

Focus Day
Alderbrook Dairy Farm
North Rakaia Road, Rakaia

Information Handout

21st February 2008

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Ph: 03 325 3629

Next Focus Day: 8th May 2008
- Lincoln University Dairy Farm [LUDF]

SIDDC – Partners networking to advance South Island Dairying




Programme

Pioneer country tamed – making stones grow grass

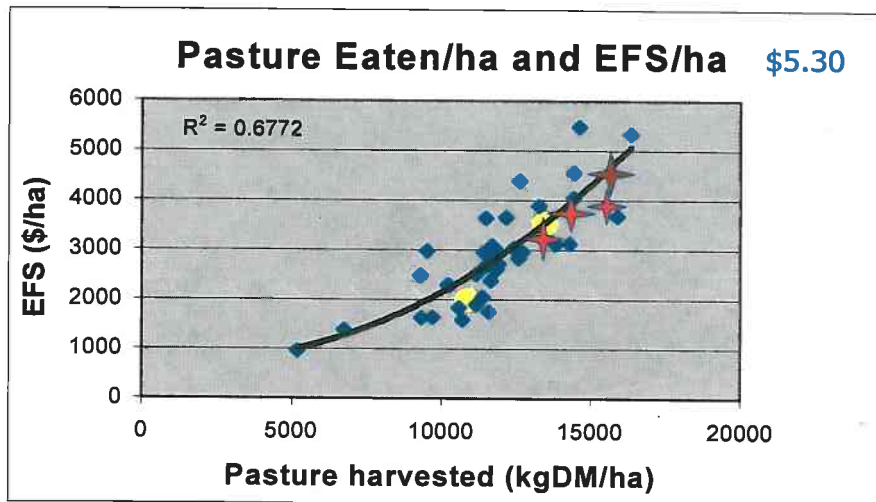
10.30 am	Introduction – format for the day	Virginia Serra - DairyNZ
10.35 am	Purpose of Day	Adrian van Bysterveldt - DairyNZ
10.40 am	Alderbrook Farm – Overview	Marv Pangborn
11.00 am	Split into 3 Groups	

	Group 1 [Guided by Virginia Serra]	Group 2 [Guided by Chris Crossley]	Group 3 [Guided by Victor Gahamadze]
11.02 am	Walk to Paddock C22	Walk to Paddock B10	Stay in Base Paddock
11.10 am	Farm Trends, Development and Grass Marv Pangborn	Making it work – pasture management in last 3 years Dean Willis	Another two years into the LUDF system at Te Pirita Leo Donkers
11.30 am	Walk to B10	Walk to Base Paddock	Walk to C2
11.40 am	Making it work – pasture management in last 3 years Dean Willis	Another two years into the LUDF system at Te Pirita Leo Donkers	Farm Trends, Development and Grass Marv Pangborn
12.00 noon	Walk to Base Paddock	Walk to C2	Walk to B10
12.10 pm	Another two years into the LUDF system at Te Pirita Leo Donkers	Farm Trends, Development and Grass Marv Pangborn	Making it work – pasture management in last 3 years Dean Willis
12.30 pm	Stay at Base Paddock	Walk back to Base Paddock	Walk back to Base Paddock

12.40 pm	Summary	Adrian van Bysterveldt
12.55 pm	Finishing	Virginia Serra
1.00 pm	LUNCH	 Ravensdown

Why Focus on Pasture Management?

1. Analysis of New Zealand Dairy farms consistently shows that the most important key to financial success is how much pasture is consumed.



Data from 2002 Fonterra Westpac Dairy Excellence Awards entrants.

For example the farms in the graph above cover the full range of farm systems from low to high input. This analysis shows that 67% of the resulting farm profit can be explained by the amount of pasture that is eaten on farm. This is by far the highest relationship for any factor affecting farm profitability in NZ.

2. The difference in profitability between average and the top 10% of farmers in a district is often driven by the average farm harvesting/eating 2t less grass. At current payout levels the impact of this will be a difference in profit /ha of between \$1100 and \$1500 /ha depending on the quality of the pasture. If additional supplements are purchased at the same as wasting pasture time then the loss of potential profit will be even greater.
3. Farms which consistently harvest/eat more grass than their district average, don't just focus on growing grass and have higher stocking rates but are either;
 - a) excellent intuitive pasture managers, or
 - b) use a set of pasture management decision support tools

The larger the farm and the less experienced the manager and staff the more successful a farm will be at pasture management if it has adopted the use of some pasture management decision support tools. This is because each year presents a different combination of weather events which impact on pasture availability.

4. LUDF has demonstrated that the use of pasture management decision support tools results in progress being made at harvesting more energy from grass even when key farm personal change from season to season. This is because there is a system for providing information to make better pasture allocation decisions each day, as well as for better strategic decisions each year.

LUDF – energy harvested from pasture.

	02/03	03/04	04/05	05/06	06/07
DM eaten/ha (t)	14.3	15.3	16.1	15.3	16.4
Ave Pasture ME	11.0	12.0	12.2	12.4	12.4
ME eaten /ha (GJME)	157	187	192	191	203
ME eaten/cow (GJME)	42.2	47.8	48.5	47.8	48.4

With proper pasture management and allocation decisions increasing the energy (ME) harvested /ha also means that each cow also gets more energy (ME).

The purpose of today is to focus on which tools used on LUDF are also used on Willsden and Alderbrook. How the farms have overcome the obstacles to using these tools, how the tools are used and how they benefit the management team on each farm.

Pasture Management Tools

Tool	LUDF	Willsden	Alderbrook	Your Farm
Monthly inspection from Feb to Sept of off farm winter grazing contracts	✓	✓	✓	
Autumn to Spring feed budget for milking platform	✓	✓		
Regular updating of budget with Growth Rates, farm covers and stock numbers	✓	✓		
Autumn to Spring feed budget for runoffs	✓	✓	✓	
Regular updating of budget with Growth Rates, farm covers and stock numbers	✓	✓		
Store of “insurance” supplements	✓	✓	✓	
1 June to 1 Oct pasture cover target graph monitored weekly by farm walk	✓	✓		
Spring Rotation Plan	✓	✓	✓	
Weekly Pasture wedge (Sept on)	✓	✓	✓	
Daily/weekly soil temperature monitoring all year	✓	✓		
Daily/weekly soil moisture deficit monitoring spring to autumn	✓	✓		
Regular pasture pest monitoring	✓	✓		
Measurement to allow annual ranking of paddocks by DM yield	✓	✓	✓	

Willsden Farm Ltd update.

Operations Manager – Leo Donkers

Farm Manager - Terry Kilday

Area – 412 ha, (306 effective irrigated ha and 75 effective ha runoff)

Irrigation – 4 x Briggs 250 Rotorainers on 13 day return interval

Soils – Lismore Stony Silt Loam

Annual Rainfall – 700mm

Contour – Flat

Winter grazing is on land next to the milking platform

Pasture types – see Map of Willsden with location of pasture types in appendix

Pasture Management.

Risks

- Lack of water
- Pasture pests
- Not removing surpluses and then loss of pasture quality
- Not anticipating deficits
- Having poorly producing paddocks
- Lengthy periods of snow cover

Opportunities

- Improved water availability through Central Plains Water.
- On farm storage of water if cheaper water became available
- Use of tools allowing proactive pasture management.

Production performance history

Season	Eff. ha	Cow Nos.		Sales			Pasture eaten
		1 June	1 Dec	Kg MS	/ha	/cow	GJME
1999/00	212	650	630	285,400	1346	453	-
2000/01	212	760	740	313,785	1480	424	-
2001/02	320	1090	1060	460,712	1440	437	-
2002/03	320	1100	1070	463,153	1447	433	138.2
2003/04	320	1040	995	459,287	1435	469	137.9
2004/05	320	1060	1000	470,880	1470	455	140.4
2005/06	306	1050	1010	442,000	1450	438	134.3
2006/07	306	1050	1020	461,000	1510	452	138.9

The energy harvested (GJME) numbers show a static situation with numbers fluctuation with the season. In reality the farm is coping with more and more watering restrictions and so these numbers which show a static situation with energy harvested actually represents a significant improvement in pasture management.

Supplement use on Willsden over time

(All replacements grazed off, cows wintered off for 10 weeks)

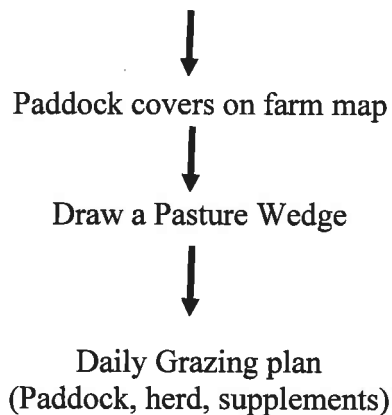
Feed Reconciliation (tDM)		02/03	03/04	04/05	05/06	06/07
Opening totals		150	292	480	598	228
Purchased	Baleage	522	400	236	0	430
	Barley	127.5	127.5	127.5	136	161.5
Made on farm	Baleage	0	0	96	129	54
Fed Out	Baleage	380	212	214	459	454
	Barley	127.5	127.5	127.5	136	161.5
Sold	Baleage	0	0	0	40	128
Closing Totals		292	480	598	228	190

Additional ME each year GJME

/ha

Barley	4.98	4.98	4.98	5.56	6.60
Baleage	12.16	12.16	12.16	10.78	13.07
Off farm grazing	28.88	27.3	27.83	28.82	28.82
ME not from milking platform	46.02	44.44	44.97	45.16	48.49
% of total ME	25.0%	24.4%	24.3%	25.2%	25.8%

Weekly Farm Walk



	1 st Herd	2 nd Herd
Mon	24 + 3 bales 525	11 + 3 bales 525
Tue	27 + 3 bales 525	44 + 3 bales 525
Wed	8 + 4 bales 550	36 + 3 bales 500

Key Points

- Farm walks are necessary once a week
- The pasture wedge is our most important tool
- Reducing water levels in the wells and increasing electricity costs are increasing the cost of growing grass on this farm. Pasture utilization is even more important for achieving profitability targets.
- Pasture utilization is increasing through
 - Higher stocking rate
 - Making surpluses into baleage
 - Improved cow intakes through improved pasture quality
- Profit is improving through the ability to reduce feed expenses in the business by identifying more surpluses on the milking platform.
- Peak production does not set total production – feed quality does

Alderbrook Farm

Business Structure

Pangborn Family Trust – owns majority of land
Alderbrook Farms Ltd – owns cattle, machinery and 20ha
M & J Pangborn – retain off farm investments
Share milkers – Dean & Sandra Willis

Objective: To increase net worth by 10% per year.

Size: (see appendix map)

83.95 ha freehold (Northbank) – acquired 1994

30.96 ha freehold (Laings) – acquired 1997 (25ha leased since 1995)

71.26 ha Canterbury Regional Council 15 year lease – acquired 1989

147 ha CRC 3 year grazing licence – acquired 1990

20.2 ha freehold (Leslies) – acquired 2002

115 ha freehold (Sheddons) – acquired 2005 – now to be converted to a dairy farm

29.5 ha freehold (Plantation board) – acquired 2007 – now to be converted to a dairy farm.

Soils : Waimakiriri stony silt loams

Rainfall : 625 mm /yr

Dairy : 36 aside herringbone with yarding for 450 cows

Winter grazing: on land next to the milking platform

Development since 1994

1994/95 -- Re-bordered, re-seeded, and increased fertility on Northbank.

1995/96 -- Installed 73 m well on Northbank – small Briggs irrigator.

1996/97 – Changed Briggs to laterals to irrigate 40ha (including some lease land).

1997/98 – Cleaned up rubbish, re-grassed and increased fertility on new Laings block. Deepened well on Northbank to 93m.

1998/99 – Installed K lines on Laings.

1999/00 – Converted some Northbank laterals to K lines.

2001/02 – Installed K lines on new Leslie's block

2002/03 – Border dyked 5.9 ha on riverbed

2004/05 – Border dyked another 14.6 ha on riverbed and cleared gorse/broom from another 30 ha of riverbed. Drilled new well to get better K line operation.

2005/06 – Developed 20 ha riverbed and re-worked 30 ha cleared previous year. Cleared, fertilized and re-fenced Sheddons block.

2006/07 – Developed another 30 ha riverbed (now 80ha in grass) and cleared 29.5 ha trees on plantation block. Capital fertilizer to plantation block and then re-fenced.

2007/08 – More capital fertilizer and more re-grassing.

Supplements fed to milkers

	02/03	03/04	04/05	05/06	06/07
Straw/hay	98.1	113.4	40	40	35
Meal	24	42	24	12	18
Baleage	187.5	243.8	154.5	623	371.3
Silage	0	0	50	0	0
Crop	0	0	36	36	0

Production History and ME Eaten.

Season	Production	cows	Ha irrig	/cow	/ha	ME Eaten /ha (GJME)
As owner operator or with manager						
1994/95	70,000	220		318		
1995/96	95,000	300		316		
1996/97	120,000	350		342		
1997/98	120,000	350		342		
1998/99	140,000	365	134	383	1044	
1999/00	160,000	390	150	410	1066	
2000/01	177,972	435	165	409	1079	
2001/02	184,119	430	165	428	1115	
2002/03	197,496	450	170	439	1161	114
2003/04	218,320	520	188	420	1161	113.4
With 50/50 sharemilker						
2004/05	238,798	565	200	421	1193	126.7
2005/06	258,700	600	200	431	1293	114.4
2006/07	267,142	620	200	430	1335	130.8

Land use (2006/07 season)

200 ha irrigated for the milking herd

153 ha dry land used for wintering, headraces etc

145 ha (Sheddon & plantation) being developed - 100 ha cropped (see appendix)

Irrigation

106 ha border dyke (private scheme using Rakaia water) with 12 day return

96 ha K line and laterals with 12 day return

Key Points

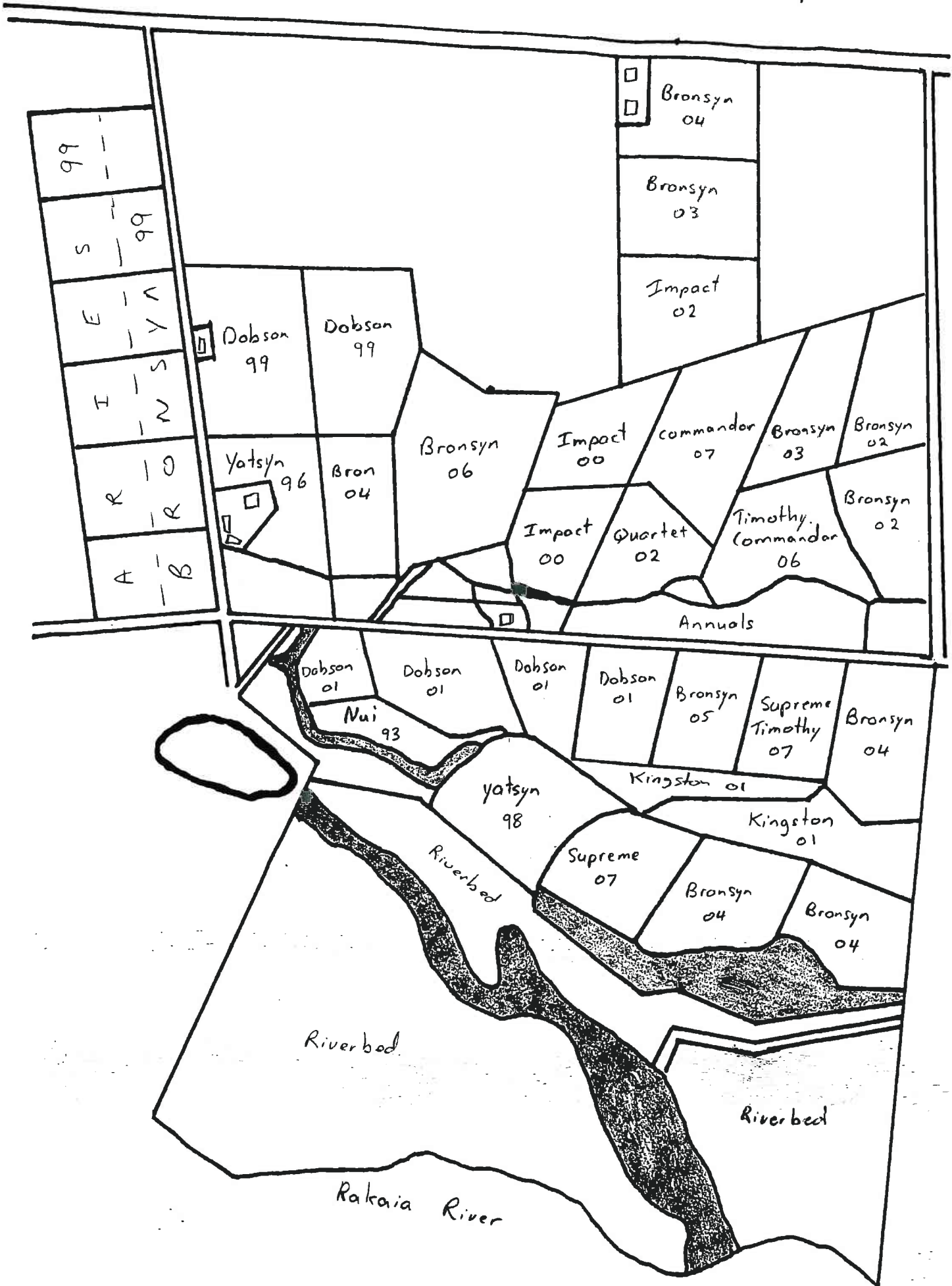
Making It Work As A Share-milker

- Original goals for the farm were within three years to milk 620 cows and produce 250,000 kg MS. Actual is 700 cows and projected 300,000 kg MS.
- Wanted to use as little supplement as possible because we have to use all the pasture to be profitable.
- Due to the constraints of the farm our management has evolved!
- We employ an extra staff member (extra 4 wheel bike), to be able to keep a finger on the pulse.
- Used 240 bales Silage this spring (130 kg/dm/cow). This, along with good pasture utilisation, has helped our bottom line.
- Profitability - FWE averaged \$1.55 over last 4 years. (Following LUDF principals has helped this). EFS Last Season \$1000/ha. This season our EFS will be around \$1450/ha (if the payout was \$4 it still would be \$1000).

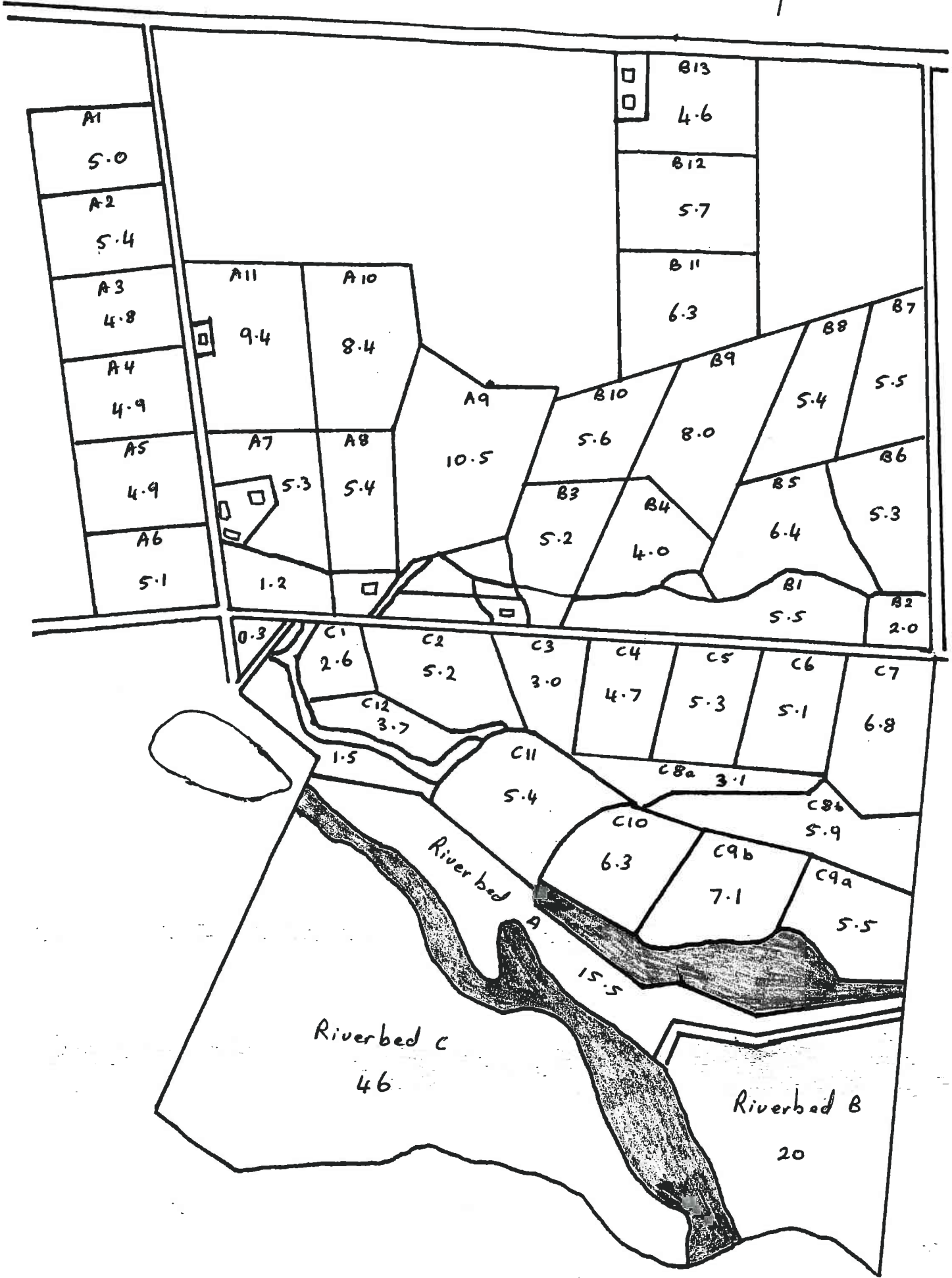
Pasture Management

- The farm has constraints and challenges which impact on the way we farm. These are, very rocks soils, small shed size, water restrictions, and long walking distances with road crossings.
- Pasture management is the key.
- Cover at 31st May must be 1800kg/dm/ha. This is NON-NEGOTIABLE.
- First round is by and large set at the end of July, just before calving using a Spring Rotation Plan.
- End of the first round is between 25 & 27th Sept – NON-NEGOTIABLE.
- Farm “walk” from the seat of the bike (visual assessment) every week from the 20th Sept and every 5-6 days at certain times of the year.
- I do all the farm walks and make my Excel spreadsheet table and also a pasture wedge for both sides of the farm.
- Grazing plan recorded in yellow note book to let me analyse round length and plan nitrogen applications.
- Monitoring is even more important with a higher stocking rate of 3.5 cows/ha.
- Targeting 1550kg/dm/ha grazing residuals by my visual assessment. This is particularly important during the first round but must be maintained for the whole year.
- Only true surpluses harvested, but aggressively in October/Nov to maintain pasture quality. Monitoring is vital.
- Big range of paddock sizes so two herds, break fences are used the year round for second herd and in the bigger paddocks for first herd.
- Target residual must be met then moved to next paddock.
- Cocksfoot Paddocks (On Map B3, B4, B9, B10). Supposedly in good pasture but Cocksfoot has come in with water and takes over! We make sure we get to them before they get to 2800 cover and ensure cows get to target residual.
- Have followed the same principles as LUDF for most of my farming career. LUDF work has highlighted the need to monitor, and the importance of grass quality for the whole lactation.
- We use a high stocking rate to maintain quality through grazing lower. We do this because the ground is too rough on most of the farm to use mowers.

ALDERBROOK FARM



ALDERBROOK FARM



Dry land Crop Rotation

Crop costings as of 11-06

KALE:

Plowing	94
Harrow/roll	44
Maxitill \$47/ha X 2	94
Roller drill	59
Fertiliser (all costs include transport and spreading)	
250 kg cropmaster DAP +15 kg Boron \$171/ha	171
100 kg urea	65
100 kg urea	65
Spraying	
Herbicide	53
Insecticide \$30 x 2	60
Seed	
Kale @ 19kg x 4 kg	76
Swedes \$5/ha	5
	<hr/>
Total	\$ 786/ha
	10.7c /kg DM.

TRITICALE:

Grubbing \$54/ha x 3	162
Drilling	70
Seed	135
Fertiliser (all costs include transport and spreading)	
300 kg Crop 20	156
100 kg urea	65
150 kg urea	90
Spraying for fungus	118
	<hr/>
Total	\$ 796/ha
	8.0c /kg DM

GRASS:

Drilling \$94/ha	94
Fertiliser (all costs include transport and spreading)	
200 kg Crop 20	110
150 kg urea	90
Seed	40
	<hr/>
Total	\$ 334/ha
	7.7c /kg DM.

February 14th 2008 - Farm Walk

Paddock	Size (Ha)	Now	7 Days Ago	Size x Kg/Dm	Growth	Order	Lame Cows
A1	5	1750	1950	8750		B11	C2
A2	6	1750	1550	10500	29	A8	C3
A3	5	1700	2650	8500		A10	
A4	5	1700	2500	8500		A7	
A5	5	1800	1650	9000	21	B3	
A6	5	1700	1550	8500	21	B4	
A7	6	2700	2200	16200	71	A11	(26 Day
A8	6	2850	2300	17100	79	B10	Round For
A9	12	2100	1750	25200	50	A9	First Herd)
A10	10	2750	2150	27500	86	B6	
A11	10	2550	2100	25500	64	B13	
B1	0	0	0	0		B12	
B2	0	0	0	0		A5	
B3	5	2350	1850	11750	71	A2	
B4	4	2450	2050	9800	57	A1	
B5	7	2350	1950	16450	57	A3	
B6	5	2100	1750	10500	50	A4	
B7	6	1600	2700	9600		A6	
B8	6	1650	2700	9900		B8	
B9	6	1550	2400	9300		B7	
B10	5	2300	1800	11500	71	B9	
B11	6	1900	2250	11400			
B12	6	1900	1700	11400	29		
B13	6	1950	1700	11700	36		

137

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Kg/Dm/Ha = 2106

						Order	
C1	2	2500	1950	5000	79	C1	
C2	5	2050	1850	10250	29	B5	
C3	2	1700	1650	3400		C12	
C4	5	1750	1550	8750	29	C9(A)	(26-27 Day
C5	6	1550	2400	9300		C9(B)	Round For
C6	6	2200	1850	13200	50	C6	Second
C7	6	1750	2450	10500		C11	Herd)
C8	6	1800	1650	10800	21	C8	
C9(A)	6	2300	2050	13800	36	C4	
C9(B)	5	2150	1950	10750	29	C7	
C10	5	1600	2650	8000		C10	
C11	5	1850	1700	9250	21	C5	
C12	3	2400	1800	7200	86	Headrace	
Headrace	1	1550	2300	1550			

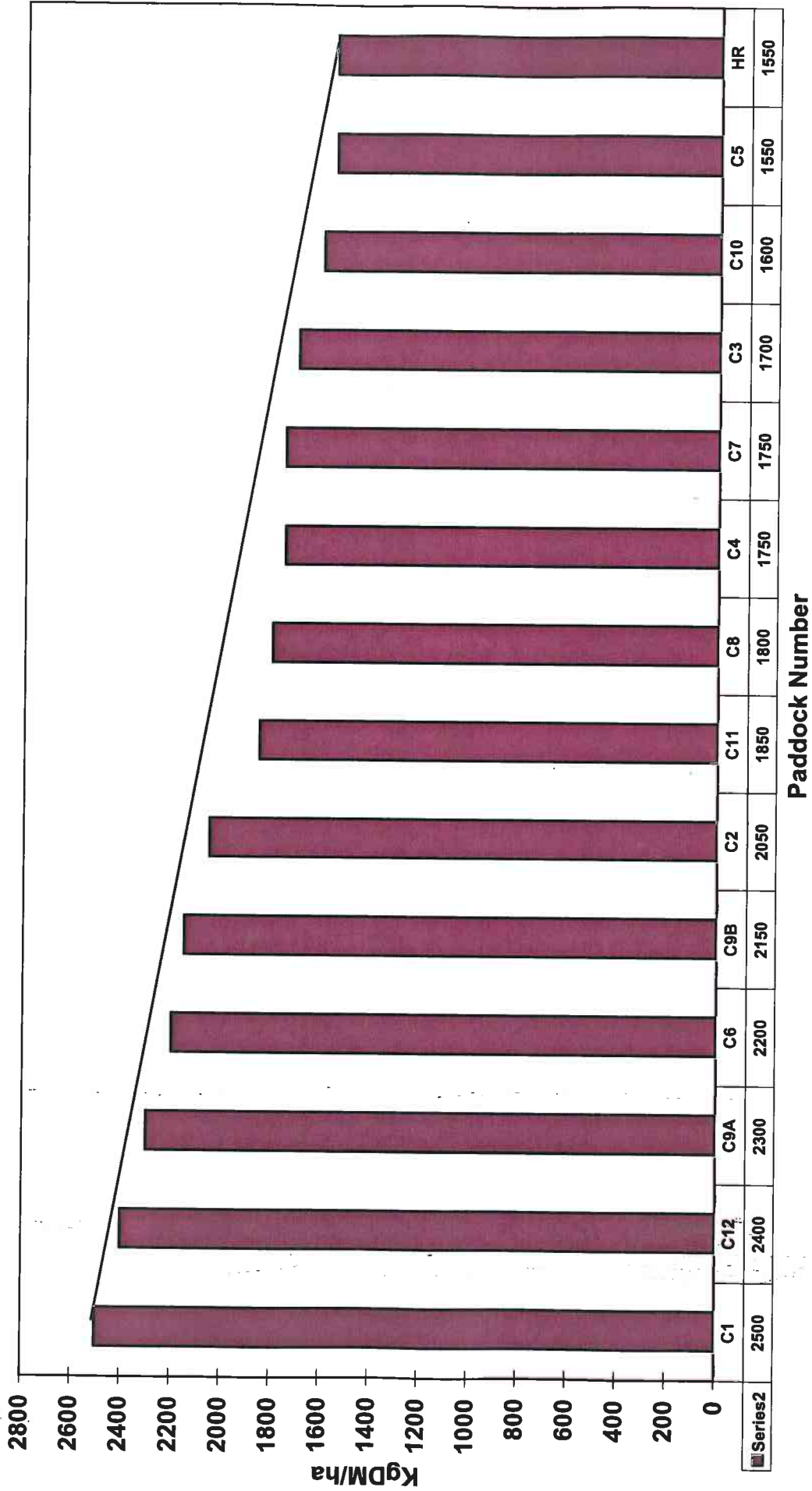
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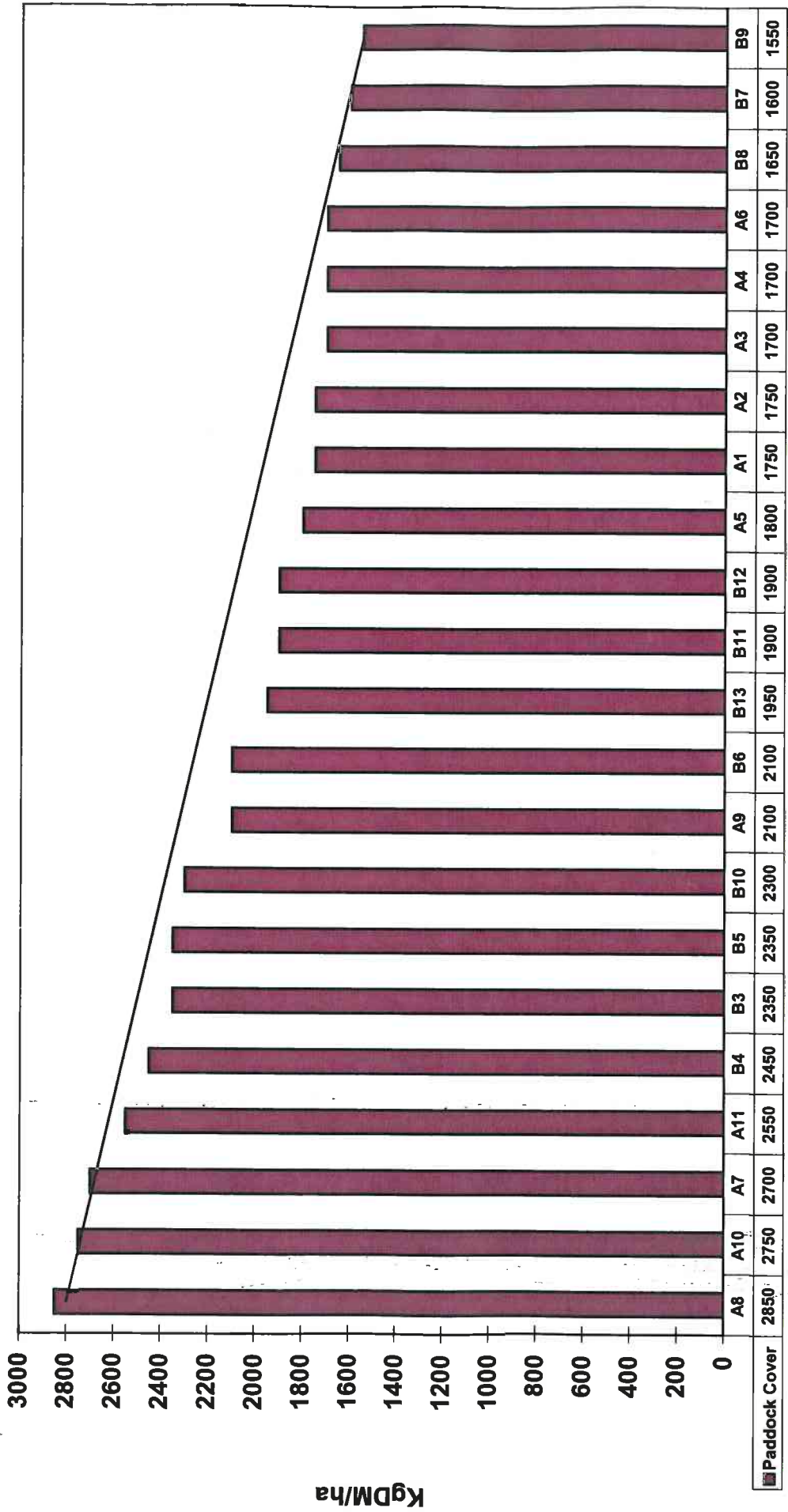
Kg/Dm/Ha = 1933

Average Farm Cover 2052 (Up 18)

Feed Wedge Herd 2



Feed Wedge Herd 1



Paddock Number

Development of Sheddoln Block

-116 ha purchased 8/05

-purchased with two other dairyfarmers (original block was 330)

-purchased 29.5 ha (plantation block) 11/05, paid for in 5/07, title expected in 7/07

-Sheddoln block fertility:

	<u>pH</u>		
	<u>6/07</u>	<u>6/06</u>	<u>7/05</u>
A	5.9	5.3	
B	5.8		5.8
C	5.7	6.3	5.7
D	5.3		5.6
E	5.6		5.6
F	5.3	6.1	
G	6.0	5.2	

	<u>Olsen P</u>		
	<u>6/07</u>	<u>6/06</u>	<u>7/05</u>
A	22	17	
B	27		8
C	37	12	9
D	43		14
E	25		
F	21	13	8
G	34	26	

Potassium ranges from 5 to 8 at 6/07 test

Sulphur is 6 to 17, but 33 in ex plantation block (stumps)

Development in 2005/06:

all grassed paddocks sprayed off with 4 litres of glyphosate

triticale paddocks treated for grass grub

lime @ 3 tonnes per/ha

Super phosphate @ 500 kg/ha

8 hectares cleared of gorse and broom in C paddock

new fence along A & B boundary (west)

new fence along A (south)

cleared gorse and stump clumps in E & F

trees removed from A and piled to burn

logged some trees in A (cost more than the value of logs)

started dry land cropping rotation (18 month rotation):

triticale planted in August, harvested for silage in January, drilled into annual

ryegrass in February for winter grazing, harvested for baleage in November and then worked and drilled into Kale for winter grazing

results:

6500 kg of Triticale silage off 55 ha (D,E, F)

3500 kg of Kale off 30 ha (B,C)

200 bales of baleage off 30 ha (B,C before Kale planted)

autumn grass wasn't sufficient for winter grazing (30 calves on 40 ha), neighbour milked on D for a week

Development in 2006/07:

Irrigation:

- 1) applied for new groundwater right, spent \$20000 to date—right granted, but consultants still working on conditions—will probably be too expensive to pursue
- 2) applied to transfer excess groundwater rights from dairy farm to allow irrigation--neighbour objected and we eventually dropped application
- 3) successfully transferred surplus surface water from dairy farm---only able to because neighbour to dairy farm installed a pivot, had to negotiate water access thru another neighbour and construct pond to increase reliability of supply

Development:

- removed gorse and willows and build new fence on south side of A,C & D
- removed stumps and burnt 29.5 ha of plantation
- burnt plantation (A), worked and sown in annual ryegrass
- 500 kg super/ha to whole farm, 3 ton of lime/ha to A and 5 ton/ha to G (plantations)

Results:

Harvested:

- 2750 kg dm/ha grass off of 56 ha for baleage (d,e,f)
- 10000 kg dm/ha of triticale for silage off of 38 ha (b,c)

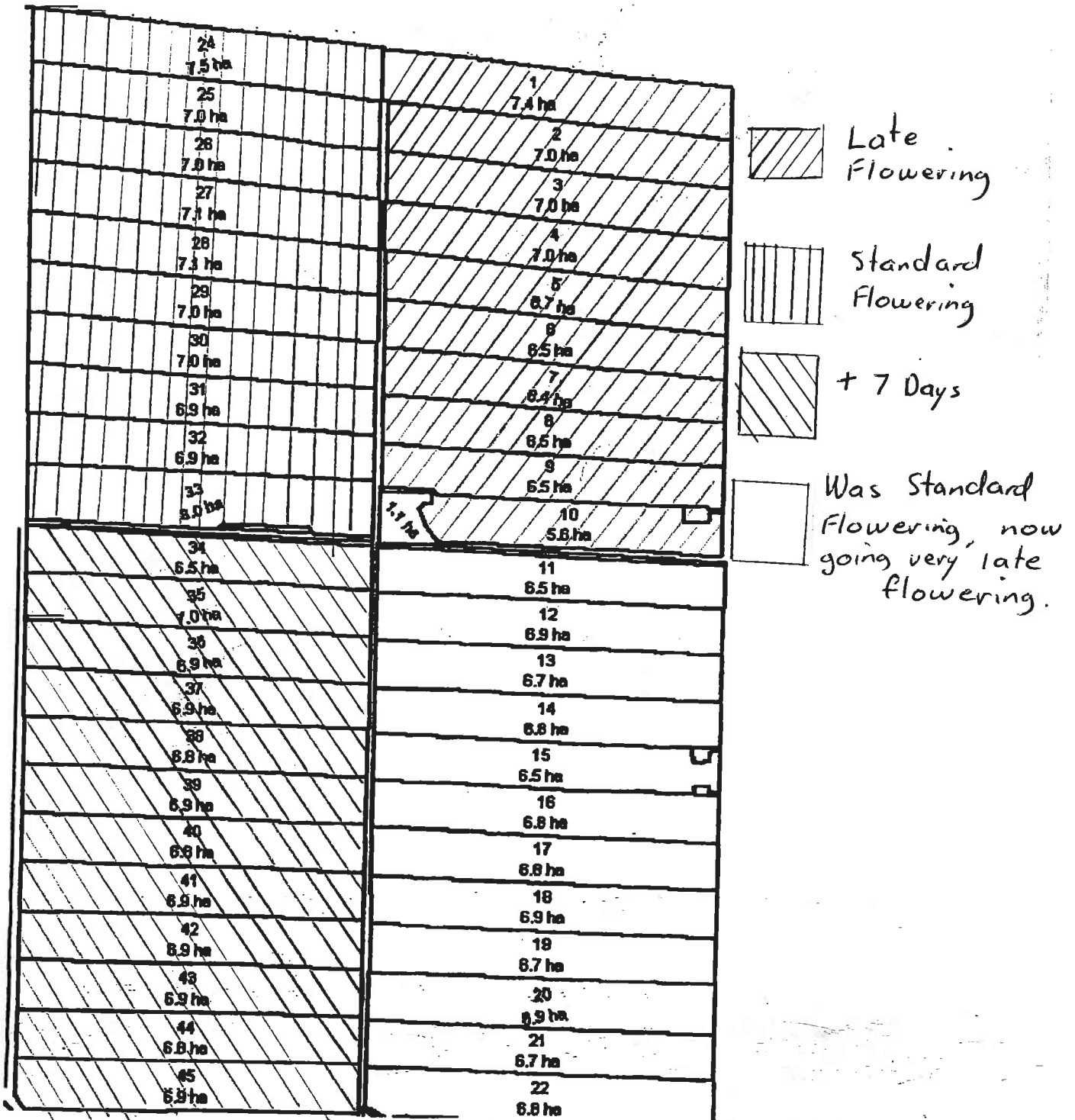
For winter:

- 7350 kg dm/ha of kale off of 56 ha (d,e,f)
- 1600 kg dm/ha of annual grass off of 38 ha (b,c)
- plantations will be used for rough grazing for empty cows (a,g)

Development 2007/08:

- construct pond and bring water under road
- install centre pivot
- power to property
- pvc and power cable to centre of pivot
- post irrigation to 12 ha corner
- plant b,c,d,e,f in permanent pasture
- work A and G and plant in annual grass (maybe do an experiment with Kale)
- last capital fertilizer to whole farm of 500 kg super per ha
- 3 ton lime to A and G
- build cattle yards

Layout of Willsden Dairy Farm



- 306ha, note 1 paddock in the cropping area is added onto this farm
- Cowshed in the 1.1ha in the centre
- The farm is split into blocks on pasture flowering date
- Each 500 cow herd has an end of the farm

Farm Walk Pasture Cover Recorder

Start here Willsden Farm Date: 19th Feb

File this document for future reference

Pasture Cover Recorder (kgDM/ha)

As you walk the farm, enter the paddock number beside the cover it corresponds to in the table below.

Notes

A	B								
3400 +									
3300									
3200									
3100									
3000									
2900									Totals
2800	29								2800
2700	6	42							5400
2600	24	45							5200
2500	36	1	7	15	23	38	43		17,500
2400	2	9	12	21	27	30	32	40	19,200
2300	18	19	33						6900
2200	16	34							4400
2100	13	26	34						6300
2000	10	25	41	658	658				10,000
1900									
1800	20	40							3600
1700	3	35							3400
1600	4	5	31	37					6400
1500	8	11	14	17	29	22			9000
1400									100,100 / 46 paddocks
1300									

The table above has ranked paddocks from longest to shortest cover making it easy to plot this information on a feed wedge. The table over the page allows you to plot this information and look at a quick feed wedge for your farm

Quick average pasture cover calculator

Multiply the cover (A) by the number of total paddocks appearing beside that cover (B). Do this for each row and add these numbers up to give (C).

Total cover on farm (C) = 100,100

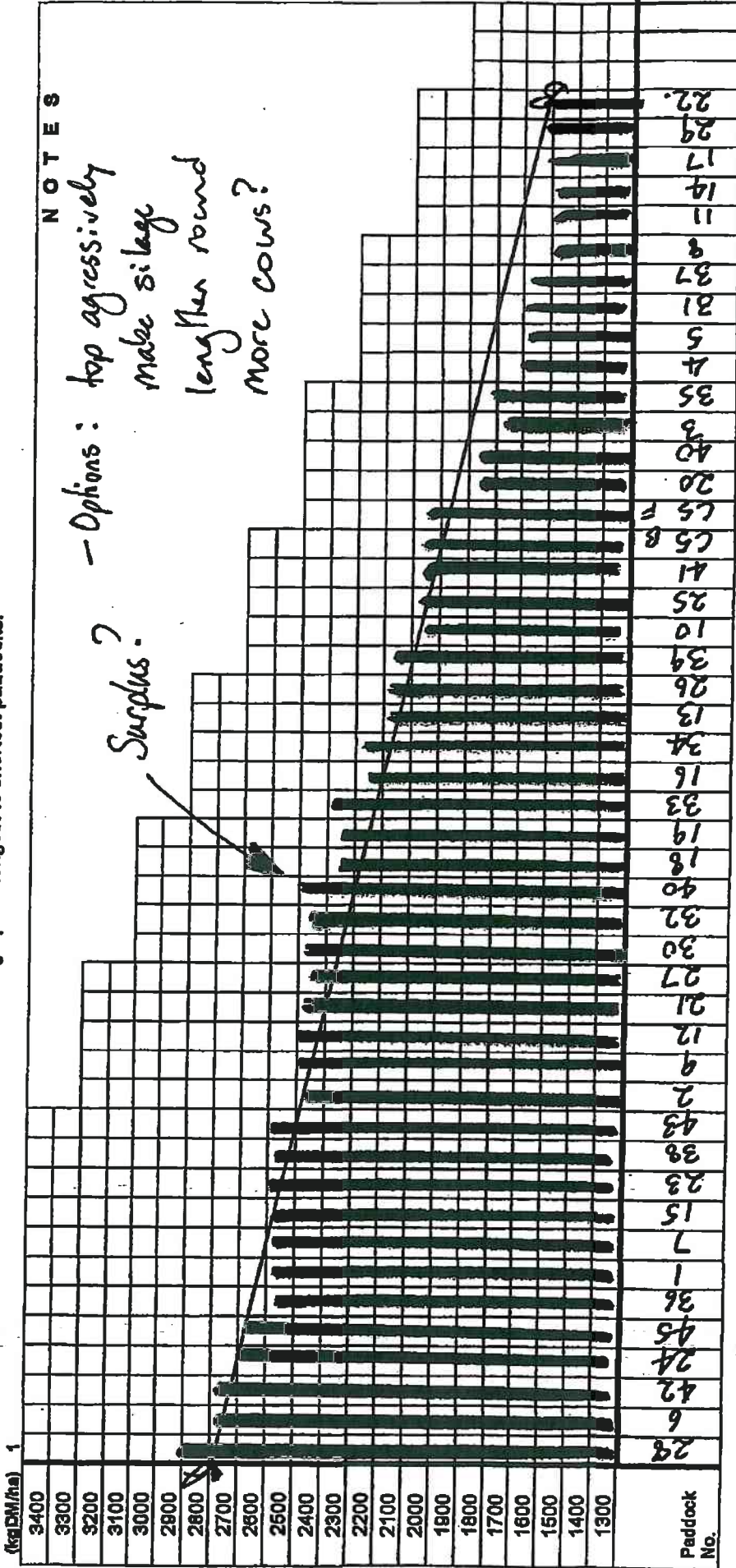
Divide (C) by the number of paddocks on the farm to get an estimate of average pasture cover 46

Estimate of Average Pasture Cover = 2175 kg DM/ha.

Feed Wedge Ready Reckoner (start over the page)

dexcel
Returns in printable drawings

Take the longest paddock from the Farm Walk Pasture Cover Recorder table and mark the cover with a shaded bar in column (1) below. Follow with the next longest paddock and so on to make a bar graph of longest to shortest paddocks.



Cover checker

Ideal pre graze cover = 2700 kgDM/ha (mark this in column (1) and mark with an A)
 Ideal post graze residual = 1500 kgDM/ha (mark this in the last column you fill in, mark with a B, now draw a straight line between A and B)

Are there paddocks above the line? = potential surplus

Are there paddock below the line? = potential deficit

Check that given predicted growth rates, when the cows graze the paddocks over the next week, they won't be above ideal pre graze cover? Mark what cover the paddock will be at grazing on the wedge as a check.

Handy Hints:

- Do you have any paddocks with pasture species that require different pre grazing decisions? Mark on wedge
- How do the paddocks coming up in the grazing round suit the weather forecast? Should cows go into wetter paddocks early to prevent damage? Mark paddocks requiring N or effluent onto feed wedge

You can check out LUDF's feed wedge by going to www.slide.org.nz and clicking on LUDF and then Farm Walk Notes

Farm Walk Pasture Cover Recorder

Start here

Date: _____

File this document for future reference

Pasture Cover Recorder
(kgDM/ha)

As you walk the farm, enter the paddock number beside the cover it corresponds to in the table below.

Notes

A	B							
3400 +								
3300								
3200								
3100								
3000								
2900								
2800								
2700								
2600								
2500								
2400								
2300								
2200								
2100								
2000								
1900								
1800								
1700								
1600								
1500								
1400								
1300								

The table above has ranked paddocks from longest to shortest cover making it easy to plot this information on a feed wedge. The table over the page allows you to plot this information and look at a quick feed wedge for your farm

Quick average pasture cover calculator

Multiply the cover (A) by the number of total paddocks appearing beside that cover (B). Do this for each row and add these numbers up to give (C).

Total cover on farm (C) =

Divide (C) by the number of paddocks on the farm to get an estimate of average pasture cover

Estimate of Average Pasture Cover =

Feed Wedge Ready Reckoner (start over the page)



Take the longest paddock from the Farm Walk Pasture Cover Recorder table and mark the cover with a shaded bar in column (1) below. Follow with the next longest paddock and so on to make a bar graph of longest to shortest paddocks.

(kgDM/ha) 1	NOTES																			
3400																				
3300																				
3200																				
3100																				
3000																				
2900																				
2800																				
2700																				
2600																				
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2100																				
2000																				
1900																				
1800																				
1700																				
1600																				
1500																				
1400																				
1300																				
Paddock No.																				

Cover checker

Ideal pre graze cover =
 Ideal post graze residual =

Are there paddocks above the line? = potential surplus

Are there paddock below the line? = potential deficit

Check that given predicted growth rates, when the cows graze the paddocks over the next week, they won't be above ideal pre graze cover? Mark what cover the paddock will be at grazing on the wedge as a check.

Handy Hints:

- Do you have any paddocks with pasture species that require different pre grazing decisions? Mark on wedge
- How do the paddocks coming up in the grazing round suit the weather forecast? Should cows go into wetter paddocks early to prevent damage? Mark paddocks requiring N or effluent onto feed wedge

You can check out LUDF's feed wedge by going to www.siddc.org.nz and clicking on LUDF and then Farm Walk Notes

How To Visit the SIDDC Website www.siddc.org.nz INSTRUCTIONS



About SIDDC SI dairying Lincoln Uni dairy farm Sthld demo farm Research Education Events



Welcome to the South Island Dairying Development Centre

NOTE THE NINE BUTTONS ABOVE

- **About SIDDC** provides information on SIDDC and the six partners.
- **SI Dairying** is a summary of dairying in the South Island.
- **LU Dairy Farm** provides detailed information on the operation of the Lincoln University Dairy Farm [LUDF] – see below.
- **Sthld Demo Farm** provides detailed information on the operation of the Southland Demonstration Farm [SDF] - see over page.
- **Research** covers SIDDC research, including projects on the LUDF. Partner research projects relating to dairying are also listed.
- **Education** – under development.
- **News & Events** provide information on past and pending Focus Days, including handouts from each Focus Day, and any other relevant news or events.

About SIDDC SI dairying Lincoln Uni dairy farm Sthld demo farm Research Education News & Events

▶ Farm Walk Notes
▶ Weekly Data
▶ Production per (ha)
▶ Production per Cow
▶ Pasture Analysis
▶ Financials
▶ Archive Wkly Data
▶ Archive Farm Walks
▶ LUDF Map
▶ Focus Days
▶ Home

Lincoln University Dairy Farm

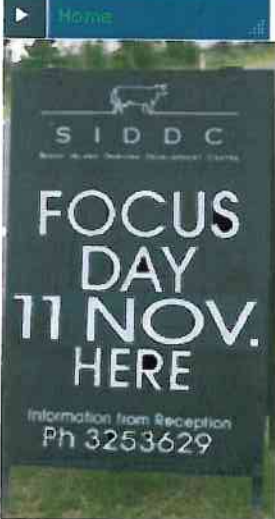
NOTE THE BOOKMARKS TO THE LEFT:

- **Farm Walk Notes** are a record of what occurred on the LUDF farm walk held each Tuesday morning, particularly on pasture production and utilising the feed wedge.
- **Weekly Data** gives a full list of the previous 4 weeks farm production details
- **Production per hectare** is a graph of Kg MS Production / ha / day
- **Production per cow** is a graph of Kg MS Production / Cow / Day
- **Pasture Analysis** provides the LUDF's current and archived pasture analysis
- **Financials** provide the LUDF current and archived Financial Results and Budgets
- **Archive Wkly Data** provides an archive of the weekly data from May 2004
- **Archive Farm Walks** is the accumulated farm walk notes from April 2005 [double click on preferred month]
- **LUDF Map** is a map of the farm
- **Focus Days** provides information on pending focus day dates, programmes, and archived handouts provided at previous focus days.



SIDDC – Partners networking to advance South Island Dairying





Events

Next LUDF Focus Day

Thursday, 8th May 2008

Venue: Lincoln University Dairy Farm, Cnr Shands and Ellesmere Junction Roads

Visit the [DairyNZ calendar of events](#) for other Industry events

Previous LUDF Focus Day

21st February 2008 [Programme / Agenda and Handout](#)

6th July 2006 [Agenda and Handout](#)

11th October 2007 [Programme / Agenda and Handout](#)

11th May 2006 [Agenda](#) and [Handout](#)

12th July 2007 [Programme / Agenda and Handout](#)

23rd February 2006 [Agenda](#) and [Handout](#)

3rd May 2007 [Programme](#) and [Agenda and Handout](#)

6th October 2005 [Agenda](#) and [Handout](#)

15th March 2007 Irrigation Focus Day [Programme](#) and [Agenda and Handout](#)

1st July 2005 [Agenda](#), [Handout](#) and [Financial Comparisons](#)

22nd February 2007 [Agenda](#) and [Handout](#)

4th May 2005 [Agenda](#) and [Handout](#)

26th October 2006 [Agenda](#) and [Handout](#)

3rd February 2005 [Agenda](#) and [Handout](#)



[Farm Walk Notes](#)

[Weekly Data](#)

[Production Per \(ha\)](#)

[Production per Cow](#)

[Pasture Analysis](#)

[Financials](#)

[Monitor Farms \(4\)](#)

[Archive Wkly Data](#)

[Archive Farm Walks](#)

[Focus Days](#)

[Map](#)

Southland Demonstration Farm

NOTE THE BOOKMARKS TO THE LEFT:

As with the LUDF page, information can be accessed by using the bookmarks on the left. Financials are not yet available.

The information for each bookmark as described for the LUDF applies also to the Southland Demonstration Farm [SDF].

Monitor Farms provides a weekly summary from the project, 'Future proofing Southland dairy farm systems' which aims to generate reliable pasture growth and quality, and soil temperature information on four commercial dairy farms in Southland / West Otago and the Southland Demonstration farm over the next 3 years.

For further information about any of the above, please contact: Adrienne Steed. DDI: 03 325 3629

If there are any areas you would like to see developed, or areas included which would be useful but are not currently available, please email your suggestions to: office@siddc.org.nz. Thank you.