

# "Making the Difference"

## DEER INDUSTRY FOCUS FARMS PROJECT

Issue 10  
2009

### Canterbury/North Canterbury – MENDIP HILLS

*Next Open Field Day  
Mendip Hills  
Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> October 11.00 am  
(see over page for details)*

MONTHLY RAINFALL	Actual	Av.	Last Year	PASTURE COVER	Actual	Last Month
		52	65		121	
RAINFALL TO DATE	655	670	735	Pasture Growth Paddocks	70	50
Sept 09	STOCK NUMBERS & FEED DEMAND (Month End)			MINIMUM FEED COVER		STOCK COMMENTS
	No.	kgDM/hd	TOTAL	kgDM/ha	cm/ha	
Breeding Hinds	961	2.5	2402			Set stock hill
R2 Hinds	239	2.5	597			Winter feed
R1 Hinds (Red)	272	1.5	408			Winter feed
Sire Stags	30	3.0	90			Grass Baleage
Old Ewes	1641	2.0	3282			Set stocked/lambing
MA Ewes	6212	2.0	12424			Set stocked/lambing
2th Ewes	2571	2.0	5142			Set stocked/lambing
Ewe Hoggets	2735	1.5	4102			Cleaning up winter feed
Other						
Finishing Lambs						
Rams	98	2.0	196			
MA Cows	709	8.0	5672			Set stock calving
R3 Heifers	254	8.0	2032			Set stock calving
R2 Heifers	269	7.0	1883			Cleaning up winter feed
R2 Steers						
R1 Heifer	387	6.0	2322			Winter feed
R1 Steer	387	6.0	2322			Winter feed
Sire Bulls	30	10.0	300			Front flats
Stud Cows	52	9.0	468			Front flats
Replacement Heifers	49	6.0	294			Front flats
18 month Bull	21	10.0	210			Front flats
TOTAL Demand (kgDM/day)			39150			
Feed Demand (kgDM/ha/day)			79			Some stock of crop
Forecast Pasture Growth (kgDM/ha/day)			90			



- July and early September was very dry with very little grass growth. Rain late September was a welcome sight with some good response occurring on the warmer front country. All breeding cows and ewes had to be kept on a tight reign right up to set stocking. Even a silage stack out on the Conway Flats that has been there for a number of years, was opened and fed to the cows. All ewes and cows however were set stocked in good condition.
- The breeding hinds have been fed grain and all R2 and R1 hinds on the bottom deer farm have been on winter feed for the last 100 days. One mob of hinds that went to B11 stags have been scanned with 98% conception rate. The rest are still to be scanned. The R2 hind conception rate was very disappointing. Some of the poor result has been put down to the ryegrass stagger seen in the hinds at our last community day. R2 mating weights is an area that will be looked at.
- The decision has been made to fence another 200ha (The Basin) on the top side of the hill deer block for deer which will be a big plus post fawning (January) and should result in a big improvement in weaner weaning weights.
- The breeding ewes have been set stocked in good condition, which is pleasing given the dry winter. Not having 3,500 finishing lambs on this winter has taken a lot of pressure off Simon and allowed him to feed the ewes a lot better.
- Cow feed is at a premium currently. Cows have been set stocked far and wide including 50 plus inside the top deer unit.

**Public Field Day  
Mendip Hills Focus Farm  
Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> October  
11.00am sharp**

11.00am	95% conception R2 Hinds – it can be done	Dr Geoff Asher, AgResearch
11.20am	Property Tour: Spring Ag Program and Options Brassica Production Systems Is fodder beet and option	Andrew Johnston, Lussetis  Alister Moreland, Agricom
1.00pm	Lunch on the hill Nutrition and Performance	Dr Glenn Judson, Nutritionist Agricom
2.30pm	Afternoon tea	
3.00pm	Woolshed Presentation Lambplan - the coming season store lamb market Venison, Lamb and Beef Market The New Zealand dollar currency impact and predictions for coming season	David Hannah, Silver Fern Farms  Karl Buchanan, Marketing Manager Silver Fern Farms
4.00pm	Social hour hosted by NZDFA Canterbury Branch Premier Sponsor – Mountain River Venison	

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