

Westland Monitor Farm Project

Weekly Update 20 October 2017

CO comment

Yearling heifers should be at, or above, 60% of their expected mature liveweight by the planned start of mating to optimise in calf rates. In practice, there may be times when some heifers are below this target. If a group of heifers are at less than 50% of their expected mature liveweight at the planned start of mating, there will be a significant proportion that will not have reached puberty. Some heifers may be too small or of low BCS, that they are not suitable for mating. In this situation, consult your vet to develop a plan for these animals to give them the best possible chance to get in calf, which may include:

- Reviewing feeding levels for underweight yearlings, both quality and crude protein levels, as well as quantity.
- Selecting bulls of a size and temperament that are less likely to injure small heifers at mating, and for calving ease.

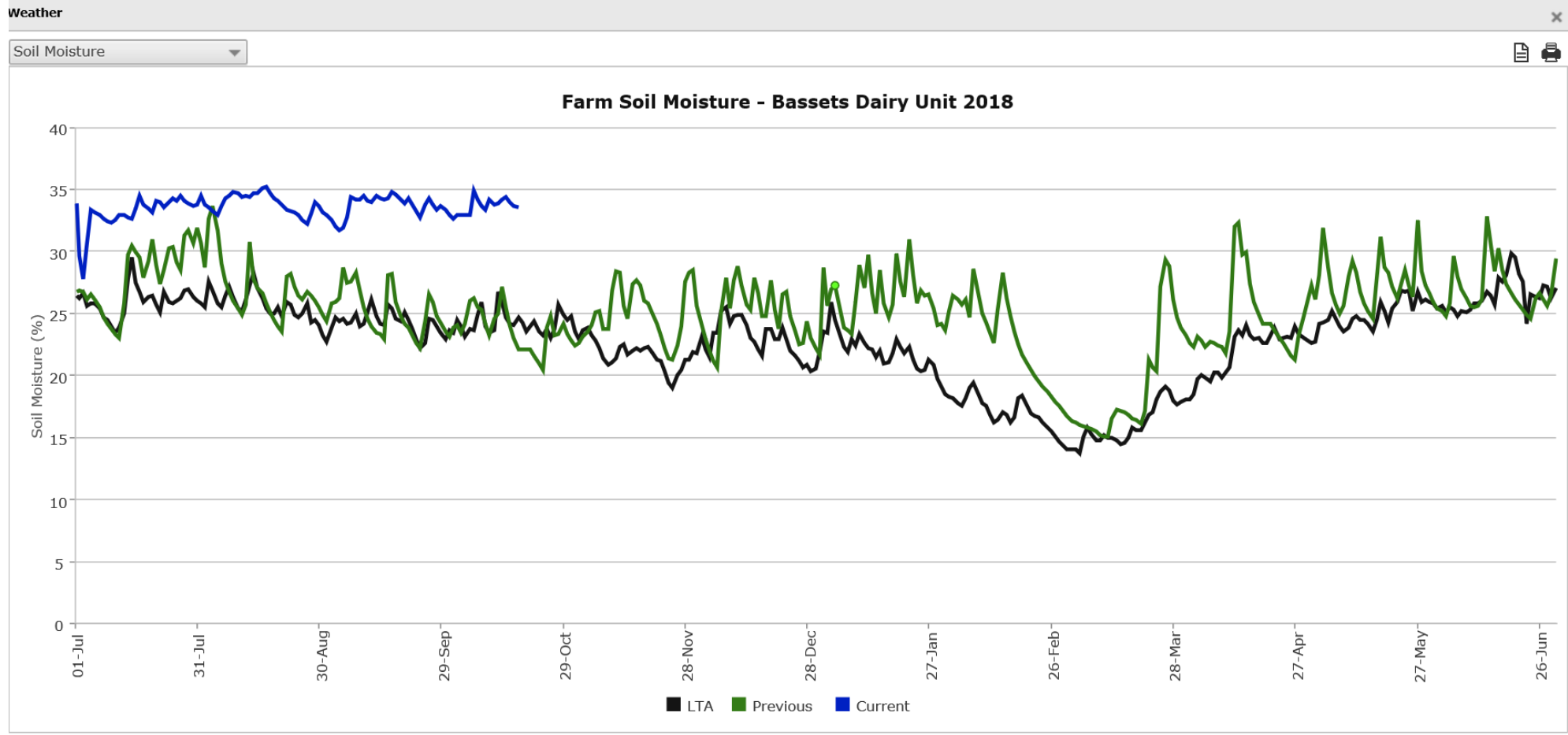
Excessively small heifers should be withheld from mating for their own health and wellbeing. They should either be grown until they meet minimum mating weights or culled. Heifers represent the future of your dairy herd. Focusing on them now will ensure they have the best chance at getting pregnant and performing through to maturity.

Farm Summary

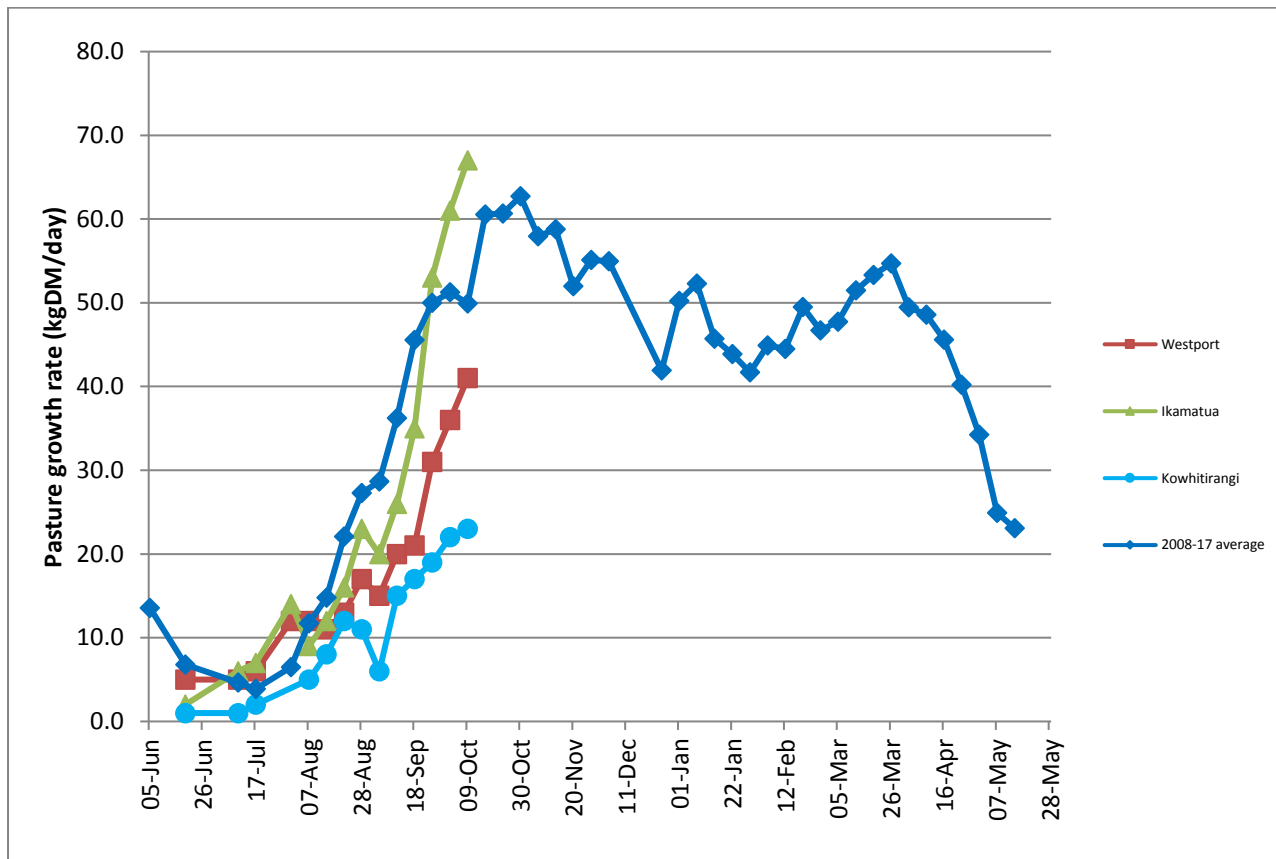
	Westport	Ikamatua	Kowhitirangi
Average cover (kg DM/ha)	1896	2149	1863
APC (12 October)	1884	2142	1840
Rotation length (days)	19	20	
Stocking rate	2.9	2.7	2.4
Percentage in milk	100		100
Milksolids kg/cow	1.84	2.17	1.90
Milksolids kg/ha	5.3	5.6	4.3
MS/cow (season to date)	75.9	95.7	57.8
MS/ha (season to date)	222.0	262.4	137.9
N (kg/ha) year to date	41		60
Current N application rate kg N/ha	20		15
	3 Oct	4 Oct	5 Oct
DM%	11.8	13.0	13.8
Pasture ME	>12.7	>12.7	>12.7
Pasture NDF	49.8	44.5	37.9
Pasture CP	30.1	29.0	21.5
Target Intake (kg DM/cow/d)	18	20	
Supplement (kg/cow/day)	4.0	4.5	
Soil temperature (°C)		11.4	14.9
Growth Rate (kg DM/day)	41	67	23
Rainfall		58	
Conditions for farmwalk	Rain, cool wind	Cool wind/showers	Beautiful warm day

Comments			
----------	--	--	--

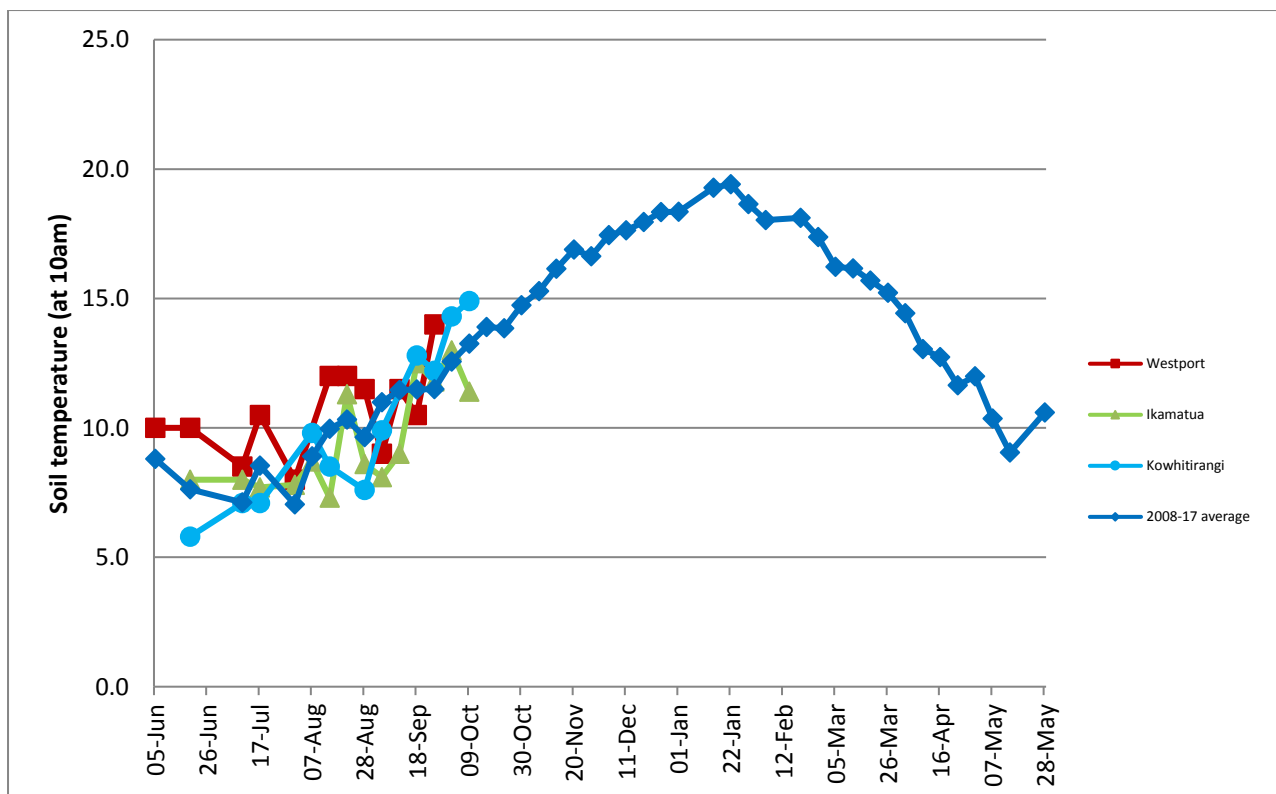
NB: pasture quality data are for 1 sample collected from each farm



Weekly Pasture Growth Rates

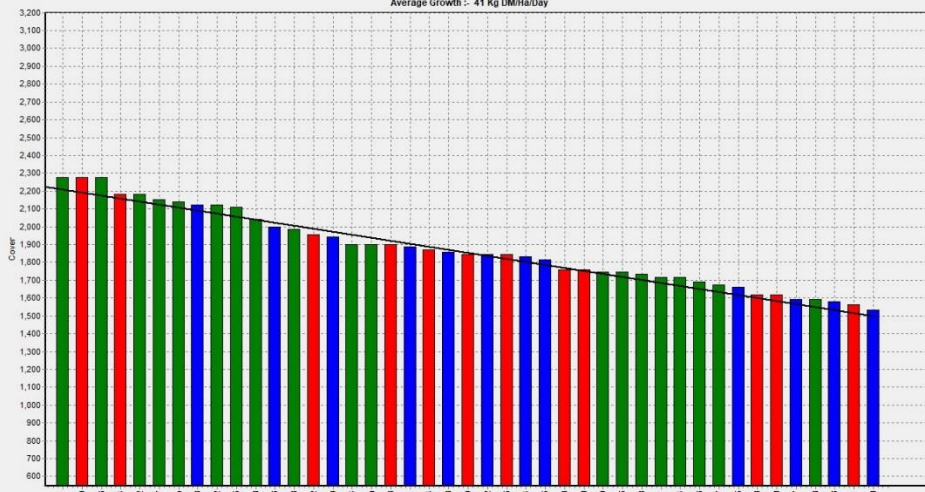


Weekly Soil Temperature



Westport

Farm Name: ADRIAN & CHERYL GALLAGHER
 Date Read : 16/10/2017
 Average Cover : 1896 Kg DM/Ha
 Average Growth : 41 Kg DM/Ha/Day



Ikamatua

Farm Name: ANDREW, NIKI, MARGIE
 Date Read : 17/10/2017
 Average Cover : 2448 Kg DM/Ha
 Average Growth : 67 Kg DM/Ha/Day



Kowhitirangi

Farm Name: TANE & RACHEL LITTLE
 Date Read : 18/10/2017
 Average Cover : 1863 Kg DM/Ha
 Average Growth : 23 Kg DM/Ha/Day



Pasture Quality

NOTE: We sample the paddocks immediately in front of the milkers, to height of 3.5cm (7 clicks on the rising plate meter). The RPM data in the table is the pre-grazing clicks recorded on the day of sampling.

Westport

Description	Date	RPM	% DM	% Prot	% Lipid	% ADF	% NDF	Sol Sugar	OMD %	MJME /kg
42	5/6/2017	10.0	16.7	37.8	5.4	20.4	43.6	5.1	>85	>12.7
44	3/8/2017	14.8	20.0	27.3	5.2	22.9	46.4	8.0	84.6	12.4
4	4/9/2017	10.3	15.4	31.9	5.3	22.4	42.2	5.9	88.5	12.9
26	3/10/2017	13.8	11.8	30.1	3.8	23.7	49.8	5.5	91.2	>12.7

Ikamatua

Description	Date	RPM	% DM	% Prot	% Lipid	% ADF	% NDF	Sol Sugar	OMD %	MJME/kg
Haybarn	6/6/2017	14.8	16.3	29	5.4	19.6	37.4	12.7	>85	12.7
Totara east	3/8/2017	10.3	15.7	26.9	5.1	20.2	35.8	16.7	>85	>12.7
Totara west	3/8/2017	10.9	17.4	24.4	5.1	20.8	37.2	19.9	>85	>12.7
Plain 5	3/8/2017	12.2	17.3	24.5	4.7	20.5	41.4	16.7	>85	>12.7
Viaduct	3/8/2017	13.6	16.4	22.8	4.6	21.8	37.9	21.3	>85	>12.7
Mid-Payne	3/8/2017	15.8	16.7	22.2	4.7	23.7	41	16.1	80.8	11.8
Jacobs 2	3/8/2017	10.3	16.7	27	5.5	21.1	38	13.6	>85	12.5
Front Payne	5/9/2017	8.8	15.7	25.0	5.0	26.4	41.0	8.6	81.1	11.8
Schwass	4/10/2017	16.4	13.0	29.0	5.0	21.4	44.5	10.2	90.3	>12.7

Kowhitirangi

Description	Date	RPM	% DM	% Prot	% Lipid	% ADF	% NDF	Sol Sugar	OMD %	MJME/kg
6	7/6/2017	10.1	15	24.2	5	18.8	34.9	18.8	>85	>12.7
10	3/8/2017	10.7	17.6	21.0	4,7	25.2	44.8	15.4	80.9	11.6
21	6/9/2017	10.6	15.4	23.6	3.8	22.8	42.4	14.3	89.1	>12.7
4	5/10/2017	9.9	13.8	21.5	4.4	21.3	37.9	16.1	89.0	>12.7