

## Backtrack Dairies

Week ending 26<sup>th</sup> October 2016

### Backtrack Dairies

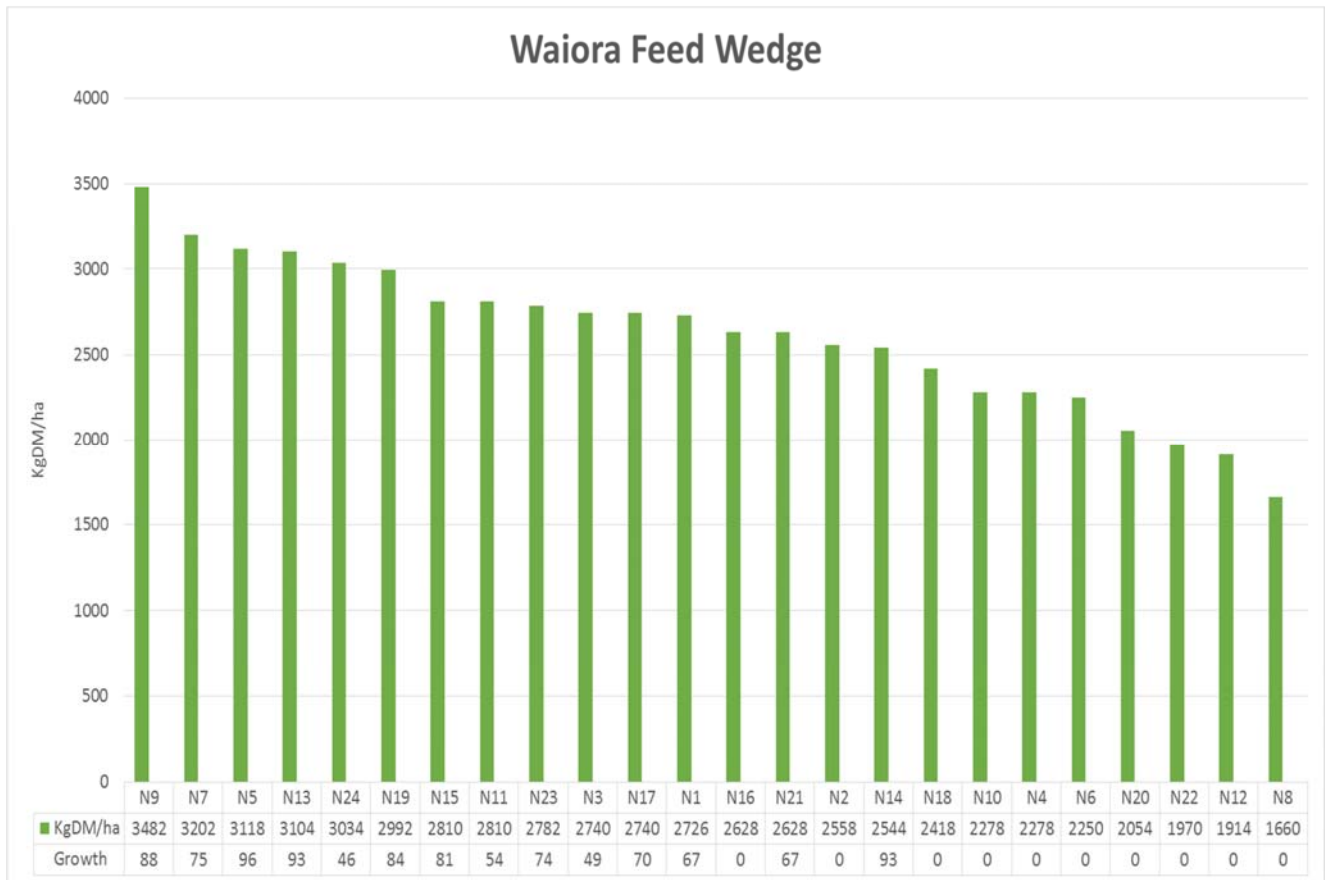
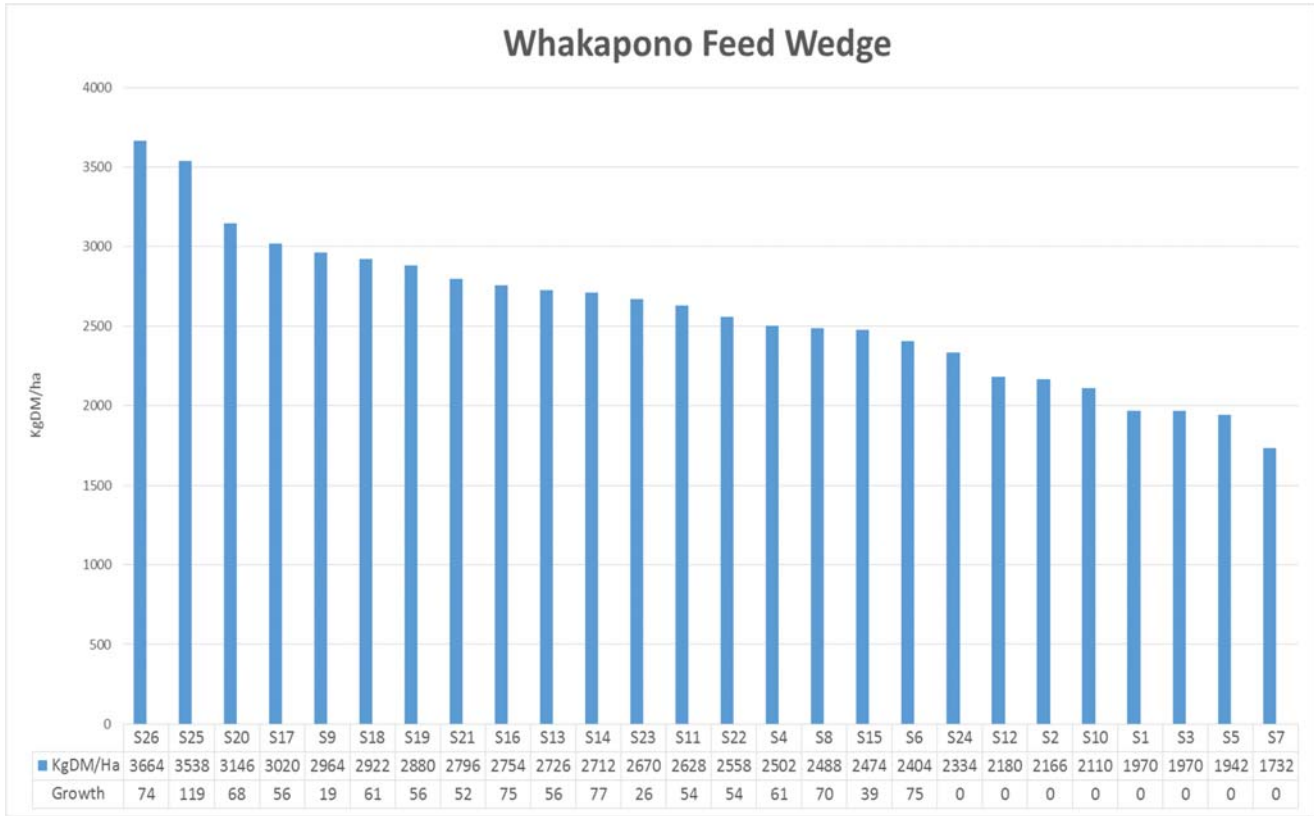
Two farming systems. One Kinsey-Albrecht (Whakapono) and one conventional (Waiora). Both farms have a stocking rate of 3.1 cows/ha at peak.

Week Ending	19/10/16		26/10/16	
	Whakapono	Waiora	Whakapono	Waiora
<b>Backtrack Dairies</b>				
Farm grazing ha	155	210	155	210
Peak Cows	478	647	478	647
Stocking Rate (cows in milk/ha)	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.1
Cows in Milk	486	639	484	629
% of cows in Sick Herd	1.6	1.1	0.9	1.0
Cows in Vat	465	612	477	622
Ave. Pasture Cover	2453	2723	2582	2612
Ave. Pasture Growth	47	48	61	69
Area Grazed	6.44	8.20	7.24	11.98
Grazing Interval	24	26	21	18
Pasture Intake (est kgDM/cow)	20	20	20	20
Grass Silage Fed (kgDM/cow)	0	0	0	0
Grain/PKE Fed (kgDM/cow)	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Total Fed KgDM/cow	21	21	21	21
Milk Solids (Kg/cow/day)(inclu calf milk)	2.26	2.27	2.24	2.21
MS/ha/day	6.36	6.18	6.35	6.00
Nitrogen applied (kg N/ha)	26	30	26	30
Rainfall (mm for week)	35	35	25	25
Irrigation applied	0	0	0	0
Soil Temperature at 9am	12	11	13	12
Soil Moisture (between 65-76%)	71	83	74	81
Cell count (000's)	156	133	164	137
Mastitis Cases (%)	0.0	0.8	0.0	0.0
Lameness Cases (%)	0.2	0.3	0.0	0.0
Body Condition Score				
<b>Totals To Date</b>				
Milk Solids to factory	50707	66750	57593	75576
Milk Solids inclu calf milk	53623	70796	61202	80535
MS/ha	326	316	370	358
MS/cow (peak cows)(inclu calf milk)	112	109	128	124
Nitrogen applied (kg N/ha)	26	30	26	30
Supplements Fed (kg/cow)	128	135	135	142
Deaths %	0.8	2.2	0.8	2.3
Culls %	2.7	1.7	2.7	1.7

## Summary

- Average pasture cover on Whakapono at the end of week October 26th was estimated at 2453 KgDM/ha has to 2582 kgDM/ha so growing about demand. Waiora had an estimated cover of 2723 KgDM/ha and has decreased to 2612 kgDM/ha after making two and a half paddocks for silage on Waiora.
- Silage made measured 35% DM and 12 ME so top quality and lucky to sneak in between rains
- Done with loader wagons which are cheap and quick for on farm silage at around 6c/kg including mowing.
- Growth rates of 61 on Whakapono around demand (60) and 69 on Waiora with cover still apparently above ideal for this time of year with plate meter reading extremely high +400.
- Changeable conditions with further rain (25mm) have meant irrigation has not been required and still none to date.
- 1125 cows calved in total with 12 MT drys culled and 20 young carry overs kept on farm.
- End up 70 -80 cows short of last season's peak numbers as a result of our higher MT rate last season.
- Haven't been dusting lime flour or causmag to colostrums and milkers. This is to see what happens on each farm in terms of metabolics which so far have Whakapono (3%) having less than half as many cases in the calvers/colostrums compared to Waiora (6%) and even less in the milkers (0%) vs (0.3%) especially on the second round.
- Recent spate of grass staggers on Waiora with cows down every day in both herds and four deaths meant we have started dusting on that farm. Problems have stopped with dusting so will continue for this round until DMs improve.
- Whakapono has recorded three cows down in the milkers over the whole spring and only two recently which appear to be more of a phosphorous case as cows are bright and respond quickly to treatment so significant advantage there.
- Cows milking well around 2.26 kgMS/cow, slightly below last seasons peak per cow production of 2.4 but we also calved a week later this season which has meant we finished feeding silage earlier.
- Pastures appear to be enough but with low DM (<15%) cows are not able to consume enough to reach their potential.
- 500 calves including 50 SG Herefords and bobbies on 5 litres means 2500 litres per day needed, which is 1100 litres from Whakapono and 1400 litres from Waiora to calves.
- Fertiliser to date on Whakapono has been a full spring mix tailored for each paddock containing on average N 26, P 15, K 24, S 50 with varying amounts of dolomite and lime according to amount required on the soil test.
- Waiora has received 100 kg/ha of Ammo 30N following the cows, which has 30N and 14S and has had a massive response given the good growing conditions experienced over the last two weeks.
- Waiora's wedge shows the burst of extra growth requiring silage to be closed up in three highest paddocks totalling 26ha, which is around 12% of effective area of 210ha.
- Whakapono will have to graze its two highest paddocks 22/24 which were lined up for silage as pre-grazings of 3000 required at this stocking rate with 19kg intake.

**Feed Wedges – 25th Oct**



**Animal Health**

	<b>Whakapono</b>	<b>Waiora</b>
No of Mastitis Cows	0	4
No of Lambe Cows	2	1
Sick Herd %	0.9	1.0