

Southern Dairy Hub

Transition, Pre-Mate, & Mating

Veterinary Centre Waimate



Presented by

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Veterinary Centre - Waimate

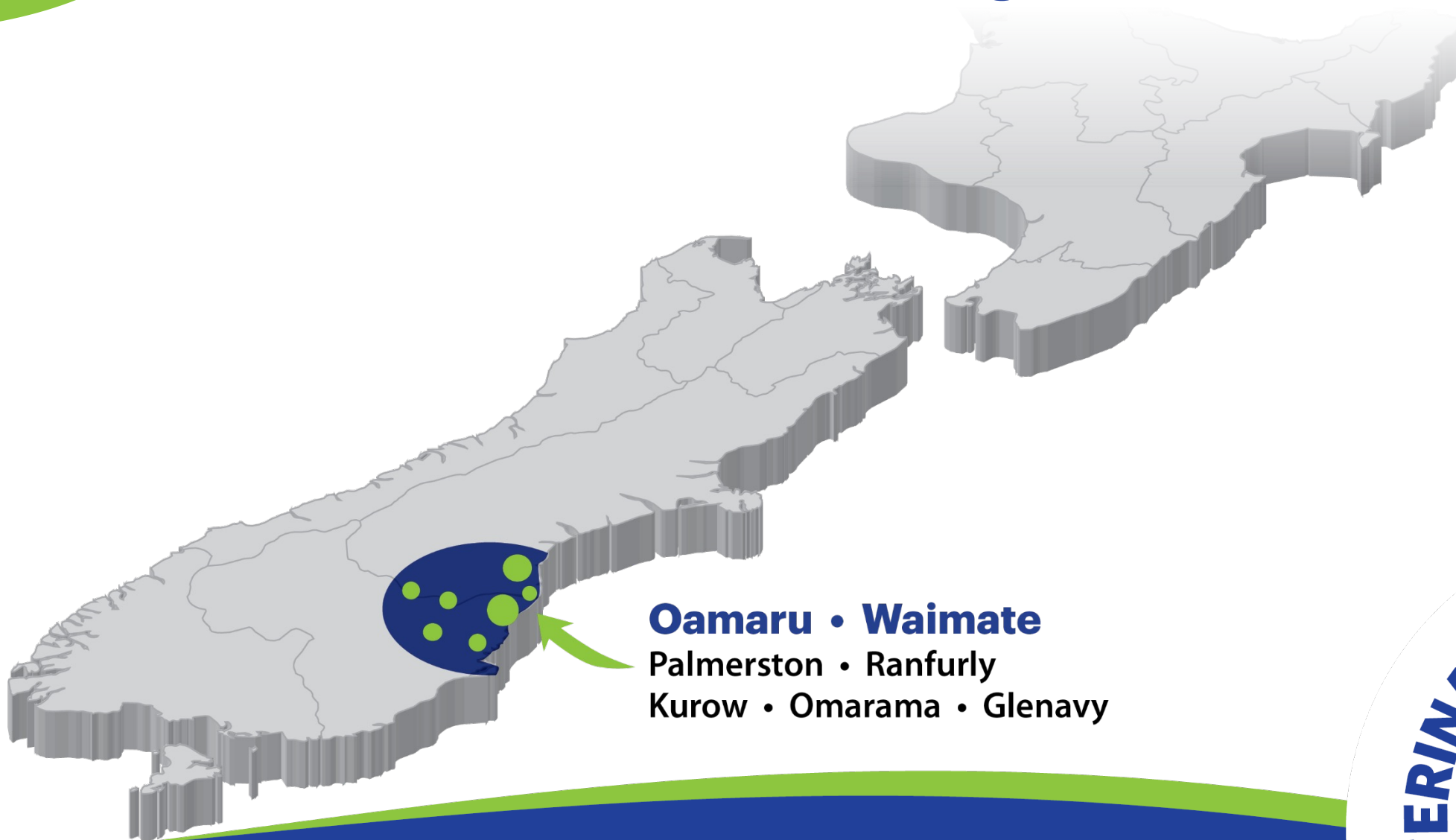
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Key Opportunities with Collars

1. Getting the most out of collars – what's required??

a) Transition

b) Pre-Mate Heats

c) Mating (and Mating Reviews)



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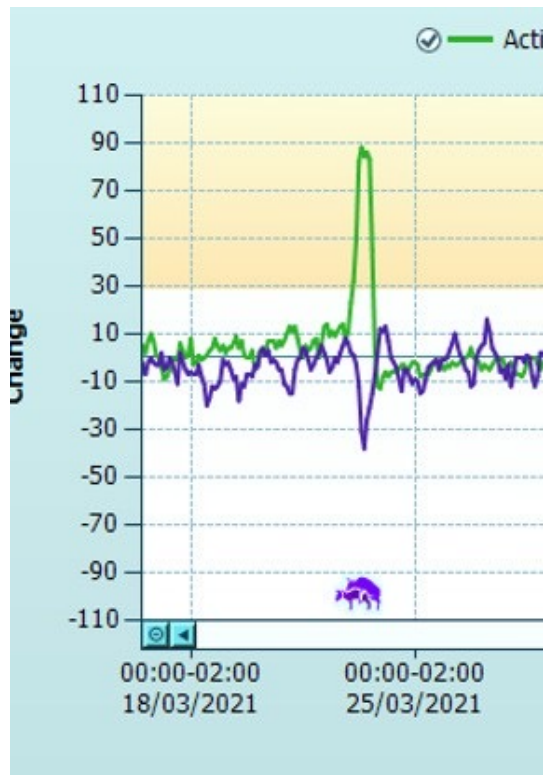
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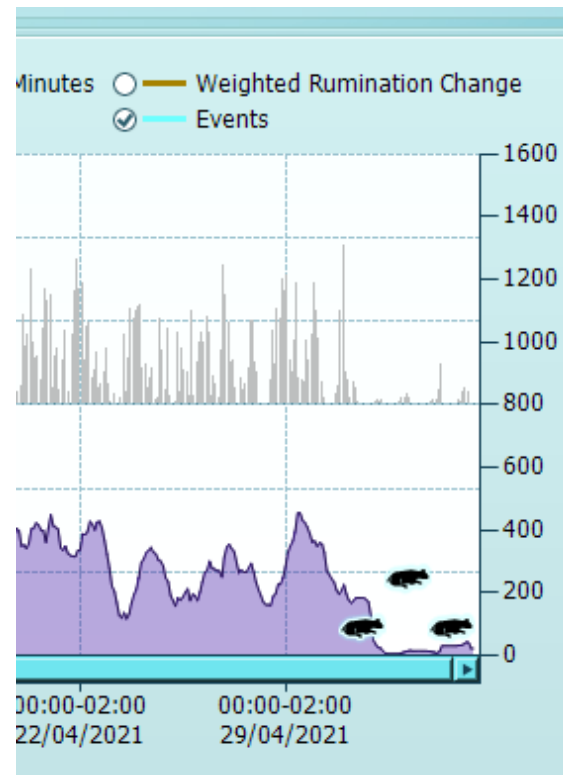
Overview

What does a collar do?

Mating



Health



Rumination

Group by that column

Daily Eating	Daily Rumination
158.0	443.0
173.0	461.0
158.0	458.0
165.0	453.0
155.0	507.0
151.0	492.0
153.0	443.0

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Why are farmers getting collars?

The November blues

Staffing

Offsite oversight and risk management

Silver Bullet

Keep up with the Jones's

Heat and Health

Farm Management



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What makes a successful collar user?

SUCCESS

Farm owner + Farm Team engaged

Buy-in and Trust of the Data

Willing to put time into data management

Willingness to change farm management

LESS SUCCESSFUL

No Whole Team Buy-in

Poor records (garbage in garbage out)

Belief that “they are the top 10% farmer”

Expectation of a “Silver Bullet”

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Making the Budget Work

50%

NO BULLS Policy

Typically covers ~ 50%
of the collar cost

Heat Detection Aids
Staff Time
Bulls Savings

Additional gains
if using full AI +
Short Gestation

20%

HEALTH

IF used correctly,
conservatively can
cover ~ 20% of the
collar cost

Alertable Deaths
Earlier Treatment

Biggest
variation due to
high farmer
reliance

15%

MATING

IF ONLY picking up low
HIS cows, expect 15%
return

Picking up Silent Heats

Large increases
where underlying
Heat Detection is
an issue

15%

Increased MILK

Reliant on farmer to
utilise the data to make
changes to improve
mating AND milk
production

Conservative +1KgMS

BIGGEST
OPPORTUNITY!!!

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Transition Ruminations

Group by that column

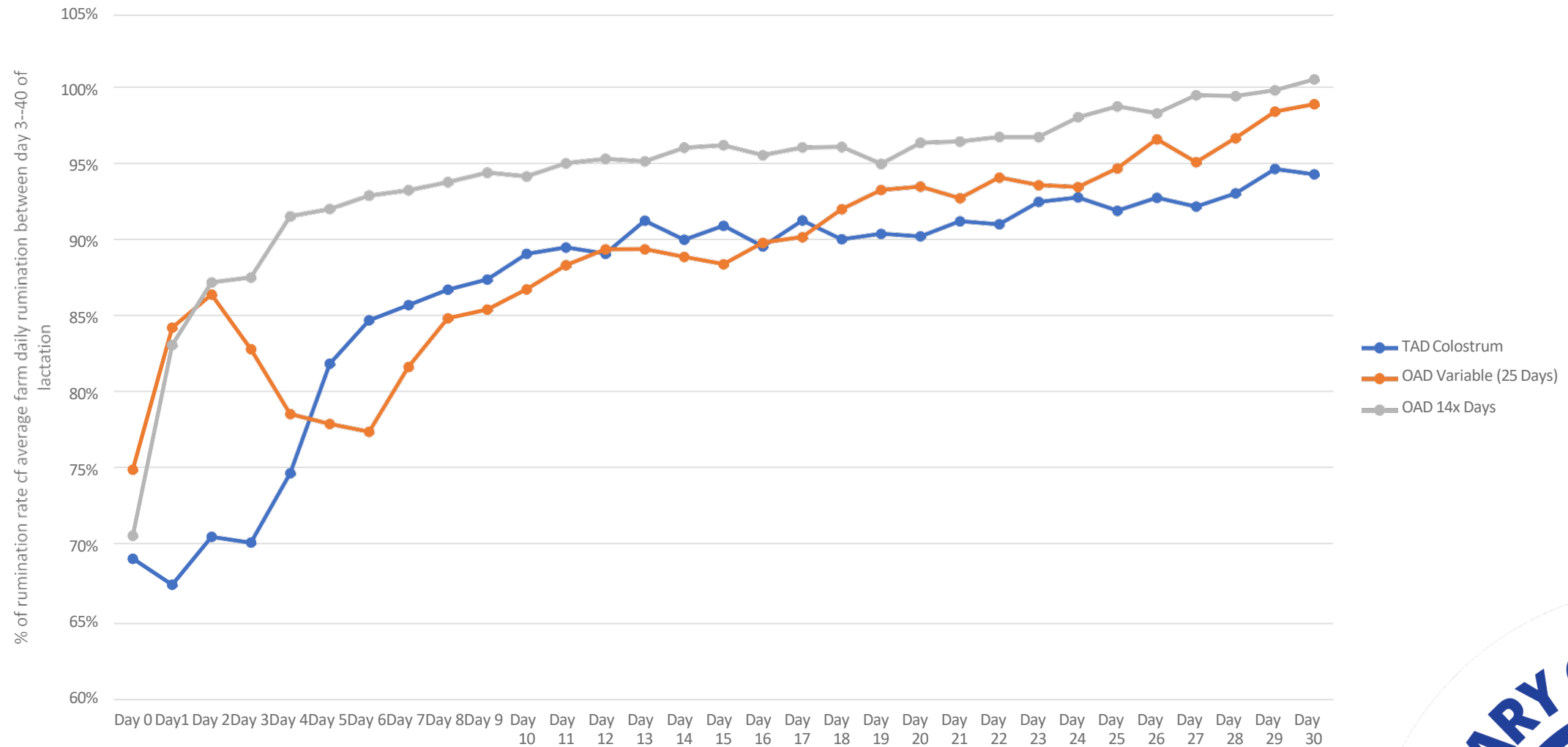
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Daily Rumination Average by DIM (cf average 30-40 day farm rumination rate)

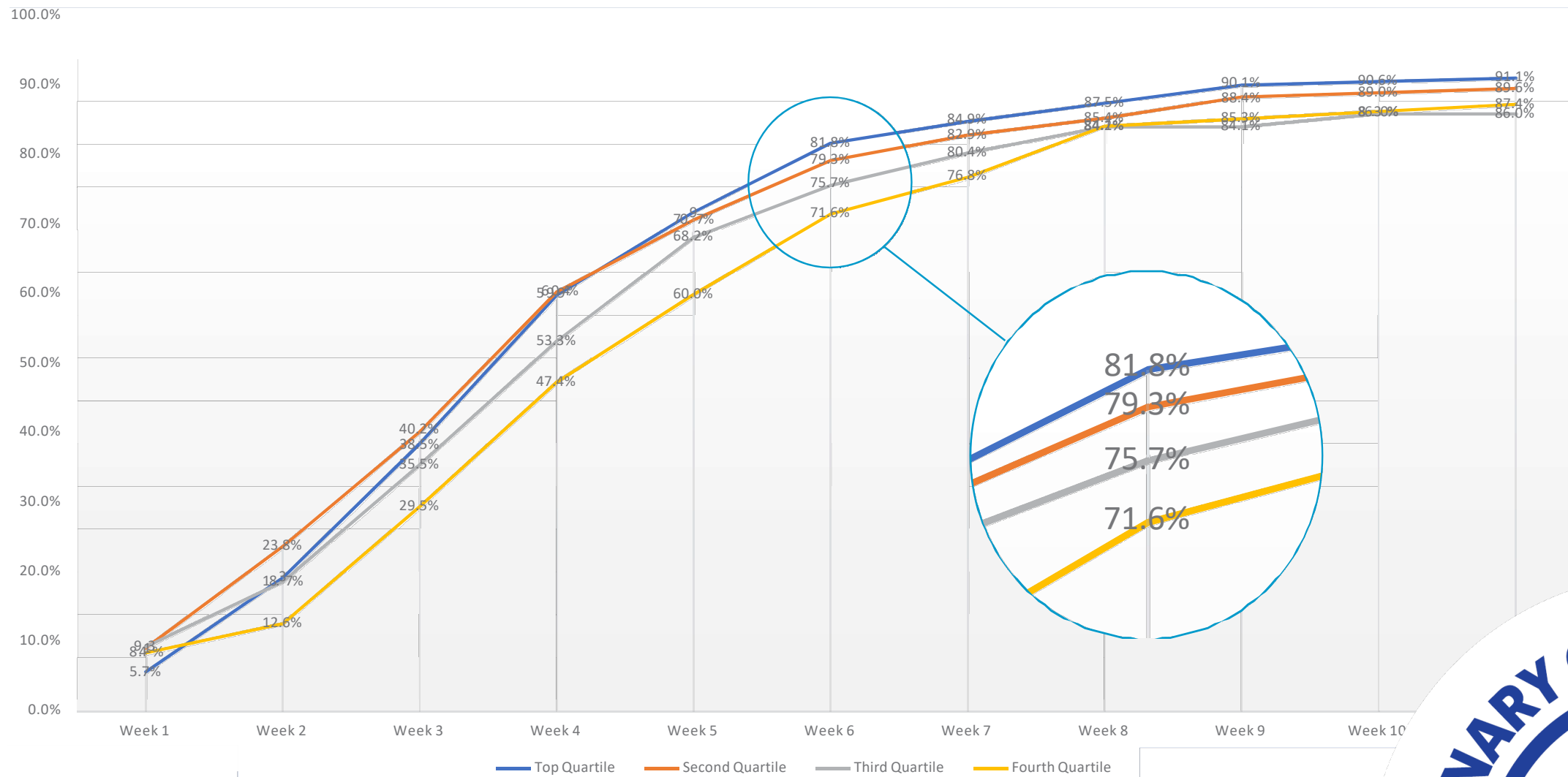


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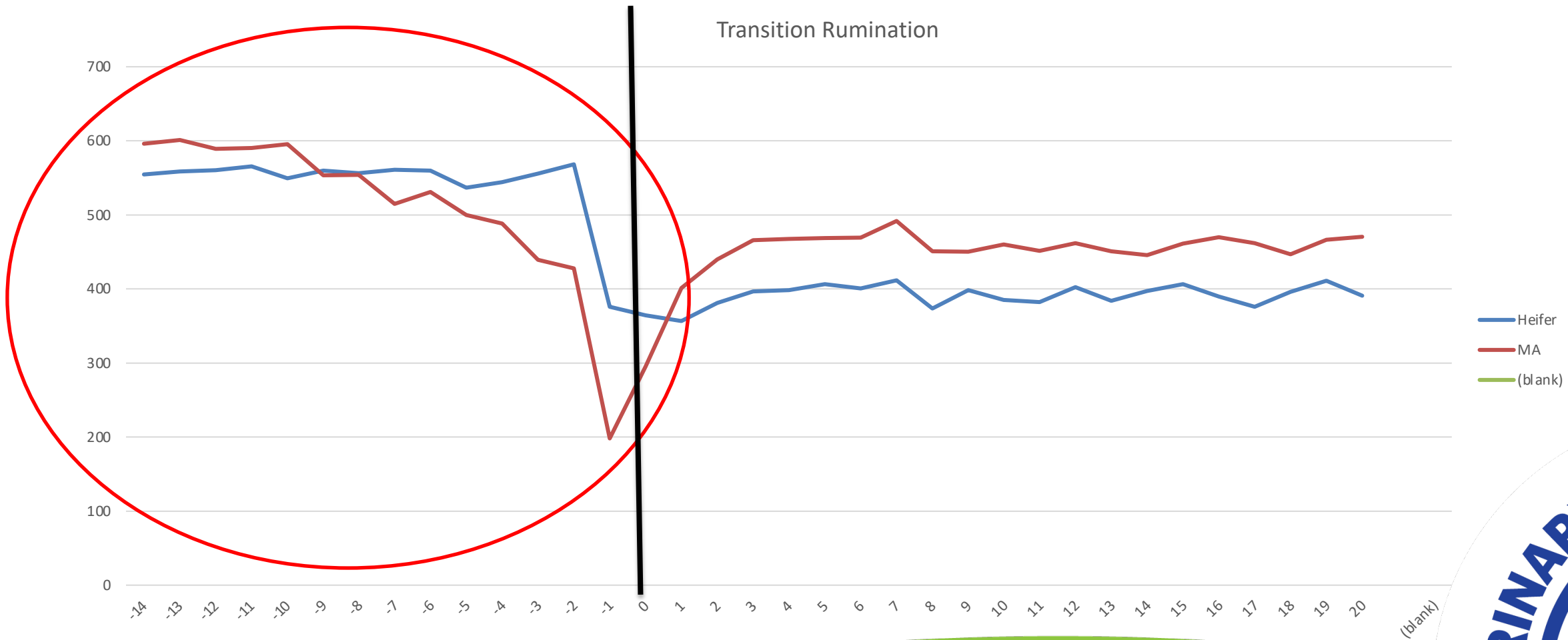
Rumination Quartile vs Pregnancy Rate (August Only) ORANGE FARM



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Transition Monitoring



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Why Transition Matters

(And Can you Monitor it??)

Key Influence on:

- **BCS Loss Post Calving**
- **Endometritis Rates**
- **Oocyte quality (and first service conception rate)**
- **Cycling Rates**
- **Mastitis / Lameness**
- **Metabolic**
- **Peak Production**



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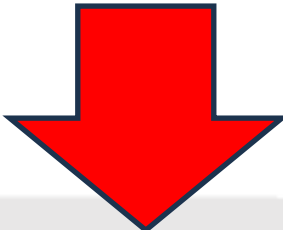
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2022/2023

SDH vs Other Farms

How are they tracking?

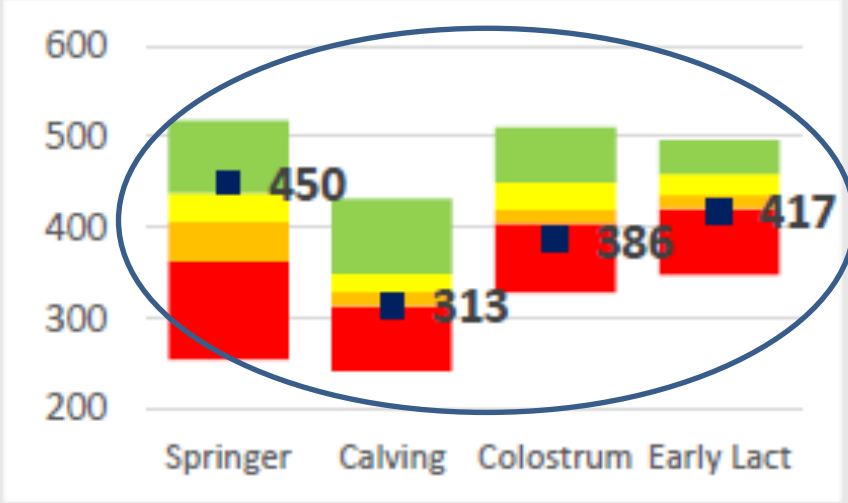


Pericalving Milestones

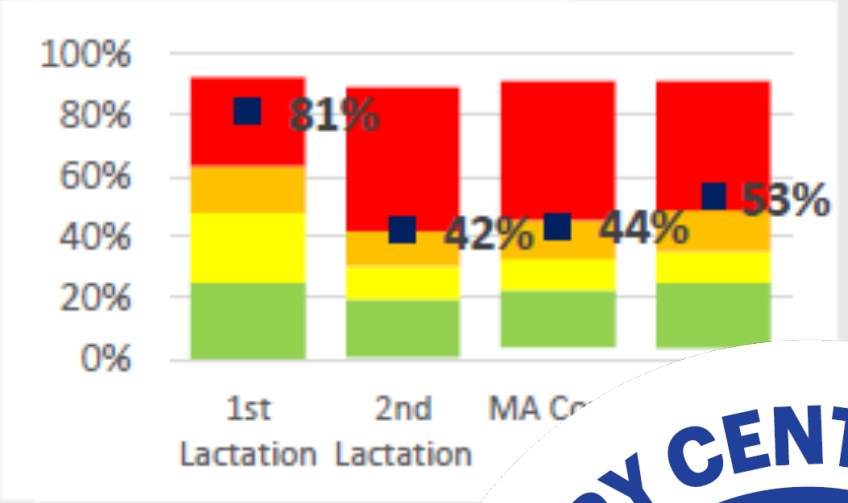
How did your cows transition?

Rumination activity gives an indication of how well the cows transitioned into lactation and Collar Health Events give an indication of underlying nutritional issues or peri-calving disease (eg metritis, metabolics & severe mastitis).

Rumination Activity
Mins/Day for Each Period



Collar Health Events
% of Group Affected



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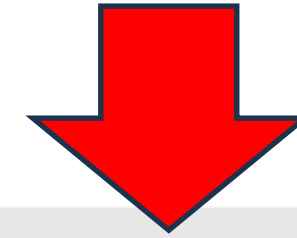
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2023/2024

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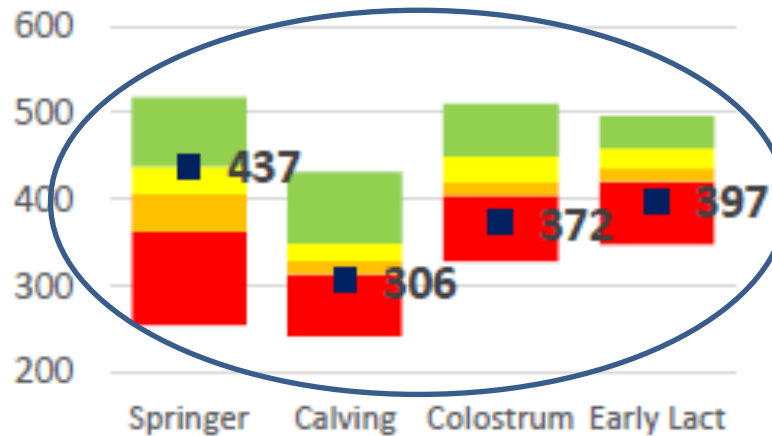
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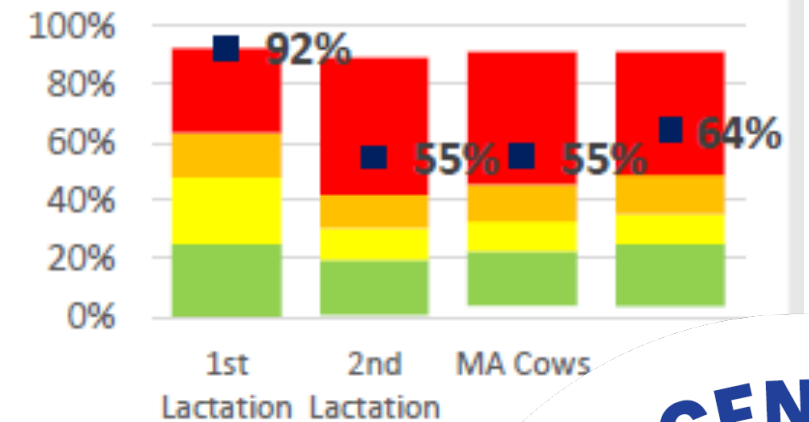
Rumination Activity

Mins/Day for Each Period



Collar Health Events

% of Group Affected



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2023/2024

Fodderbeet vs Baleage Wintering

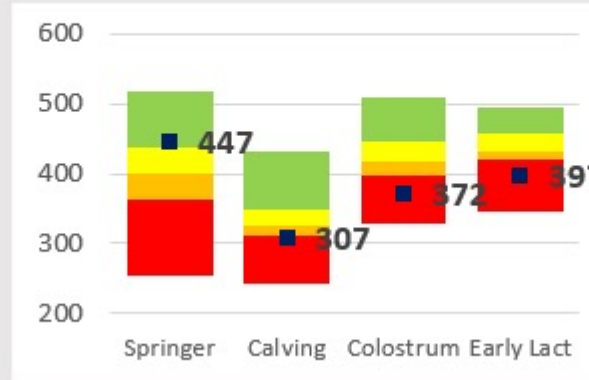
Fodderbeet

Pericalving Milestones

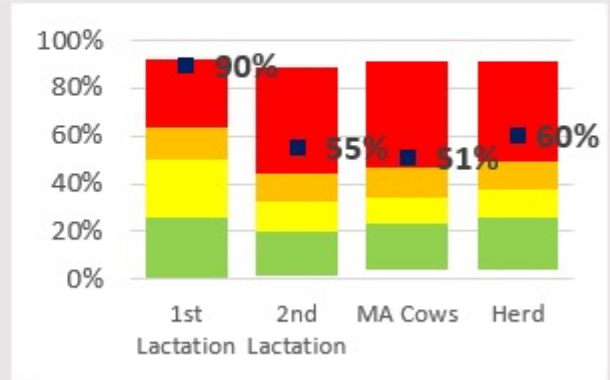
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Rumination Activity Mins/Day for Each Period



Collar Health Events % of Group Affected



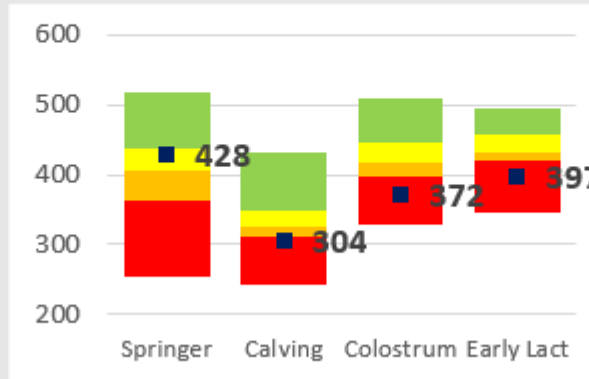
Baleage

Pericalving Milestones

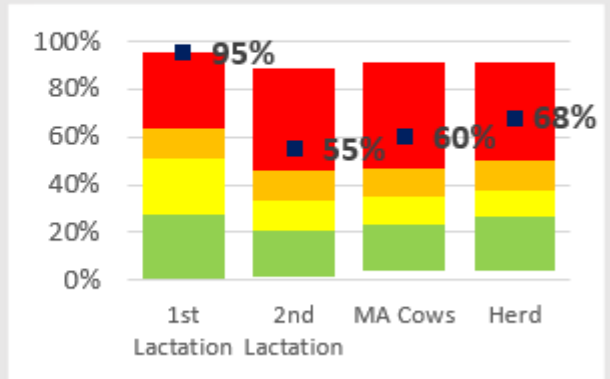
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Rumination Activity Mins/Day for Each Period

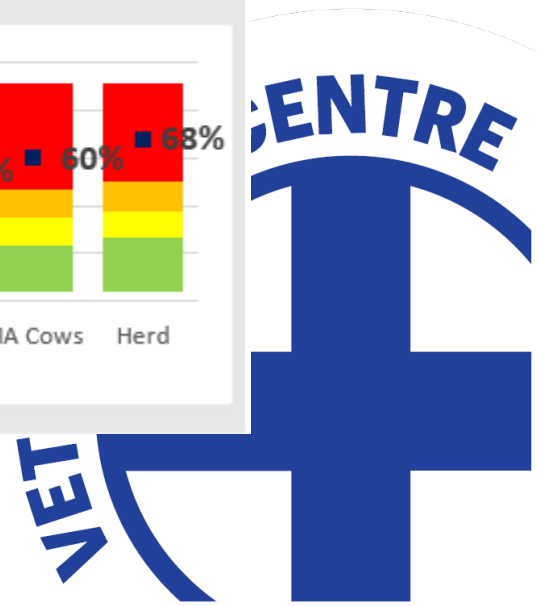


Collar Health Events % of Group Affected



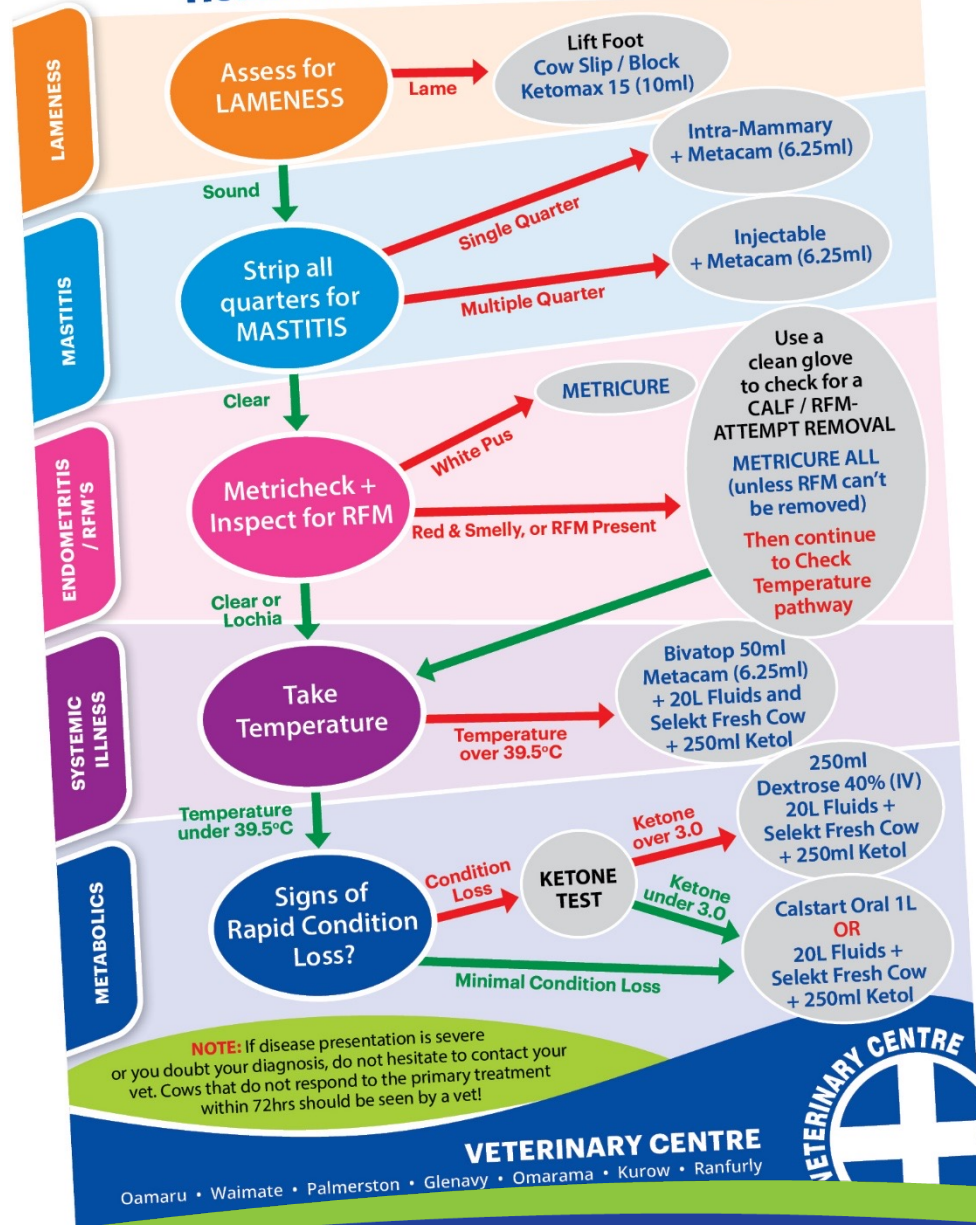
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Health Alert Decision Tree (Spring)

A



NOTE: If disease presentation is severe or you doubt your diagnosis, do not hesitate to contact your vet. Cows that do not respond to the primary treatment within 72hrs should be seen by a vet!

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Springers + The 90% Feeding Rule

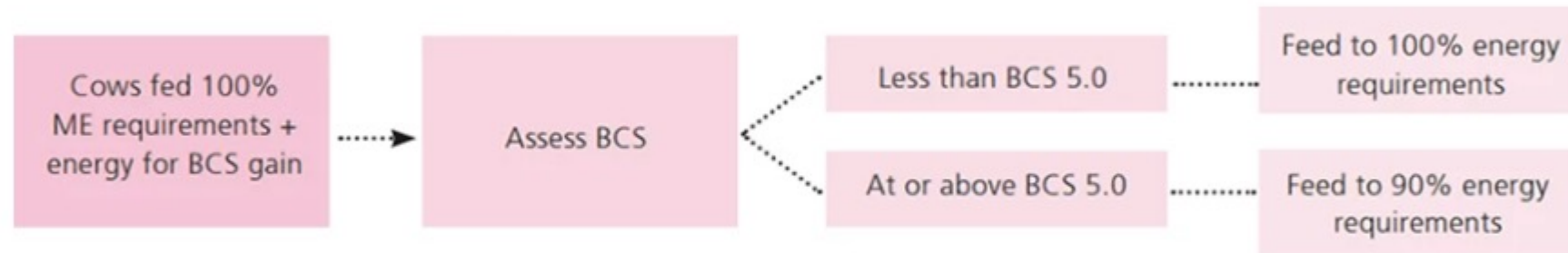
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Transition Period Pre-calving – Feeding

Once BCS is determined pre-calving, cows that are at, above or below targets can be managed differentially according to their BCS.



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Springer Energy Budgets

	ME	Wastage	kg of Feed	Multiplier	ME	
Grass	12	10%	3	10.8	32.4	<div style="border: 1px solid green; padding: 5px;"> SPRINGERS  </div>
Silage	11	25%	4	8.25	33	
Grain	13	11%		11.57		
PKE	11	20%		8.8		
Baleage	10	20%		8		
Straw	6	40%	3	3.6	10.8	
Hay	10	20%		8		
Average ME of Diet (maintenance demand increases with lower ME feeds)			TOTAL DM (kg) Offered	10.0	TOTAL ME	76
			TOTAL DM (kg) Eaten	7.5		
		10.2				65%
Liveweight (kg)	500	Maintenance (MJME)	117	90% Target	105	

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Transition Monitoring

Transition Ruminations

0 Hours Transition Rumination Report 31/07/2021 2:37:34 ...

Days in Lactation ▲

Cow Number	Group	Lactation Number	Daily Rumination ▲	Rumination Peak	3 Day Total Rumination...	Activity Peak	Distress event (DIM)	System Health Events in...	Health Index
⊕ Days in Lactation: 1									
14			226.08		-286.31				
⊕ Days in Lactation: 2									
12			213.33		-284.00				
⊕ Days in Lactation: 3									
7			186.29		-193.57				
⊕ Days in Lactation: 4									
8			239.88		-94.43				
⊕ Days in Lactation: 5									
6			221.67		-125.33				
⊕ Days in Lactation: 6									
5			284.60		-33.00				
⊕ Days in Lactation: 7									
2			305.00		-21.00				
⊕ Days in Lactation: 8									
8			339.88		-82.75				
⊕ Days in Lactation: 9									
116			267.34		-131.04				

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5 Key Factors

1) Day 0 is Critical!

2) Avoid grazing below 1800

3) Allocate Enough Feed

4) Offer multiple feeding opportunities

5) Limeflour!!!!



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A timeline approach.....

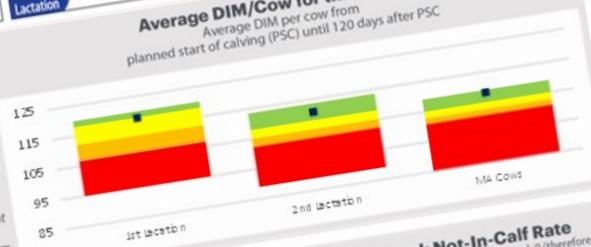
Collar Fertility Overview Report 2022/23 Season

Farm	Ahipene Farming	PSC	1/08/2022	PSM	25/10/2022
Herd Size	680	MA	533	1st Lactation	147
				2nd Lactation	224



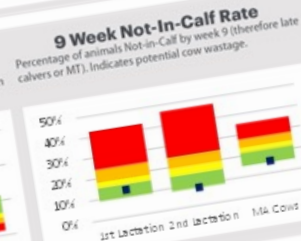
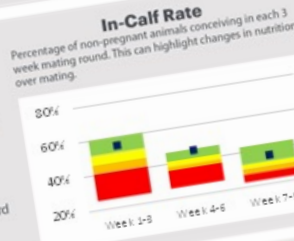
Key Outcomes Days in Milk

Calving pattern drives Days in Milk!
Earlier calving cows have increased days in milk (DIM) and this is a key driver of farm productivity.
** Note: Days in milk may not always highlight tail-end calvers. Please refer to separate Proportion of Later Calvers Graph at bottom of report.*



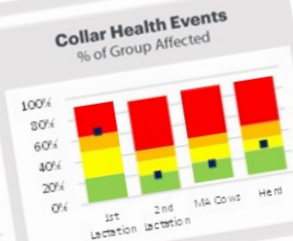
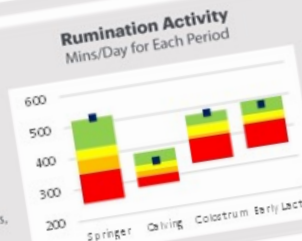
Key Outcomes Mating Period

Were there problem periods during mating?
Getting cows pregnant consistently across the whole mating period is key for a desirable future calving pattern, low Not-In-Calf rates and lifetime efficiency. It also provides scope for herd improvements.



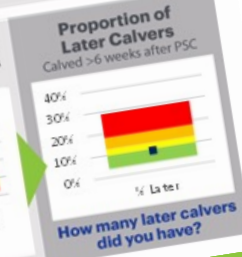
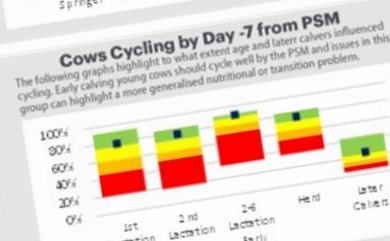
Pericalving Milestones

How did your cows transition?
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Premate Milestones

How did your cows cycle premate?
The proportion of cows cycling at Day -7 from PSM is influenced by transition success and early season nutrition. Later calving cows are less likely to cycle by the PSM

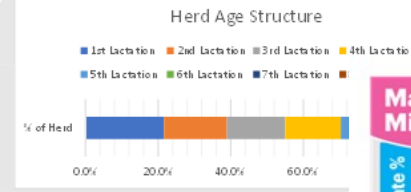


Collar Fertility Review Report - Vet Version 2022/23 Season

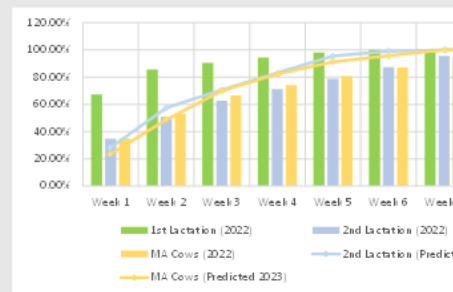
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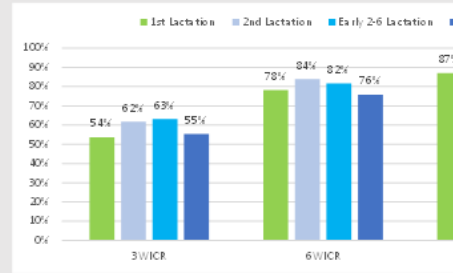
Key Outcomes Days in Milk



Calving Pattern



Key Outcomes Mating Period

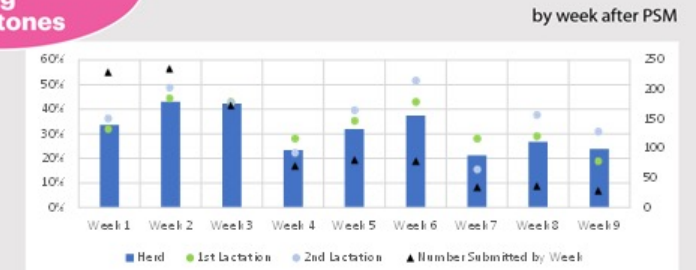


In-Calf Rate

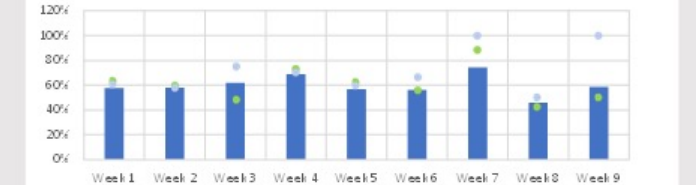


Mating Milestones

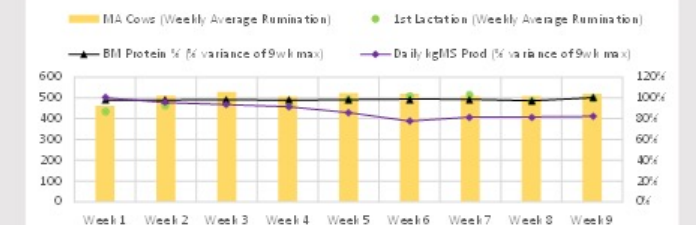
Weekly Submission Rate % (of Non-Pregnant Animals)



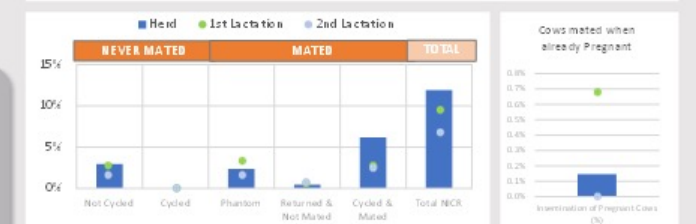
Conception Rate by Mating Week



Rumination Rates & BM Production/Protein %

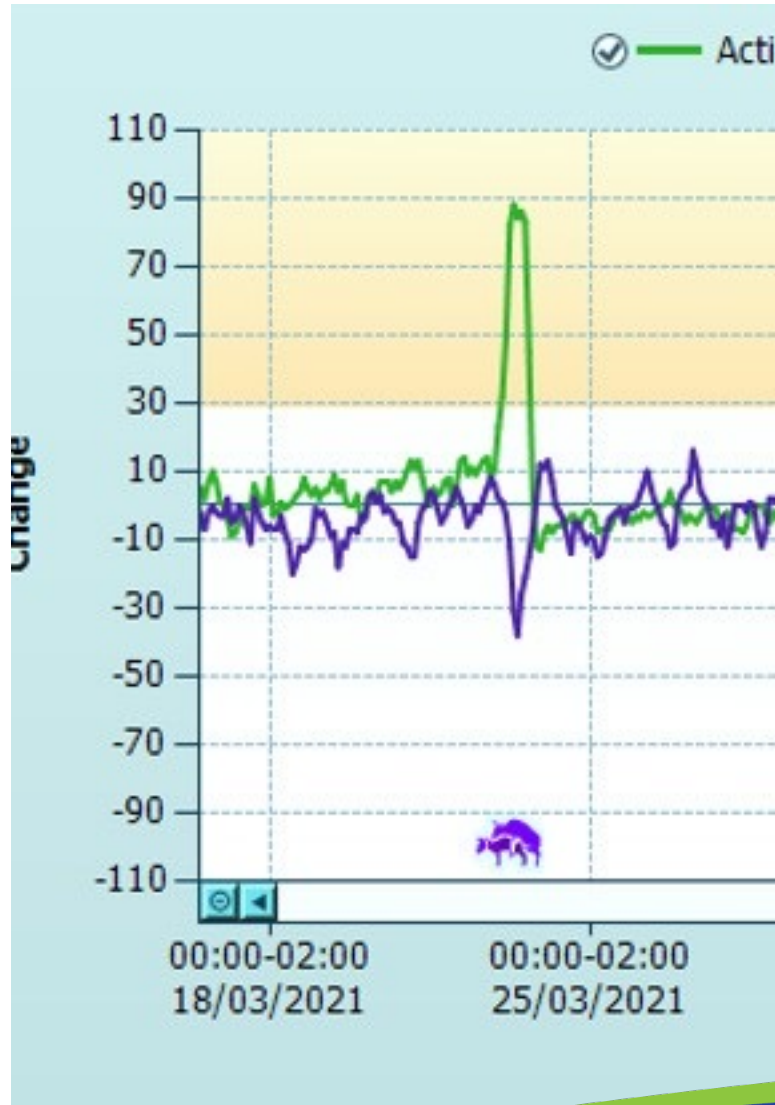


77 Day NICR - underlying factors



- NEVER MATED**
- Not Cycled:** Cows NIC after insemination >30 days before the end of mating with no subsequent return heat.
 - Returned & Not Mated:** Cows NIC with at least one mating and a subsequent unmated heat event <30 days before the end of mating (eg follicular heat and chose not to mate)
 - Cycled & Mated:** Cows NIC with an unsuccessful mating <30 days (+/- previous heats) before the end of mating (eg normal return cows not conceived)
- MATED**
- Phantom:** Cows NIC after insemination >30 days before the end of mating with no subsequent return heat.
 - Returned & Not Mated:** Cows NIC with at least one mating and a subsequent unmated heat event <30 days before the end of mating (eg follicular heat and chose not to mate)
 - Cycled & Mated:** Cows NIC with an unsuccessful mating <30 days (+/- previous heats) before the end of mating (eg normal return cows not conceived)

Pre-Mate Heats



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Cows Cycling 7 Days BEFORE the PSM

2022/2023

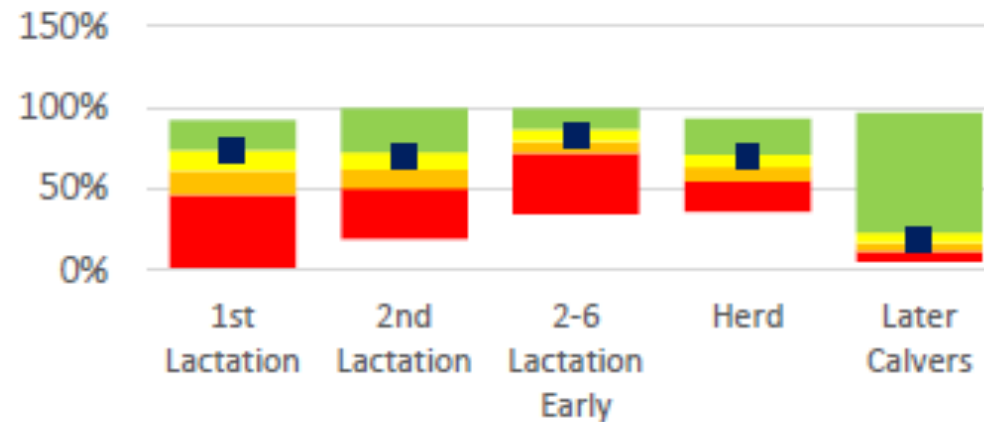
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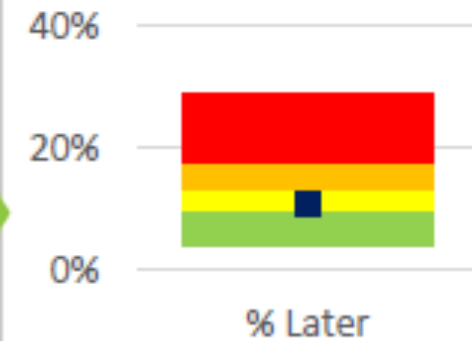
Cows Cycling by Day -7 from PSM

The following graphs highlight to what extent age and later calvers influenced cycling. Early calving young cows should cycle well by the PSM and issues in this group can highlight a more generalised nutritional or transition problem.



Proportion of Later Calvers

Calved >6 weeks after PSC



How many later calvers did you have?

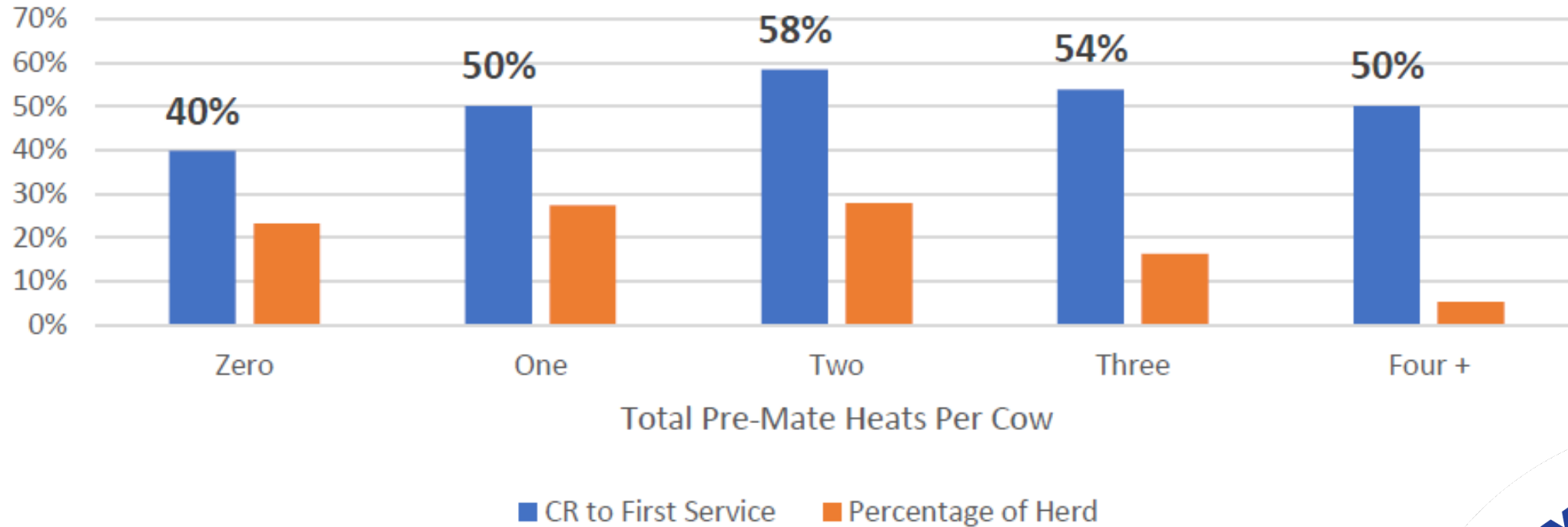
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Why are pre-mate heats important??

Number of Pre-Mate Heats vs First Service Conception Rates

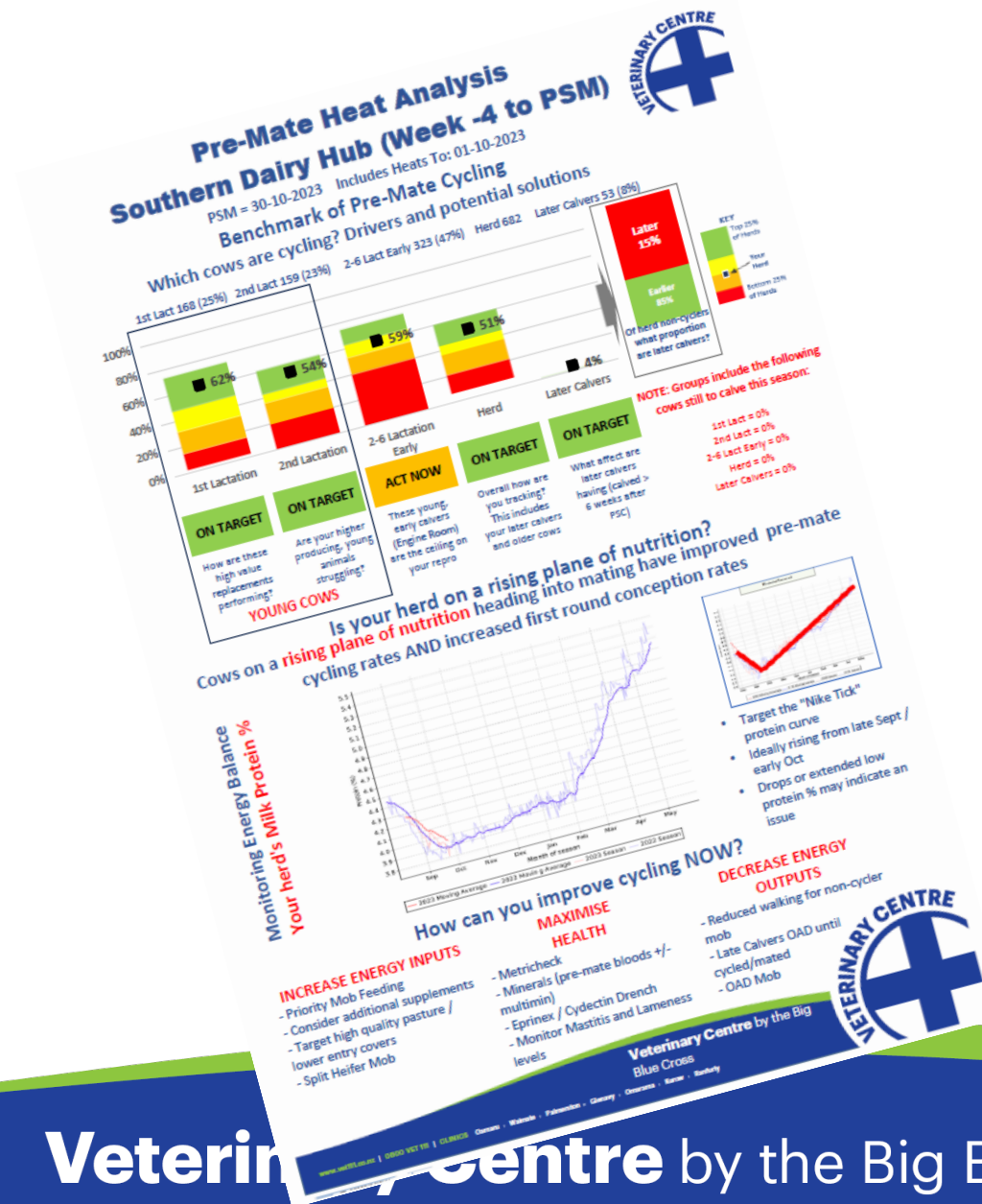


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Pre-Mate Heat Benchmarking Reports



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Benchmark Groups

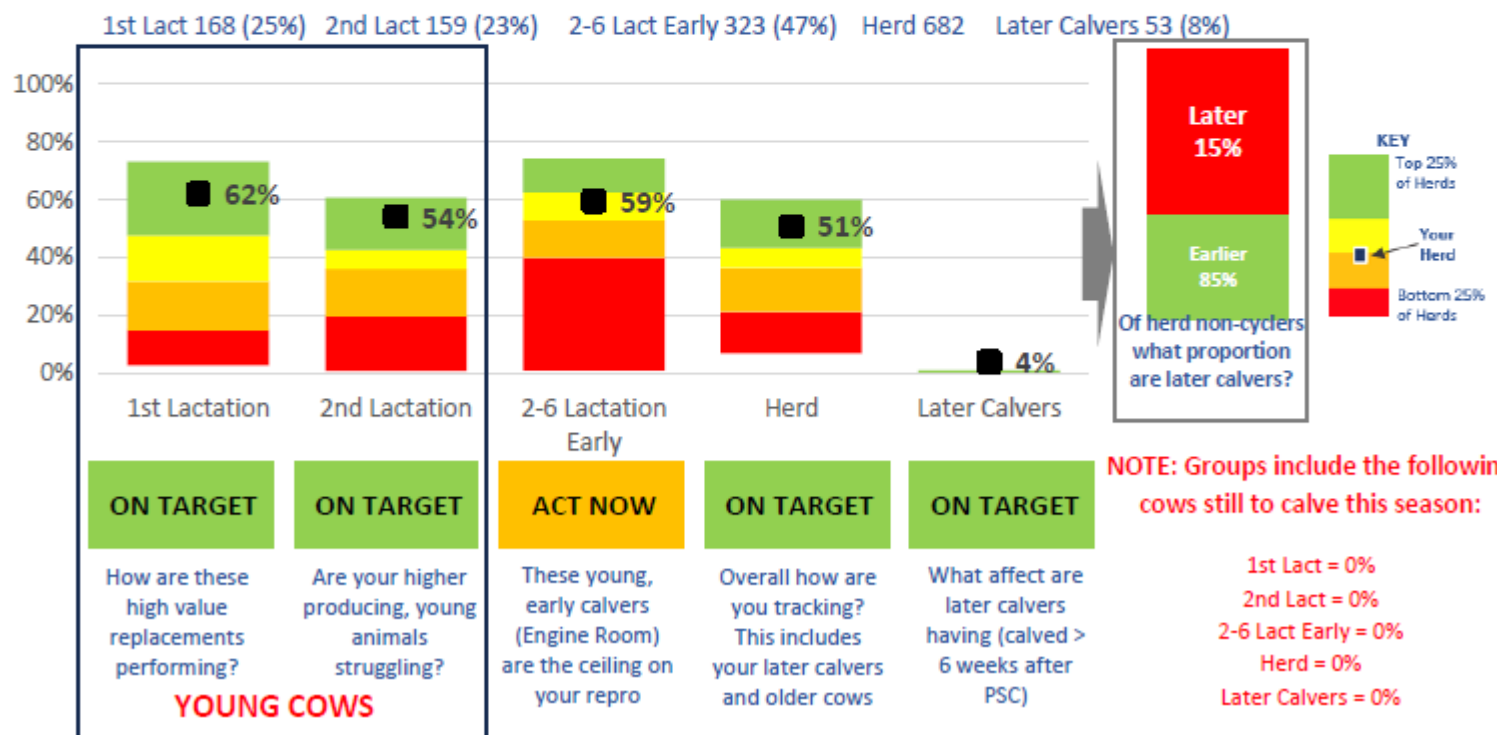
Pre-Mate Heat Analysis

Southern Dairy Hub (Week -4 to PSM)

PSM = 30-10-2023 Includes Heats To: 01-10-2023

Benchmark of Pre-Mate Cycling

Which cows are cycling? Drivers and potential solutions



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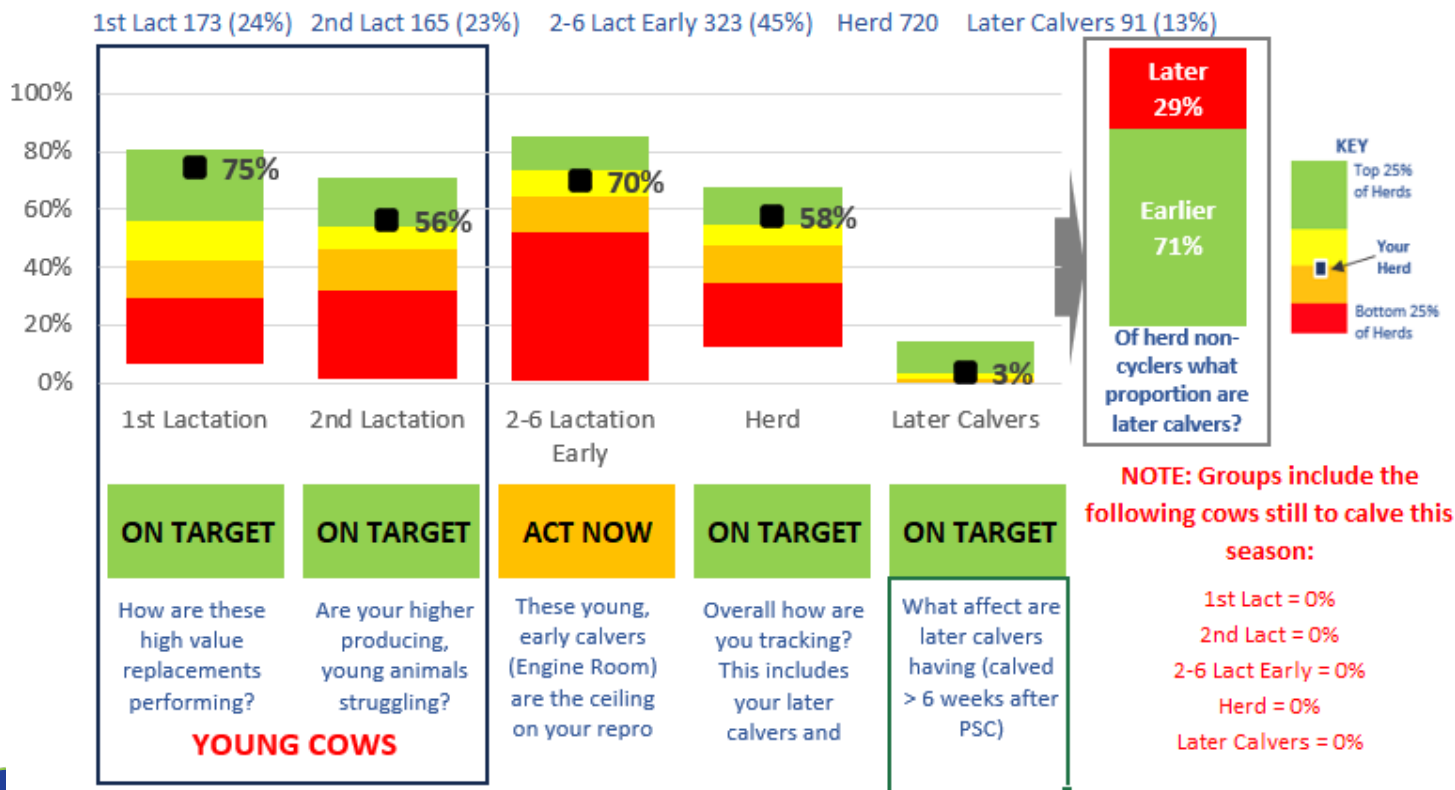
Benchmark Groups

Pre-Mate Heat Analysis Southern Dairy Hub (Week -3 to PSM)

PSM = 30-10-2023 Includes Heats To: 08-10-2023

Benchmark of Pre-Mate Cycling

Which cows are cycling? Drivers and potential solutions



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Creating the Narrative

Cows on a **rising plane of nutrition** heading into mating have improved pre-mate cycling rates AND increased first round conception rates

How can you increase cycling rates now?

INCREASE ENERGY INPUTS

- Priority Mob Feeding
- Consider additional supplements
- Target high quality pasture / lower entry covers
- Split Heifer Mob

DECREASE ENERGY OUTPUTS

- Reduced walking for non-cycler mob
- OAD Mob
- Late Calvers OAD until cycled/mated

MAXIMISE HEALTH

- Metricheck (if not already done)
- Minerals (pre-mate bloods +/- multimin)
- Eprinex / Cydectin Drench
- Monitor Mastitis and Lameness levels

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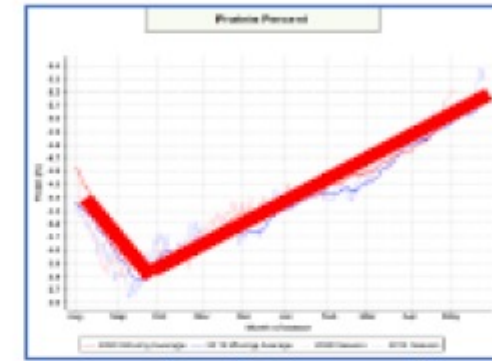
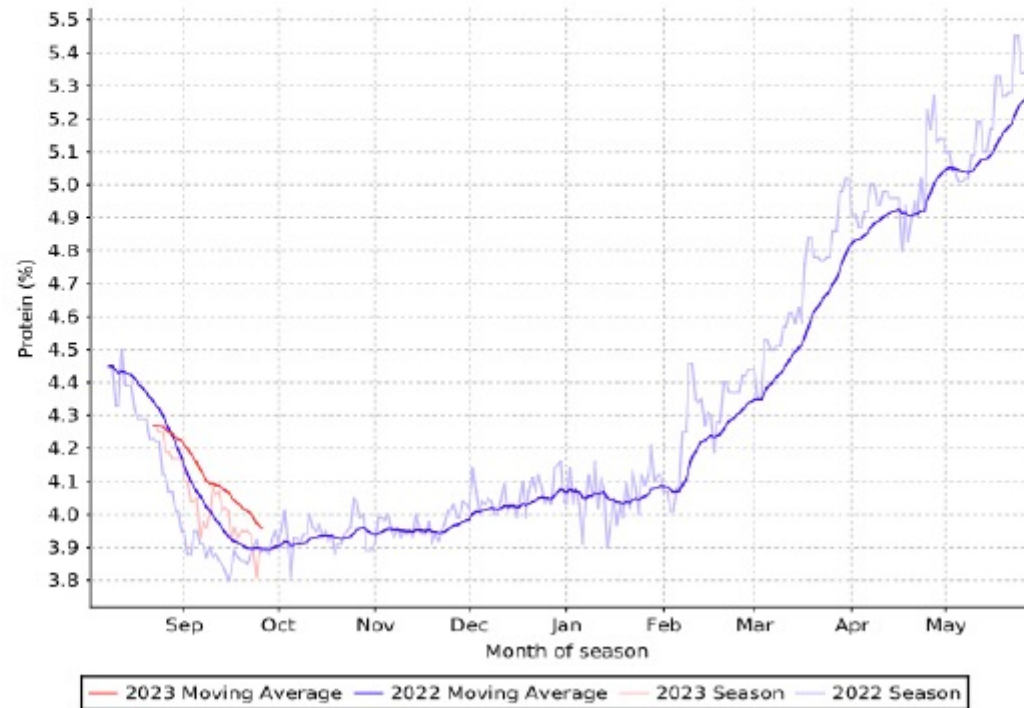


Monitoring Feeding (the major rule-out)

Is your herd on a rising plane of nutrition?

Cows on a **rising plane of nutrition** heading into mating have improved pre-mate cycling rates AND increased first round conception rates

Monitoring Energy Balance
Your herd's Milk Protein %



- Target the "Nike Tick" protein curve
- Ideally rising from late Sept / early Oct
- Drops or extended low protein % may indicate an issue

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Week -2

Estimating Non-Cycler Numbers

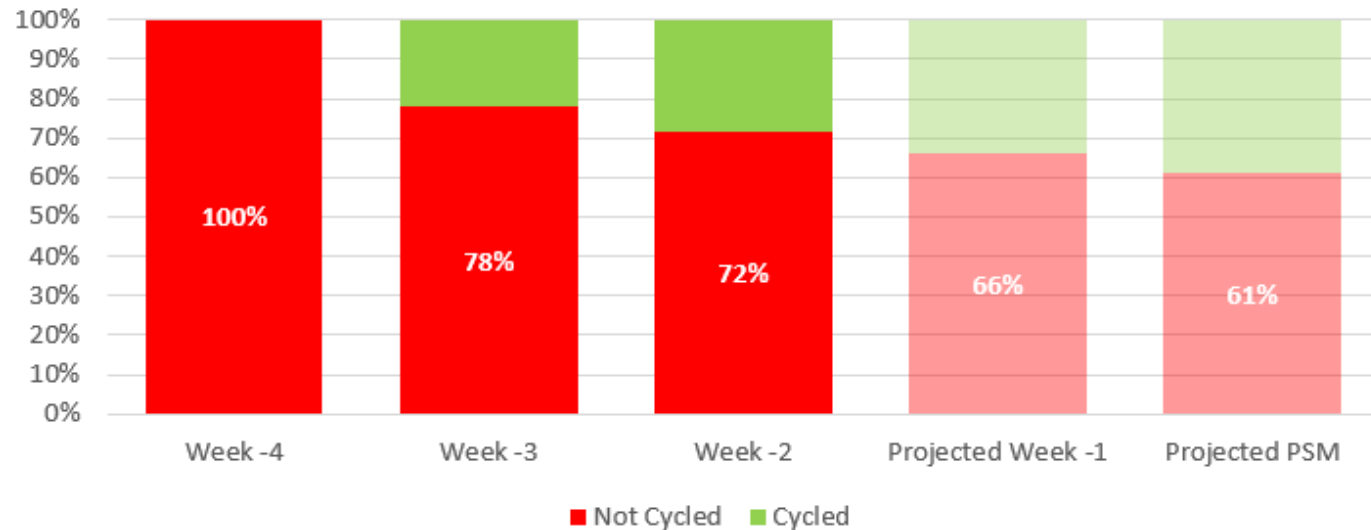
Non-Cycler Projections Southern Dairy Hub (7 Days Before PSM)

PSM = 30-10-2023 Includes Heats To: 15-10-2023



How quickly are cows cycling?

Cycling rate of cows that were non-cyclers at Week -4



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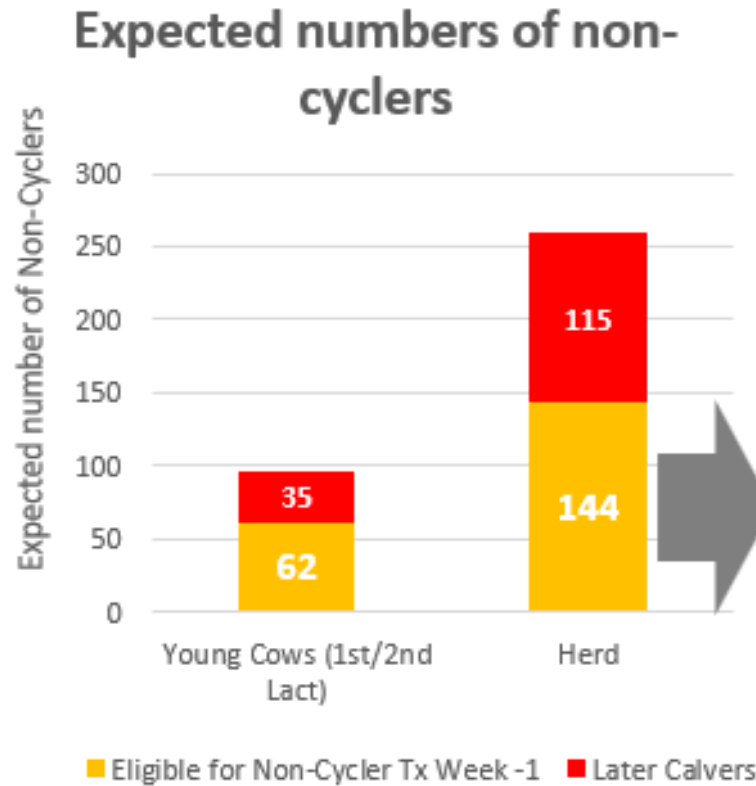
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Week -2

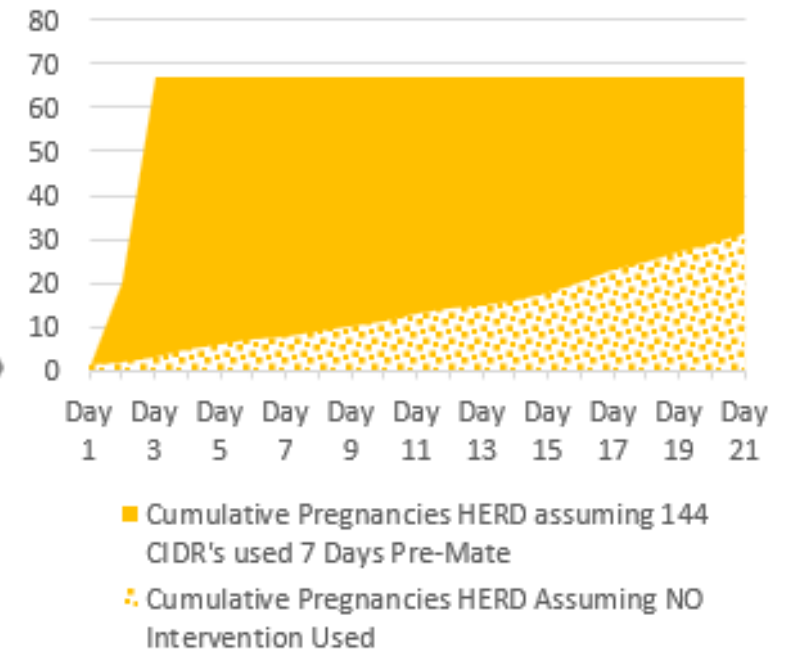
Estimating Non-Cycler Numbers

How many non-cyclers do we expect 7 days BEFORE the PSM?



If eligible non-cyclers are treated, what impact does this have on pregnancy rates?

Non-Cycler Intervention (HERD) @ PSM -7 Days



Gains expected from early treatment of non-cyclers (144 early calvers):

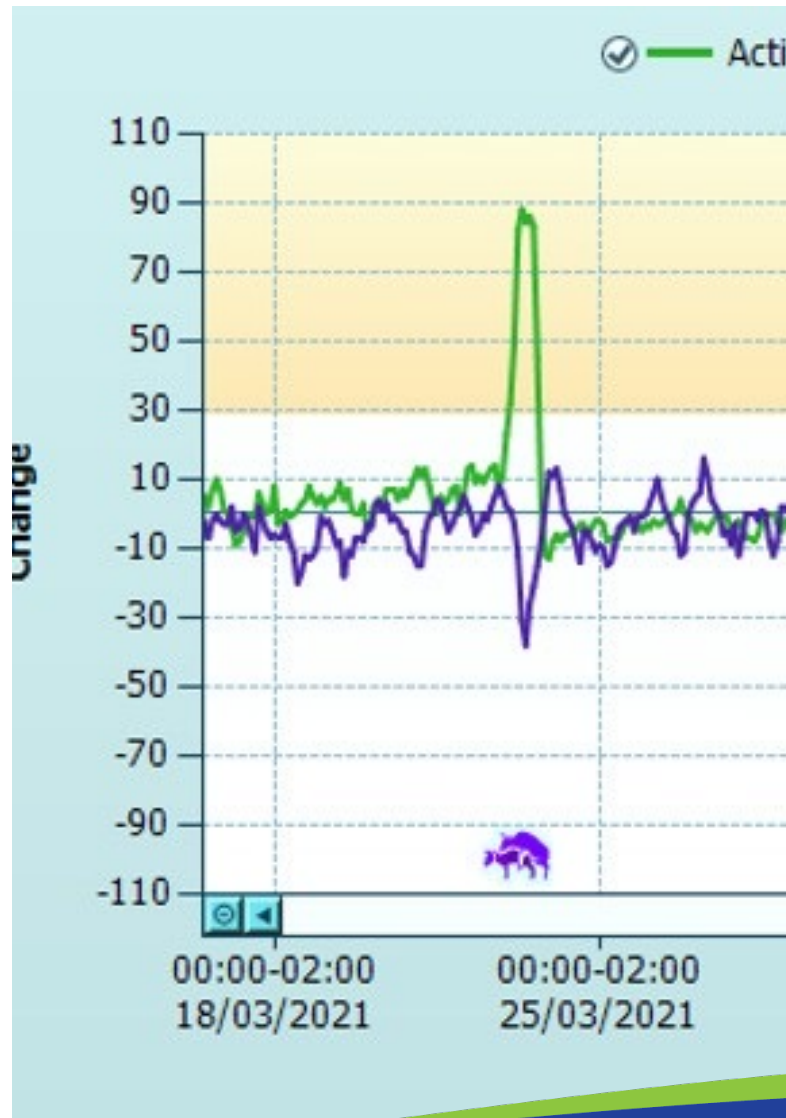
Estimated impact on early DIM = +993days

Estimated impact on HERD 3WICR +5%

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Mating



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Performance

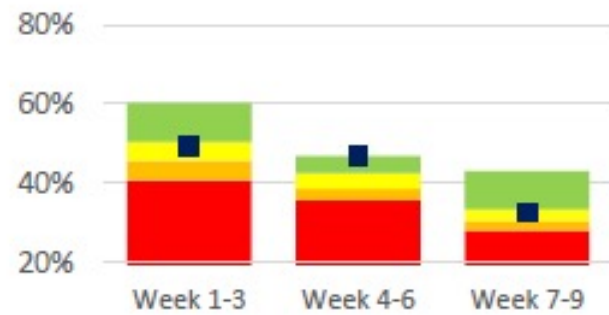
Key Outcomes Mating Period

Were there problem periods during mating?

Getting cows pregnant consistently across the whole mating period is key for a desirable future calving pattern, low Not-In-Calf rates and lifetime efficiency. It also provides scope for herd improvements.

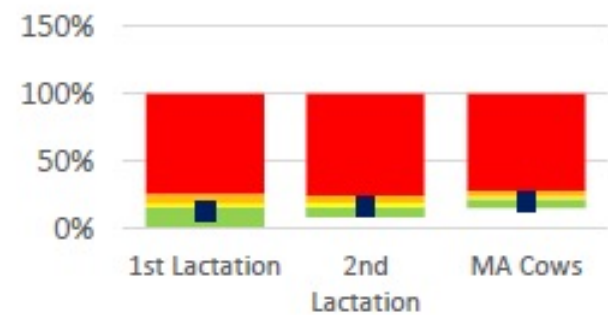
In-Calf Rate

Percentage of non-pregnant animals conceiving in each 3 week mating round. This can highlight changes in nutrition over mating.



9 Week Not-In-Calf Rate

Percentage of animals Not-in-Calf by week 9 (therefore late calvers or MT). Indicates potential cow wastage.



1 Overall herd reproductive performance

6-week in-calf rate

Percentage of cows pregnant in the first 6 weeks of mating

Your herd **81%**



Aim above **78%**

Not-in-calf rate

Percentage of cows not pregnant after 72 days of mating

Your herd **10% (5-10%)**

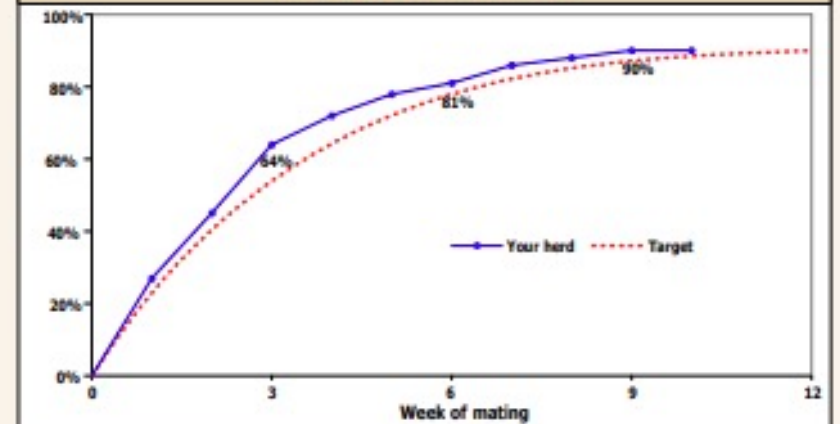


Aim for **11%**

Duration of AB period: **72 days**

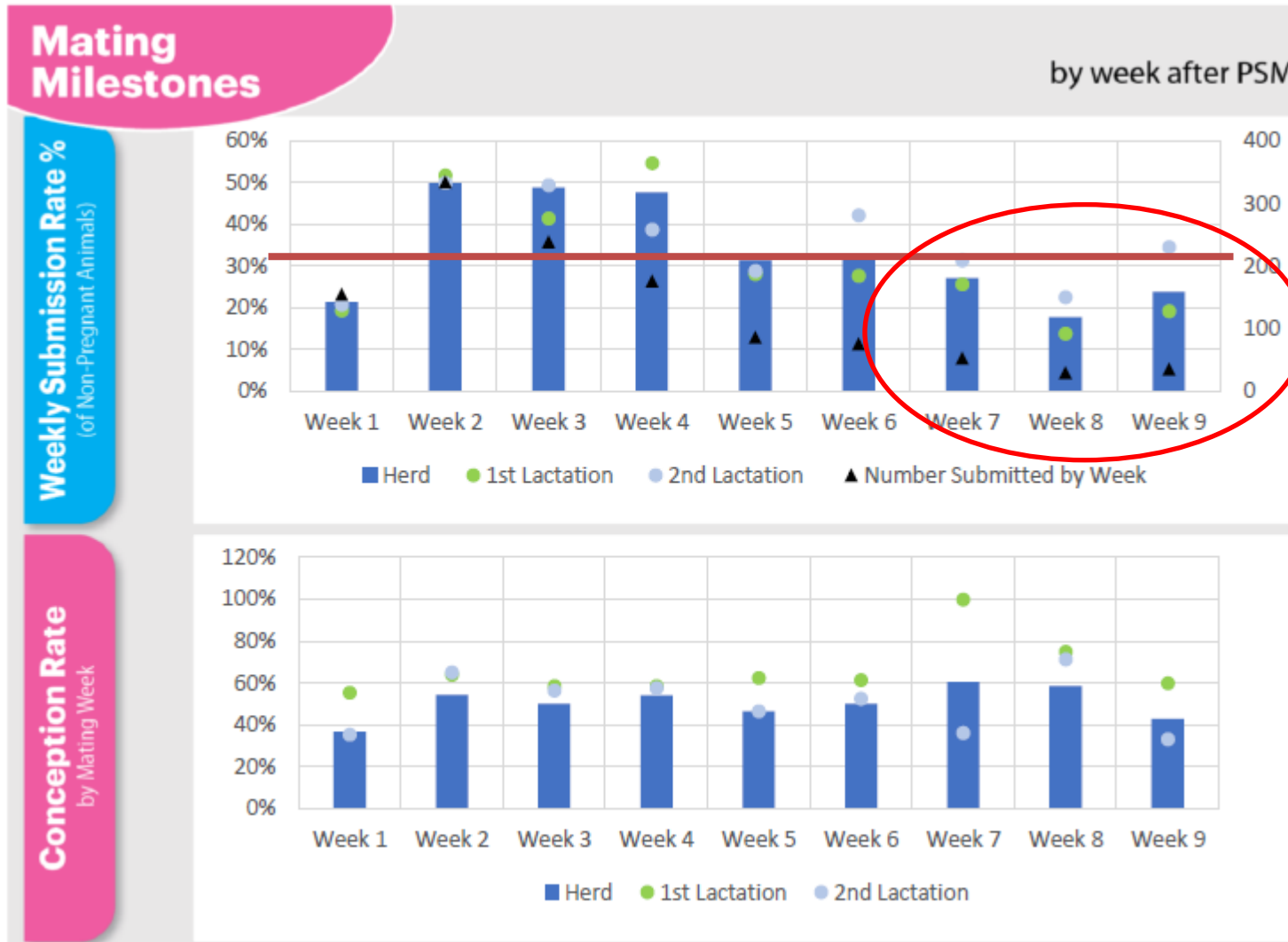
% of herd in calf

Cumulative by week of mating



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Performance



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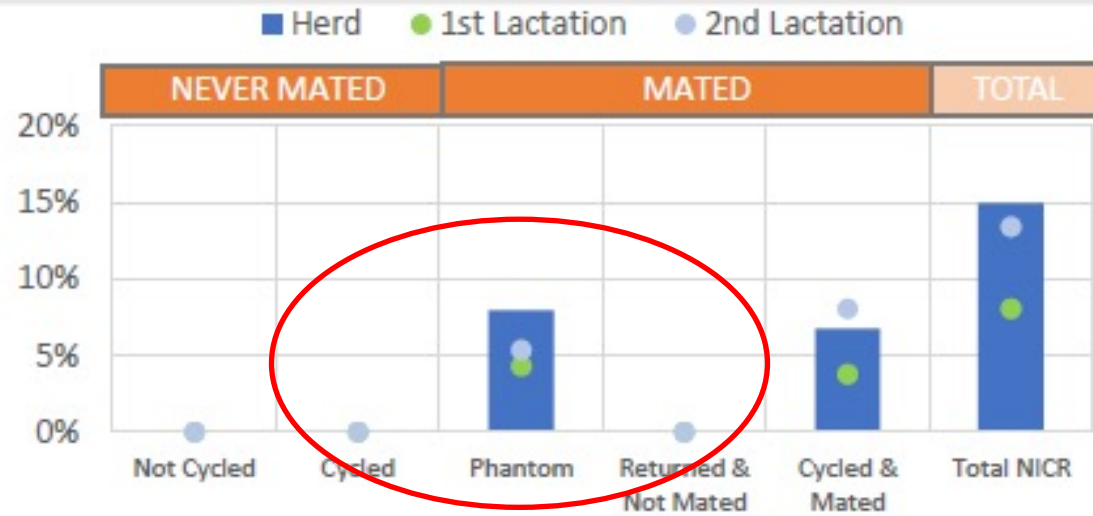
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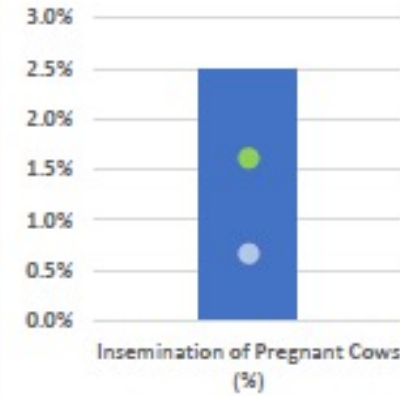
Performance

75 Day NICR
- underlying factors

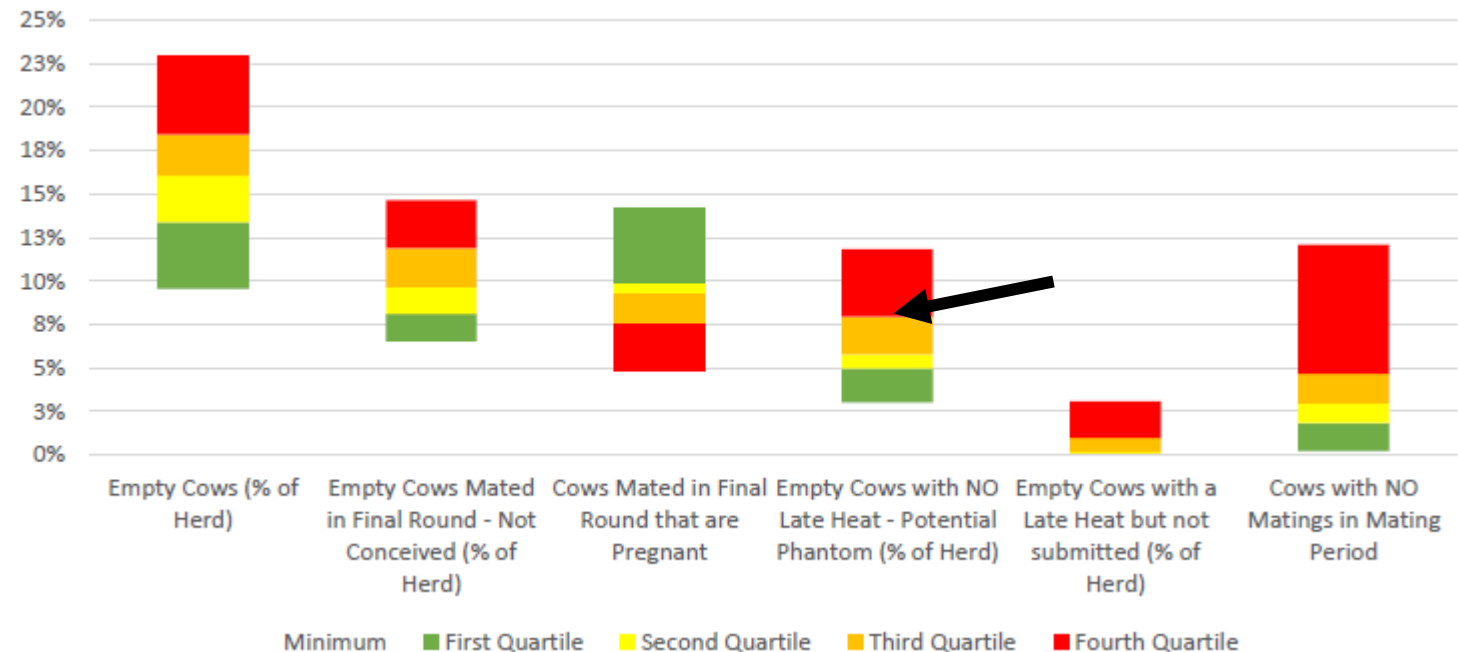
These 5 groups are mutually exclusive and their sum equals "Total NICR"



Cows mated when already Pregnant



Empty Cows - Heats & Submissions in last 24 Days of Mating



NEVER MATED

- **Not Cycled:** Cows NIC and never cycled (eg major NCC issue)
- **Cycled:** NIC Cows not mated but with at least one heat over mating period (eg draft error or elected not to mate)

MATED

- **Phantom:** Cows NIC after insemin with no subsequent return heat.
- **Returned & Not Mated:** Cows NIC unmated heat event <30 days before chose not to mate)
- **Cycled & Mated:** Cows NIC with at least one heat before the end of mating (elected not to mate)

Veterinary C



What can you see in real time?



Hinemoa Riverlands Company Ltd Report Date: 20/05/2022
Milk Processor: Ocenia, DSN: 151

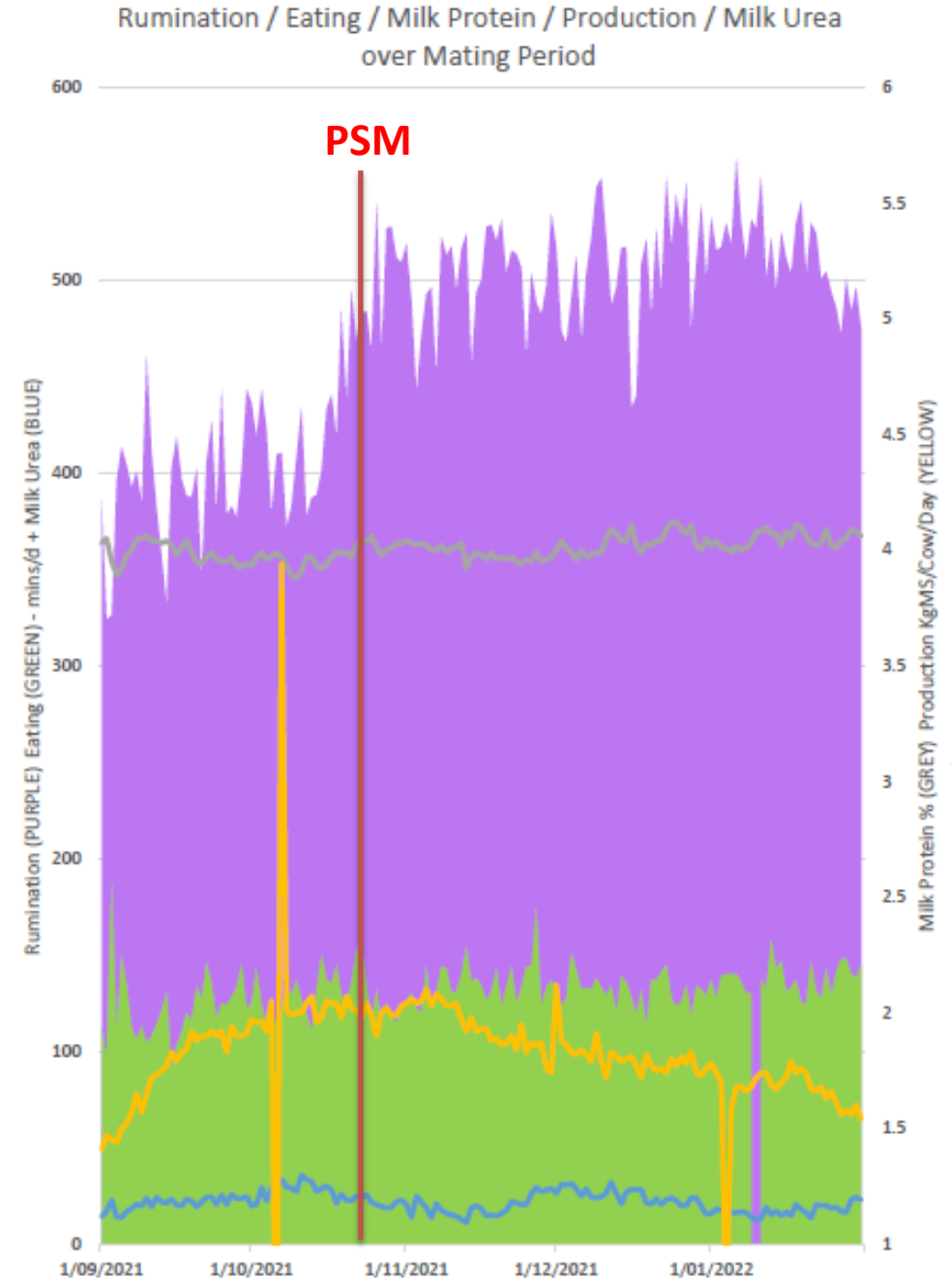
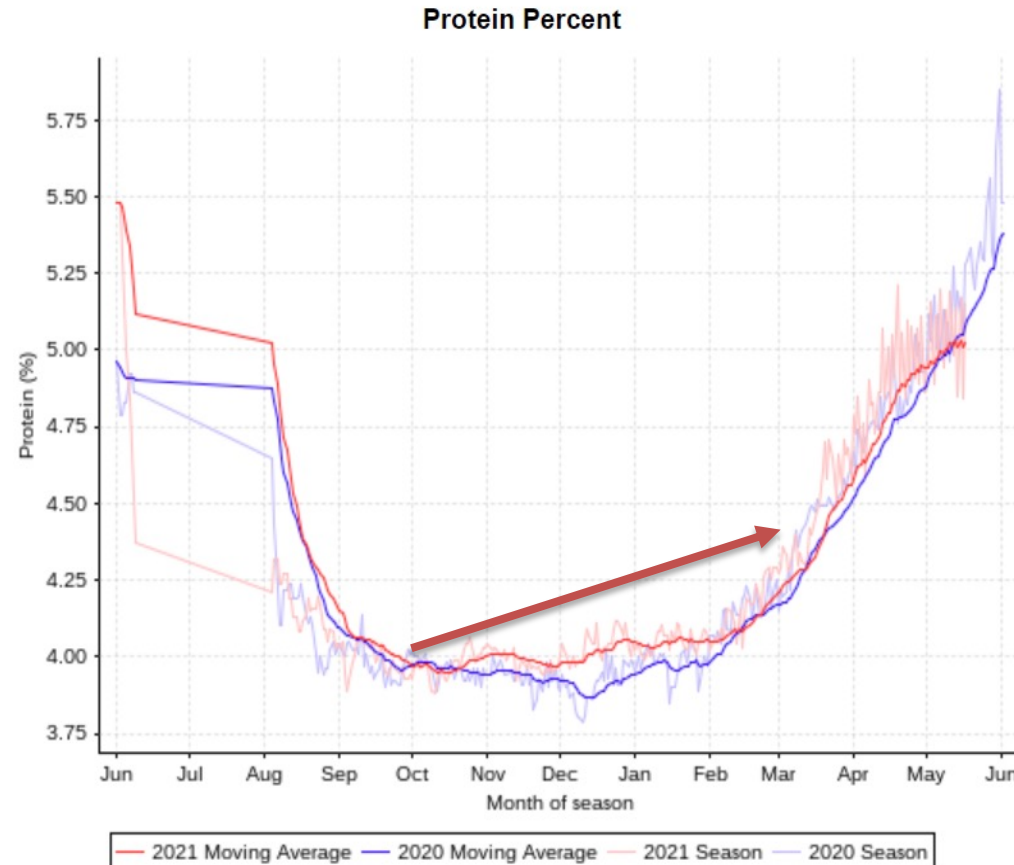
Non-Return Rate

Percentage of cows that were last bred 24 or more days ago and have not returned to heat.



58%
Non-Return Rate

- LOW CONCEPTION RATE 0%-49%
- SWEET SPOT 50%-65%
- PHANTOM RISK 65%-100%



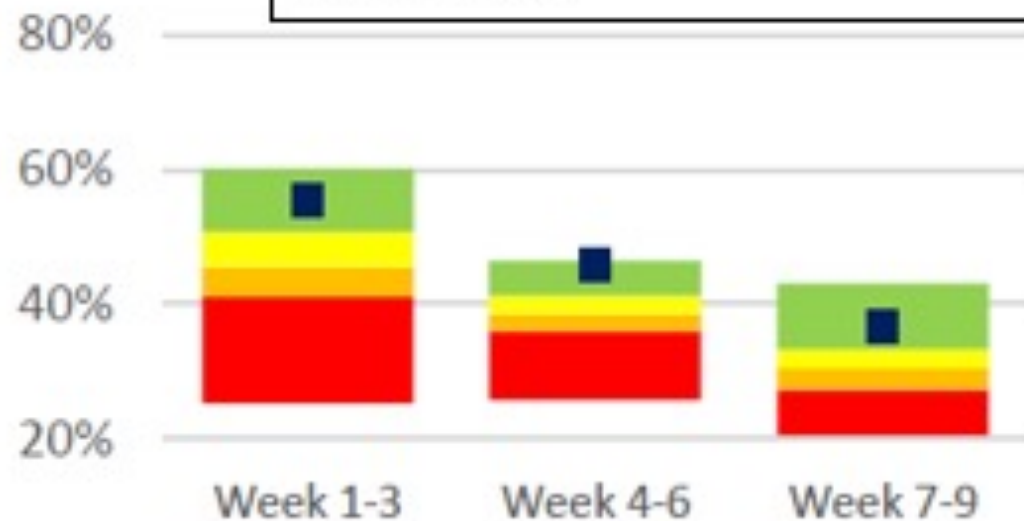
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LUDF Benchmarking Project

In-Calf Rate

Percentage of non-pregnant animals conceiving in each 3 week mating round. This can highlight changes in nutrition over mating.

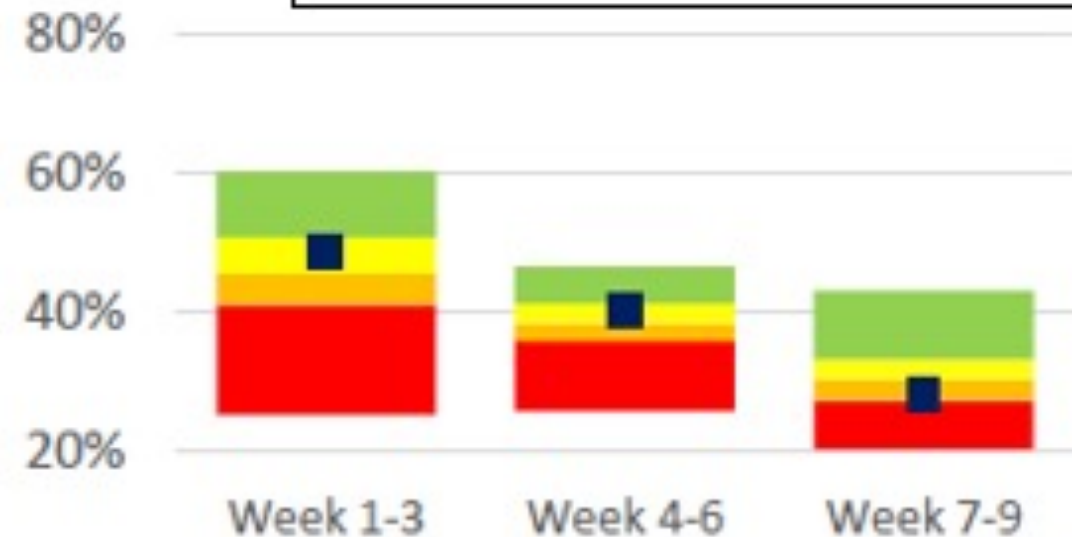
Alderbrook



In-Calf Rate

Percentage of non-pregnant animals conceiving in each 3 week mating round. This can highlight changes in nutrition over mating.

LUDF

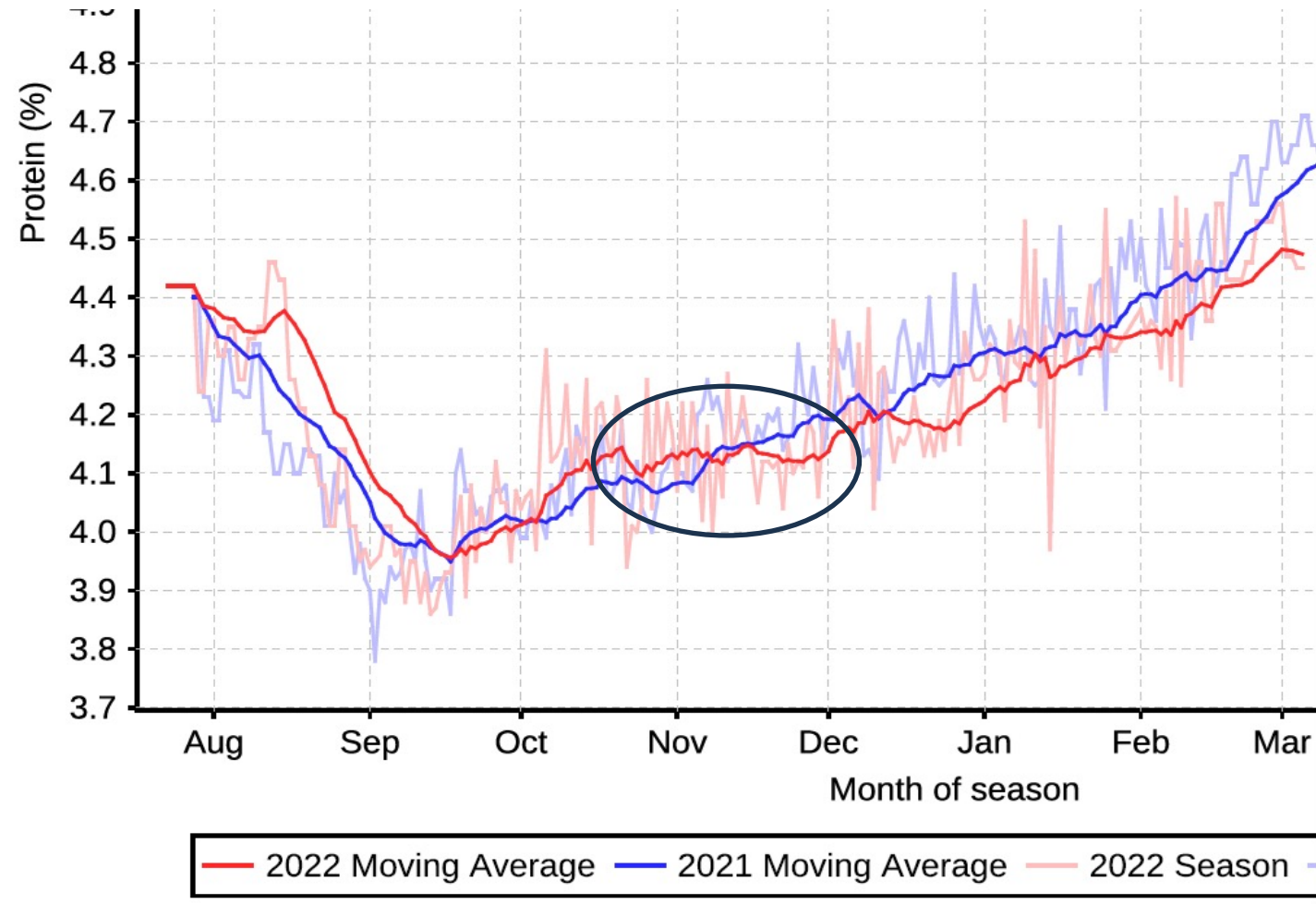


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LUDF Milk Protein



Veterinary Centre by the Big Blue Cross

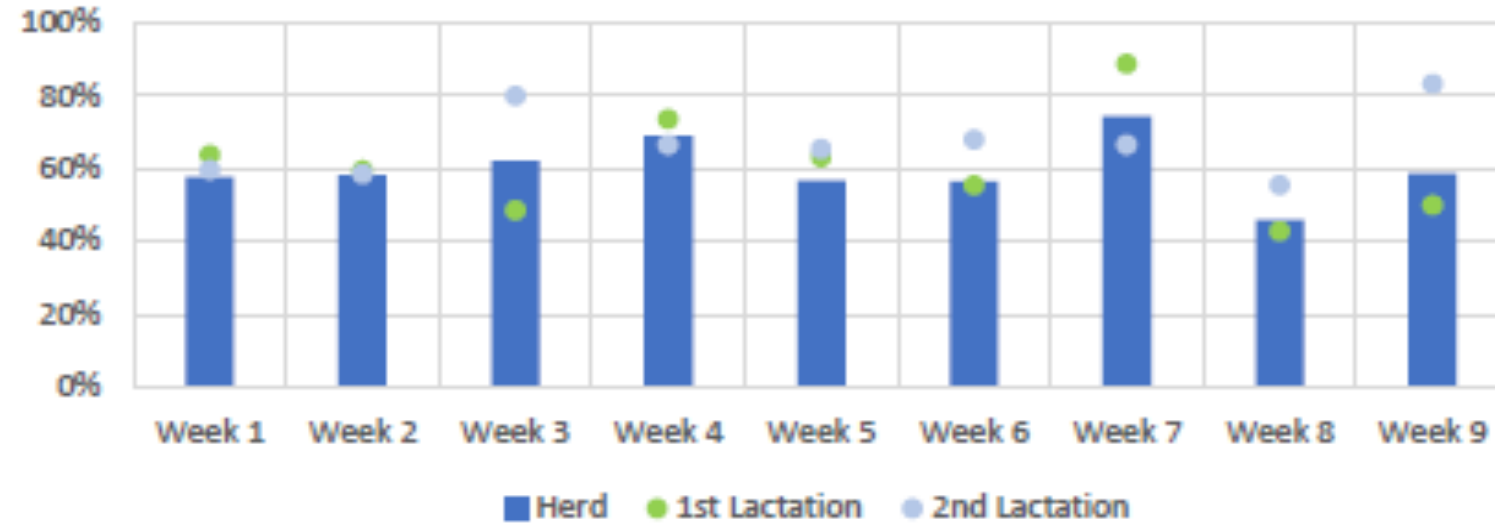
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Weekly Conception Rates

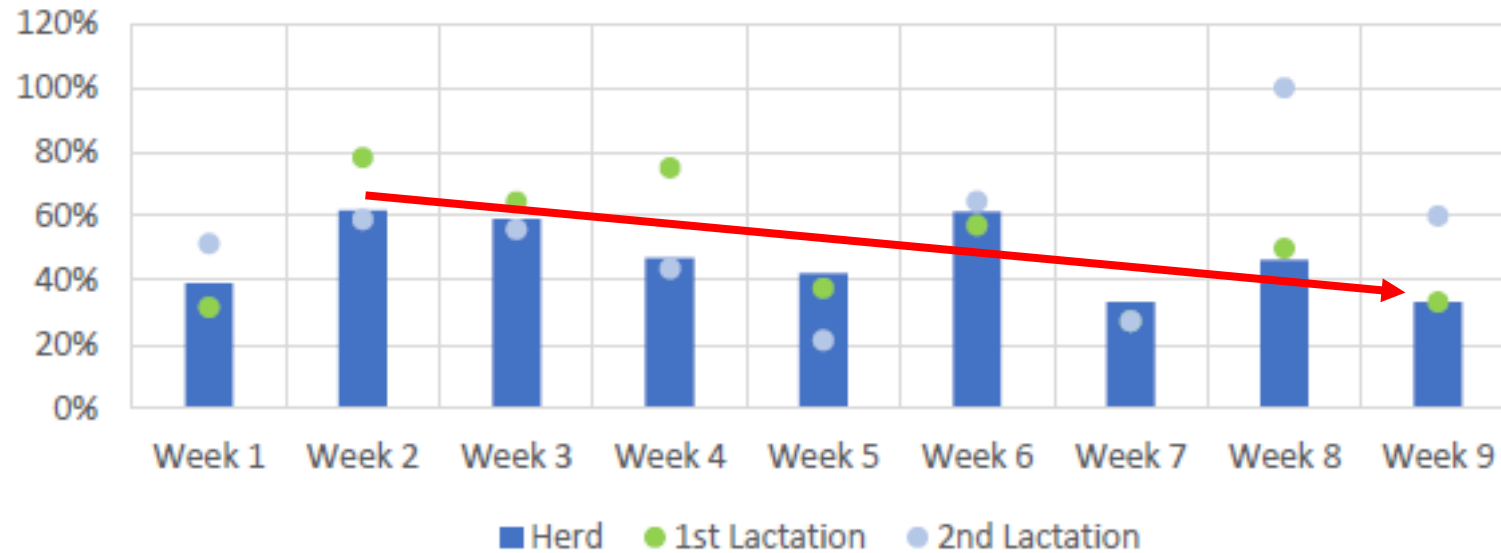
Alderbrook

Conception Rate
by Mating Week



LUDF

Conception Rate
by Mating Week



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NEFA Levels (Fat mobilisation)

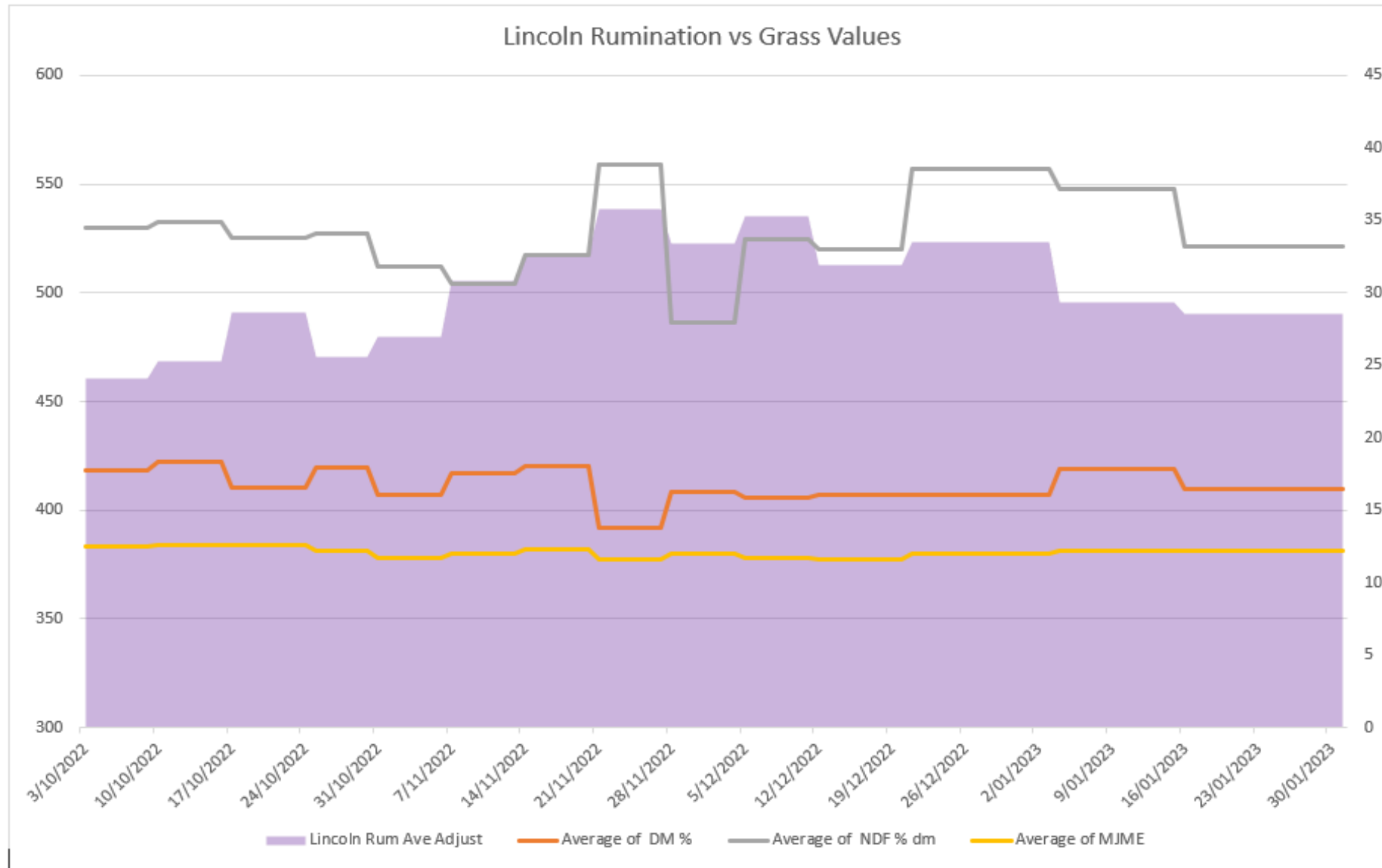
	LUDF	Liam
	NEFA Levels	NEFA Levels
10 th Aug	.7	.4
29 th Sept	.3	.3
27 th October	.2	.3
10 th November	.4	.2
24 th November	.1	.2
8 th Dec	.1	.2
22 nd Dec	.2	.2

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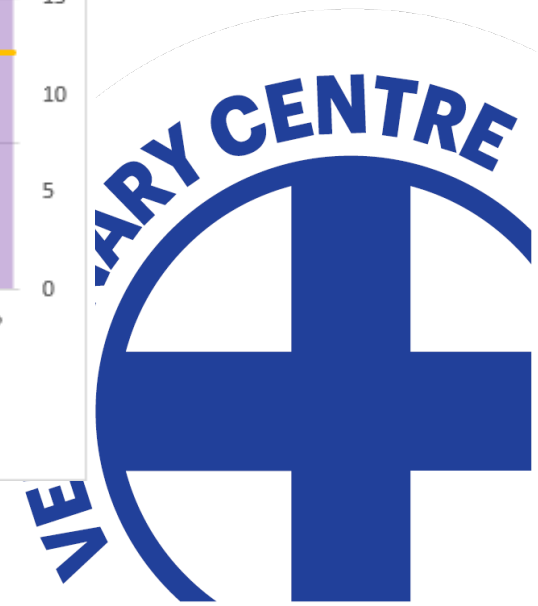


Grass Testing – the NDF story.....



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Lactational Energy Calculator

Farm Name	High Producing Cow Peak				Date	8/10/2021	
	ME	Wastage	kg of Feed	Multiplier	Protein %	Protein (kg)	ME
Grass	12.5	10%	18	11.25	25%	4.05	202.5
Silage	11	25%		8.25	8%		
Grain	13	5%	2	12.35	11%	0.21	24.7
PKE	11	5%		10.45	14%		
Baleage	10	20%		8	17%		
Molasses	12	5%		11.4	4%		
Straw	6	40%		3.6	3%		
Soy Bean Meal	12.5	5%		11.875	38%		
Average ME of Diet (maintenance & milk demand increases with lower ME feeds)		12.6		TOTAL DM (kg) Offered		20.0	
				TOTAL DM (kg) Eaten		18.1	
Liveweight (kg)	525	Walk (km) Flat	1.50	Maintenance (MJME)		57.95	
Milk kgMS/Cow	2.40	Walk (km) Rolling		Milk (MJME)		189.6	
		Walk (km) Hilly/Steep		Walking		3	
				Total Demand (MJME)		251	



Feed Offered vs Demand (%)	Expected Weight Change
91%	-0.64 Kg/Day
-23.35 MJME	-0.56 BCS
NEGATIVE ENERGY BALANCE	Expected BCS Change over 30 days

Lactat Energy



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Will you be a successful collar user?

SUCCESS

Farm owner + Farm Team engaged

Buy-in and Trust of the Data

Willing to put time into data management

Willingness to change farm systems

LESS SUCCESSFUL

No Whole Team Buy-in

Poor records (garbage in garbage out)

Belief that “they are the top 10% farmer”

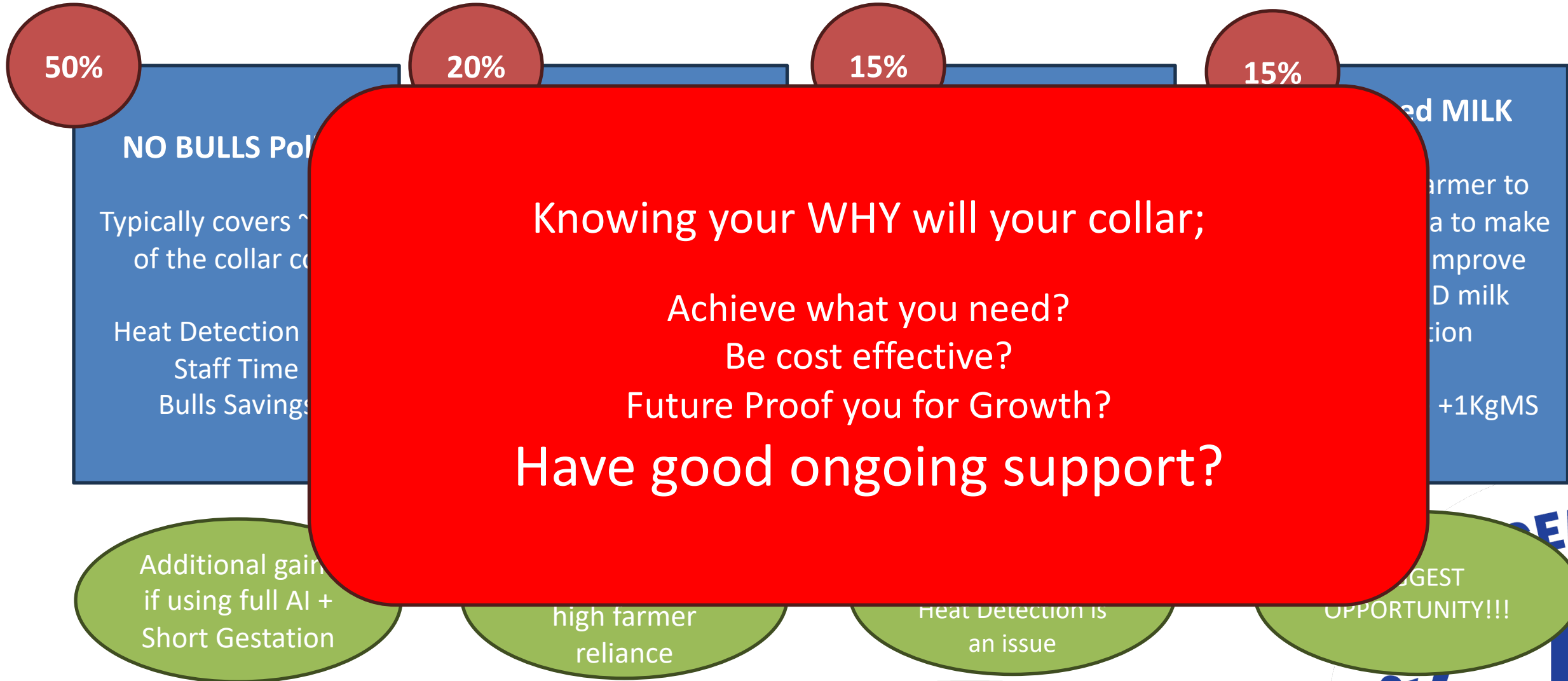
Expectation of a “Silver Bullet”

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Making the Budget Work



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Questions?



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