

Weekly Farm Summary 23rd September 2022

Farm-system impacts of: Kale vs Fodder beet for winter AND Reducing N loss to water by 30%.

	Conserved Pasture – Std Pink	Conserved Pasture - LI Blue	Fodder beet – Std Green	Fodder beet – LI Yellow
Farmlet area including wintering	82.7	60.9	82.7	60.9
Peak cow numbers	223	137	223	137
Milking Area	73.8	55.1	73.8	55.1
Current Herd size (cows)	198	117	185	126
Pasture Stocking rate (current)	2.7	2.1	2.5	2.3
Winter Feed Milking supplement	Swede/Bale	Baleage	Beet 80 days	Beet 60 days
	In-shed feed 500kg/cow + baleage as required			
Average Cover	2169	2180	2234	2258
Average Growth	34	32	42	42
Target rotation length	22	26	22	26
Last week act rotation (d)	35	44	38	49
Last week supp (kg DM/cow)	4.1	3.4	4.0	3.3
Average BCS – In milk cows	4.8	4.7	4.6	4.7
% of herd on priority feeding	3%	4%	7%	5%
Milk yield (L/cow)	23.9	26.0	24.2	24.6
Milk yield (kgMS/cow)	2.13	2.36	2.13	2.21
Nitrogen Cap kgN/ha/yr	180	50	180	50
% Nitrogen used (kgN/ha) YTD	13% (23kg)	18% (9kg)	14% (25kg)	14% (7kg)
Effluent N YTD	1	0	1	2
Profit/ha comp to Control	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
YTD supp (kg DM/cow)	172	118	158	122
YTD MS/cow	51	55	49	55
YTD MS/milk ha (YTD MS/farm ha)	154 (137)	136 (123)	148 (132)	137 (124)

Business Area	Current Status
Milk Production	Is steadily rising and consistent across all herds
Pasture & Feed	Silage was reduced to continue to meet residuals as pre-graze covers lifted. In-shed supplements reduced to the lowest amount required to meet daily mineral supplementation requirements. Moving to second round pastures for Std herds this week and LI next week. Backing the farm to grow good grass so speeding up to our fastest rotation (22-24 days for Std and LI, respectively).
Animals	Next metri-check on 3 rd October. Continuing to dust MgO onto silage to springers at the higher rate and provide DCP. One cow has cultured Staph aureus so change of dry required to try and clear mastitis.
Environment	Effluent applications continue to follow the cows. Majority of the farm has had its first application of nitrogen fertiliser, remainder scheduled for this week
Wintering	Approximately 60 (total) cows still to calve. Planning for next season's wintering systems and paddock selection is under way
People	New 10 and 4 rosters implemented (6 n 2 then 4 n 2)
Research	Refining details for 2023-24 farm systems setup

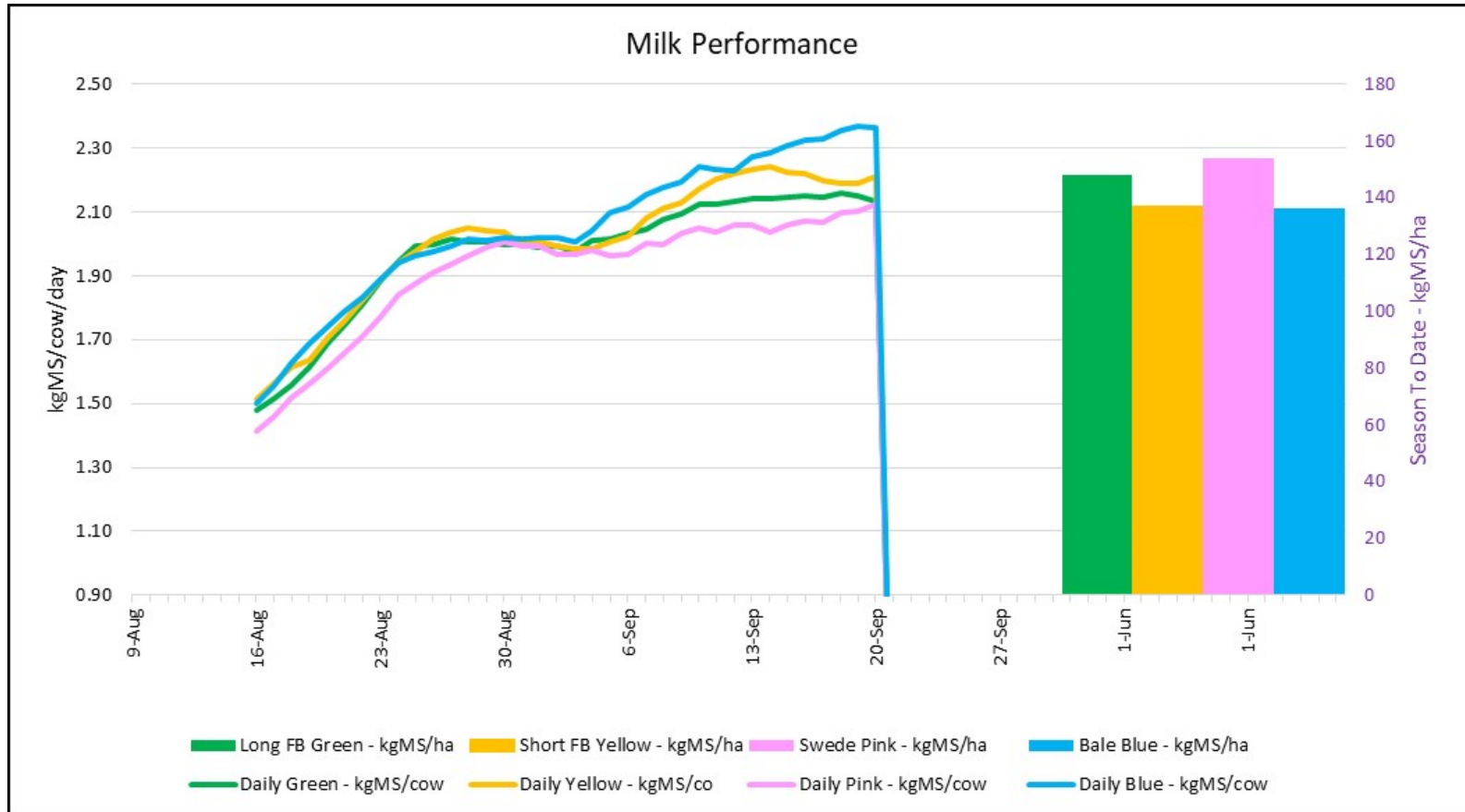
Milk Production

Principles of Milk Production management this week

Milk Production	YTD production (kgMS/ha) for the standard herds continues to be higher than the lower impact herds, with all herds significantly ahead of last season. Protein composition is remaining constant and FEI well within the green band for all herds.
Key Influences on Milk Production	Too early to tell if the herds are nearing their peak. Some variable pasture quality across the farm as we finish off the first round which may have some minor short-term impacts on individual herds.
Cow Management	No changes to previous weeks. Majority of the cows milked TAD with some animals being milked OAD to protect BCS and aid recovery post calving

	Conserved Pasture - Std Pink	Conserved Pasture - LI Blue	Fodder beet - Std Green	Fodder beet - LI Yellow
kg Milksolids per cow this week / (last week)	2.13 (2.06)	2.36 (2.23)	2.13 (2.13)	2.21 (2.22)
kg Milksolids per ha this year / (same time last year)	154 (137)	136 (123)	148 (132)	137 (124)
% Var kg Milksolids per ha Season per ha to date vs last season to date	20	16	23	16
No. of Cows needing preferential feeding (% herd)	6 (3)	5 (4)	14 (7)	8 (6)
Animal health peculiarities	None	None	None	None

Milk Production



Feed

Principles of Feed management this week

Feed Quality	Focus on grazing the last of the winter grown paddocks before heading into round two paddocks. Quality analysis will begin in our monitor paddocks from this week.
Growth Rate Management	Forecasting an earlier balance date, based on ground and weather conditions and the health of pasture coming out of the first round Accelerating herds onto their fastest rotation over the next week (22-26 days for the standards versus the lower impacts, excluding springer paddocks), so will finish the last of the winter grown paddocks; adjusting the silage as required, in-shed feeding to remain the same.
Nitrogen Strategy	First round of nitrogen fertiliser application will be completed this week. Round two applications for the Standard herds (Pinks & Greens) will commence early October

	Conserved Pasture - Std Pink	Conserved Pasture - LI Blue	Fodder beet - Std Green	Fodder beet - LI Yellow
Quantity	Currently OK	Currently OK	Currently OK	Currently OK
Quality	Variable depending on paddock history	Variable depending on paddock history	Variable depending on paddock history	Variable depending on paddock history
Surplus Management	None	None	None	None
Deficit Management - kgDM (diff from last week)	1.1 (-3)	2.8 (-0.6)	-1.2 (-5.2)	2.2 (-1.1)
Target Rotation Length (days)	22	26	22	26

Feed

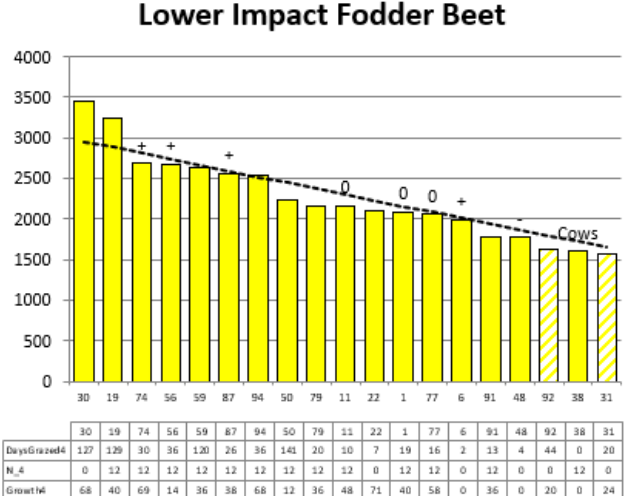
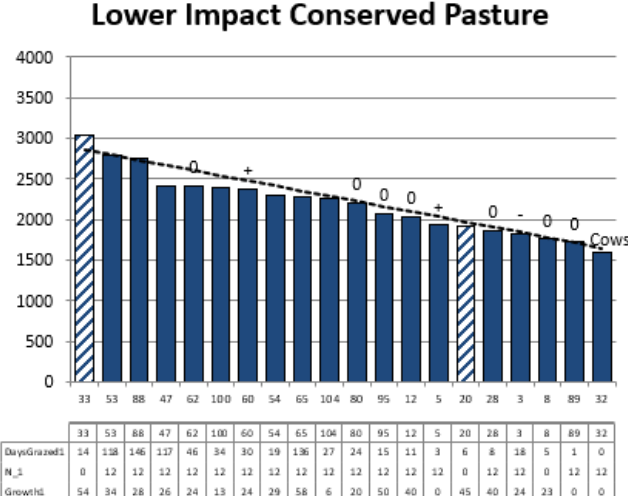
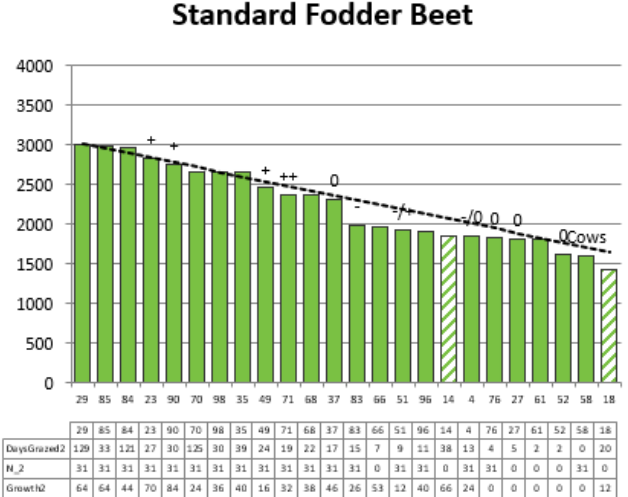
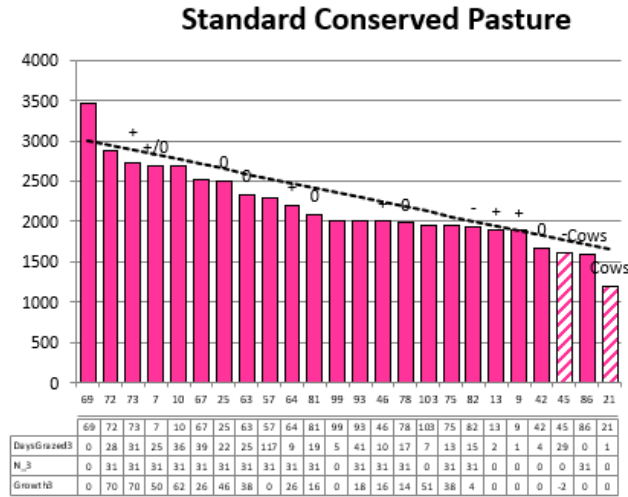
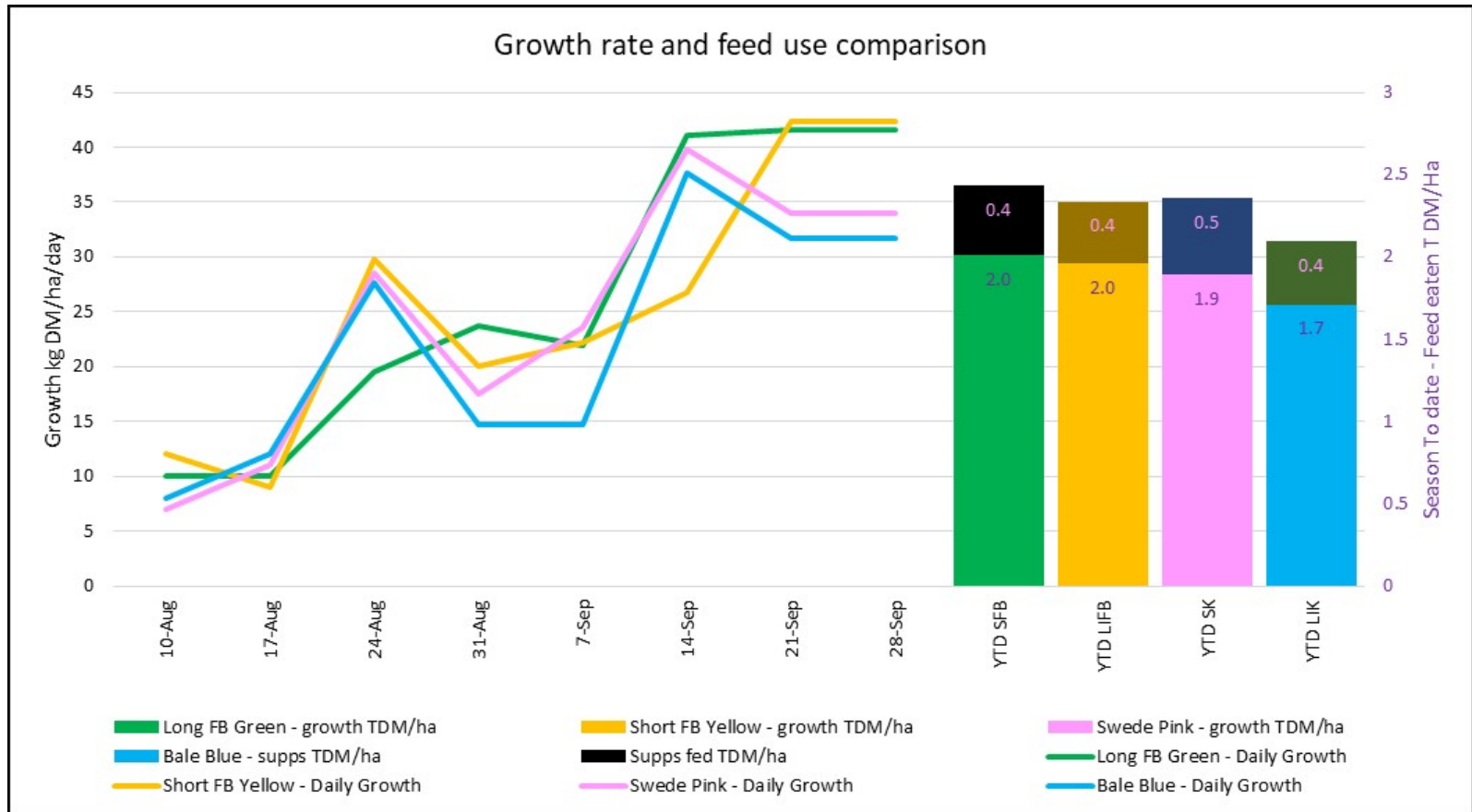


Figure 2: Feed Wedges as of 20th September 2022

Feed



People

<p>Rosters – things to consider & pitfalls to avoid</p>	<p>CONSIDERATIONS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • be simple, fair, and easy to follow • be flexible enough to support the people involved in the business <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • reduce stress and fatigue, and improve safety • allow people to plan their time off and take their full annual and statutory leave entitlement • ensure employees are not likely to work more than 50 hours per week, 10 hours a day • ensure employees are not likely to work 4 hours in any day before a break is taken • allow employees to have regular days off (minimum of 3 days off every fortnight) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • help your business attract and retain quality employees <p>PITFALLS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • not accounting for leave • operating too many days with the 'minimum number of staff' rostered on
<p>Roster Options</p>	<p>5:2 - works well for teams of 2 or more 7:2, 7:2, 7:3 - works well for teams of 2 or more 6:2 - works well for teams of 3 or more 8:2, 8:3 - works well for teams of 3 or more 11:3 - works well for teams of 3 or more 8:2 - works well for teams of 4 or 5 12:2 - works well for teams of 4 4:3, 6:1 - works well for teams of 3 or 4 5:2, 6:1 - works well for teams of 3 9:3 - works well for teams of 3 or 4</p>
<p>What we are doing at SDH</p>	<p>Have changed to a 10:4 (or 6:2 then 4:2) roster. This has been chosen to meet the operational requirements of the farm and its unique additional research requirements while respecting the team's lifestyle choices but will require the employment of a relief milker for every second weekend. This change will accommodate the teams desire for more regular weekend days off i.e., now every second weekend off plus two other days to balance personal lifestyle desires with work requirements.</p>

For more information and tools please visit the DairyNZ website: <https://www.dairynz.co.nz/people/rosters/>