47	47	43	46
Area Grazed	5.45	7.47	6.88	9.93
Grazing Interval	28	28	28	28
Pasture Intake (est kgDM/cow)	18	21	18	21
Grass Silage Fed (kgDM/cow)	1.8	1.6	0.9	0.8
Grain/PKE Fed (kgDM/cow)	2.0	1.3	1.5	1.3
Total Fed KgDM/cow	22	24	20.4	23
Milk Solids (Kg/cow/day)(inclu calf milk)	1.43	1.45	1.46	1.40
MS/ha/day	4.43	4.35	4.31	4.19
Nitrogen applied (kg N/ha)	0	0	0	0
Rainfall (mm for week)	93	93	46	46
Irrigation applied (mm for week)	0	0	0	0
Soil Temperature at 9am	12		12	
Soil Moisture (between 65-76%)	113		114	
Cell count (000's)	133	134	164	161
Mastitis Cases (%)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2
Lameness Cases (%)	0.0	0.6	0.4	1.1
Body Condition Score	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.5
Totals To Date				
Milk Solids to factory	208501	263288	213181	269444
Milk Solids inclu calf milk	214968	272787	219648	278943
MS/ha	1344	1252	1374	1281
MS/cow (peak cows)(inclu calf milk)	445	427	455	437
Nitrogen applied (kg N/ha)	84	124	84	124
Supplements Fed (kg/cow)	404	367	418	381
Deaths %	1.4	3.0	1.4	3.0
Culls %	3.5	2.8	8.1	3.1

Summary

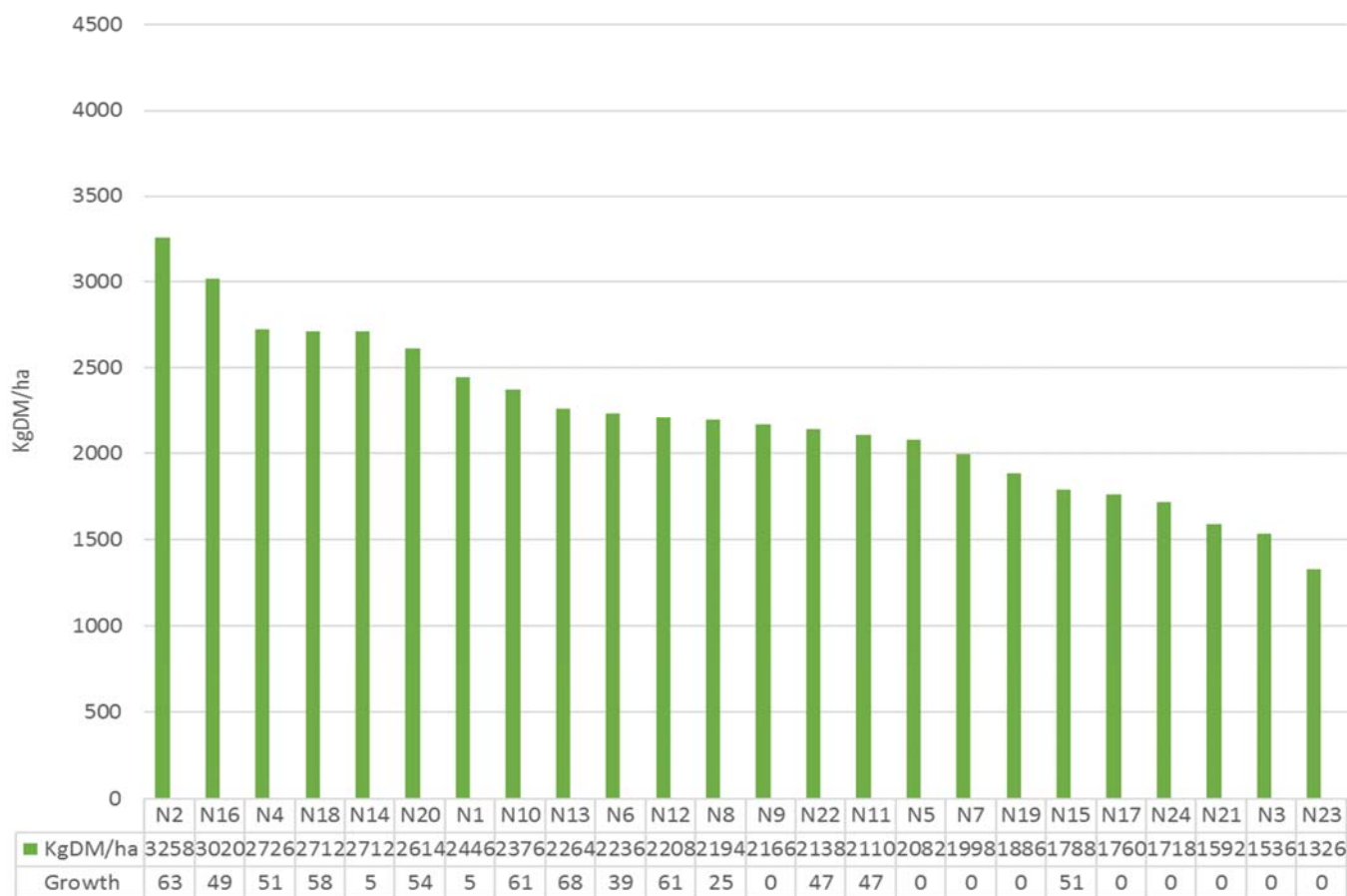
- Average pasture cover on Whakapono on the 12th April was 2298 kgDM/ha, which has dropped 130 to 2168 KgDM/ha for this week.
- Waiora had a cover of 2365KgDM/ha and has decreased by 120 to 2168 KgDM/ha.
- Growth rates on Whakapono are below demand (60) at 43, similar on Waiora at 46 which relates to the drop in cover.
- Heavy rain again has meant cows have had to be moved on to reduce pasture damage and keep intakes up which will quickly drop cover.
- Not able to feed out much this week due to wet weather.
- 46 mm rainfall (that's a lot more rain for us) and overcast weather has meant all irrigation is off this week and probably finished for the year.
- Milk production has risen slightly again to 1.46 kgMS/cow on Whakapono and lower on Waiora at 1.40 kgMS/cow probably due to getting only pasture.
- DM% has dropped markedly on both farms from 17-20 % to 13-14% which will be lowering potential intakes significantly as it did in spring.
- Cooler soil temperatures have stifled this advantage to Whakapono until now and are reflected in the weekly pasture samples that record DM and ryegrass/clover % of sward.
- Pasture samples taken each week on the next two paddocks are about to graze a weighed and dried for DM% similar at 15 -17% (see table below).
- Clover is typically 30% on Whakapono and 20% on Waiora has fallen in recent sample to 14% and 8% respectively as ryegrass kicks in again with cooler soil temps.
- Per cow production has really taken a hit with the bad weather and not being able to push feed in front could seriously hamper our chance of a good finish.
- Grain/PKE back up to 2.0 kg/cow as growth rates below demand at 18 KgDM/cow.
- NDF closer to 40% on Waiora restricting intake, 35% on Whakapono.
- Round length similar on Whakapono at 28 days with Waiora 28 days moving to moving to 36 now but nullified by moving cows on during wet weather and stopping silage feeding during those wet periods.
- 25 Jersey bull calves still on farm.
- 100 R2 year heifer grazing one day in front of cows so will be picking the best out of paddocks. Split 55/45 to each farm. They will leave farm shortly to neighbours as we try to extend rotation further.
- 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 has received 50 kg/ha of Sustain N giving 23kg N/ha on the paddocks that missed out in February.
- 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.
- Whakapono had 62% in calf early (August calving) compared to Waiora's 58%.
- Final MT rate 13% on Whakapono and 14% on Waiora so 1% better on both farms than last season but still disappointing. Heifer results good at 4% out of 420 total.
- 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 – 19th April



Waiora Feed Wedge



Animal Health

	Whakapono	Waiora
No of Mastitis Cows	0	1
No of Lambe Cows	2	7
Sick Herd %	0.7	1.0

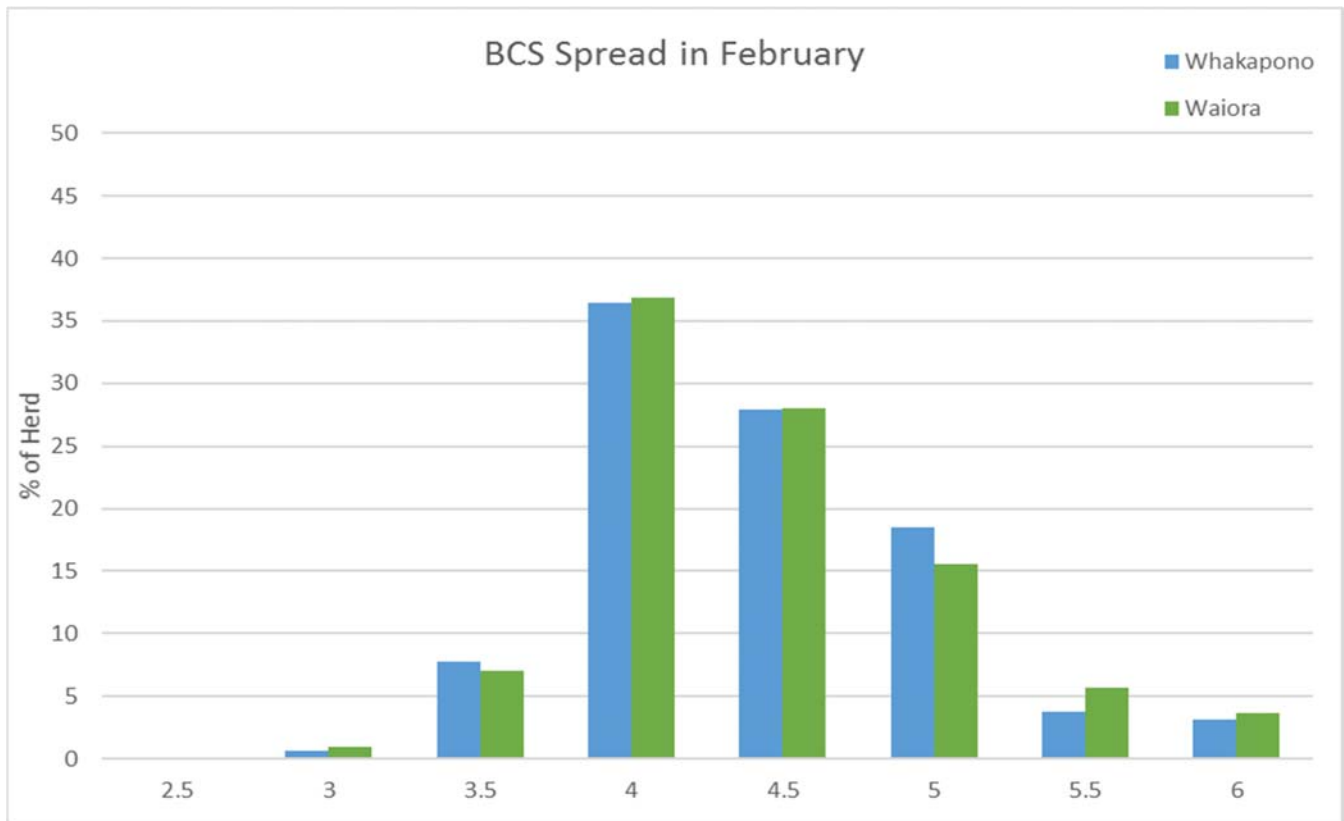
Mating

	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	13%	14%
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	30 th October
Metri-checking & PG 1	21 st November
PG 2	1 st December
AI Finished	15 th December
Bulls entered herd	8 th December
Bulls removed from herd	9 th January
Pregnancy Scanning 1	31 st January
Pregnancy Scanning 2	28 th February

Cow Condition



Average cow condition for Whakapono is 4.5 and for Waiora is 4.5. The percentage of cows below CS 4.0 for Whakapono and Waiora is 8%.

Industry targets are 4.3 average condition and no more than 15% below CS 4.0.

Pasture Quality for this week:

	Whakapono	Waiora
DM%	15	17
Ryegrass (%DM)	94	96
Clover (%DM)	4	4
Weeds (%DM)	0	0
Herbs (%DM)	0	0