Westland Monitor Farm Project

Weekly Update 26 January 2017

CO comment

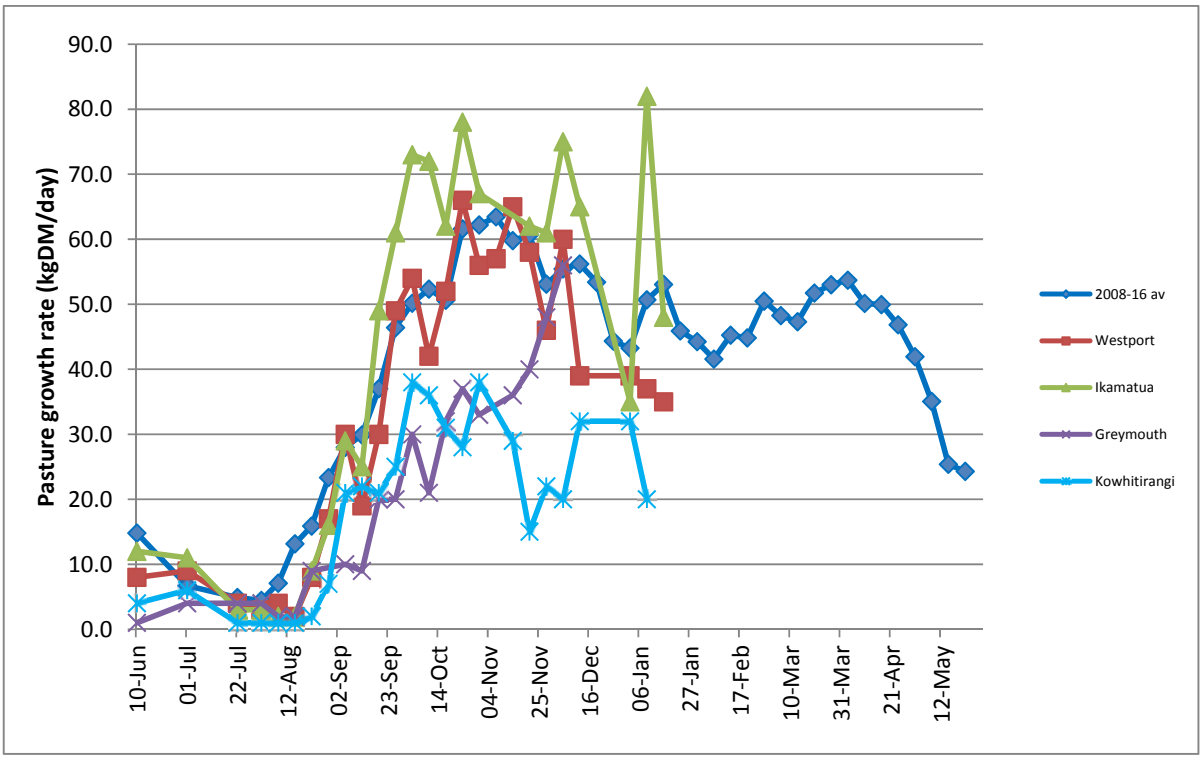
It truly has been a sod of a season. Continued wet weather and ground conditions have hampered efforts to not only accumulate pasture surpluses, but have also made it difficult to harvest any surpluses that did exist, as well as delaying or preventing paddock based activities such as sowing of crops or new pasture or nitrogen and fertiliser applications. What all these factors have combined to do is put pressure on our ability to build up feed reserves for the autumn through to spring period. This will undoubtedly lead to examination of the management strategy through the autumn period to ensure that adequate feed reserves are on hand to navigate that period. Start pulling together the autumn and winter feed budget now so you have a good understanding of the options that will need to be considered to ensure that the poor season is limited to this one and isn't carried forward into next season. There are a range of good resources to help you work through the options that will need to be considered. Check out https://www.dairynz.co.nz/feed/feed-management-tools/autumn-management-tool/ and https://www.dairynz.co.nz/feed/seasonal-management/autumn-management/

Farm Summary

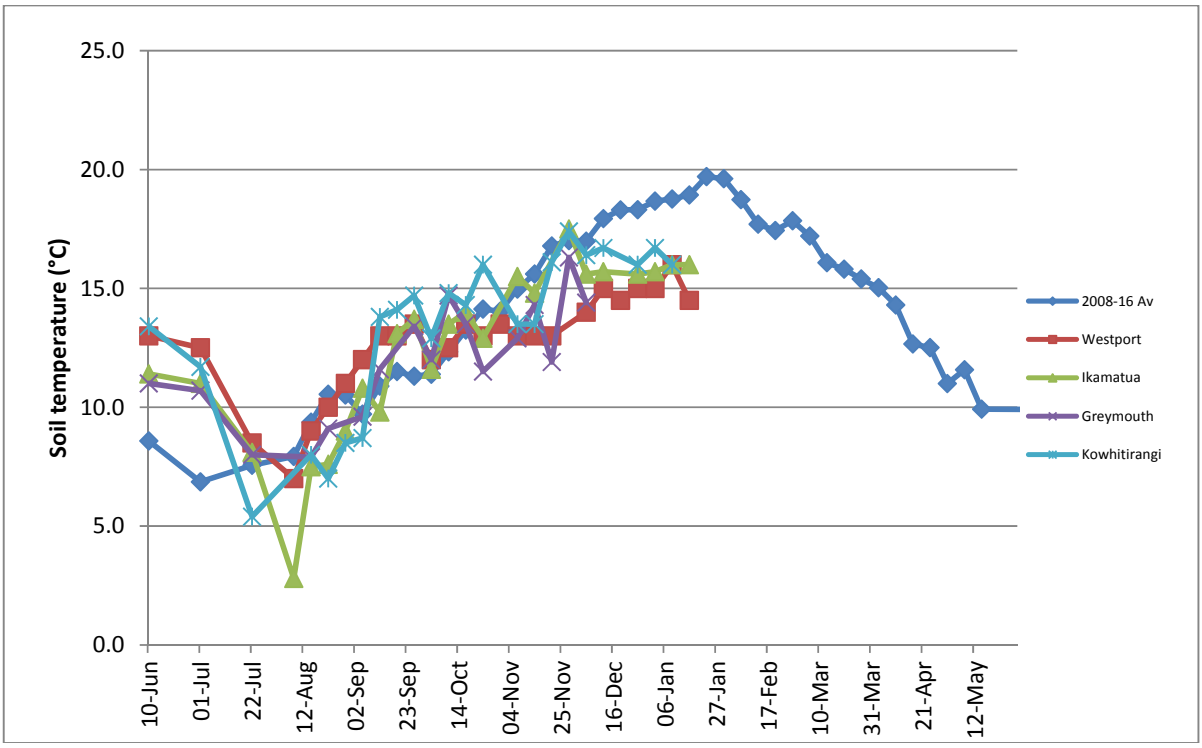
	Westport	Ikamatua	Greymouth	Kowhitirangi
Average cover (kg DM/ha)	1946	2194		1831
APC (19 January)	*1932*	*2248*		*1825*
Rotation length (days)	18	22		
Stocking rate	2.8	2.3	2.4	2.4
Percentage in milk	100	100	100	100
Milksolids kg/cow	1.76			
Milksolids kg/ha	4.8			
MS/cow (season to date)	251			
MS/ha (season to date)	716			
N (kg/ha) year to date	107	140		
Current N application rate kg N/ha	15-20	25		
	16 Jan	17 Jan		
DM%	14.6	14.3		
Pasture ME	12.2	>12.7		
Pasture NDF	54.8	42.9		
Pasture CP	20.1	31.5		
Target Intake (kg DM/cow/d)	18	20		
Supplement (kg/cow/day)	1.5	2.0		
Soil temperature (°C)	14	16		15.8
Growth Rate (kg DM/day)	35	48		24
Rainfall	111	168		
Conditions for farmwalk				
Comments				

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

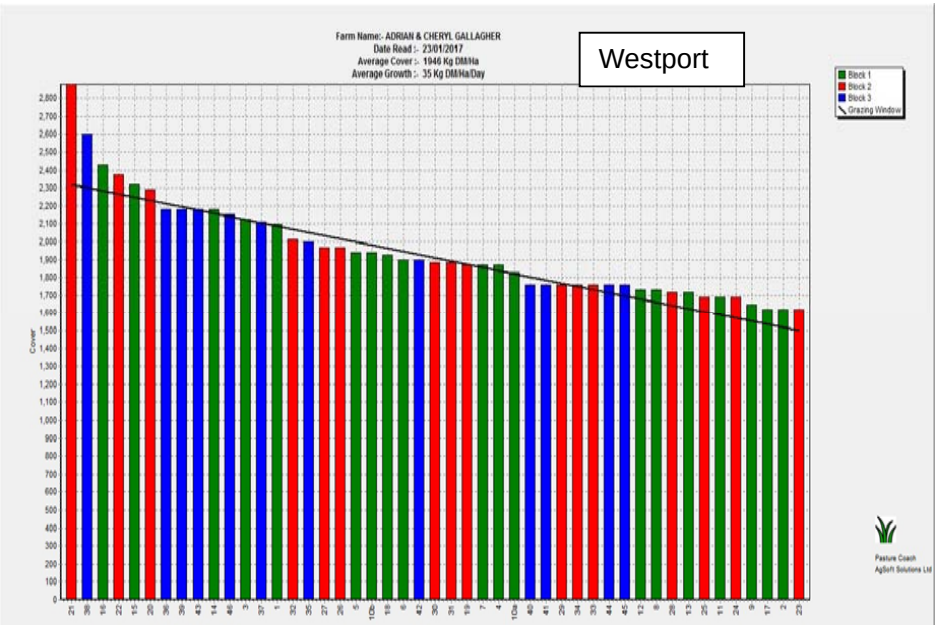
Weekly Pasture Growth Rates



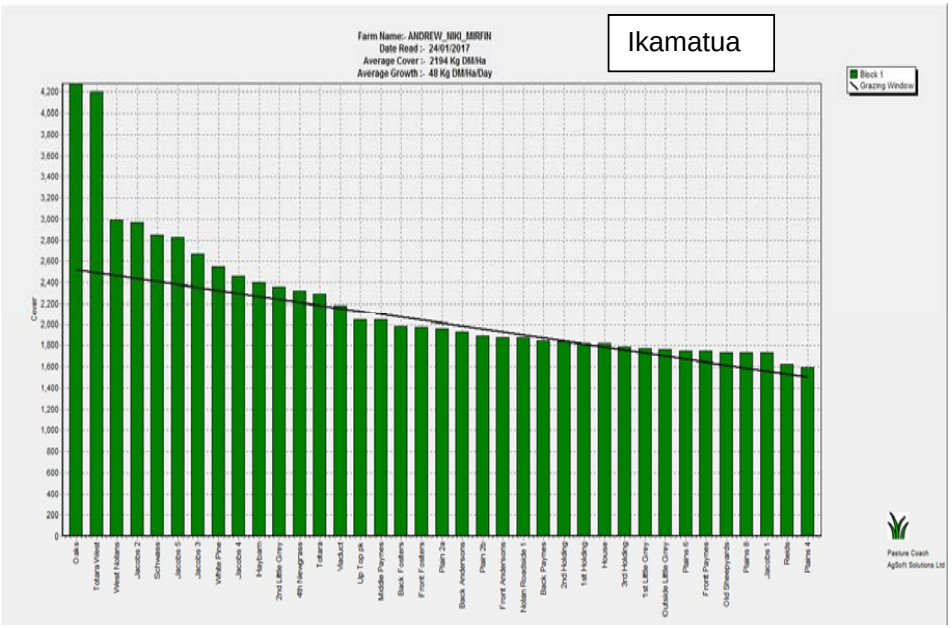
Weekly Soil Temperature



Westport

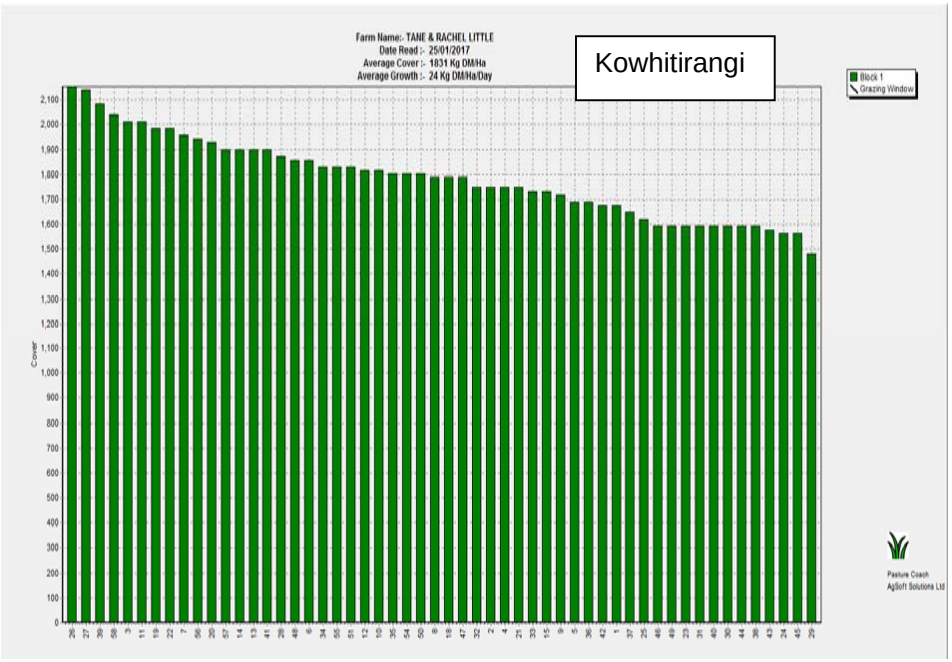


Ikamatua



Greymouth

Kowhitirangi



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
Pdk 38	20/6/2016	13.6	12.3	28.2	3.3	24.4	42.9	10.4	85	12.7
Pdk 30	8/8/2016	13.3	19.1	23.3	4.6	24.3	46.2	11.8	82.6	12.1
Pdk 32	5/9/2016	11.2	13.2	34.3	4.2	22.2	41.7	6.7	85	12.7
Pdk 5	10/10/2016	14.8	16.9	32.7	4.1	23.8	46.2	7.6	85	12.7
Pdk 26	7/11/2016	8.2	14.7	21.8	3.5	9.3	42.5	17.4	>85	>12.7
Pdk 17	5/12/2016	10.7	17.7	29.4	4.0	23.1	43.8	9.4	>85	>12.7
Pdk 27	20/1/2017	14.0	14.6	20.1	3.7	24.3	54.8	10.6	83.8	12.2

Ikamatua

Description	Date	RPM	% DM	% Prot	% Lipid	% ADF	% NDF	Sol Sugar	OMD %	MJME/ kg
Hold	21/6/2016	12.8	11.7	26.4	4.7	21.7	33.5	14.7	85	12.7
Baleage runoff	29/6/2016		29.4	17.4	4.9	27.6	41.2	2.5	77.3	11.3
Plain	9/8/2016	7.2	17.8	18.3	4.4	22.0	35.7	24.1	85	12.7
Pdk 4	6/9/2016	12.7	14.8	29.3	5.2	21.1	40.3	10.6	85	12.7
Old Sheep yards	11/10/2016	17.0	12.9	27.3	4.0	22.0	42.2	12.0	85	12.7
Jacobs	8/11/2016		13.8	26.4	4.6	21.7	45	10.6	>85	>12.7
Back Anderson	6/12/2016	14.3	16.8	23.6	4.0	23.1	43.7	18.9	>85	>12.7
Pdk 4 New	20/1/2017	15.4	14.3	31.5	4.7	21	42.9	7.5	>85	>12.7

Greymouth

Description	Date	RPM	% DM	% Prot	% Lipid	% ADF	% NDF	Sol Sugar	OMD %	MJME /kg
Pdk 38	30/11/16	13.7	15.3	29.4	4.5	22.8	43.2	12.3	>85	>12.7
Pdk 44	30/11/16	13.8	18.2	21.8	3.7	26.4	16.8	12.7	83.8	12.2

Kowhitirangi

Description	Date	RPM	% DM	% Prot	% Lipid	% ADF	% NDF	Sol Sugar	OMD %	MJME/kg
Pdk 22	22/6/2016	8.0	16.5	25.1	4.8	20.9	30.4	22.1	85	12.7
Pdk 40	10/8/2016	10.8	21.1	17.6	3.5	23.5	37.3	25.4	85	12.7
Pdk 1	7/9/2016	11.8	12.4	34.7	5.1	20.6	44.1	4.4	85	12.7
Pdk 6	12/10/2016	14.2	12.8	25.5	4.2	21.1	42.3	12.2	85	12.7
Pdk 5	7/11/2016		14.4	23.3	4.2	25.3	47.5	9	84.4	12.3
Pdk 6	7/12/2016	14.7	12.9	29.0	4.4	25.0	41.0	7.7	>85	12.6