

Farm Management Report

By Jason Herrick
June 2014

Hello All

The first 3 weeks have been busy getting to know my new surroundings. Its been a challenge organising and sorting the new incoming cows but we are getting there. I have half the cows retagged and will have the other half retagged and be able to supply a full reconciliation by Thursday.

Getting quotes and organising the revamping of the drafting pens and exit race at cowshed is proving very challenging as well as it is a very busy time of year for the shed builders and contractors. No one can do it before august as there diaries are full already. should have quotes in this week to email to you. We will just work around them in calving to get this job completed.

Progress on the new backing gate being installed is moving along. they have all the rail work done and we are now awaiting the arrival of the backing gate itself.

The cows grazing at home are doing very well now and are fully transitioned onto the fodder beet.

Cows grazing at Otahu flat are also doing very well and the grazier (Richard Templeton) is doing a great job and they are being very well fed. However he has discovered he is a bit short on feed and we will bring a further 90 cows from there back to home this week as we have a surplus on hand here at Murray Creek. This way we can save some money on grazing.

Heifers grazing At Gore on grazier #2's farm are also doing very well and are being fed very well and I have no concerns there . He has 204 grazing there.

Overall the transition to Murray creek has been fairly smooth with a couple of speed bumps and both Stacey & Olivia have been good in terms of helping with the transition. There is a lot to get to know on Murray creek and I am working through it all to ensure we have everything established leading into calving so I can concentrate achieving the results this farm has to offer.

Regards

Jason & Sandy Herrick



Murray Creek Dairy Farm

June - July 2014 Farm Report

Interpreted information covering the feed supply & stock on hand taken from the Farmwise Report 17th July 2014

COVER

AREA	Effective	Grass	Fodder Beet	Swedes
Milking Platform	374.8	359.9	9.24	5.71

Key

Kgdm = kgs of dry matter
Kgms = kgs of milk solids
Ha = hectare
R1's = Rising 1 year olds
R2's = Rising 2 year olds
MA = Mixed age cows
Total Farm Area = 414ha
Effective area = 392.5ha

FEED SUPPLY

			kgsgdm	kgsgdm/ha
Pasture	0.00 grass ha's		0	2300
Silage (West) 22.5x9x2.4	526.5 m ³ @	200kgsgdm/m ³	105300	305
Total Silage			105300	
Baleage Pdk 39	51 Bales @	200kgsgdm/bl	10200	30
Baleage Swedes	178 bales@	200kgsgdm/bl	35600	103
Baleage Fodder Beet	160 bales @	200kgsgdm/bl	32000	93
Total Baleage	338 bales		77800	226
Total Supplements			341620	2738
Swedes all on hand	5.71ha@	12000kgsgdm/ha	68520	199
Fodder Beet remaining	4.50ha @	20000kgsgdm/ha	90000	261
Total Crop			158520	459
Total (Crop & Supplements)			34160	2738
Straw	20 bales			

The above is an assessment of the feed on hand. There has been good winter growth with a few heavy frosts, and a drop in soil temperature which could limit late winter and early spring growth. There is however adequate supplies of winter feed both on and off farm available.

FEED BUDGET

Based on the feed budget there is 22kgsgdm for springers, to allow for the fact we have only allowed ½ a week per springers in the system when in reality cows will be closer to a week on grass pre calving. The only issue might be trying to get crop eaten off while making the most of the feed at the runoff. We have only budgeted to use 25% of the silage stack on hand and that will be subject to how much baleage is surplus to crop feeding requirements.

STOCK ON HAND

	On Farm	Grazier 1	Grazier 2	Grazier 3	Total
Mixed Age Cows	184	504			688
R2 yr Heifers			208	52	260
Total to Calve	184	504	208	52	948
Target					1000
Shortfall					52

The cows and heifer's are well wintered with all herd records up to date.

PRODUCTION

Production has been set at 355,000kgms this season. Although there is potential to do 400,000kgms

Month	Target %	Target kgs	Year to Date kgs	Actual kgs	Actual Year to Date	Variance Month	Variance Year to Date
August	2.5%	1000	1000	7052.44	7052.4	-23%	-23%
September	9.5%	38000	48000				
October	13.5%	54000	102000				
November	14.0%	54000	156000				
December	12.5%	52000	208000				
January	12.0%	48000	256000				
February	10.5%	42000	298000				
March	10.5%	42000	340000				
April	9.0%	36000	376000				
May	6.0%	24000	400000				
	100%	400000					



Farm Management Report

By Jason Herrick
4th August 2014

Hi All

It has been a very interesting week and a very busy one. Cows are now on the go calving and we are currently milking 67 cows. We have sent our first load of bobby calves off and we have 6 heifer replacements thus far. Also it looks like there is a market for some 4 day old Frisian bull calves. We are having a few coming now so looking into that extra income.

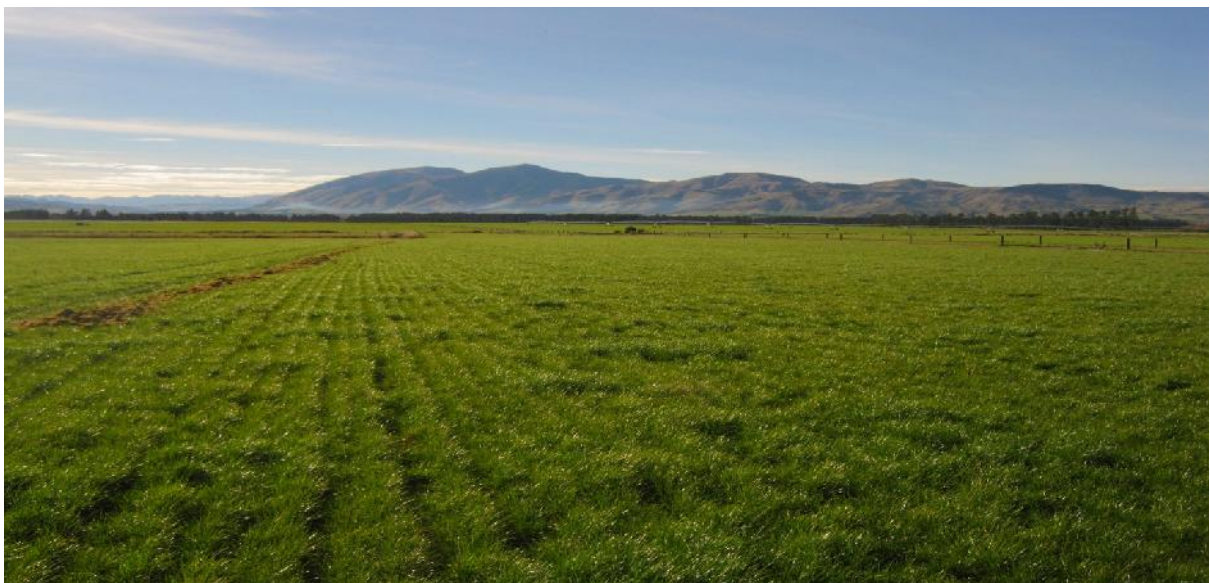
Over the weekend we had 68 mm of rain which made things that were already wet, very wet and had to take drastic measures to limit damage to pastoral ground and spread animals out. We got through it with minimal damage.

We will be supplying milk factory by the week's end looking at sending first milk out the gate on Saturday. We have the remainder of the heifers coming home on Tuesday 5th this week, of which there is 100 animals and a load of cows home on Wednesday from one of the grazier's.

The backing gate is nearing completion with the electrician putting final touches on tomorrow. The yard extension has started but not progressing very fast due to this adverse weather we have been getting. Builder will be returning tomorrow.

Also this week we have had some issues with the underside of the platform and on inspection by Nind services I have agreed with him the wear strip under the platform will need to be replaced. It is a job for the dry season so we will have to repair it through season as it breaks down and possibly replace it next winter.

Regards
Jason & Sandy
Murray Creek Farm



Murray Creek Dairy Farm

August 2014 Farm Report

Interpreted information covering the feed supply & stock on hand taken from the Farmwise Report 21st September 2014

COVER

		Actual	Target
Average pasture cover	kgdm/ha	2400	<2200
Pre graze cover	kgdm/ha	4000	<3000
Post grazing		1600	1600
Growth		95	>50
Round length (days)			70
% Farm mown		0%	0%

Have been exceptionally wet conditions this month, there is still a lot of very long grass on the upper hill and also new grass paddocks. A big plus has been the drier north end of the farm where the dry cows have been able to graze the supplements. There is a very good balance of ground cover on the farm. There is more than adequate pasture cover, need to focus on controlling the grazing round as per guidelines below.

Rule of thumb guide re round lengths

360 Ha's	Week Start	Round (days)		
	27 -Aug	65	5.54	Ha's/24hrs
	01- Sep	60	6.00	Ha's/24hrs
	06 - Sep	55	6.55	Ha's/24hrs
	11 - Sep	50	7.20	Ha's/24hrs
	16 - Sep	45	8.00	Ha's/24hrs
	21 - Sep	40	9.00	Ha's/24hrs
	26 - Sep	35	10.29	Ha's/24hrs
	01 - Oct	30	12.00	Ha's/24hrs

The aim is to keep the cows on crop as long as possible to limit the number of cows in calving mob on grass particularly through August.

Pasture will be of more value feeding to milkers than to dry cows and springers. E have allowed an average of 7 days per cow as springers are on grass pre calving. We will be monitoring the hectares grazed each week against the hectares targeted to graze to ensure the rate of grazing does not exceed that target.

FEED SUPPLY

			kgsdm	kgsdm/ha
Pasture	0.00 grass ha's		0	2300
Silage (West) 22.5x9x2.4	526.5 m ³ @	200kgsdm/m ³	105300	305
Total Silage			<u>105300</u>	
Baleage Pdk 39	51 Bales @	200kgdm/bl	10200	30
Baleage Swedes	150 bales@	200kgdm/bl	30000	87
Baleage Fodder Beet	40 bales @	200kgdm/bl	8000	23
Total Baleage	<u>338 bales</u>		<u>48200</u>	<u>140</u>
Total Supplements			<u>154500</u>	
Swedes	2.00ha@	12000kgsdm/ha	24000	70
Fodder Beet remaining	1.50ha @	20000kgsdm/ha	30000	87
Total Crop			<u>54000</u>	<u>157</u>
Total (Crop & Supplements)			<u>1069100</u>	<u>2822</u>
Straw	20 bales			

There is approximately 68kg of silage per cow on hand. This is the response to applying Nitrogen at the appropriate time. However we still need to be aggressive to maintaining the 30 day round from October and focus on growing grass.

GRAZING TARGETS AS FROM EARLY OCTOBER

	Herd 1	Herd 2	1x/day Herd	Total
	400	400	150	950
M2 cows 24hours	125	125	130	
Ha's per day	5.00	5.00	1.95	11.95
M2 cows 12 hours	62.5	62.5	65.0	0
Ha's per day	2.5	2.5	2.6	0
Round Length (days)		356.0 ha's		30

These targets are based on Jack Ballam's (Farm Consultant) farm visit on the 21st August 2014. The hectares per day are an estimate of what each cow is eating (day).

FEED REQUIREMENT

		Pasture (kgsdm)		Supplements (kgsdm)		Total
	Numbers	Per Cow	Per Ha	Per Cow	Per Ha	Per Cow
Herd 1	400	18.8	20.8	0.3	0.3	19.0
Herd 2	400	18.8	20.8	-0.3	0.3	18.5
1x/day Herd	150	15.6	6.5	1.9	0.8	17.5
Total	950		48.2		0.8	

Ideally by mid October it will be possible to fully feed milkers grass on a 30 day round. As feed position increases the target of 30 day round could potentially be pushed out to November.



The girls helping mum feed out.



Helping feed the calves



The new backing gate is working well



The new yard extension completed



Replacement calves content after being fed.



Extreme flooding in August



Murray Creek's Mascot



Snow in the cow shed



Snowing in the Calf Shed