

Backtrack Dairies

Week ending 5 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	28/9/16		5/10/16	
	Whakapono	Waiora	Whakapono	Waiora
Backtrack Dairies				
Farm grazing ha	155	210	155	210
Peak Cows	478	647	478	647
Stocking Rate (cows in milk/ha)	2.8	2.6	2.9	2.8
Cows in Milk	453	590	468	618
% of cows in Sick Herd	1.1	1.2	0.7	2.0
Cows in Vat	423	528	440	562
Ave. Pasture Cover	2232	2370	Est.2300	Est.2500
Ave. Pasture Growth	60	62	70	90
Area Grazed	5.51	6.68	6.5	8.75
Grazing Interval	28	31	24	24
Pasture Intake (est kgDM/cow)	16	15	19	19
Grass Silage Fed (kgDM/cow)	2	3	0	0
Grain/PKE Fed (kgDM/cow)	2.0	2.0	1.0	1.0
Total Fed KgDM/cow	20	20	20	20
Milk Solids (Kg/cow/day)	2.03	2.07	2.16	2.16
MS/ha/day	5.57	5.26	6.12	5.78
Nitrogen applied (kg N/ha)	0	0	0	4
Rainfall (mm for week)	0	0	9	9
Irrigation applied	0	0	0	0
Soil Temperature at 9am	12	11	13	12
Soil Moisture (between 65-76%)	69	82	67	81
Cell count (000's)	185	158	207	137
Mastitis Cases (%)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.8
Lameness Cases (%)	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.2
Body Condition Score	4.55	4.66		
Totals To Date				
Milk Solids to factory	30612	40385	37254	48881
Milk Solids inclu calf milk	31512	41690	38784	51099
MS/ha	196	190	239	231
MS/cow (peak cows)(inclu calf milk)	66	64	81	79
Nitrogen applied (kg N/ha)	24	30	24	30
Supplements Fed (kg/cow)	105	112	115	122
Deaths %	0.8	1.5	0.8	1.5
Culls %	2.7	1.7	2.7	1.7

Summary

- Average pasture cover on Whakapono at the end of week October 5th was estimated at 2300 KgDM/ha with our pasture assessor away on holiday. Waiora had an estimated cover of 2500 KgDM/ha. Looking to close two paddocks for silage on Waiora.
- Growth rates of 80 to 90 kgDM /ha /day reported in district despite damp and overcast conditions.
- Stopped feeding silage on the 30th September.
- Cow Condition Scoring was done on the 17th Sept – with Whakapono at 4.55 and Waiora at 4.66 average condition score.
- Started to open the cows up on Waiora on the 17/9/16 with the start of the second round for this herd, but the second herd didn't start the second round until 27th Sep.
- Continued feeding grain at 0.5 KgDM and 1.5 kgDM of PKE dropped back to 0.5 kg of each.
- 1080 cows calved with around 50 to calve so will end up 50 -60 cows short of last season's peak numbers as a result of our higher MT rate last season.
- Calvers receiving autumn saved pasture only dusted with causmag at 100 gms/cow/day.
- No lime flour or MgOxide dusted for colostrums or 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 (0.3%) vs (0%) especially on second round grass.
- Cows milking well around 2.2kgMS/cow, slightly below last seasons per cow production but we also calved a week later this season which has meant we finished feeding silage earlier.
- Calves starting to drink a lot of milk as colostrum runs out.
- 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

Feed Wedges – No farm Walk Completed

Animal Health

	Whakapono	Waiora
Mastitis Cows	3	2
Lame Cows	2	1
Sick Herd %	0.7	2.0

