

## **Backtrack Dairies**

June and July 2017

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Two farming systems. One kinsey albrecht (Whakapono) and one conventional (Waiora). Both farms have a stocking rate of 3.3 cows/ha at peak.

	<b>Whakapono June</b>	<b>Waiora June</b>	<b>Whakapono July</b>	<b>Waiora July</b>
Effective Area	155	210	155	210
Stocking Rate	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.3
Peak Cows	512	697	512	697
Treatment	Kinsey-Albrecht	Conventional	Kinsey-Albrecht	Conventional
Total MS/ha to date	0	0	0	0
Total MS/cow to date	0	0	0	0
Somatic Cell Count (000's)	0	0	0	0
Pasture Cover				
Growth Rate				
Total N Applied	0	0	0	0
Pasture Grown to date (T DM)				
Supplements Offered (kgDM/cow) for Milkers	0	0	0	0
Supplements made on farm (kgDM/cow)	0	0	0	0
Irrigation applied	0	0	0	0
Rainfall	44	44	183	183
Deaths %	0	0.1	0	0.1
Culls %	1.6	0.4	1.6	0.4
Mastitis %	0	0	0	0
Lameness %	0	0	0	0

### **Summary**

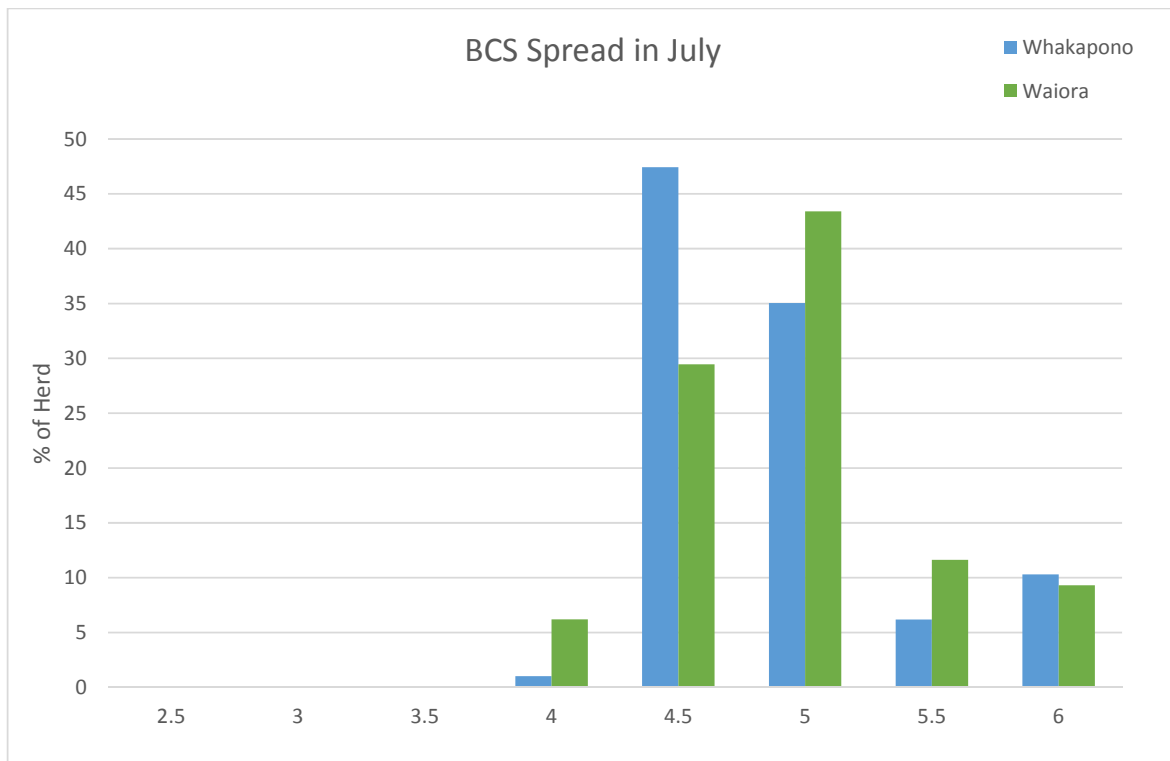
- Winter has been a bit wetter and colder this year.
- Cow condition has improved since dry off but not quite made target.
- Light/Young cows were grazed off farm for the most of winter. Starting on grass and pit silage for the first few weeks. Then transitioned onto oats getting a total of 14KgDM per day. In the last week of July, they were brought back to the farm for one day then went next door onto kale and oats mix.
- Heifers were away grazing for 6 weeks from mid-May to mid-June. Since then they have been next door getting 8KgDM/day of kale and 2.5kgDM/day of baleage, which is a total of 10.5KgDM/day.

- Fats and Late cavers have been together for winter on Kale next door. Getting a total feed of 12kgDM/day, made up of 9KgDM of kale and 3KgDM of baleage.
- For a few days around the 20<sup>th</sup> July there was substantial rainfall (130mm over 2 days) that impacted on feed allocation and management. During this time cows were stood off crop paddocks to eliminate damage to these and in an effort to ensure that feed intake was kept up all cows were fed baleage.
- In the last week of July this is what feed we had left on hand – 75 bales of baleage at Graziers, 15 bales of baleage at another graziers to come back to milking platform. 330 bales of baleage on the milking platform.
- Average condition for Whakapono was 4.89 towards the end of July. There was 1% of the herd below CS 4.5.
- Average condition for Waiora was 4.9 and there was 6% of the herd below CS 4.5.
- All set for calving.

### Feed Wedges

There were no farm walks completed during June/July due to staff holidays. The first one for the season is due to be done the first week of August.

### Cow Condition



Spread is quite tight, with the largest proportion of the herd at CS 4.5 and 5.0. This assessment also included heifers. A few cows not quite reaching target on both farms.

On Whakapono there was 1% of the herd below CS 4.5 and 48% below CS 5.0. For Waiora there was 6% below CS 4.5 and 36% below CS 5.0. These are similar to results I am seeing around Canterbury.