

NITROGEN AND FERTILISER USE

- No urea was applied this week. Will look to apply urea to lower cover paddocks as soon as soil temperatures exceed 7C.

CROP MANAGEMENT

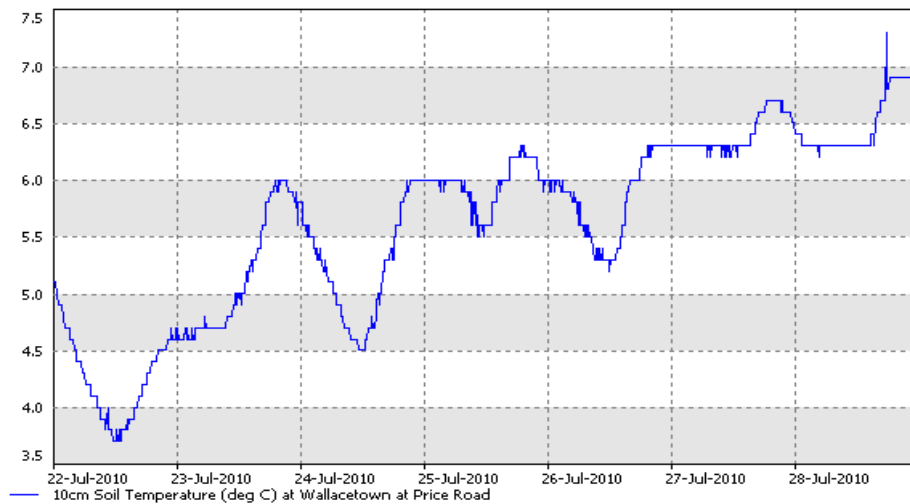
- The amount of remaining crop was reassessed. There is 9.32 ha of crop left which will yield 148 tonsDM. At 10kgDM/cow this leaves 14,800 cow-days (no of cows x days on crop) left on crop. This should be just enough crop to see us through. There are currently 20 lighter cows on grass.

ANIMAL HEALTH

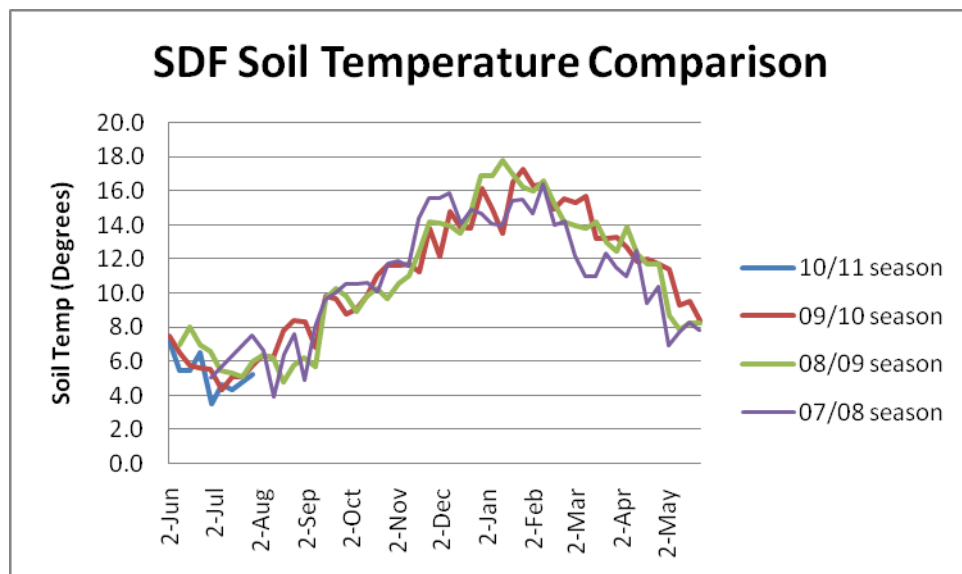
- No deaths this past week. One heifer that slipped was due to yersinia pseudo tubercolosis.

CLIMATE DATA AND COMPARISONS

- Soil temperatures at 9 am have averaged 5.2°C this week, up 0.4°C from last week. Below shows a graph of how this is tracked for the last 7 days.



- The graph below shows how the average weekly 9am (10cm) soil temperature is tracking throughout the season and compares against the last three seasons.



SDF Farm Walk Notes

Wednesday, 21 July 2010

Total Effective Ha: 295ha

Winter Crop Ha: 36ha

Area in Grass Ha: 259ha

Cows in Milk: 4

Cows on farm: 794 (+4 heifers off farm in milk)

CRITICAL ISSUES FOR THE SHORT TERM

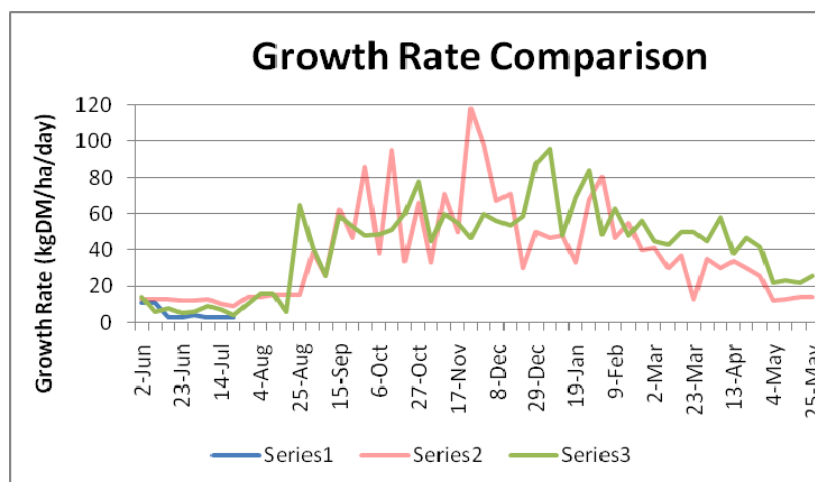
1. Wintering cows
2. Farm maintenance
3. Wintering/Spring feed Budgets

COW NUMBERS

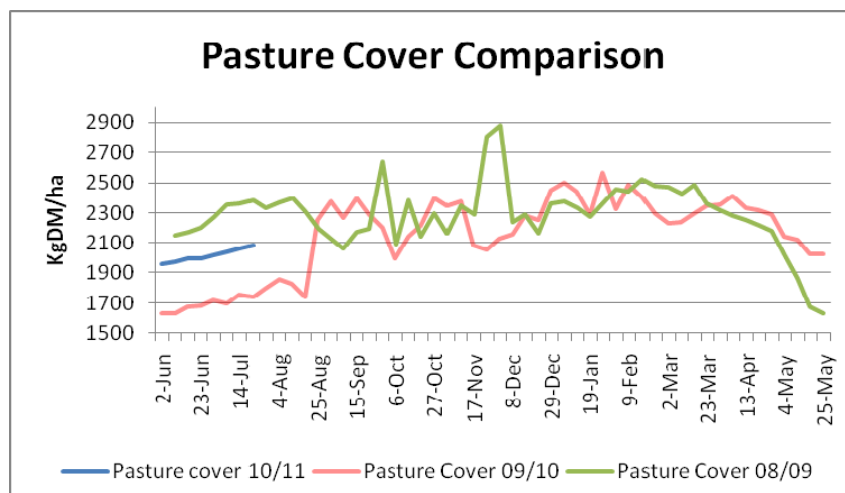
1. There are currently 794 cows on farm. There are 4 in milk heifers off farm being milked.

PASTURE GROWTH AND AVERAGE PASTURE COVER

2. Average cover this week was 2082 kgDM/ha, yielding a growth rate of 3 kgDM/ha/day.
3. Below is a graph comparing this year with the last two seasons growth rate. Growth rate this season has been lower than the previous 2 seasons.



4. Below is a graph comparing the pasture cover for this year compared to the last two seasons. Considerably up on last season's cover.



NITROGEN AND FERTILISER USE

5. No urea was applied this week.

CROP MANAGEMENT

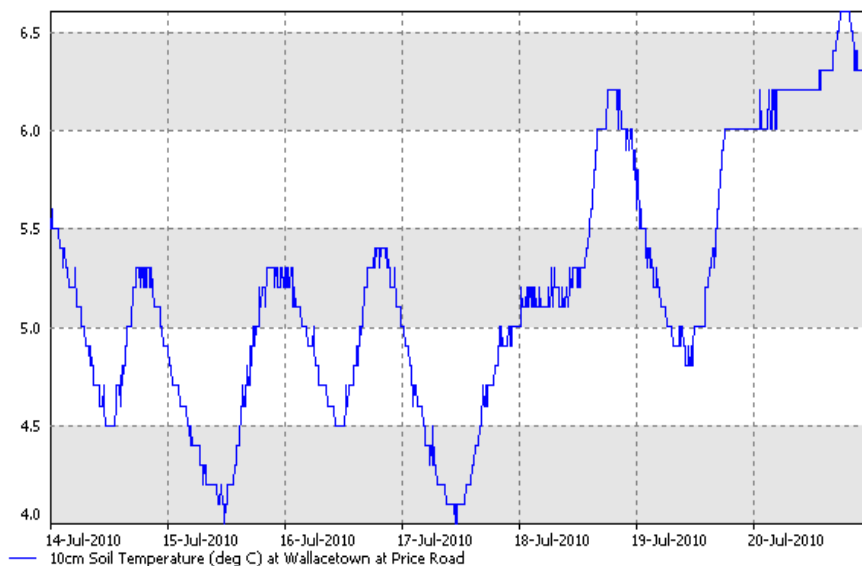
6. A mob of the lightest cows will be drafted out this week and preferentially fed. The amount of remaining crop will be reassessed.

ANIMAL HEALTH

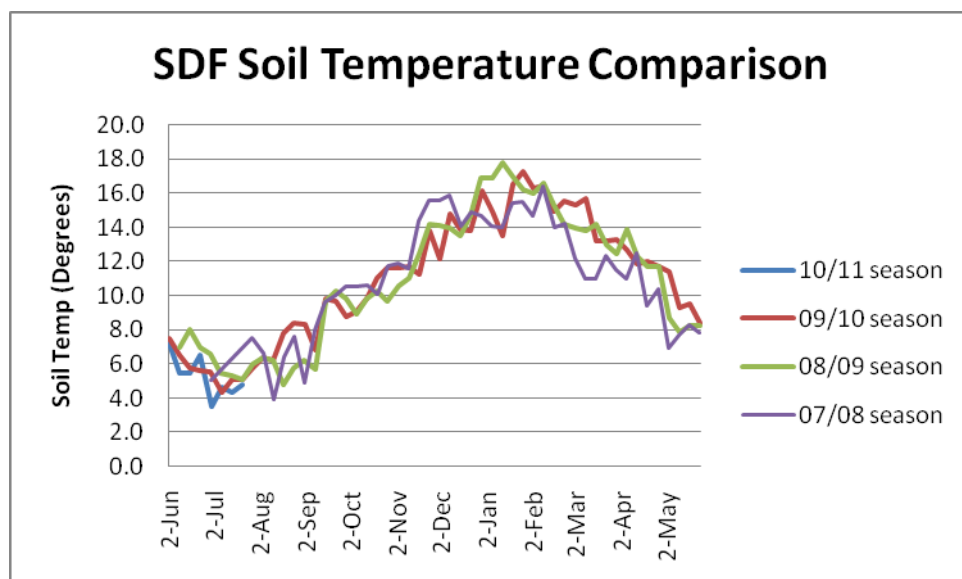
7. No animal health issues to report this week.

CLIMATE DATA AND COMPARISONS

8. Soil temperatures at 9 am have averaged 4.8°C this week, up 0.5°C from last week. Graph below shows how this has tracked for the last 7 days.



9. The graph below shows how the average weekly 9am (10cm) soil temperature is tracking throughout the season and compares against the last three seasons.



SDF Farm Walk Notes

Wednesday, 14 July 2010

Total Effective Ha: 295ha

Winter Crop Ha: 36ha

Area in Grass Ha: 259ha

Cows in Milk: 2

Cows on farm: 796 (+ 2 heifers off farm in milk)

CRITICAL ISSUES FOR THE SHORT TERM

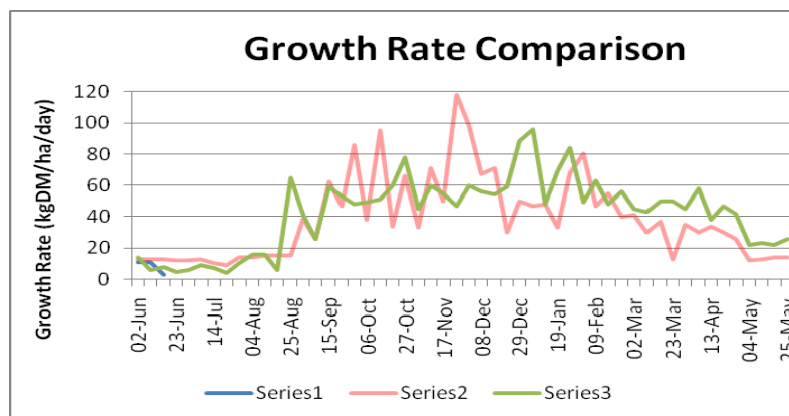
1. **Wintering cows**
2. **Farm maintenance**
3. **Wintering/Spring feed Budgets**

COW NUMBERS

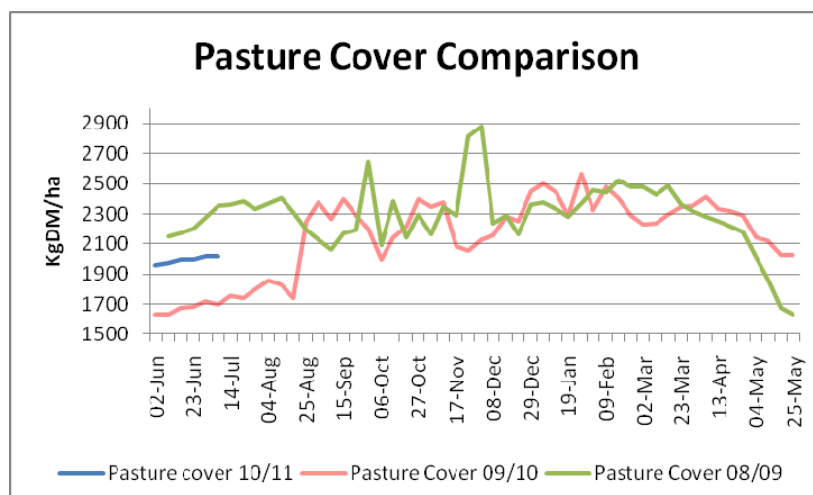
1. There are currently 796 cows on farm (1 of these is a heifer that slipped and is dry). We also have two in milk heifers off farm being milked.
2. Unfortunately we had two cows die and 1 put down this week. One was a heifer with a dead calf that died after calving, post mortem showed it died due to blood poisoning. The vets have taken samples away for testing and are yet to advise results for the 2nd death. The heifer we put down unfortunately broke her leg when she tried to jump out of the yard and got it caught between the gate and the rails, snapping it immediately.

PASTURE GROWTH AND AVERAGE PASTURE COVER

3. There was no walk done this week.
4. Below is a graph comparing this year with the last two seasons growth rate.



5. Below is a graph comparing the pasture cover for this year compared with the last two seasons.



NITROGEN AND FERTILISER USE

6. No urea was applied this week.
7. Eco-n has been applied this week.

CROP MANAGEMENT

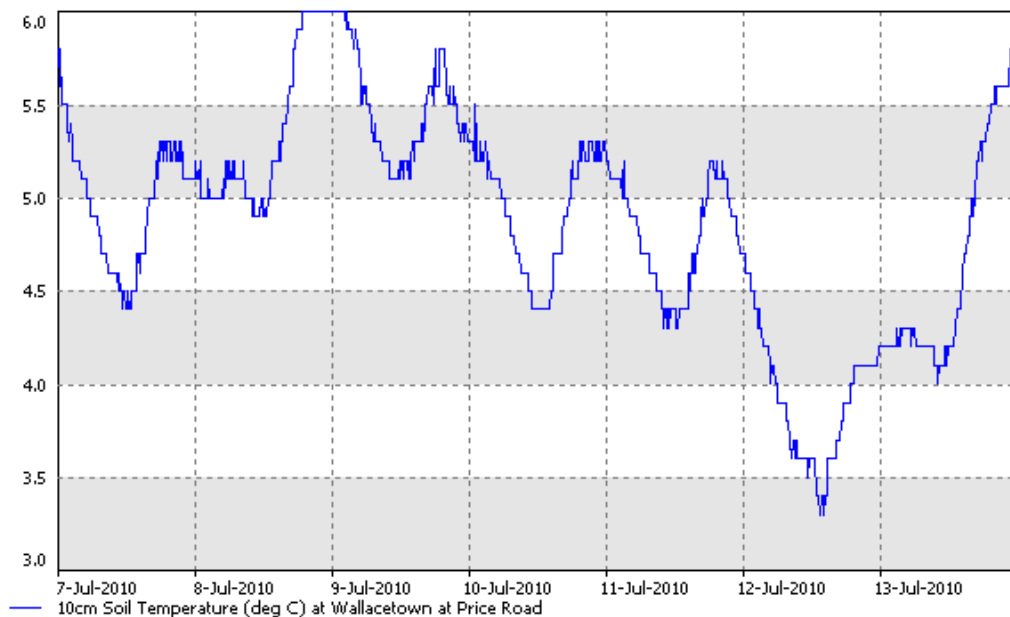
8. All crops are being sampled for not only DM but also mineral status and ME. This is part of the trial being done by Jim Gibbs and is linked to the blood tests mentioned below.

ANIMAL HEALTH

9. When cows were run through the shed for bloods we redrafted them into calving dates to make drafting off springers easier. They are still on the crop they started the winter on.
10. Blood samples have been taken today by Jim Gibbs.
11. Half of the heifers were teat sealed on Friday to see how the use of teat seal compares against those heifers not teat sealed. They are also being Lepto'd, drenched and getting a shot of copper.
12. Tags are due to arrive next week for the heifers – The Maxi female tag is going to be Orange so that it is easy to identify our age groups out in the paddock. **THERE IS A BIG DELAY ON TAGS SO MAKE SURE YOU HAVE PLACED YOUR ORDER.**
13. We have ordered EID and plastic lifetime ID tags for the calves this year.

CLIMATE DATA AND COMPARISONS

14. Soil temperatures at 9 am have averaged 4.3°C this week, down 0.3°C from last week. Below shows a graph of how this is tracked for the last 7 days.



15. The graph below shows how the average weekly 9am (10cm) soil temperature is tracking throughout the season and compares against the last three seasons.

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

17. Next SDF Field day is Thursday 15th July – Book it in the diary now!

FUTURE MANAGEMENT PLANNING

1. Re-assess spring budget

The WEEKLY management meeting will be on **Wednesday, 21 July 2010**

On behalf of the **Management Group** Barry Bethune (Farm Manager), Sharn Roskam (Farm Supervisor) and Howard de Klerk (DairyNZ)

SDF Farm Walk Notes

Wednesday, 7 July 2010

Total Effective Ha: 295ha
Winter Crop Ha: 36ha
Area in Grass Ha: 259ha
Cows in Milk: 0
Cows on farm: 811

CRITICAL ISSUES FOR THE SHORT TERM

1. Wintering cows
2. Farm maintenance
3. Wintering/Spring feed Budgets

COW NUMBERS

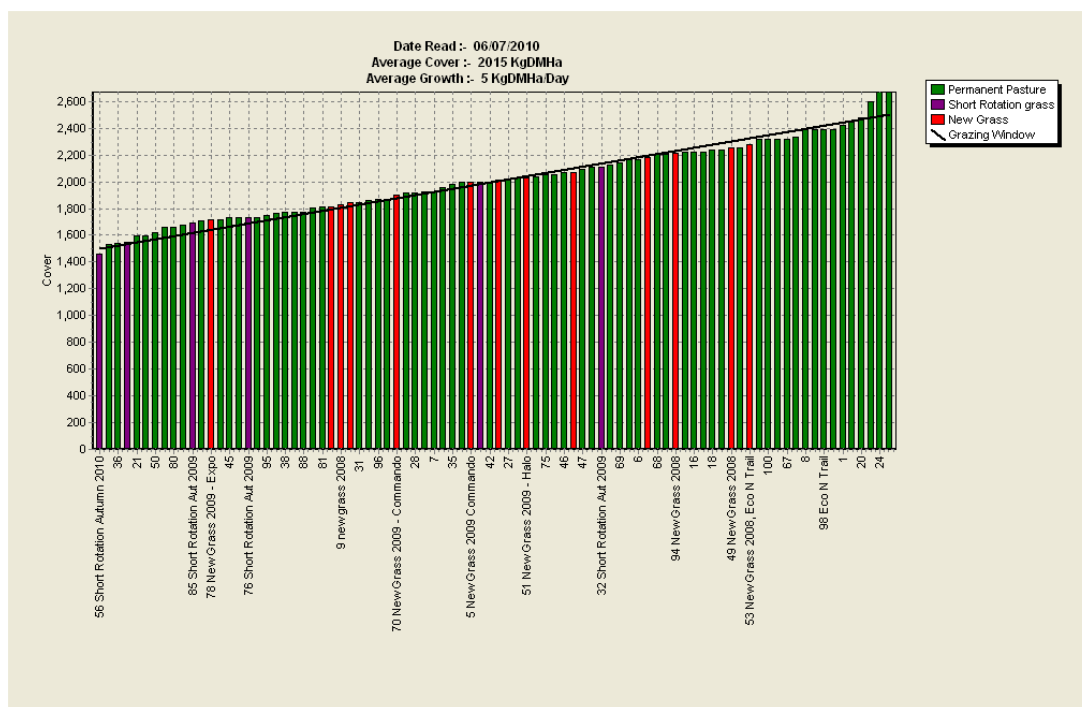
1. There are currently 811 cows on farm.

Cows on farm (1 June 2010)	814
Less (2009.2010) culls still on farm	- 11
Total wintered (2010.2011)	<u>803</u>
Less death (2010.2011)	- 1
Less slips	- 3
Still to calve	<u>799</u>

(2 of the slips in milk off the farm - 1 dry at home but on with-holding)

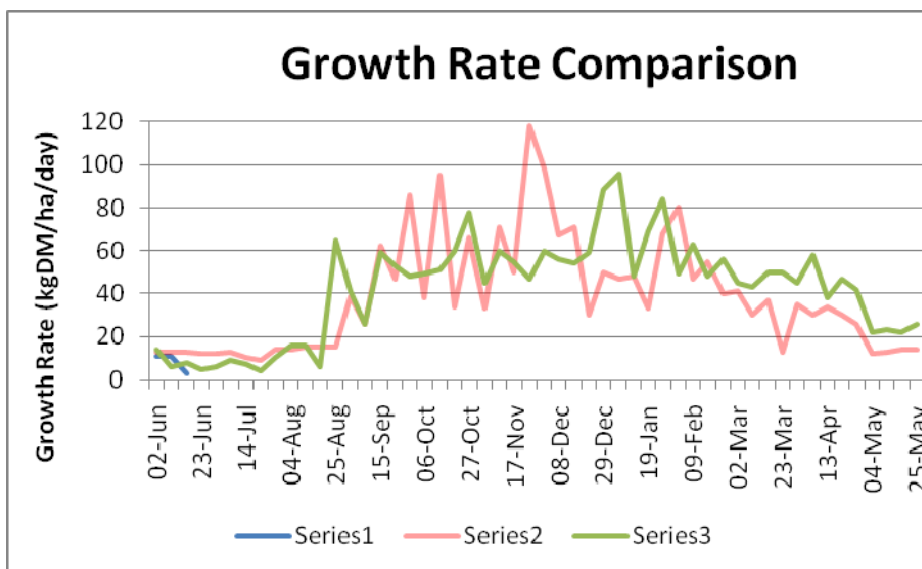
PASTURE GROWTH AND AVERAGE PASTURE COVER

2. Average Pasture Cover week was 2015kgDM/ha. Below is the wedge from the walk.

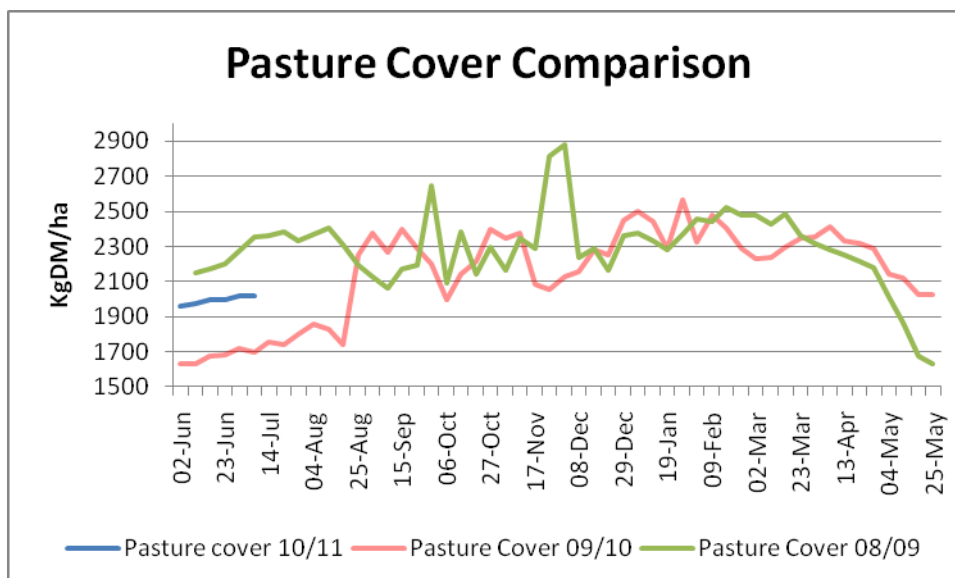


3. Growth rate for the last two weeks was 5kgDM/ha/day, up from 3kgDM/ha/day.

4. Below is a graph comparing this year with the last two seasons growth rate.



5. Below is a graph comparing the pasture cover for this year compared to the last two seasons.



NITROGEN AND FERTILISER USE

6. No urea was applied this week.

CROP MANAGEMENT

7. All crops are being sampled for not only DM but also mineral status and ME. This is part of the trial being done by Jim Gibbs and is linked to the blood tests mentioned below.

ANIMAL HEALTH

8. Blood samples will be taken on Wednesday next week by Jim Gibbs.

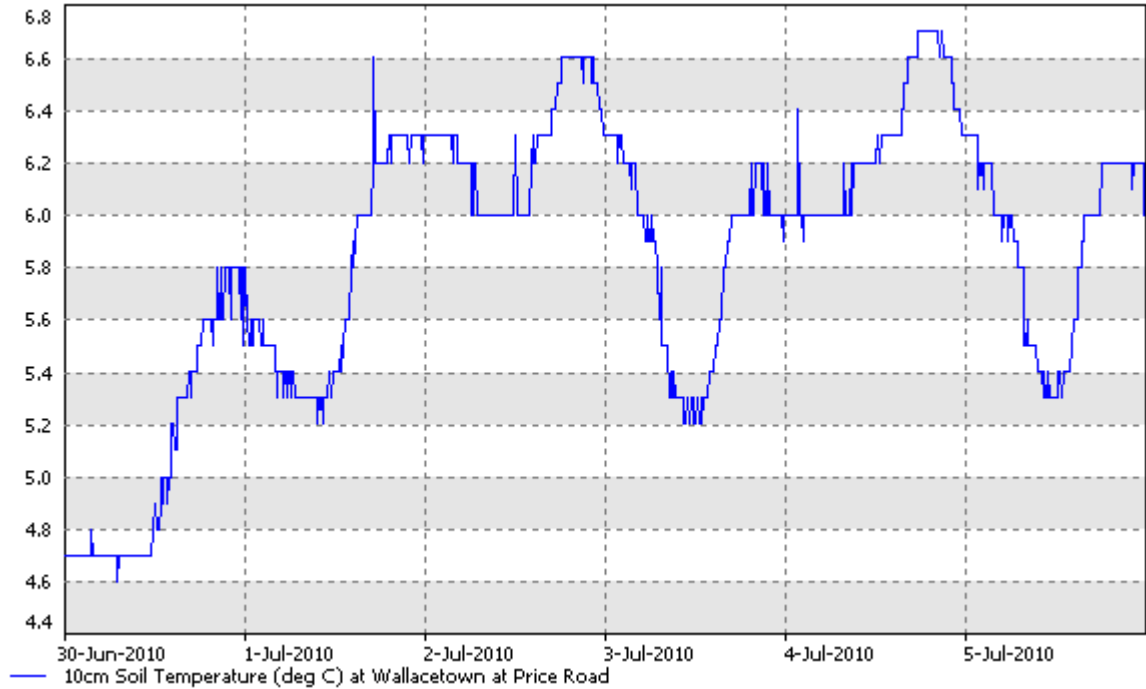
9. Half of the heifers are being teat sealed on Friday to see how the use of teat seal compares against those heifers not teat sealed. They are also being Lepto'd, drenched and getting a shot of copper.

10. Tags are due to arrive next week for the heifers – The Maxi female tag is going to be Orange so that it is easy to identify our age groups out in the paddock.

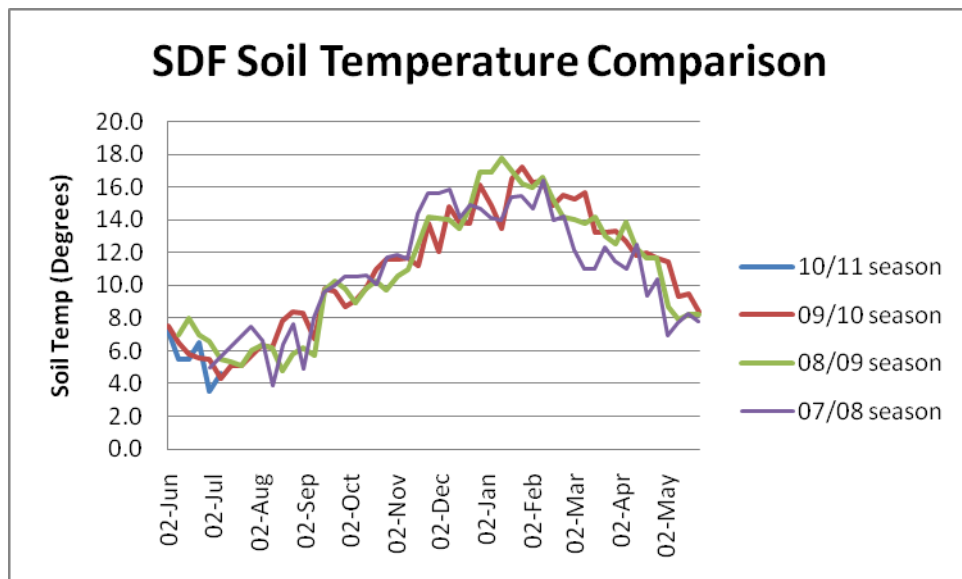
11. We have ordered EID and plastic lifetime ID tags for the calves this year.

CLIMATE DATA AND COMPARISONS

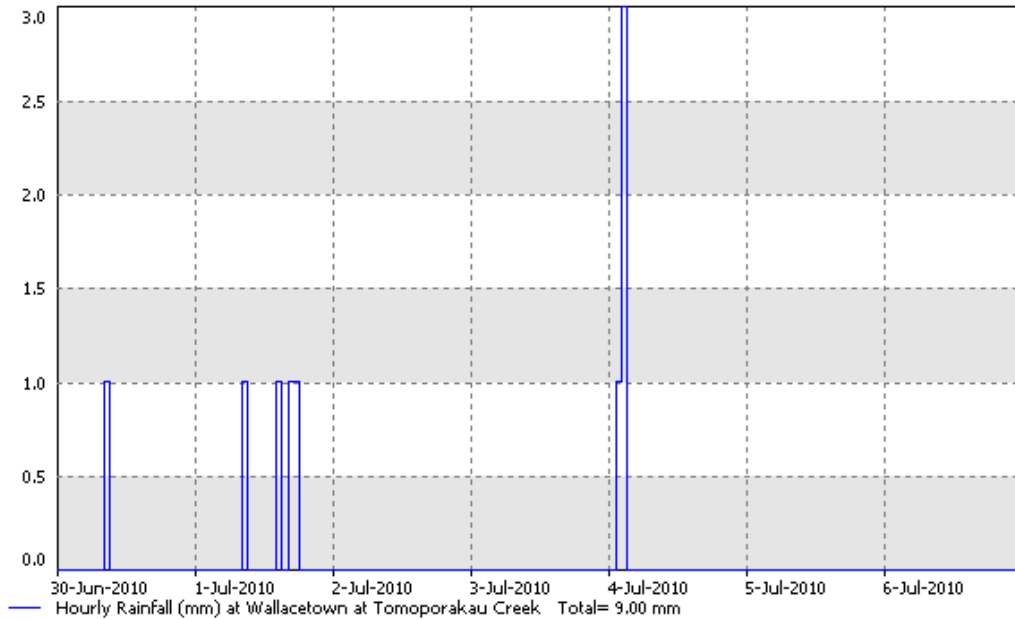
12. Soil temperatures at 9 am have averaged 4.6°C this week, up 1.1°C from last week last week. Below shows a graph of how this is tracked for the last 7 days.



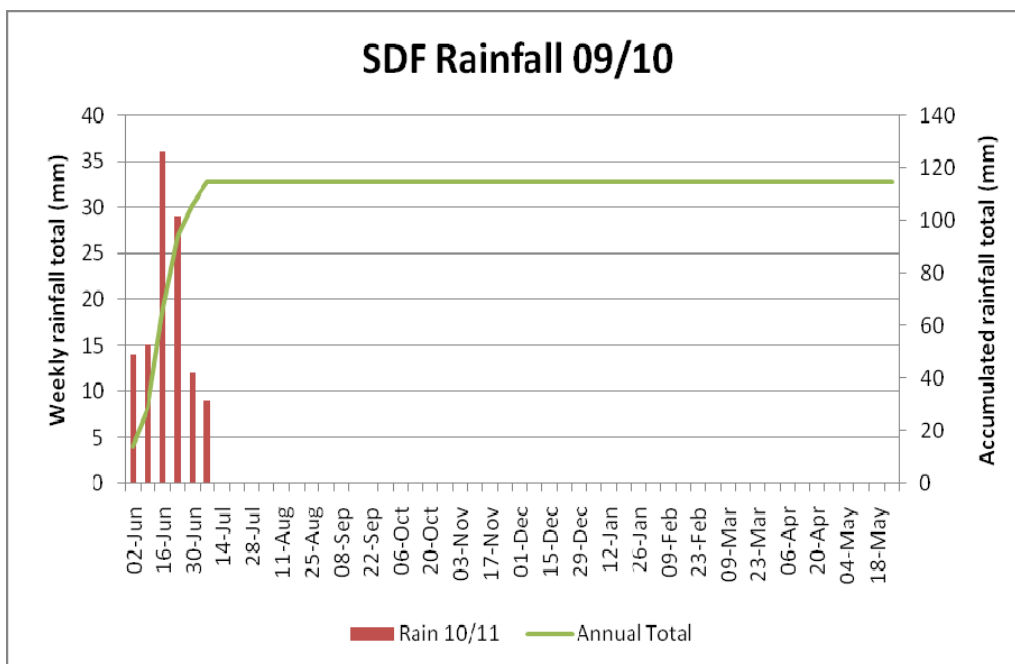
13. The graph below shows how the average weekly 9am (10cm) soil temperature is tracking throughout the season and compares against the last three seasons.



14. The farm had a total of 9mm rain last week. Below is a graph of its distribution over the last week.



15. The graph below shows the weekly rainfall and accumulated total for the season.



OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

16. Next SDF Field day is Thursday 15th July – Book it in the diary now!

FUTURE MANAGEMENT PLANNING

1. Re-assess spring budget

The WEEKLY management meeting will be on **Wednesday, 14 July 2010**.

On behalf of the **Management Group** Barry Bethune (Farm Manager), Sharn Roskam (Farm Supervisor) and Howard de Klerk (DairyNZ)