

Backtrack Dairies

Week ending 3rd 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.

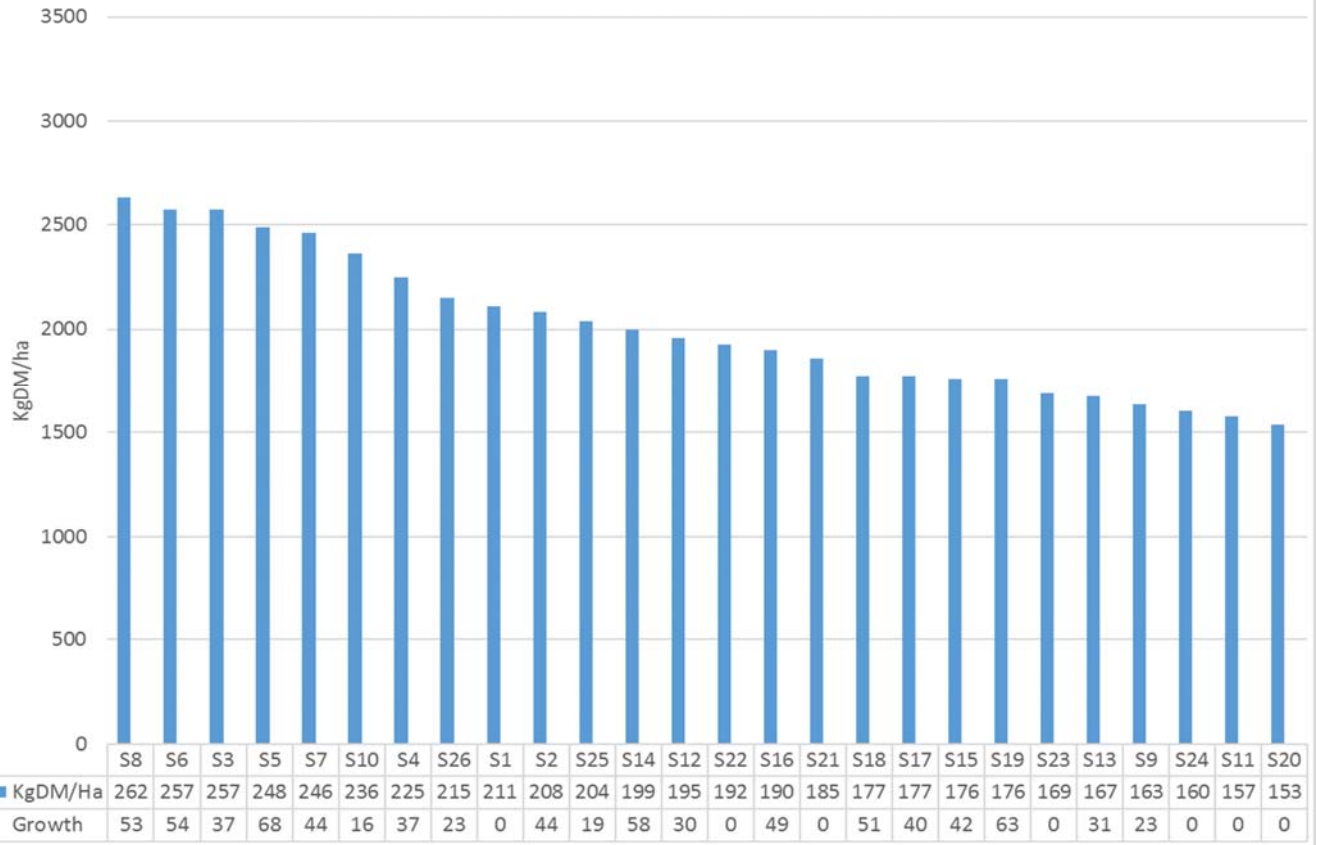
Week Ending	26/4/17		3/5/17	
	Whakapono	Waiora	Whakapono	Waiora
Backtrack Dairies				
Farm grazing ha	155	210	155	210
Peak Cows	483	639	483	639
Stocking Rate (cows in milk/ha)	2.9	3.0	2.9	2.9
Cows in Milk	457	626	455	607
% of cows in Sick Herd	1.2	1.3	1.5	1.1
Cows in Vat	452	618	448	600
Ave. Pasture Cover	2057	2247	2037	2129
Ave. Pasture Growth	26	45	39	31
Area Grazed	4.44	5.27	4.43	7.42
Grazing Interval	35	40	35	28
Pasture Intake (est kgDM/cow)	15	14	14	14
Grass Silage Fed (kgDM/cow)	6.3	4.7	4.6	4.3
Grain/PKE Fed (kgDM/cow)	1.5	1.3	1.0	1.7
Total Fed KgDM/cow	23	20	16	20
Milk Solids (Kg/cow/day)(inclu calf milk)	1.37	1.35	1.37	1.32
MS/ha/day	4.04	4.04	4.03	3.81
Nitrogen applied (kg N/ha)	0	0	0	0
Rainfall (mm for week)	7	7	36	36
Irrigation applied (mm for week)	0	0	0	0
Soil Temperature at 9am	11	12	10	11
Soil Moisture (between 65-76%)	107	83	104	84
Cell count (000's)	151	174	147	138
Mastitis Cases (%)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Lameness Cases (%)	1.2	0.5	1.4	0.5
Body Condition Score	4.5	4.4	4.5	4.4
Totals To Date				
Milk Solids to factory	217562	275376	221933	280971
Milk Solids inclu calf milk	224029	284875	228401	290470
MS/ha	1402	1309	1430	1336
MS/cow (peak cows)(inclu calf milk)	464	446	473	455
Nitrogen applied (kg N/ha)	84	124	84	124
Supplements Fed (kg/cow)	468	421	493	447
Deaths %	1.4	3.0	1.4	3.4
Culls %	8.1	3.1	9.1	8.9

Summary

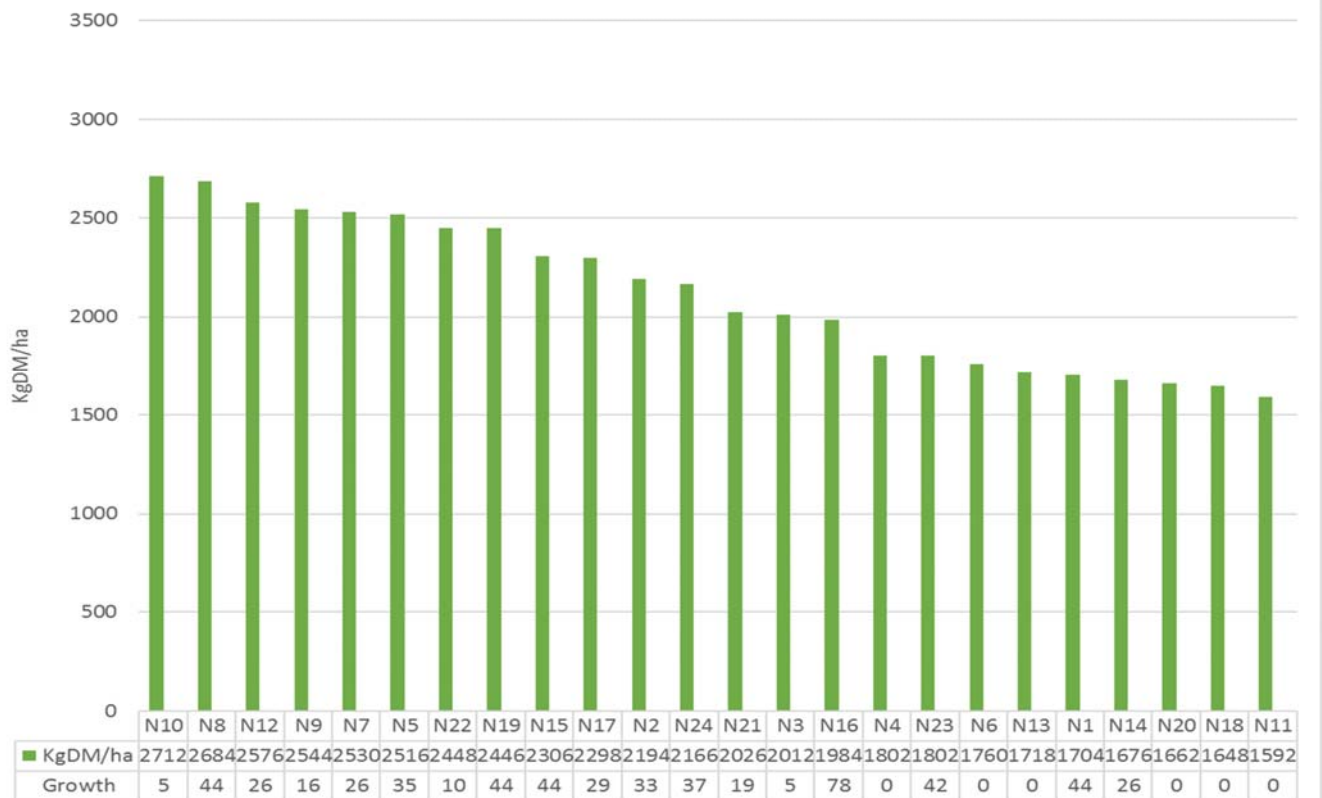
- Average pasture cover on Whakapono on the 26th April was 2057 kgDM/ha, which has held at 2037 KgDM/ha for this week but good growth rates and last weeks was probably underestimated.
- Waiora had a cover of 2247KgDM/ha and has dropped 120 to 2129 KgDM/ha which at similar growth rates probably means last week was over-estimated.
- Growth rates on Whakapono are just below demand (40) at 39 which seems right given they are receiving 14kgDM as pasture and the rest as silage(4) and PKE(1), while Waiora at 31 seems accurate in dropping cover with 1 kg less silage and 1 kg more PKE.
- 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.
- 36mm 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 held 1.37 kgMS/cow on Whakapono and slightly lower on Waiora at 1.32 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 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 48 now and doubling up silage to gain back days lost by moving cows on during wet weather.
- 10 Jersey bull calves still on farm.
- 100 R2 year heifers left the farm (75 sold \$1600 in hand).
- Culls 43 left the farm 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 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 so a bit light. Average fert spend in Canterbury \$600/ha.
- Whakapono had 62% in calf early (August calving) compared to Waiora's 58%.
- Final MT rate 14% on Whakapono and 15% 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 – 1st May

Whakapono Feed Wedge



Waiora Feed Wedge



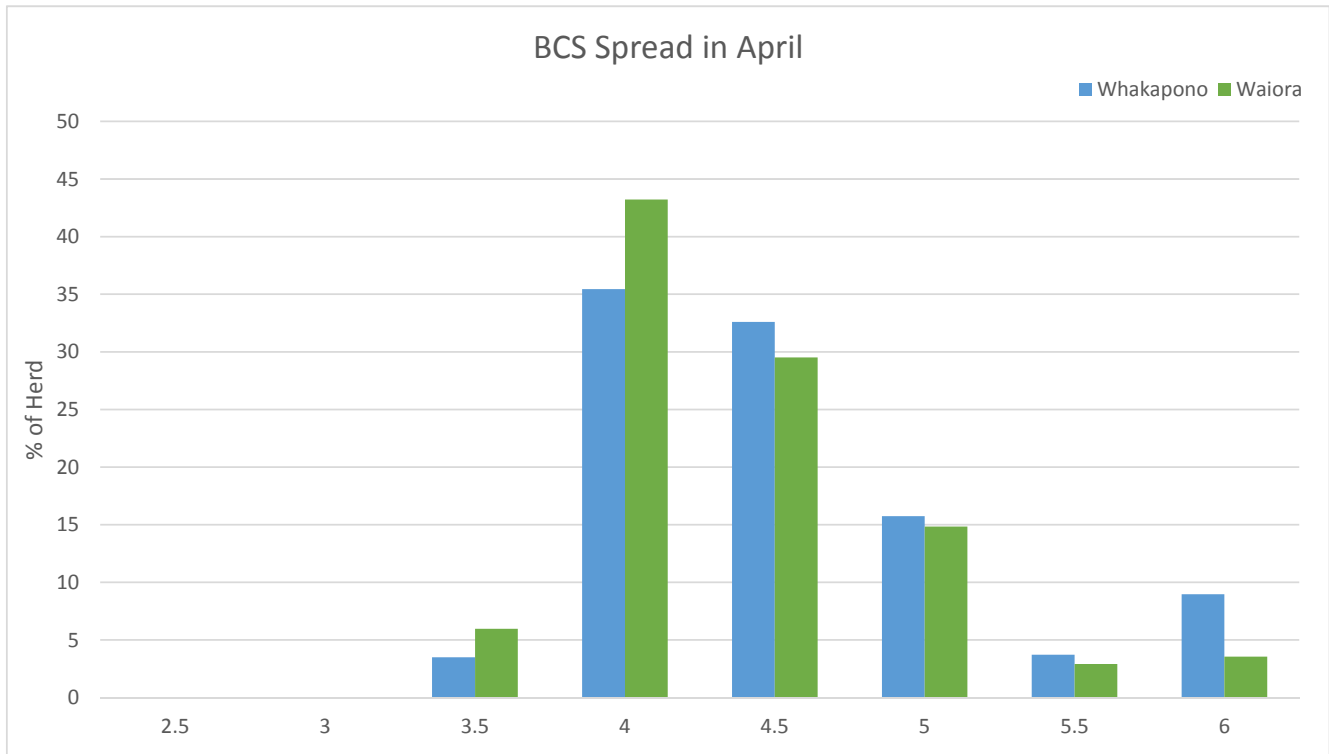
Animal Health

	Whakapono	Waiora
No of Mastitis Cows	0	0
No of Lamé Cows	2	3
Sick Herd %	1.5	1.1

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	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

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%	19	17
Ryegrass (%DM)	87	97
Clover (%DM)	12	3
Weeds (%DM)	0	0
Herbs (%DM)	0	0