

# Weekly Farm Summary 10 March 2023

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

	Std Swede Pink	LI Bale Blue	Std FB Green	LI FB Yellow
Farmlet area including wintering	82.7	60.9	82.7	60.9
Peak cow numbers	222	137	221	135
Milking Area	73.8	55.1	73.8	55.1
Current Herd size (cows)	200	125	200	124
Pasture Stocking rate (current)	2.7	2.3	2.7	2.3
Winter Feed Milking supplement	Swede/Bale	Baleage	Beet 80 days	Beet 60 days
	In-shed feed 500kg/cow + silage as required			
Average Cover	2237	2303	2305	2325
Average Growth	35	26	26	27
Target rotation length	38	37	39	38
Last week act rotation (d)	35	39	37	38
Last week supp (kg DM/cow)	6.0	2.8	4.2	5.6
Average BCS	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.5
% of herd on priority feeding	15%	10%	18%	13%
Milk yield (L/cow)	15.7	16.3	15.1	16.3
Milk yield (kgMS/cow)	1.63	1.68	1.60	1.64
<b>Nitrogen Cap kgN/ha/yr</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>50</b>
% Nitrogen used (kgN/ha) YTD	58% (104kg)	72% (36kg)	58% (104kg)	74% (37kg)
Effluent N YTD	19	16	16	10
YTD supp (kg DM/cow)	837	515	746	530
YTD MS/cow	368	389	361	384
YTD MS/milk ha (YTD MS/farm ha)	1106 (988)	967 (875)	1081 (965)	941 (851)

Business Area	Current Status
Milk Production	Noticeable increase in milksolids percentage throughout the week, with a drop in litres but holding solids. More fat produced across the herds with a change in silage type and stable protein levels.
Pasture & Feed	Further lift in pre-graze, reducing supplement requirements again. Herds now eating the Summer stack and covers looking greener than we've seen for some time
Animals	29 R2s home from grazing, 14 not in-calf (10MT, 1 slip and 3 FM), plus 15 surplus in-calf potentially for sale as we work through final cull numbers.
Environment	Entering our nitrogen window as March arrives, but soil moisture forecast still too low for economic response. Applications will cease 10 April at the latest, hoping some rain arrives soon.
Wintering	Anti-fungal spray (Escolta) applied to the fodder beet by helicopter this week. Planning with Allflex around options to set up satellite contact to support block to keep pink cows monitored.
People	Fire Warden training occurring on farm to make sure all staff know what to do in an emergency. A really important annual task and getting to use extinguishers is always a highlight.
Research	65 people attended our Field Day on Thursday, with great engagement around soil type and N use, plus the cost of wintering. Website overhaul is underway and we're working through loading more info which is now available.

# Milk Production

## Principles of Milk Production management this week

Milk Production	Litres are down mostly due to pasture quality. However, Milksolids % has come up remains reasonably stable along with Protein. Fat has also increased by ½ %. Milk Urea's have come back a lot from the 30's to the mid 20's, suggesting there is not a surplus of protein.
Key Influences on Milk Production	Is still being controlled by feed quantity with pasture quality being the largest contributor to milk production changes. New Silage stack componentry change (55% DM) and a break-down with the in-shed feeding silo have will have also had an effect.
Cow Management	No changes in cow management this week. Continue to have a 3'n'2 milking frequency and preferentially feeding cows the following: less than BCS 4.0 - in-shed, at BCS 3.5 – in-shed and OAD milking and at BCS <3.5 – in-shed and OAD milking.

	Std brassica/baleage Pink	LI Baleage Blue	Std Fodder beet Green	LI Fodder beet Yellow
kg Milksolids per cow this week / (last week)	1.63 (1.75)	1.68 (1.75)	1.6 (1.68)	1.64 (1.78)
kg Milksolids per ha this year / (same time last year)	1106 (988)	967 (875)	1081 (965)	941 (851)
% Var kg Milksolids per ha Season per ha to date vs last season to date	+7.9	+7.4	+13.0	+10.9
No. of Cows needing preferential feeding (% herd)	30 (15)	13 (10)	37 (18)	17 (13)
Animal Health peculiarities	None	None	None	None

# Milk Production

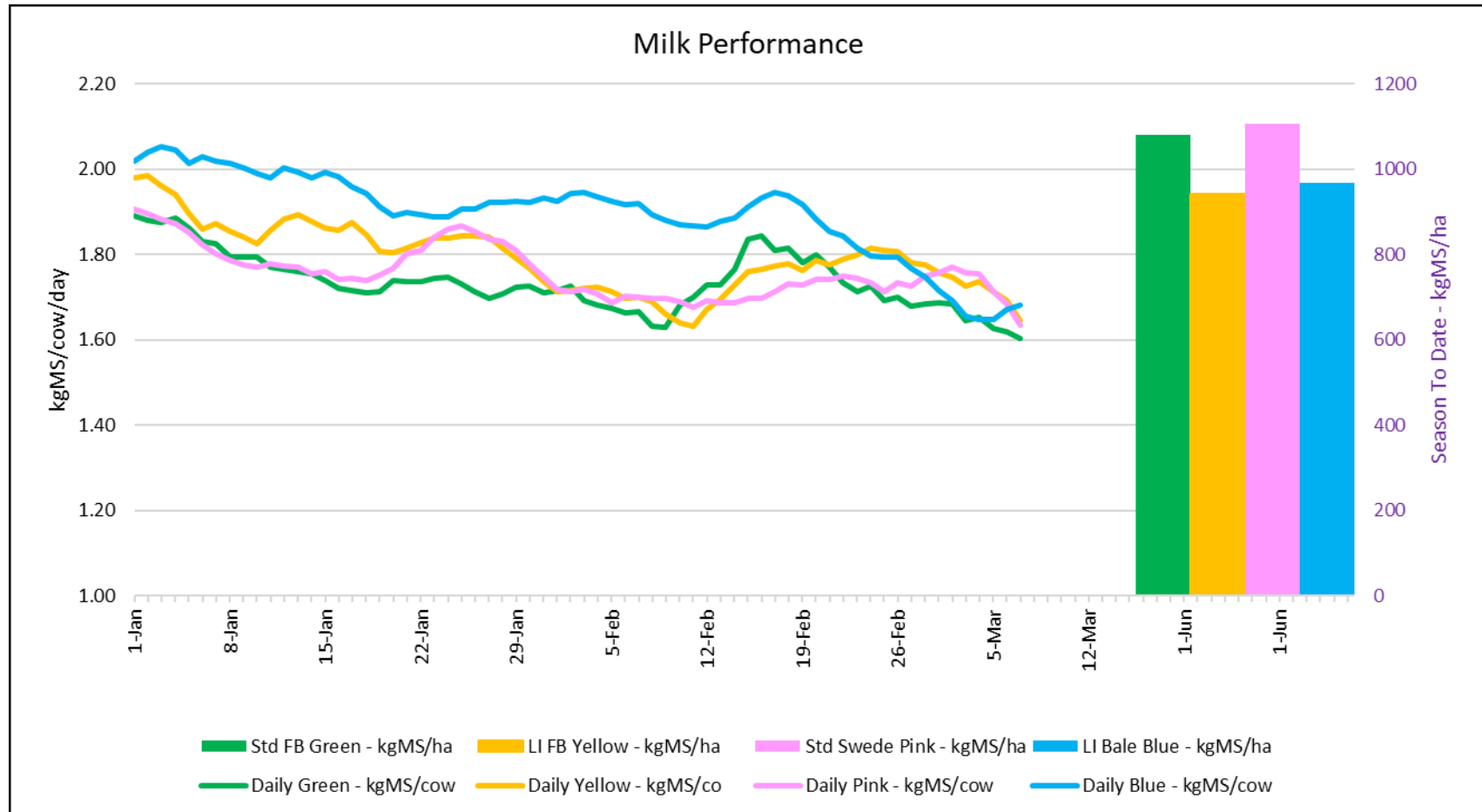


Figure 1: Milk solids production (/cow/day) plus cumulative season production (kg/ha) at 7<sup>th</sup> March 2023

# Feed

## Principles of Feed management this week

Feed Quality	Despite the continued focus on pasture quality, the latest pasture sampling results are at 9.5 – 9.8 ME. This is not surprising given this summer’s weather conditions. Latest DM results of the silage stack that has just been opened is 55%, however we expect this to improve as we progress through it.
Growth Rate Management	Growth remains below demand this week.
Nitrogen Strategy	The farm is still moisture limited so N applications will go on as soon as conditions allow. Due to current round length, even if a weather window allows, for most paddocks we only have one application window before our last available N application date of 10 <sup>th</sup> April so considering a higher application rate of 40kg N/ha to the Std herds to get closer to the farmlet N targets for the season.

	Std brassica/baleage Pink	LI Baleage Blue	Std Fodder beet Green	LI Fodder beet Yellow
Quantity	Deficit	Deficit	Deficit	Deficit
Quality	Variable quality and DM%	Variable quality and DM%	Variable quality and DM%	Variable quality and DM%
Surplus Management	None	None	None	None
Deficit Management for coming week- kgDM (diff from last week)	5.9 (-0.1)	2.5 (-0.3)	4.9 (0.6)	3.6 (-2.1)
Target Rotation Length (days)	38	37	39	38

# Feed

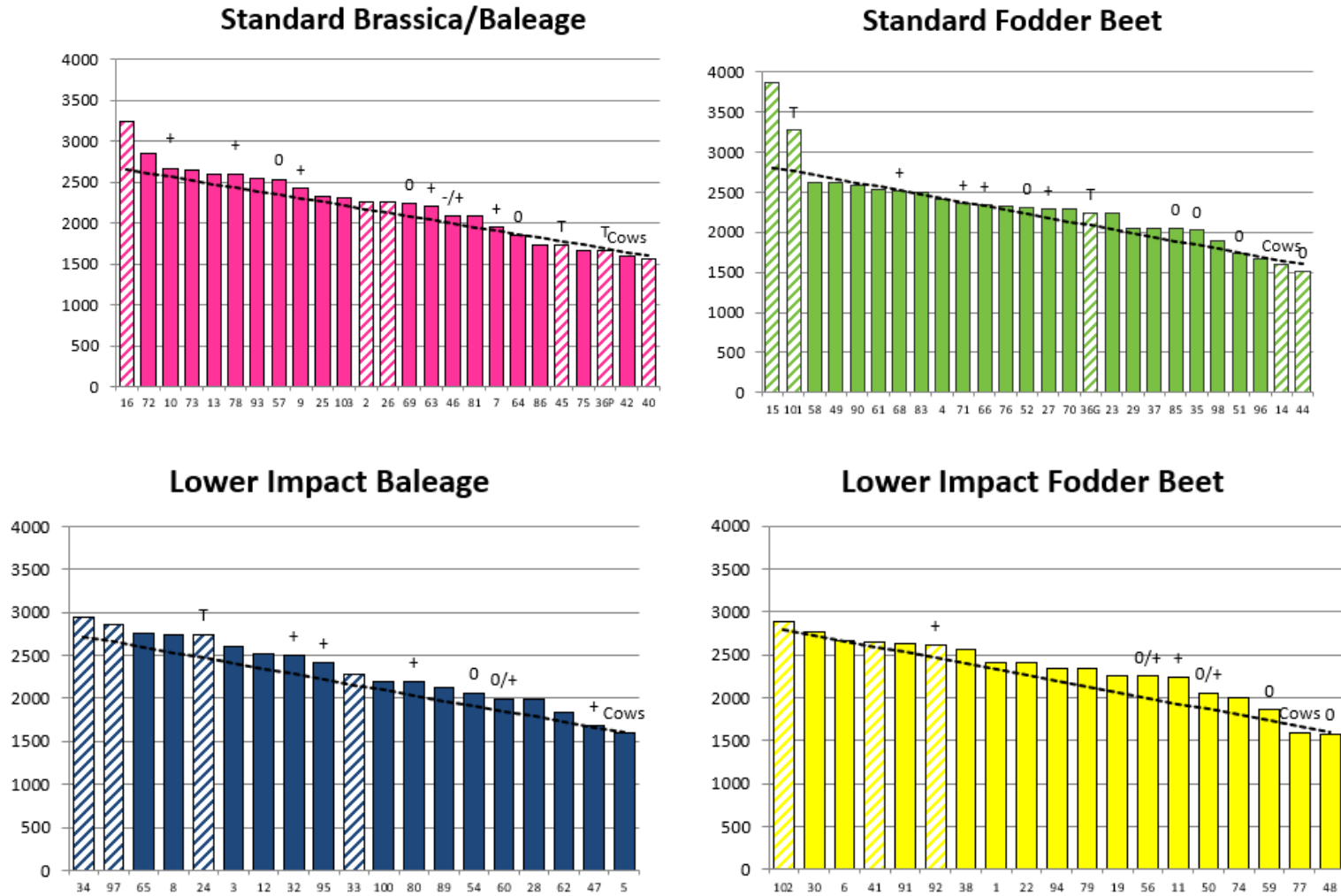


Figure 2: Feed Wedges as of 7<sup>th</sup> March 2023

# Feed

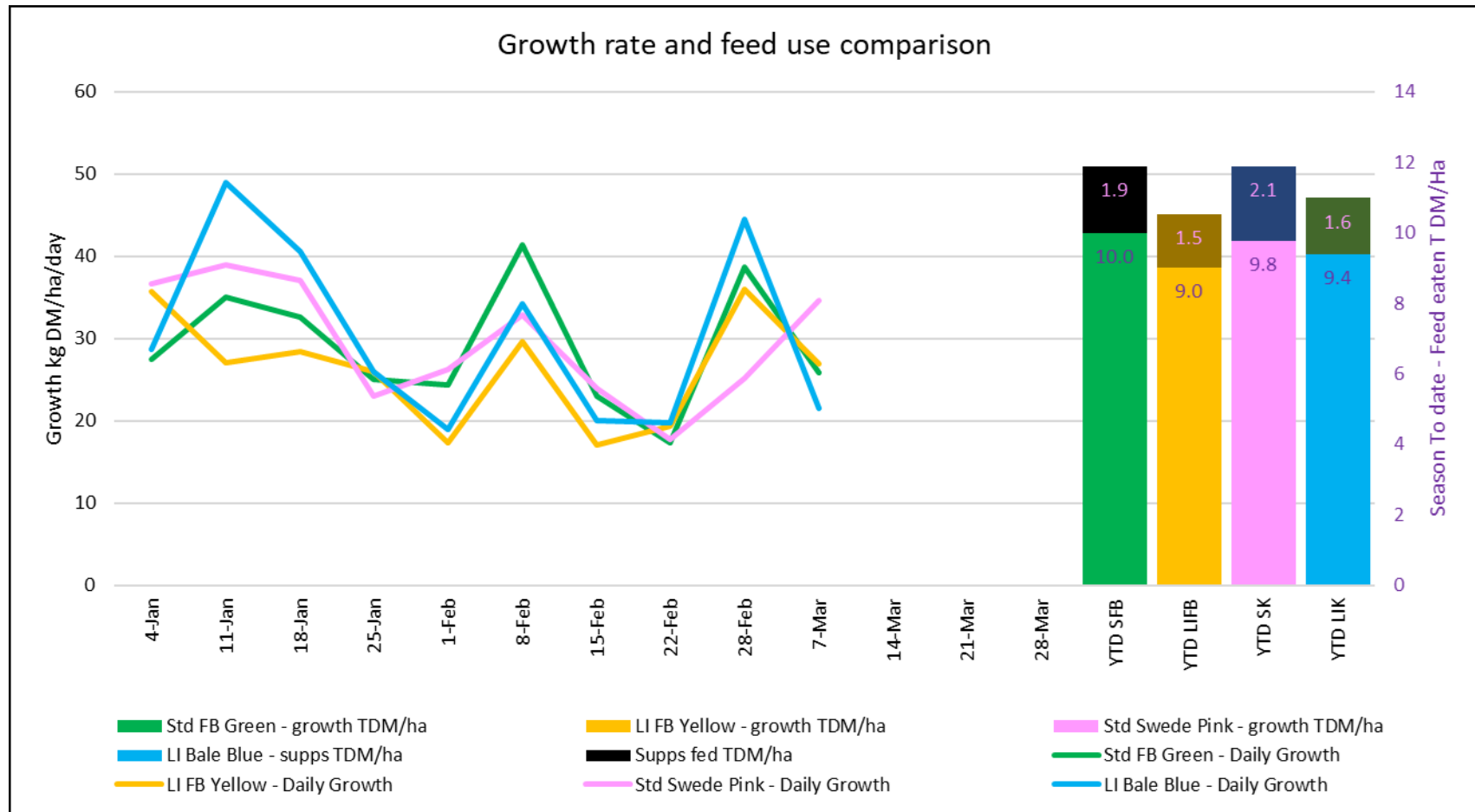


Figure 3: Weekly pasture growth rate and year to date total feed eaten