

Backtrack Dairies

Week ending 26th April 2017

Backtrack Dairies

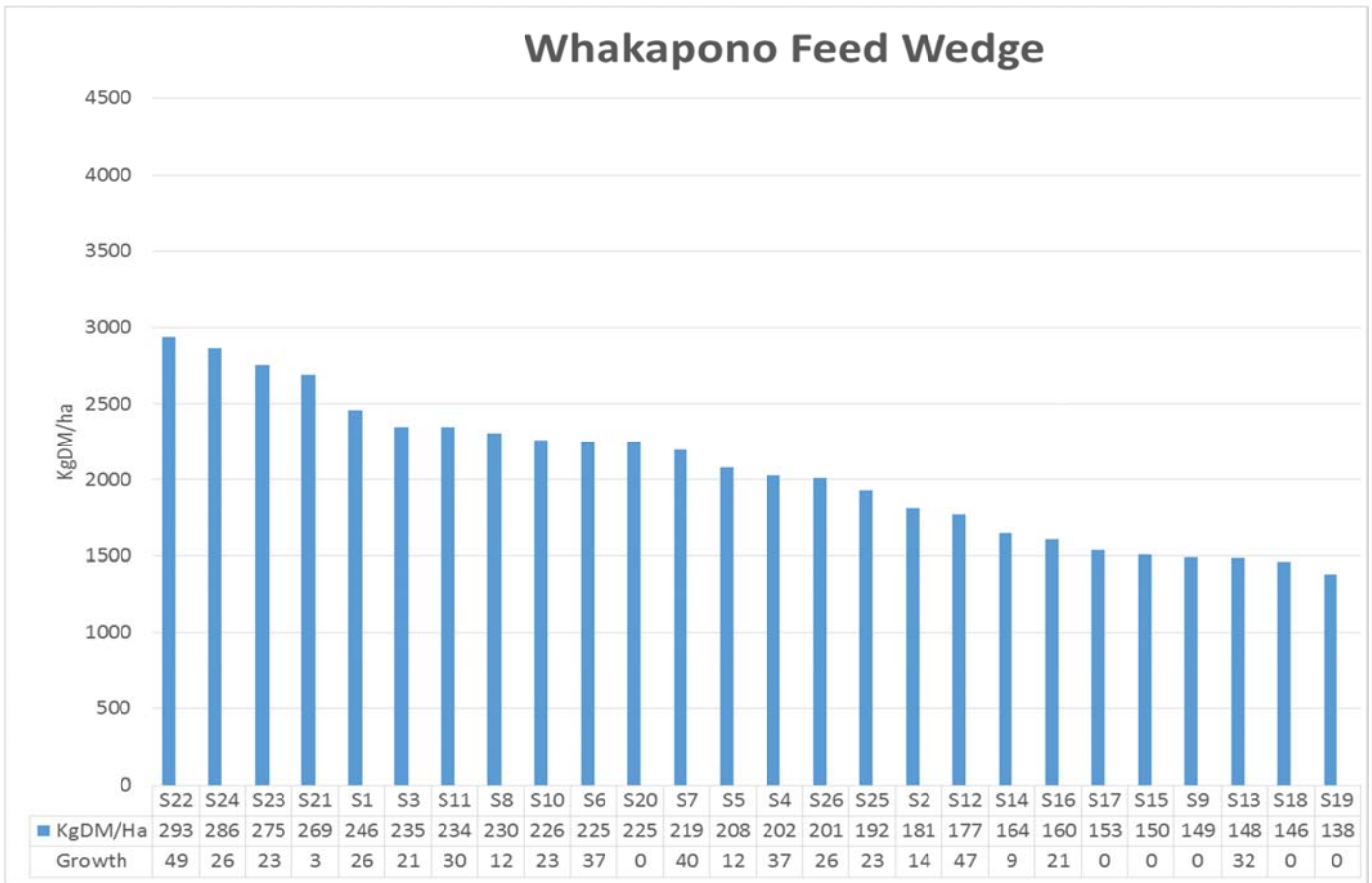
Two farming systems. One Kinsey-Albrecht (Whakapono) and one conventional (Waiora). Both farms have a stocking rate of 3.1 cows/ha at peak.

Week Ending	19/4/17		26/4/17	
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)	2.9	3.0	2.9	3.0
Cows in Milk	457	626	457	626
% of cows in Sick Herd	0.7	1.0	1.2	1.3
Cows in Vat	454	619	452	618
Ave. Pasture Cover	2168	2246	2057	2247
Ave. Pasture Growth	43	46	26	45
Area Grazed	6.88	9.93	4.44	5.27
Grazing Interval	28	28	35	40
Pasture Intake (est kgDM/cow)	18	21	15	14
Grass Silage Fed (kgDM/cow)	0.9	0.8	6.3	4.7
Grain/PKE Fed (kgDM/cow)	1.5	1.3	1.5	1.3
Total Fed KgDM/cow	20.4	23	23	20
Milk Solids (Kg/cow/day)(inclu calf milk)	1.46	1.40	1.37	1.35
MS/ha/day	4.31	4.19	4.04	4.04
Nitrogen applied (kg N/ha)	0	0	0	0
Rainfall (mm for week)	46	46	7	7
Irrigation applied (mm for week)	0	0	0	0
Soil Temperature at 9am	12	12	11	12
Soil Moisture (between 65-76%)	114		107	83
Cell count (000's)	164	161	151	174
Mastitis Cases (%)	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0
Lameness Cases (%)	0.4	1.1	1.2	0.5
Body Condition Score	4.5	4.4	4.5	4.4
Totals To Date				
Milk Solids to factory	213181	269444	217562	275376
Milk Solids inclu calf milk	219648	278943	224029	284875
MS/ha	1374	1281	1402	1309
MS/cow (peak cows)(inclu calf milk)	455	437	464	446
Nitrogen applied (kg N/ha)	84	124	84	124
Supplements Fed (kg/cow)	418	381	468	421
Deaths %	1.4	3.0	1.4	3.0
Culls %	8.1	3.1	8.1	3.1

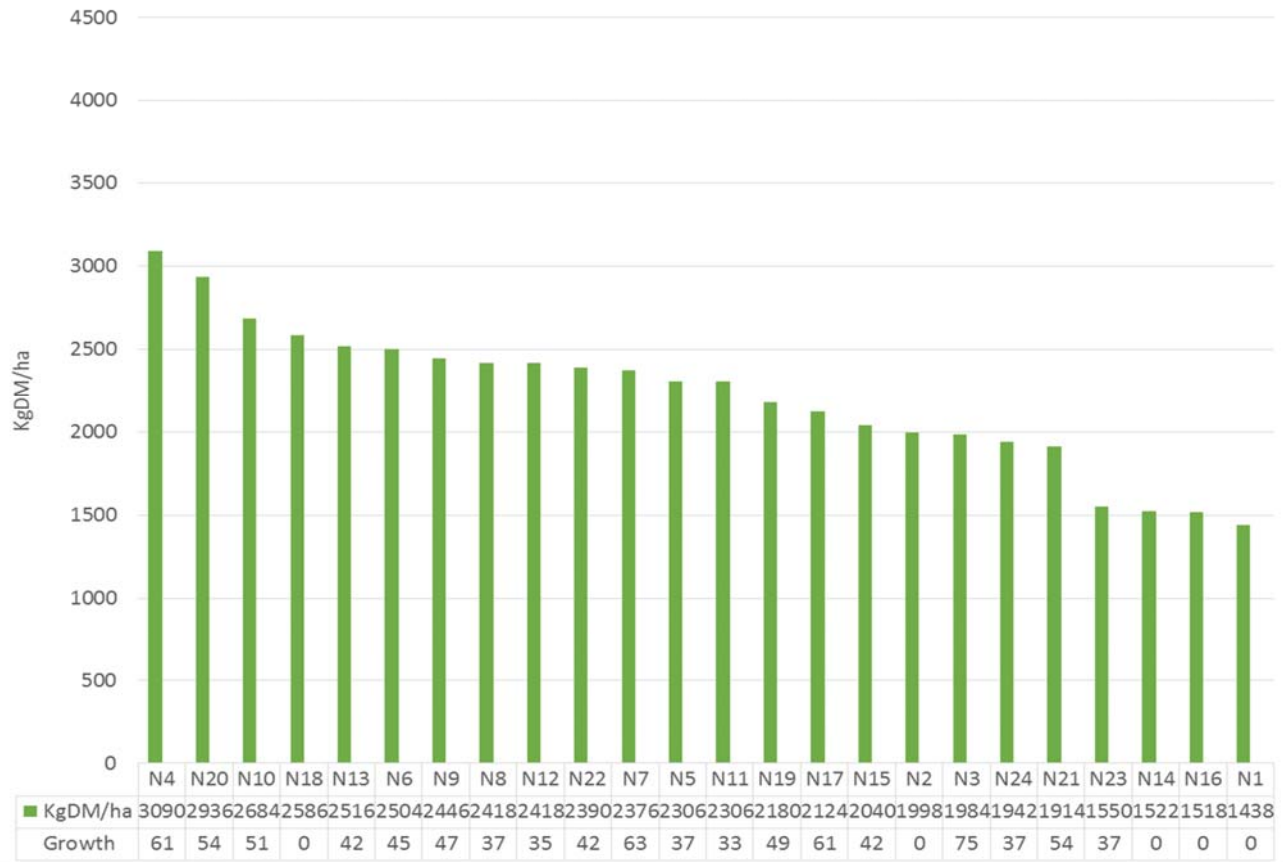
Summary

- Average pasture cover on Whakapono on the 19th April was 2168 kgDM/ha, which has dropped 100 to 2057 KgDM/ha for this week but questioning low growth rates as weather has been great this week drying the farm out.
- Waiora had a cover of 2246KgDM/ha and has held at 2247 KgDM/ha.
- Growth rates on Whakapono are well below demand (60) at 26 which is questionable although fits with further drop in cover, while Waiora at 45 seems accurate in maintaining cover.
- 7mm rainfall at start of week and then fine warm weather has meant all irrigation is off this week and probably finished for the year.
- Milk production has dropped slightly again to 1.37 kgMS/cow on Whakapono and slightly lower on Waiora at 1.35 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 -17% (see table below).
- Clover was typically 30% on Whakapono and 20% on Waiora has fallen markedly in recent samples to only 6% and 4% 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/PKE back up to 2.0 kg/cow as growth rates below demand at 17 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.
- Culls 40 per week to start leaving next week as booked.
- 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 – 25th April



Waiora Feed Wedge



Animal Health

	Whakapono	Waiora
No of Mastitis Cows	0	0
No of Lambe Cows	6	3
Sick Herd %	1.2	1.2

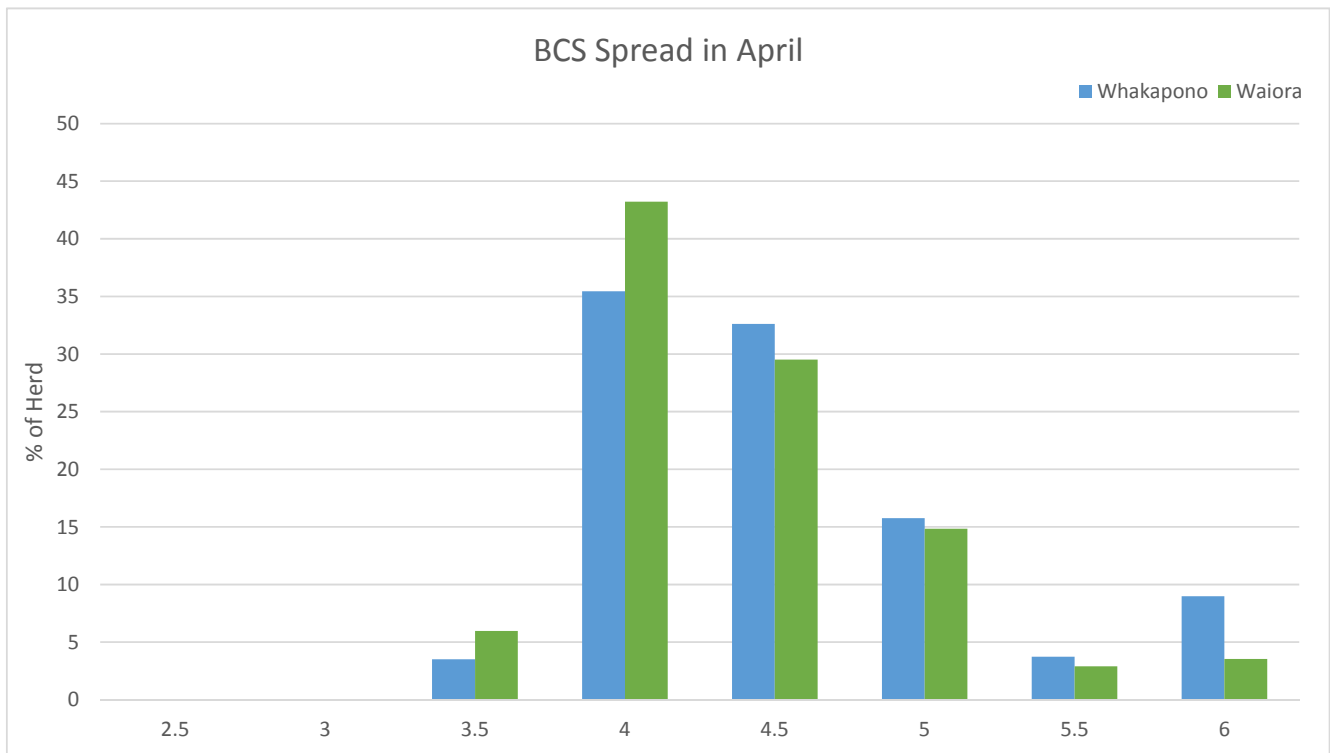
Mating

	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 4.4. 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%	15	15
Ryegrass (%DM)	94	94
Clover (%DM)	5	6
Weeds (%DM)	0	0
Herbs (%DM)	2	0