

Westland Monitor Farm Project

Weekly Update as at week ending Wednesday 14 April 2021

CO Comment

Catchments are connected by the flow of water, meaning what happens to water upstream or on-farm influences water quality downstream. Even temporary streams and channels influence water quality downstream because they typically make up a large volume of water flowing over land.

The amount of nutrients, sediments and bacteria reaching a water body will depend on catchment features such as land use and practices, rainfall amounts and patterns, soil types and slope, and vegetation cover that intercept rainfall. Different types of water bodies react differently to excess nutrients, sediments, and bacteria. Once in a water body the responses to nutrients (and sediments) differ between lakes and rivers.

Forming or joining a catchment group is your chance to have input into the outcomes for the catchment you farm in.

Coming up this week DairyNZ is supporting a round of sessions by NZ Landcare Trust. Lloyd McCall is coming to Karamea, 20 April; Westport & Reefton, 21 April; and Hokitika, 22 April to discuss his involvement in successfully setting up a catchment group.

Lloyd has been instrumental in assisting farmers to implement the catchment group model and will provide insights into how this could work for the West Coast.

Lloyd has been pivotal in the establishment of the community-led catchment group the Pomahaka Water Care Group. Lloyd has worked as a rural banker, accountant, farm business mentor, and dairy farmer in West Otago. Formed out of a desire to take water quality management into their own hands, this group has established a farm-level water testing network and leveraged extensive funding to achieve community-wide goals.

Come along to find out more about this important topic which is hugely relevant on farm now and will be into the future. For more information and to register visit

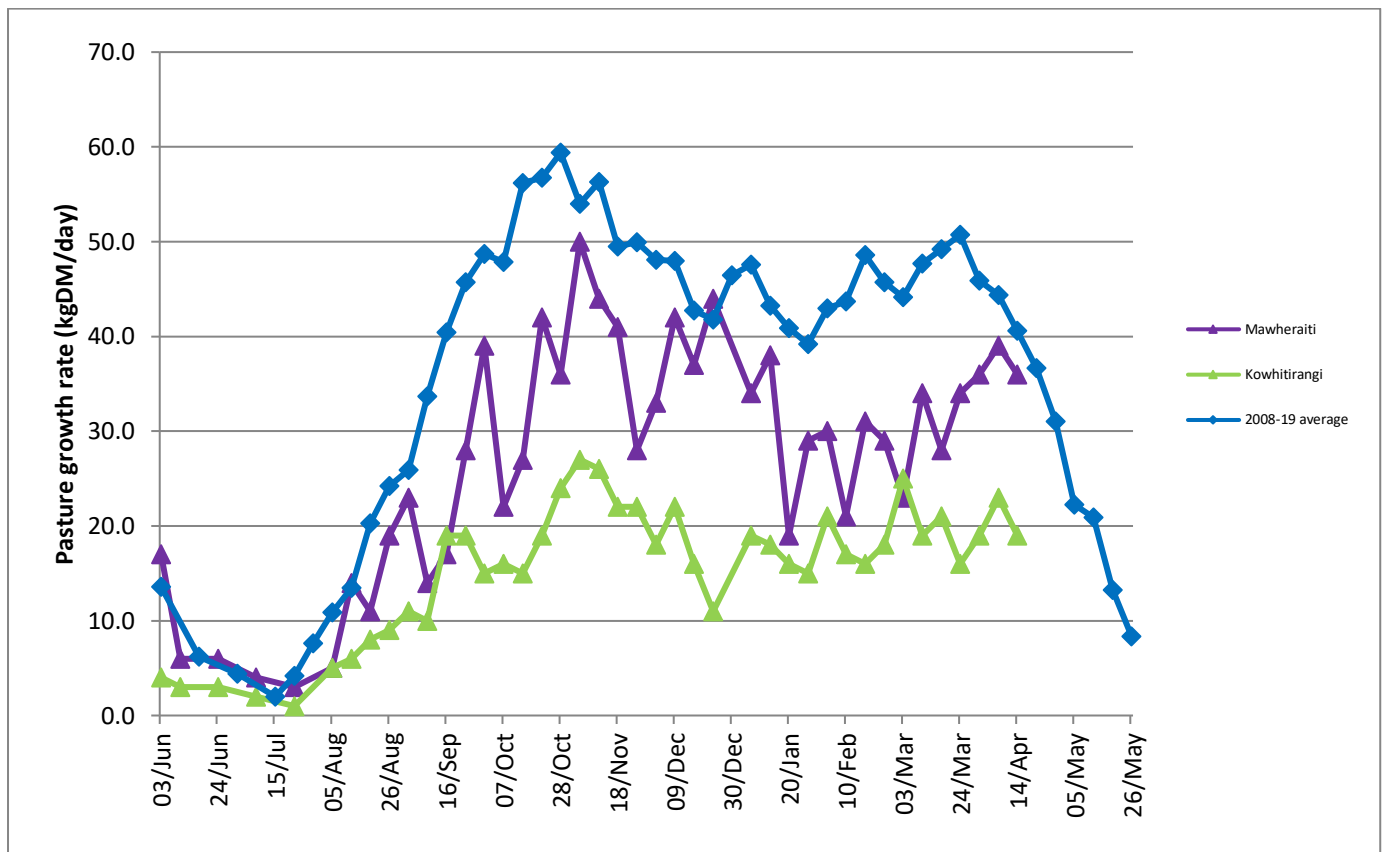
<https://www.dairynz.co.nz/events/?region=5454>

Farm Summary

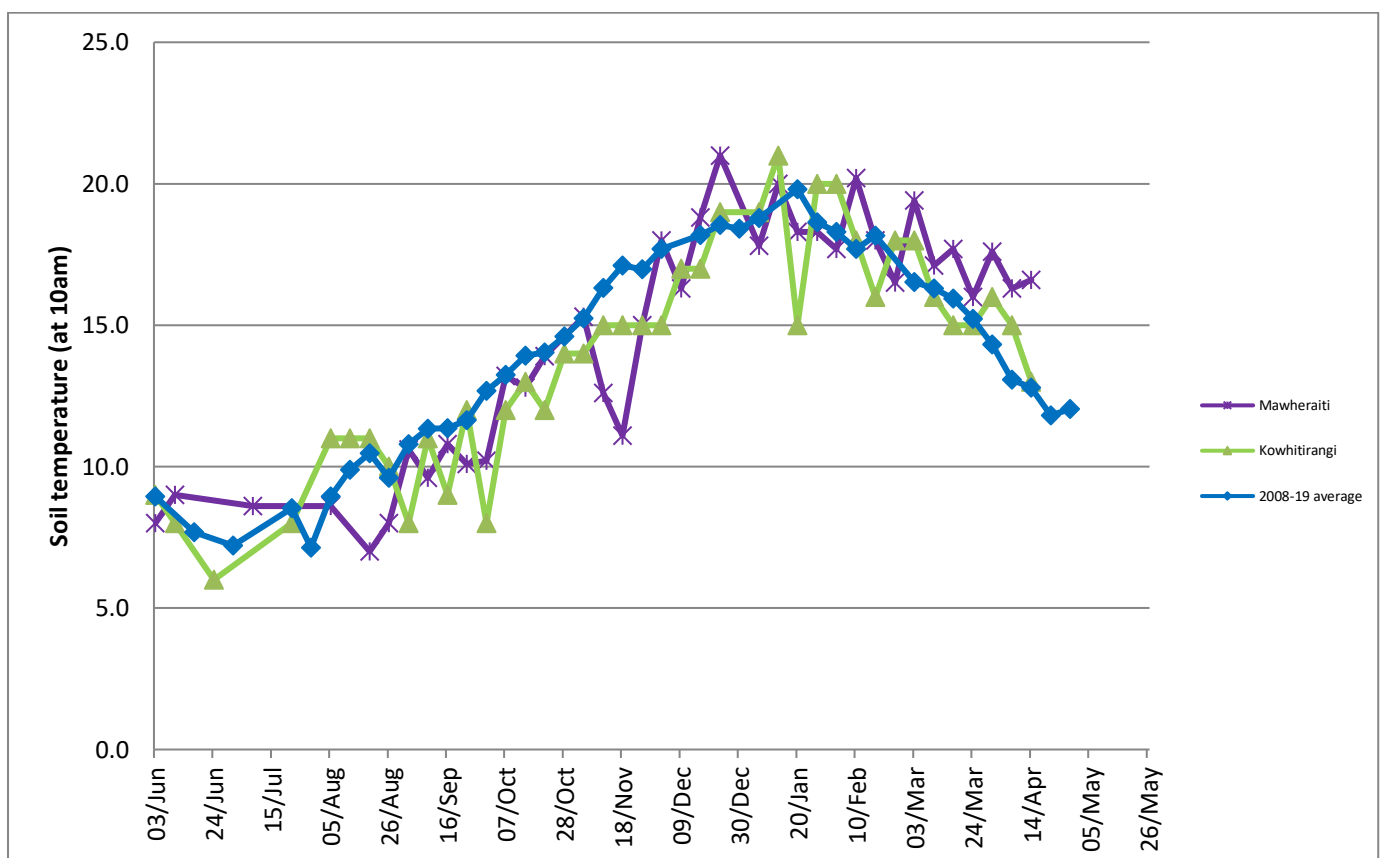
	Mawheraiti	Kowhitirangi
Average cover (kg DM/ha)	2197	1993
APC (7 April)	2160	2003
Rotation length (days)	30	31
Stocking rate	2.4	2.2
Percentage in milk	100%	100%
Milksolids kg/cow	1.53	1.60
Milksolids kg/ha	3.4	3.7
MS/cow (season to date)	409	387
MS/ha (season to date)	967	833
N (kg/ha) year to date	233	194
Current N application rate kg N/ha	22	0
	7 April	12 April
DM%	11.7	9.8
Pasture ME	11.6	11.8
Pasture NDF	51.3	46.5
Pasture CP	28.0	26.0
Target Intake (kg DM/cow/d)	18	18
Supplement (kg/cow/day)	3	2.4
Soil temperature (°C)	16.6	13
Growth Rate (kg DM/day)	36	19
Rainfall	50	220
Conditions for farmwalk	Terrible walk, blowing rain	Beautiful day
Notes:		

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

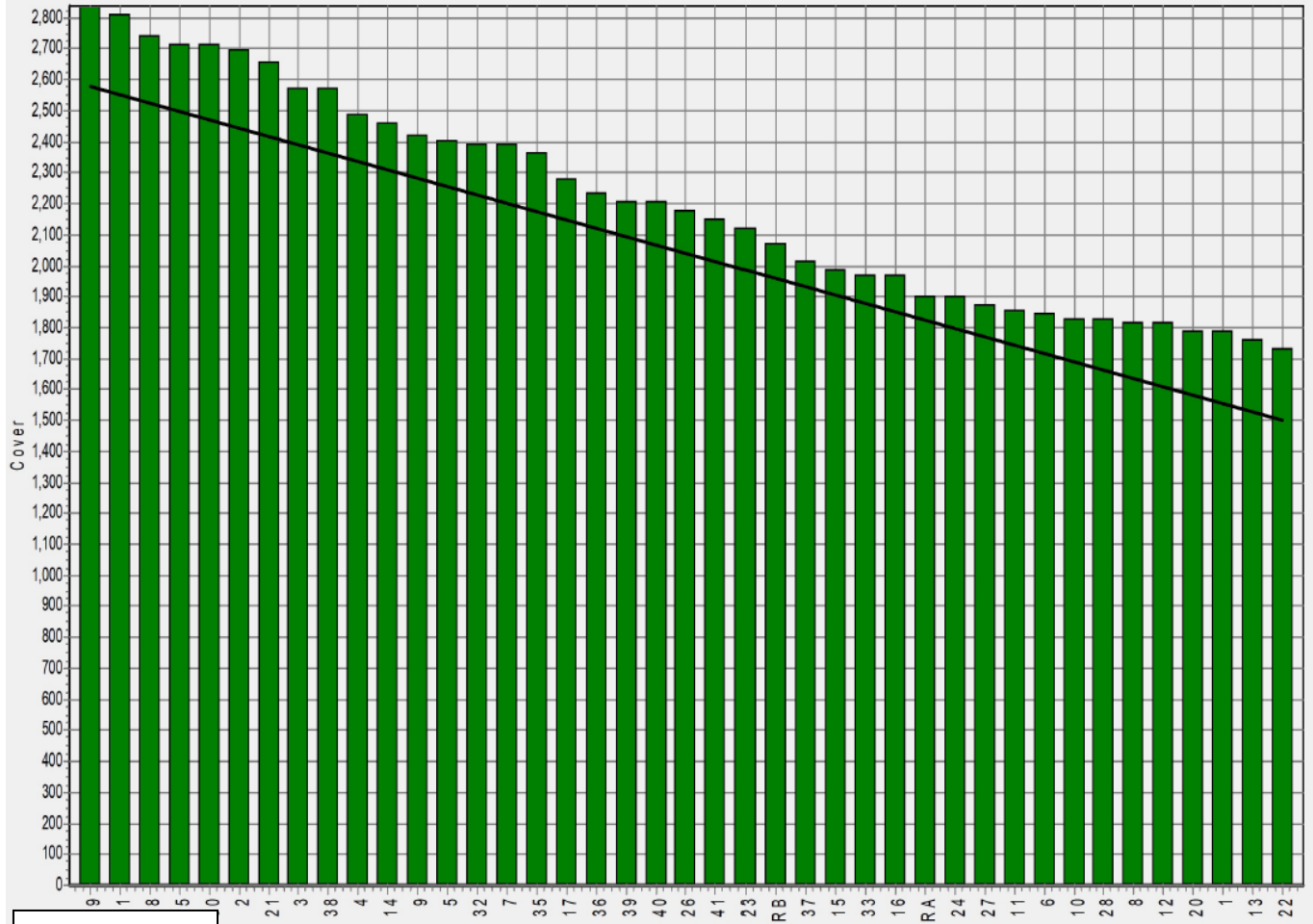
Weekly Pasture Growth Rates



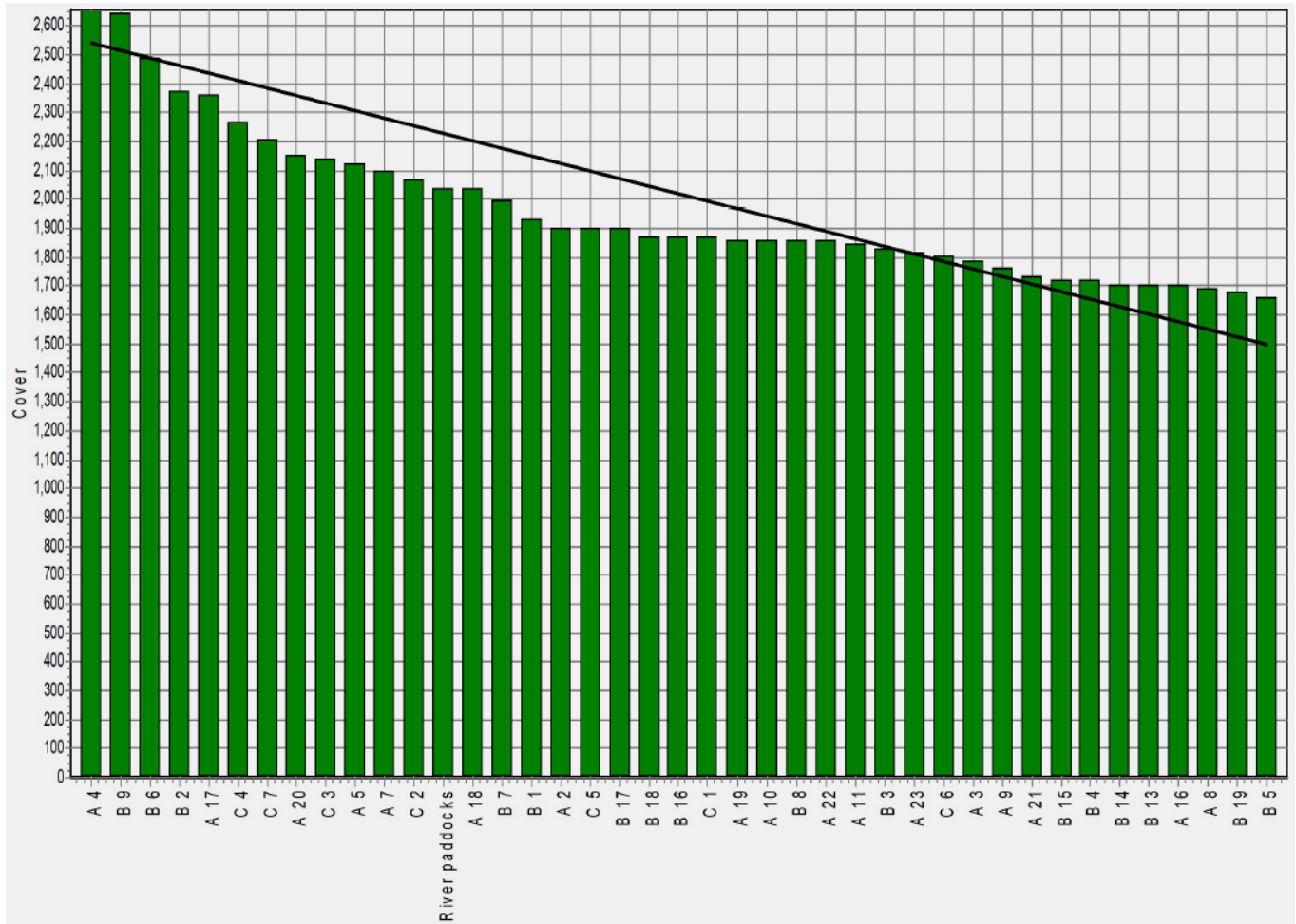
Weekly Soil Temperature



Mawheraiti



Kowhitirangi



Kowhitirangi

Description	Date	RPM	% DM	% Prot	% Lipid	% ADF	% NDF	Sol Sugar	OMD %	MJME /kg
Paddock 17b	10/6/20	10.8	13.6	28.3	3.8	17.4	33.6	14.0	88.3	12.9
Paddock 13b	7/7/20	8.0	11.8	29.4	4.1	21.7	44.6	10.0	84.6	12.3
Paddock 3c	5/8/20	10.2	11.7	30.9	4.3	23.5	45.9	7.1	81.3	11.9
Paddock 4a	2/9/20	11.8	17.3	25.8	4.2	21.5	42.3	12.0	>85	>12.7
Paddock 1	14/10/20	9.7	12.9	31.7	4.0	23.9	49.0	6.8	83.2	12.1
Paddock 19b	4/11/20	11.8	10.9	27.6	3.6	27.4	54.0	3.9	78.3	11.4
Paddock 11a	2/12/20	11.4	15.4	26.7	3.3	24.2	42.0	7.9	82.2	12.0
Paddock 16a	13/1/21	15.7	16.0	18.8	3.3	28.0	49.2	9.9	76.9	11.2
Paddock 9b	10/2/21	15.7	16.0	20.6	3.4	22.6	40.8	12.7	>85	12.5
Paddock A2	3/3/21	14.6	11.6	29.0	3.9	26.3	51.8	3.0	80.1	11.7
Paddock 10a	7/4/21	12.8	9.8	26.0	3.3	24.0	46.5	6.4	80.7	11.8

* Test analytes which have occurred as outliers on the NIRS calibration are indicated by * and should be treated as an approximation only.