

# Westland Monitor Farm Project

Weekly Update 12 October 2017

## CO comment

Monitor cow condition and take action to prevent cows losing excessive body condition. Cows that lose the most condition in early lactation OR are the thinnest at mating are less likely to be submitted for AI and less likely to become pregnant. More than 1 BCS unit loss post calving or cows at 3.5 at mating will result in 4-5% less cows pregnant at 6 weeks and 3 to 4% less pregnant at 12 weeks. This effect is likely to be more pronounced if cows are light and if action isn't taken. Taking pre-mating heats is a key strategy in achieving targets, as is identifying and remedying any reasons for non-cycling. This means the person responsible for heat detection must be skilled, committed, and attentive to detail. Use any pre-mating data you are gathering to identify any problem cows and if necessary carry out any interventions. One of the key factors in hitting target submission and conception rates is making sure the cows on heat are correctly identified. Missing cows that are on heat or wrongly identifying cows on heat can cost thousands of dollars each year through reduced in-calf rates and later calving patterns. The wet conditions mean cows display less evident signs they're cycling. Stress interferes with how cows express heat. When stressed, their heat signs are subtle which makes it harder to know if cows are ready to be inseminated. Vigilance is required when monitoring both heat detection aids and animal behaviour to avoid missing cows for insemination. In difficult conditions use a combination of heat detection aids, for example both tail paint and a heat mount detector at the same time. Paddock checks of sexually active groups of cows can also improve heat detection. The definite sign of a cow on heat is that she stands to be mounted.

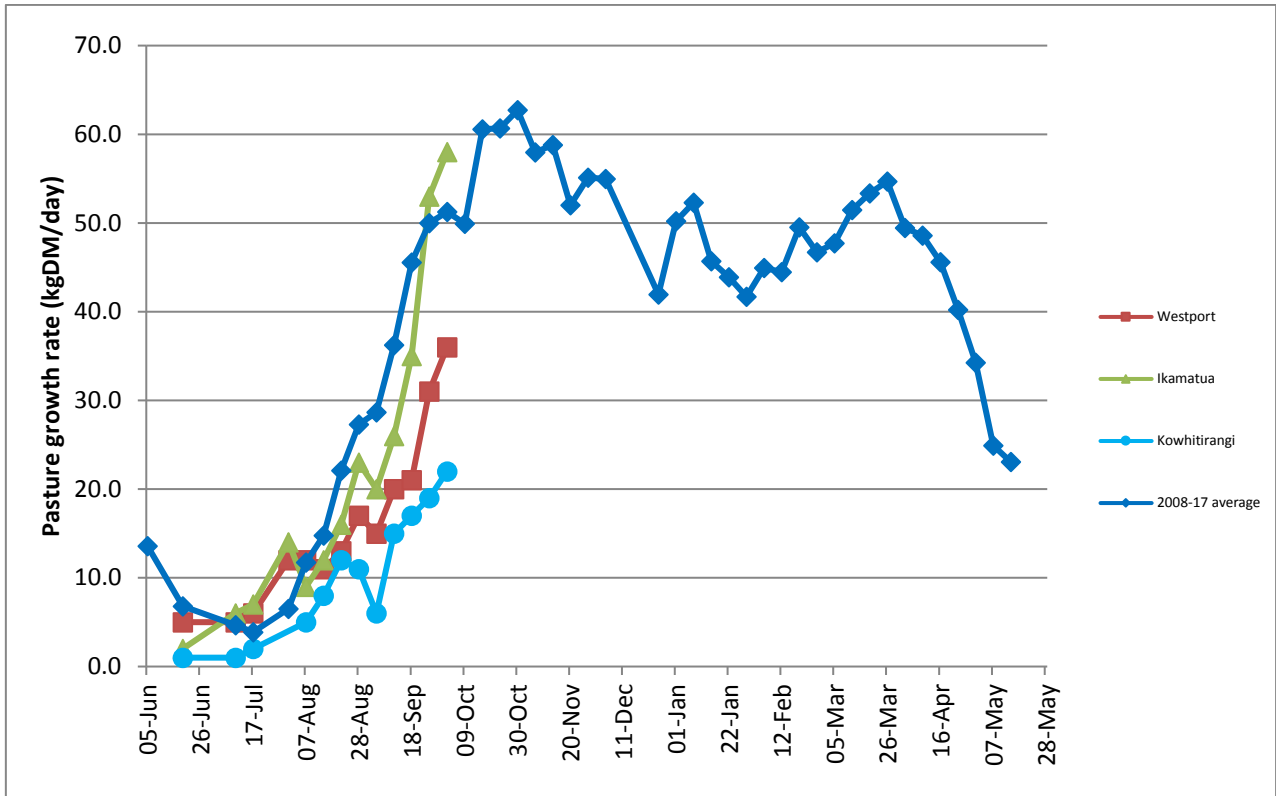
## Farm Summary

	Westport	Ikamatua	Kowhitirangi
Average cover (kg DM/ha)	1884	2111	1840
APC (6 October)	1866	2065	1817
Rotation length (days)	19	23	24
Stocking rate	2.9	2.7	2.4
Percentage in milk	100	100	94
Milksolids kg/cow	1.82	2.15	1.78
Milksolids kg/ha	5.2	5.4	4.0
MS/cow (season to date)	65.1	81.5	45.3
MS/ha (season to date)	190.5	223.5	108.0
N (kg/ha) year to date	38	49	45
Current N application rate kg N/ha	20	30	None
	4 Sep	5 Sep	6 Sep
DM%	15.4	15.7	15.4
Pasture ME	12.9	11.8	13.0
Pasture NDF	42.2	41.0	42.4
Pasture CP	31.9	25.0	23.6
Target Intake (kg DM/cow/d)	18	20	17
Supplement (kg/cow/day)	4	3.5	1.5

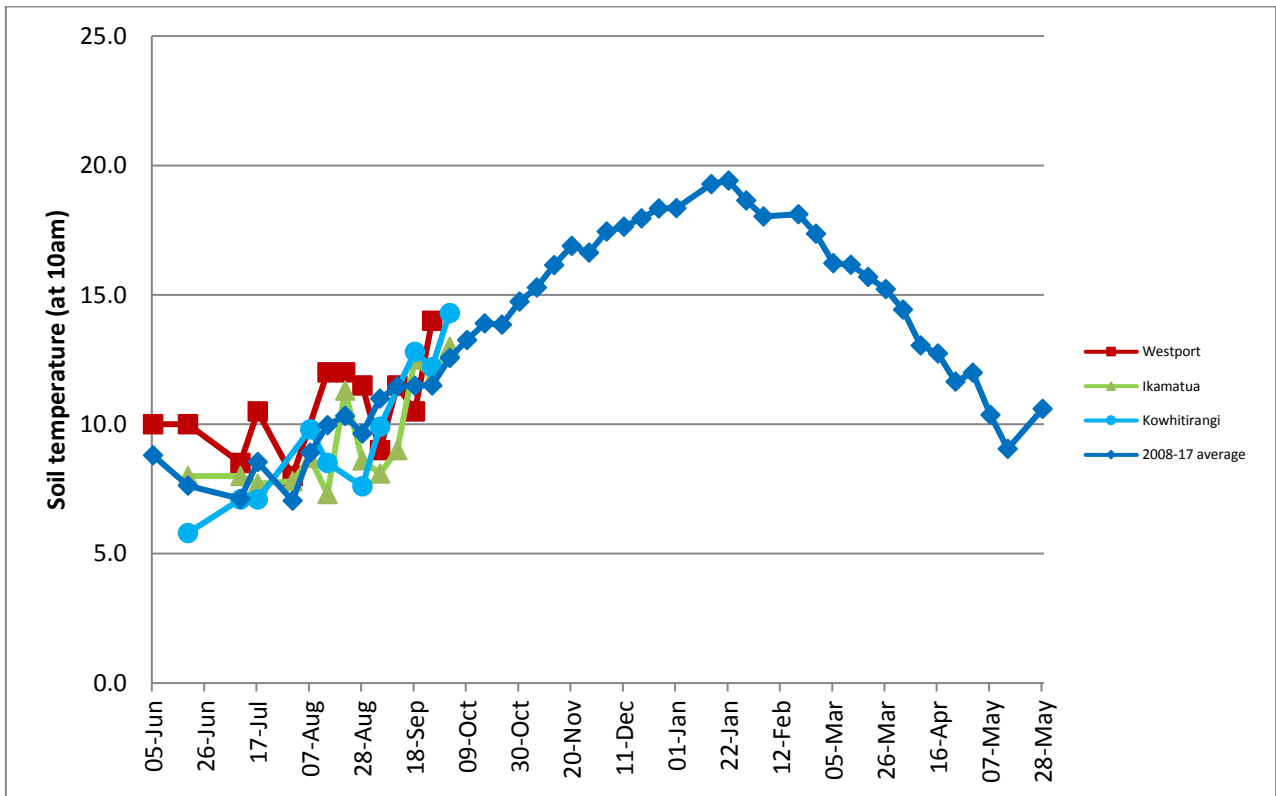
Soil temperature (°C)		13.0	14.3
Growth Rate (kg DM/day)	36	58	22
Rainfall	Lots	12	50
Conditions for farmwalk	Been raining	Fine/rain	Fine just farm is wet
Comments			

NB: pasture quality data are for 1 sample collected from each farm

## Weekly Pasture Growth Rates

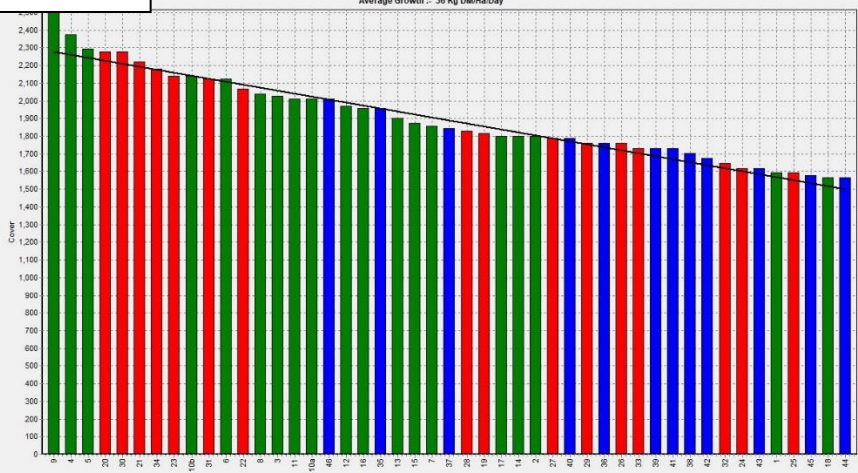


## Weekly Soil Temperature



# Westport

Farm Name: ADRIAN & CHERYL GALLAGHER  
 Date Read: 9/10/2017  
 Average Cover: 1884 Kg DM/Ha  
 Average Growth: 36 Kg DM/Ha/Day

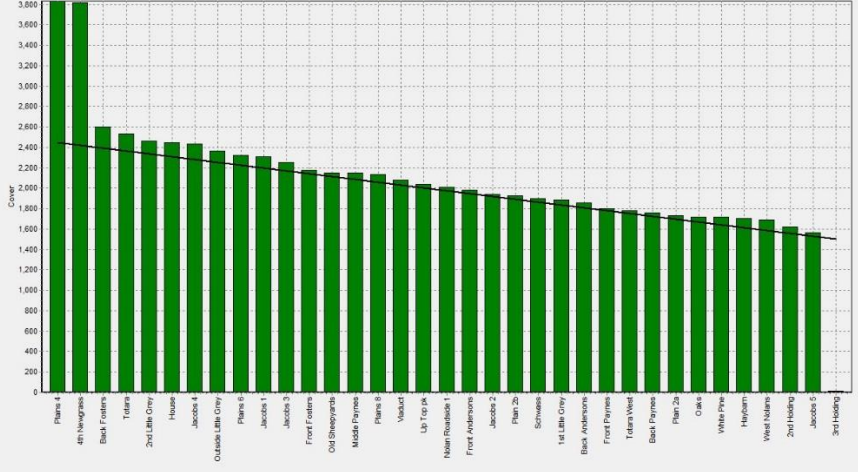


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# Ikamatua

Farm Name: ANDREW, NILO, MURFIN  
 Date Read: 10/10/2017  
 Average Cover: 2111 Kg DM/Ha  
 Average Growth: 58 Kg DM/Ha/Day

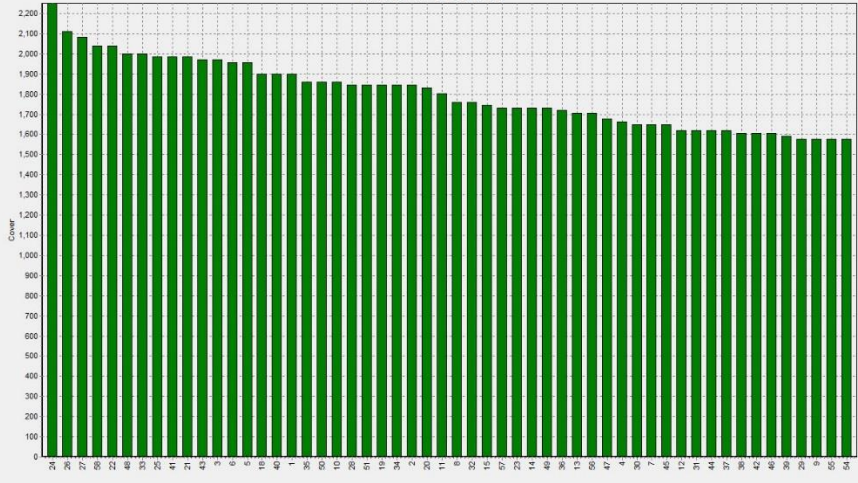


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# Kowhitirangi

Farm Name: TANE & RACHEL LITTLE  
 Date Read: 11/10/2017  
 Average Cover: 1840 Kg DM/Ha  
 Average Growth: 22 Kg DM/Ha/Day



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