

“Making the Difference”

DEER INDUSTRY FOCUS FARMS PROJECT

Issue 8
July 2009

Canterbury/North Canterbury – MENDIP HILLS

Next Field Day:

NORTHBANK STATION, RAKAIA

FRIDAY 28TH AUGUST WEANER FINISHING FIELD DAY from 12.00pm

See over page for details

MONTHLY RAINFALL	Actual	Av.	Last Year			Actual	Last Month
	25	42	521	PASTURE COVER		1,000	1,200
RAINFALL TO DATE	450	410	535	Pasture Growth Paddocks		4	6
	STOCK NUMBERS & FEED DEMAND (Month End)			MINIMUM FEED COVER		STOCK COMMENTS	
	No.	kgDM/hd	TOTAL	kgDM/ha	cm/ha		
Breeding Hinds	1,020	2.0	2,040	1,000		On the hill	
R2 Hinds	240	2.0	480	1,200		Winter feed and baleage	
R1 Hinds (Red)	270	1.5	405	1,200		Winter feed and baleage	
Sire Stags	30	3.0	90	1,200		Winter feed & baleage	
Old Ewes	1,526	1.2	1,831	1,200		On grass	
MA Ewes	6,789	1.2	8,146	1,000		Feed Pad	
2th Ewes	2,767	1.5	4,150	1,000		On grass	
Ewe Hoggets	2,832	1.5	4,248	1,200		Winter feed	
Finishing Lambs							
Rams	100	1.0	100	1,200			
MA Cows	718	8.0	5,744	1,500		On native	
R3 Heifers	257	8.0	2,056	1,500		On grass	
R2 Heifers	280	7.0	1,960	1,200		On grass	
R2 Steers	341	7.5	2,557	1,200		Winter feed	
R1 Heifer	385	6.0	2,310	1,200		Winter feed	
R1 Steer	385	6.0	2,310	1,200		Winter feed	
Sire Bulls	30	10.0	300	1,500		Winter feed	
Stud Cows	55	10.0	550	1,500		Grass and baleage	
Replacement Heifers	49	7.0	345	1,500		Grass and baleage	
18 month Bull	24	10.0	240	1,500		Grass and baleage	
TOTAL Demand (kgDM/day)			39,860				
Feed Demand (kgDM/ha/day)			7.6				
Forecast Pasture Growth (kgDM/ha/day)			4.0				



- Early winter – has continued on with the same pattern as the autumn cold with little growth.
- with an update on the feed budget, Simon decided to take some early action with the sale of all finishing lambs and surplus ewe lambs. 103 R2 Finishing heifers have also been sold.
- Ewe hoggets are on winter feed and with scanning being the tell tale time for the ewes, shearing and scanning has been delayed because of snow. Two mobs of ewes are currently being feed pad to conserve feed going forward.
- All young cattle are on kale and the MA cows are out on the mountain picking through snow for a feed.
- Breeding hinds are set stocked on the hill. R2 and R1 hinds are on winter feed and baleage.

Going Forward

- R2 hinds will stay on winter feed, be scanned and re Johne's tested. Only incalf Johne's tested negative hinds will go up the hill mid October.
- MA hinds will be scanned at TB testing and current thoughts are to sell all empty hinds and use capital to deer fence another 250ha block on the hill to make room for future expansion of hind numbers.
- Simon continues his quest to get stock water to the hill deer block.
- Following ewe scanning, multiples will be separated and fed better on surplus greenfeed.
- All R2 Finishing cattle will go to the finishing farm early spring.
- Hope for an early spring.

Joint community day between South Canterbury/North Otago and Canterbury/North Canterbury Deer Industry Focus Farm Group

FRIDAY 28TH AUGUST WINTER FIELD DAY from 12.00pm

make sure you have an early BYO lunch prior to start

NORTH BANK STATION, RAKAIA

*Bus Transport provided from Dunsandel Hall and Pleasant Point (small charge) subject to numbers
RSVP BY 20th August 03 307 8099*

- 12.00pm** **Property Tour**
 Key Supply Focus for Northbank Trevor Pearce, Manager, Northbank Station
 - Weaner Targets
 - Feeding Systems
 Weaner Finishing Performance Northbank & Focus Farms Performance
 Nutrition & Weaner Performance Andrew Maw, Nutritionalist, PGG Wrightson
- 3.00pm** **Dunsandel Hall Presentations:**
 Farming Profitably under a National Government
 Hon David Carter, Minister of Agriculture
 Gross Margins on Finishing Country Nicky Hyslop, Macfarlane Rural Business
 Consumer Demand for Venison Graham Brown, Chef, Cervena
- 4.30pm** Informal BBQ –kindly provided by Mountain River Processors
 Refreshments provided by: Canterbury, South Canterbury and North Otago DFA Branches

Peter Bradley, Facilitator, Macfarlane Rural Business, 0276491107, peter@mrb.co.nz

