

## Backtrack Dairies

Week ending 9<sup>TH</sup> November 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.

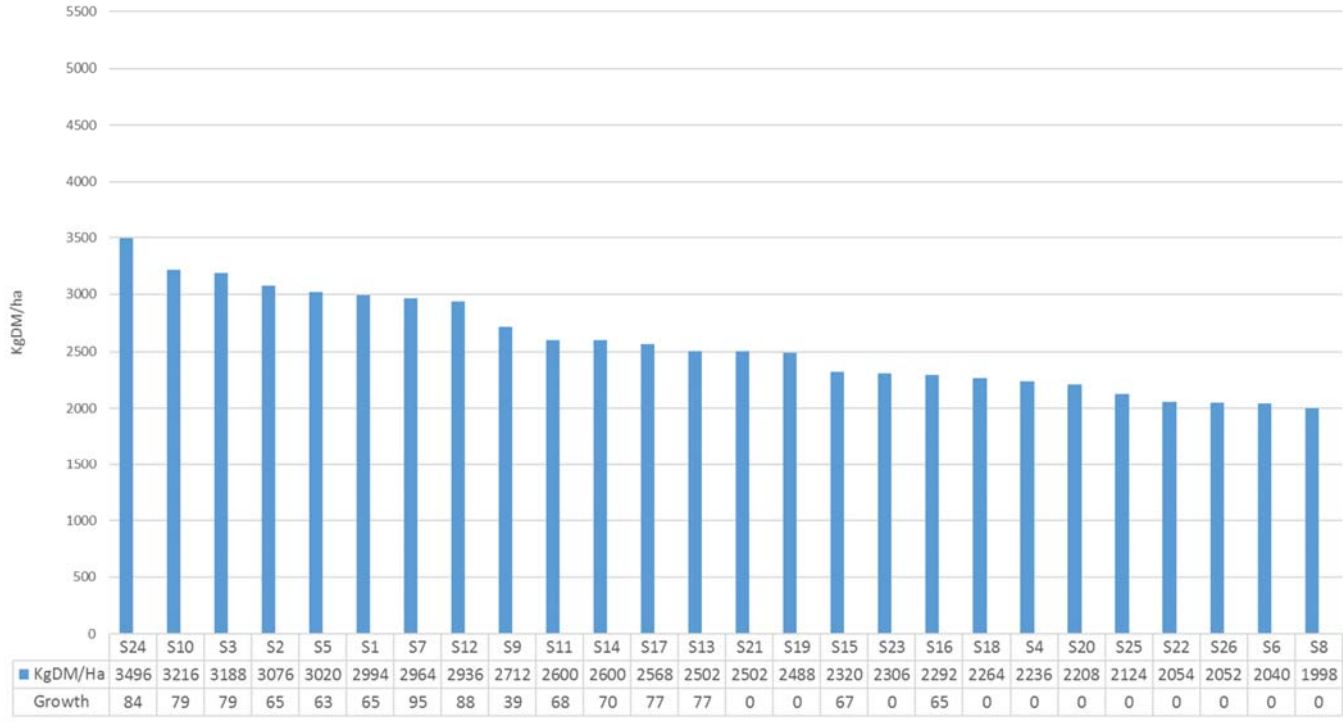
Week Ending	2/11/16		9/11/16	
	Whakapono	Waiora	Whakapono	Waiora
<b>Backtrack Dairies</b>				
Farm grazing ha	155	210	155	210
Peak Cows	478	647	478	647
Stocking Rate (cows in milk/ha)	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.1
Cows in Milk	483	629	483	631
% of cows in Sick Herd	0.3	1.0	0.2	1.0
Cows in Vat	470	623	482	624
Ave. Pasture Cover	2785	2756	2580	2783
Ave. Pasture Growth	96	75	72	71
Area Grazed	6.49	6.00	7.25	9.45
Grazing Interval	21	22	21	22
Pasture Intake (est kgDM/cow)	20	18	20	20
Grass Silage Fed (kgDM/cow)	0	0	0	0
Grain/PKE Fed (kgDM/cow)	1.7	1.7	2	2.0
Total Fed KgDM/cow	22	20	22	22
Milk Solids (Kg/cow/day)(inclu calf milk)	2.16	1.99	2.08	2.14
MS/ha/day	6.10	5.33	6.02	5.80
Nitrogen applied (kg N/ha)	10	24	6	24
Rainfall (mm for week)	24	24	21	21
Irrigation applied	0	0	0	0
Soil Temperature at 9am	13	12	14	13
Soil Moisture (between 65-76%)	79	84	79	84
Cell count (000's)	149	140	133	136
Mastitis Cases (%)	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0
Lameness Cases (%)	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.0
Body Condition Score				
<b>Totals To Date</b>				
Milk Solids to factory	64212	83417	70740	92854
Milk Solids inclu calf milk	68514	89289	75534	99630
MS/ha	413	395	455	440
MS/cow (peak cows)(inclu calf milk)	143	138	158	154
Nitrogen applied (kg N/ha)	42	62	42	77
Supplements Fed (kg/cow)	139	146	153	160
Deaths %	0.8	2.3	0.8	2.3
Culls %	3.3	1.9	3.3	1.9

## Summary

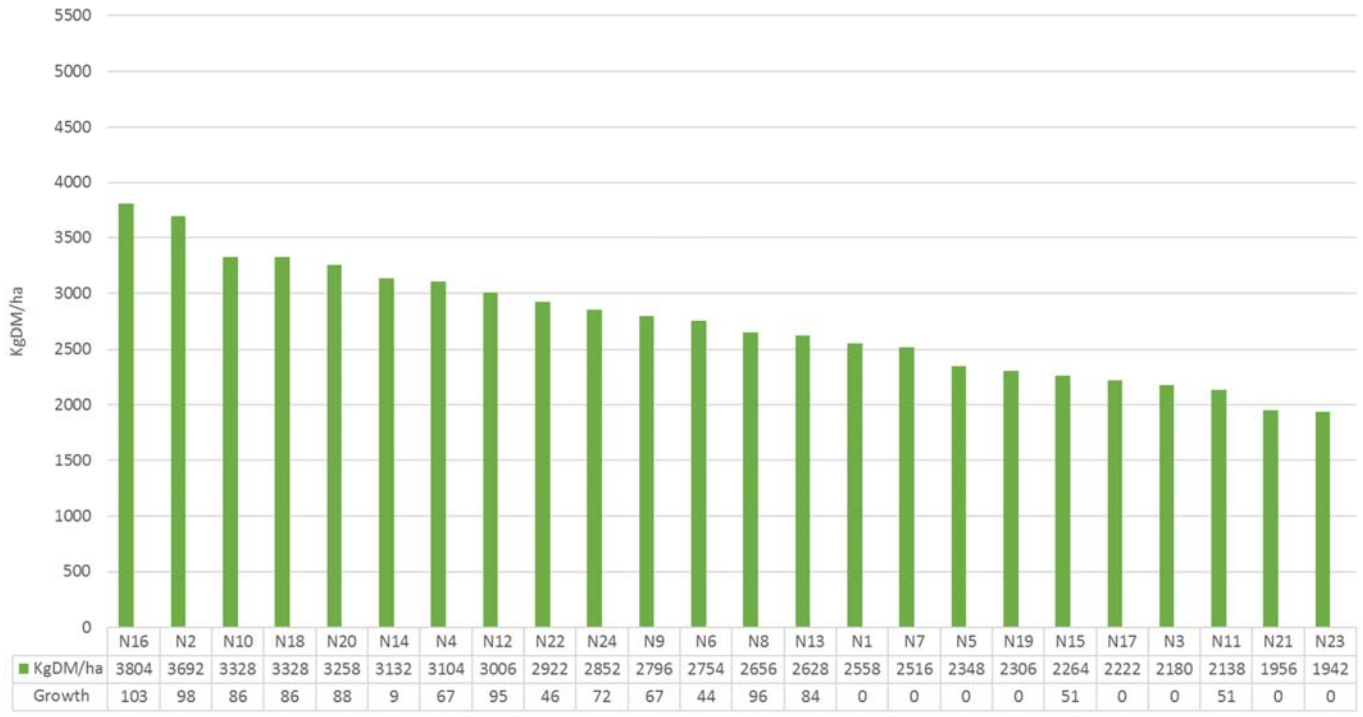
- Average pasture cover on Whakapono at the end of week November 2nd was at 2785KgDM/ha has dropped to 2580KgDM/ha with 13 ha two silage paddocks (25/26). Waiora had a cover of 2756KgDM/ha and has increased slightly to 2756KgDM/ha with 30 ha closed up for silage.
- Growth rates on Whakapono still above demand (60) at 72 and 71 on Waiora with cover still apparently above ideal for this time of year with plate meter reading extremely high +400.
- Changeable conditions with even more rain (22mm) 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.
- Ended 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 2.08 kgMS/cow on Whakapono and dropped a bit on Waiora at 2.14 kgMS/cow. Grain/PKE up to 2 kgDM/cow again.
- Pastures appear to be enough but with low DM (<15%) cows are not able to consume enough to reach their potential.
- Started pre-graze topping the back half of paddocks of second herd on Waiora and they are cleaning up in five grazings instead of six (12 hour) so intakes have definitely increased.
- Will have to do two paddocks of silage (25/26) on Whakapono and closed four more on Waiora (Pdks 8,9,22,24) to get covers down around 2500 kgDM/ha.
- Have weighed calves and made two groups on each farm that can be weaned over the next two weeks so calf milk is down to 600L on Whakapono and 1000L on Waiora
- Whakapono has received another round of fertiliser containing N 17, P 2, K 12, S 12
- Whakapono total N to date 42 kg/ha
- Waiora also received a round of 240 kg/ha DAP Sulphur Super as a maintenance dressing
- Unfortunately I didn't read the recommendation properly thinking it was only Sulphur super and applied the other fertiliser on the recommendation which was 90 kg/ha of Sustain25 K which gives another 25 units of N on top of the 23 units of N in the DAP.
- Waiora total N to date 77 kg/ha.
- This fert was meant for a December application so hope it doesn't all come available at once otherwise we will be making a lot more silage
- Problem with moisture meter on Whakapono with contacts into tapes needing replacement so using Waiora meter to help make irrigation decisions
- Not hard to work out with recent weather.

**Feed Wedges – 8<sup>th</sup> Nov**

**Whakapono Feed Wedge**



**Waiora Feed Wedge**



**Animal Health**

	<b>Whakapono</b>	<b>Waiora</b>
No of Mastitis Cows	0	0
No of Lamé Cows	0	0
Sick Herd %	0.2	1.0