

Westland Monitor Farm Project

Weekly Update as at week ending Wednesday 17th July 2019

CO Comment

Calving will soon be upon us. To set a dairy cow up for a long productive life you must give her the best possible start. Extra effort now will pay dividends throughout her milking life.

Heifers that reach target weights make successful milking cows and growing them well starts from the day they are born.

Some tips to remember...

- All calves, including bobbies, must receive adequate fresh colostrum within the first 24 hours of life and should be fed colostrum, or a colostrum substitute, for at least the first four days of life.
- Always handle calves gently and with care. Do not allow anyone to throw, hit or drag a calf at any time. Electric prodders must not be used on calves (MS17).
- Calves that are not with their mothers must be provided with shelter so that they can stay warm and dry.
- Calf pens must be fit for purpose and well maintained. Bedding areas must be comfortable, clean and dry, with adequate ventilation but draft free at the calf level. Exposed concrete, bare earth and mud are not acceptable.
- Calves should be fed at the same times each day to minimise stress.
- Always ensure your calves have access to plenty of fresh water.
- Feed calves' adequate quantities of good quality feed to rapidly achieve weaning weight with a well-developed rumen.
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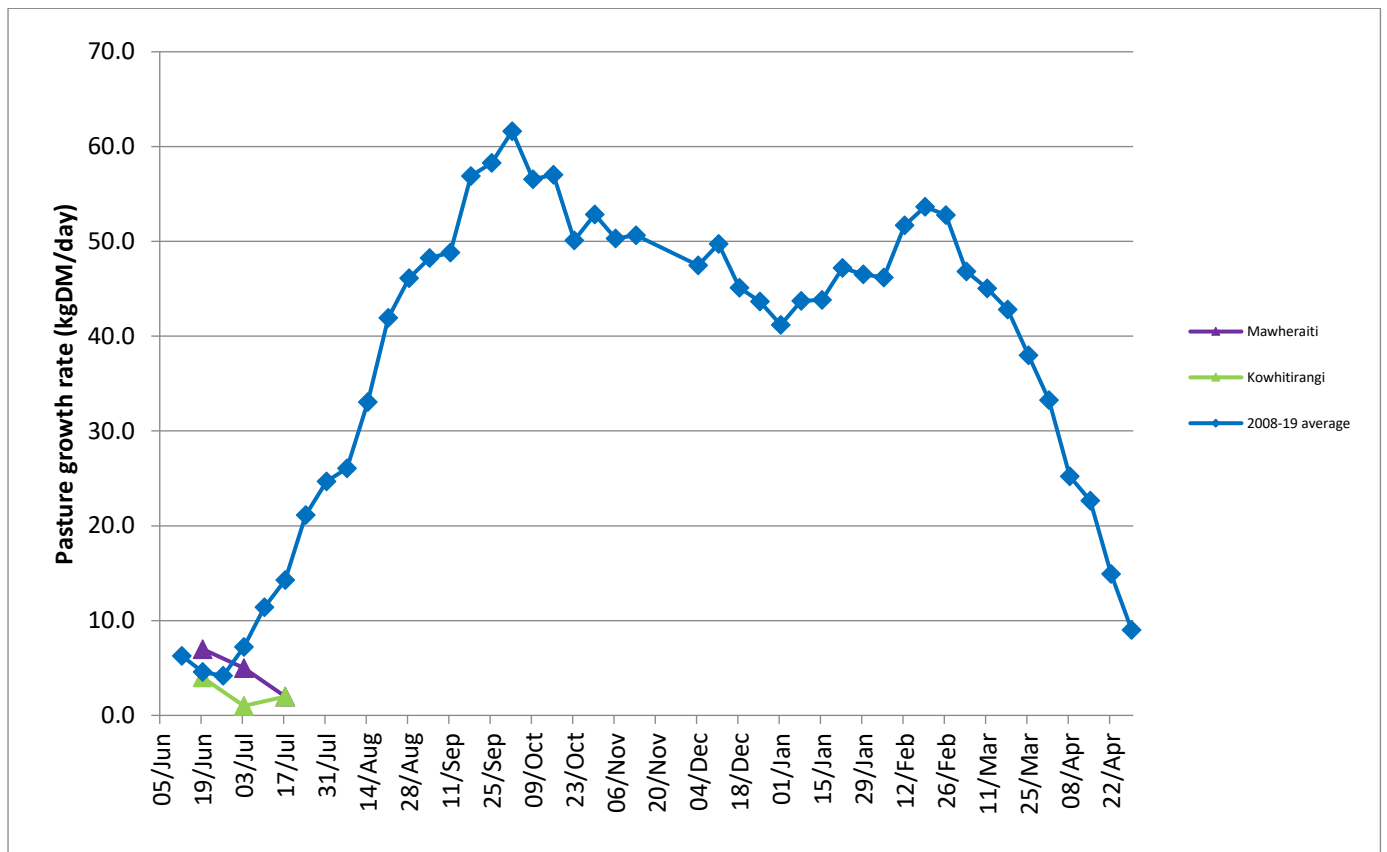
Complete the calf care toolkit questionnaire at <https://www.dairynz.co.nz/animal/calves/calf-care-toolkit/> and have a look at some opportunities to level up your calf care game

Farm Summary

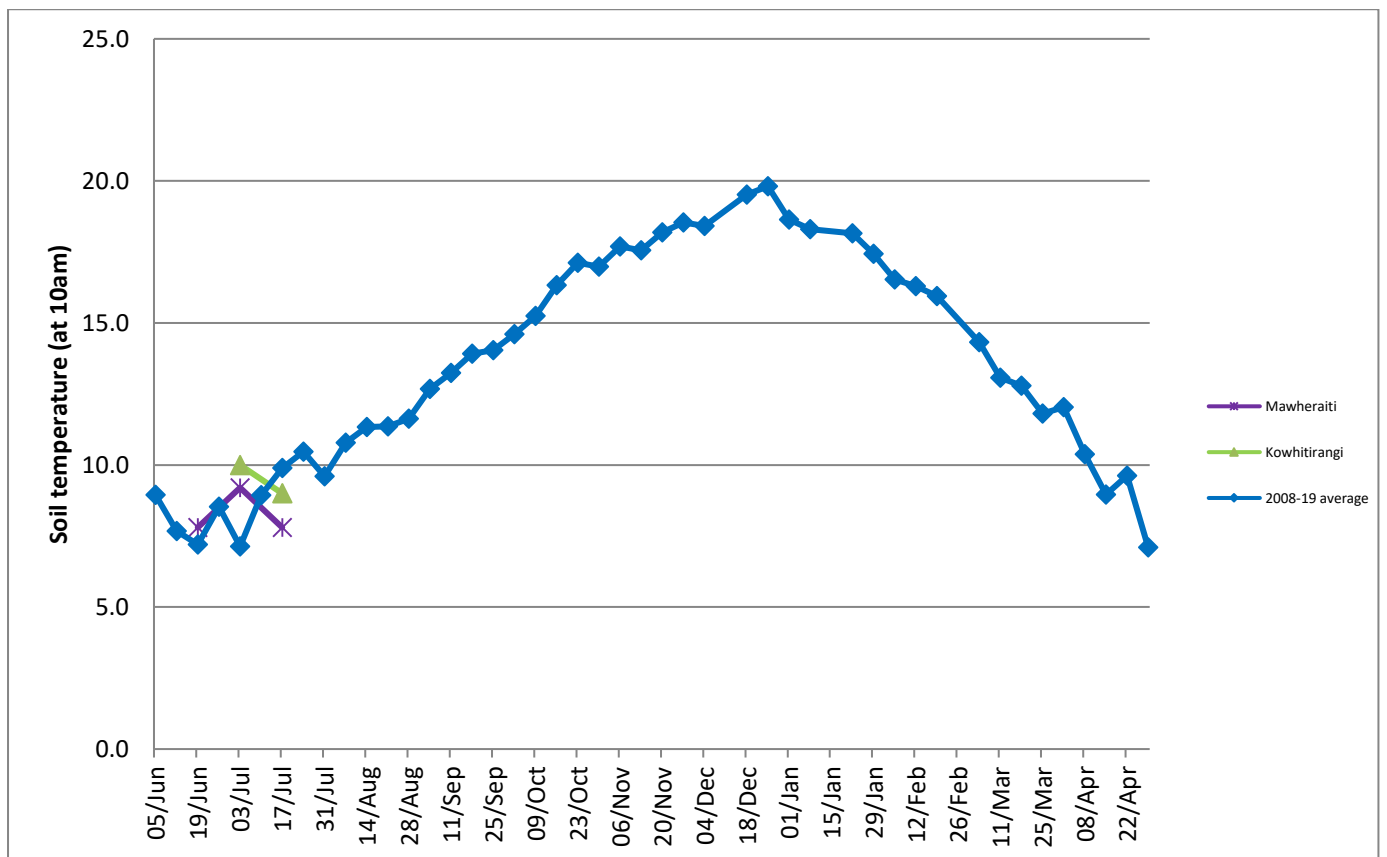
	Mawheraiti	Kowhitirangi
Average cover (kg DM/ha)	2340	1934
APC (3 July)	2329	1986
Rotation length (days)		
Stocking rate		
Percentage in milk		
Milksolids kg/cow		
Milksolids kg/ha		
MS/cow (season to date)		
MS/ha (season to date)		
N (kg/ha) year to date		
Current N application rate kg N/ha	-	-
	26 May	29 May
DM%	12.4	9.5
Pasture ME	>12.7	>12.7
Pasture NDF	43.8	41.6
Pasture CP	36.0	36.0
Target Intake (kg DM/cow/d)	13.6	
Supplement (kg/cow/day)	13.6	14
Soil temperature (°C)	7.8	9
Growth Rate (kg DM/day)	2	2
Rainfall	90	160
Conditions for farmwalk	Fine	Heavy Rain

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

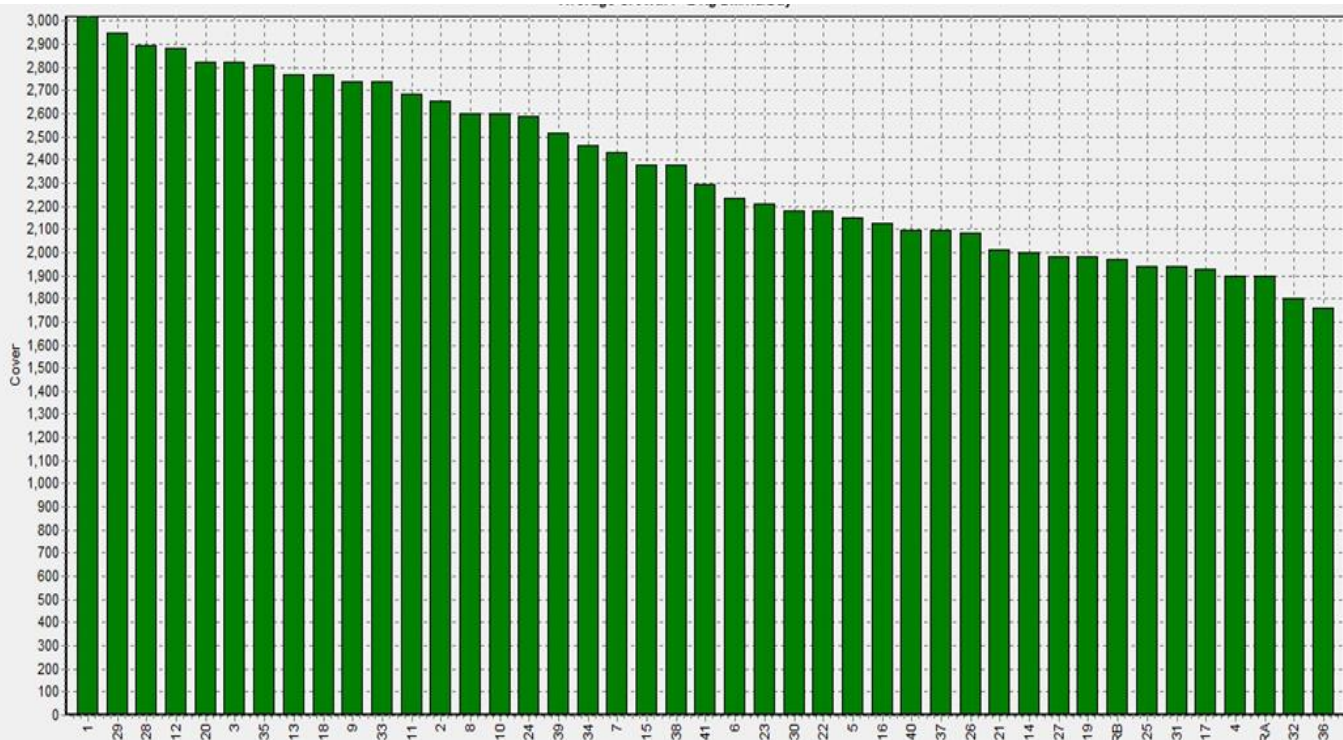
Weekly Pasture Growth Rates



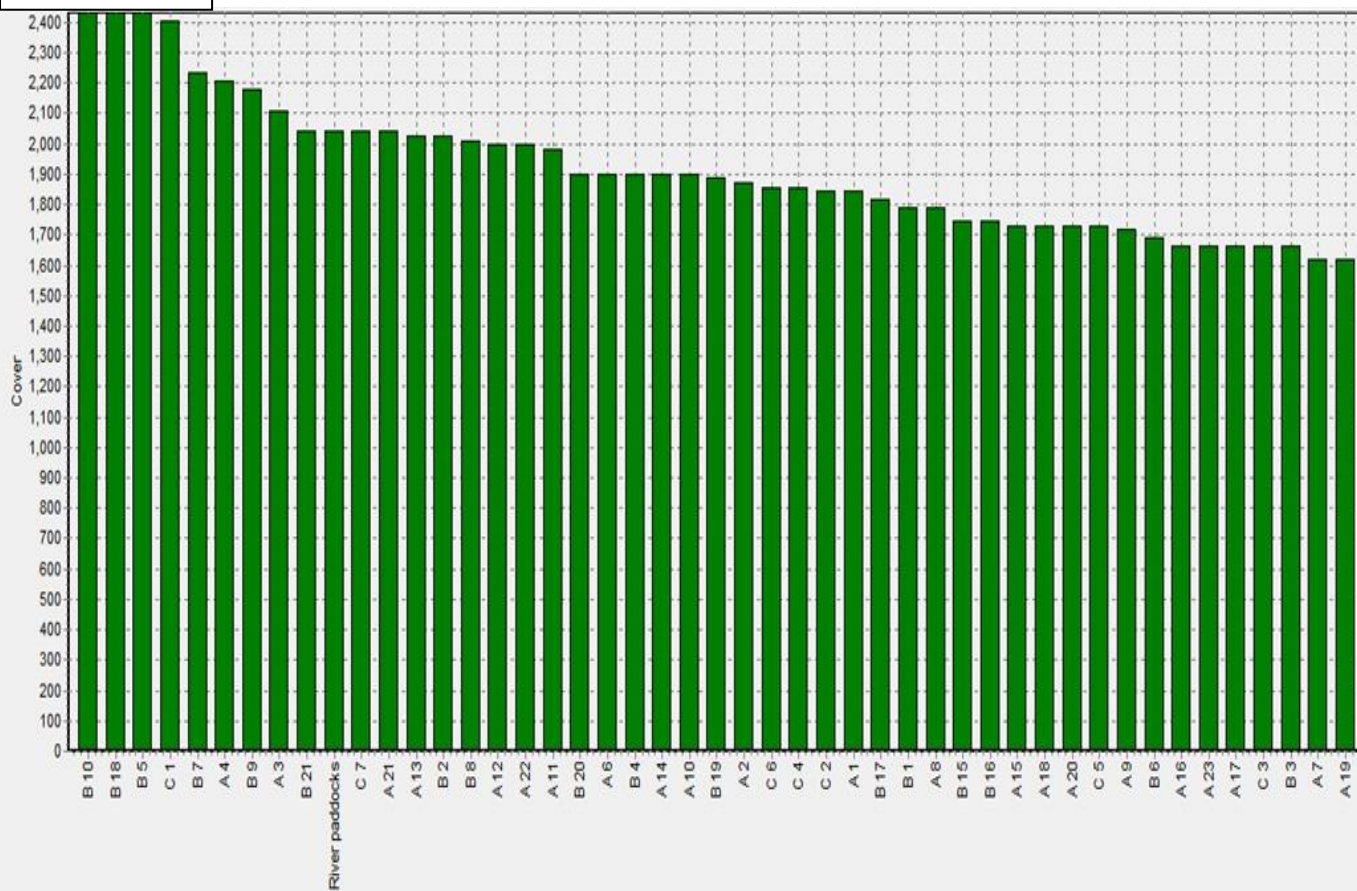
Weekly Soil Temperature



Mawheraiti



Kowhitirangi



Mawheraiti

Description	Date	RPM	% DM	% Prot	% Lipid	% ADF	% NDF	Sol Sugar	OMD %	MJME/kg

Kowhitirangi

Description	Date	RPM	% DM	% Prot	% Lipid	% ADF	% NDF	Sol Sugar	OMD %	MJME /kg