

Southland Monitor Farm Project

Weekly Update – 30 June 2010

All farms have cows off the milking platform for winter.

Growth rates in Southland and Otago are similar to those recorded in winter 2009. All regions recorded growth in single figures for the 3 week period until the 30 June. In contrast average soil temperature across the region in June has been 1-1.4 °C lower than recorded in winter 2009. The highest soil temperature of 4.8 C as recorded in Northern Southland.

Average pasture cover on all the farms, except the Northern Southland farm, is higher than at the same time last season.

Rainfall across the region in June was variable with higher totals being recorded in Coastal and Eastern Southland.

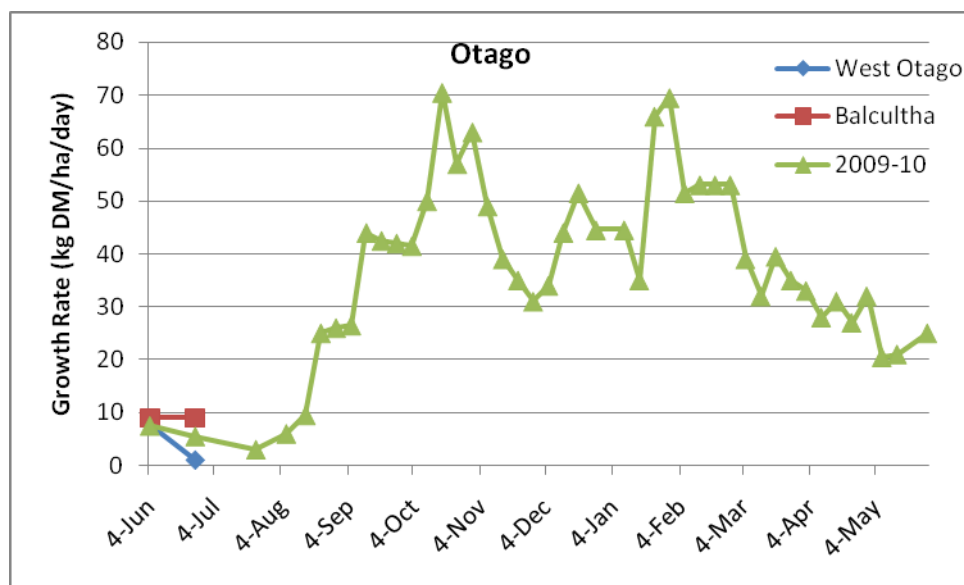
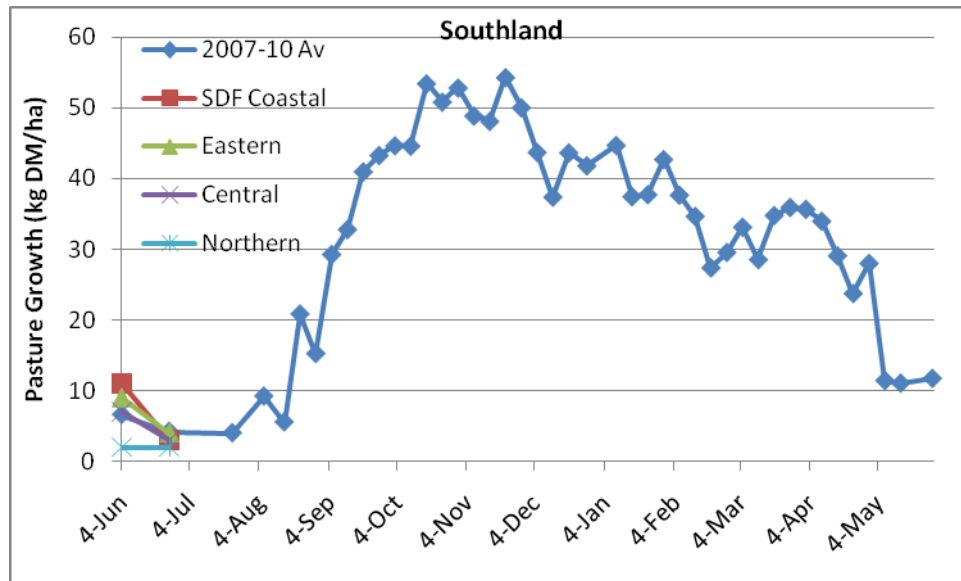
Weekly Tip

Wet conditions in many regions are making crop feeding more challenging. Minimise the vehicle traffic onto waterlogged soils and use a back fence to reduce cows walking through mud. Ensure you adhere to the 3 m grazing rule for waterways and provide piped water to all stock. There are some light conditioned cows around the province so monitor mobs regularly and if necessary draft out poorer performing animals and preferentially feed them.

Farm Summary

| | Demo Farm | Eastern | Central | Northern | West Otago | Telford |
|--------------------------|-----------|---------|---------|----------|------------|---------|
| Average cover (kg DM/ha) | 1998 | 1889 | 1769 | 1594 | 1871 | 2067 |
| Supplement (kg/cow/day) | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Rotation length (days) | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Stocking rate | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Percentage in milk | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Milksolids kg/cow | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Milksolids kg/ha | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| N (kg/ha) | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Soil temperature (°C) | 3.5 | 3.9 | 3.1 | 4.8 | 3.5 | 2.7 |
| Growth Rate (kg DM/day) | 3 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 9 |
| Rainfall | 88 | 72 | 32 | 47 | 36 | 43 |
| Comments | | | | | | |

Pasture Growth Rates



Soil Temperature

