Weekly Farm Summary 14th April

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

	Std Kale Pink	LI Kale Blue	Std FB Green	LI FB Yellow
Farmlet area including wintering	75.0	72.1	75.0	69.2
Peak cow numbers	195	162	194	162
Milking Area	63.4	60.5	63.4	60.5
Current Herd size (cows)	164	133	160	134
Pasture Stocking rate	2.6	2.2	2.5	2.2
Winter Feed Milking supplement	Kale In-Shed feed		Fodder beet Fodder beet/Baleage	
Average Cover	2114	2008	2122	2033
Average Growth	19	18	17	14
Target rotation length	44	42	44	42
Last week act rotation (d)	44	42	44	42
Last week supp (kg DM/cow)	8.1	7.6	8.8	8.2
Average BCS	4.67	4.48	4.42	4.46
% of herd on priority feeding	25%	22%	8%	16%
Milk yield (L/cow)	12.2	10.9	12.0	11.2
Milk yield (kgMS/cow)	1.40	1.24	1.35	1.26
Nitrogen Cap kgN/ha/yr	**193**	**50**	**193**	**50**
% Nitrogen used (kgN/ha) YTD	84% (162kg)	106% (53kg)	79% (152kg)	108% (54kg)
Effluent N YTD	12	11	18	19
Profit/ha comp to Control	$0	-$210	-$173	-$166
YTD supp (kg DM/cow)	768	596	642	587
YTD MS/cow	380	379	356	358
YTD MS/ha	1,168	1,015	1,089	958

Business Area	Current Status
Feed	Despite the rain and N fertiliser applications the growth response continues to be low. Residuals are being managed well with the level of baleage being fed in the paddock. Expecting covers to lift by the end of the month.
Milk Production	All herds milk production has continued to fluctuate over the past week, with pasture quality driving much of the change.
People	Covid-19 in several staff members households has meant team numbers have been down again this week. However, the team that haven't been affected have continued to work tirelessly, without complaint so we are very thankful for that!
Animals	Calculations have been completed for BCS target requirements from June 1 until calving date. 58.2% of the herd are already at or better than their 1st June target, 29.3% are within 0.3BCS unit and only 10% of the herd need between 0.3 and 0.6BCS to hit their targets. 13 low BCS cows were dried off last weekend
Environment	All nitrogen applications for the season have been completed, with the LI farmlets going slightly over their 50kgN allocation and the Std FB and Std Kale farmlets only getting 79% and 84% (respectively) of their targeted allocation.
Wintering	Winter feed budget is being finalised for all classes of stock over the next week, to ensure baleage supplies currently ordered/ on hand will be sufficient.
Research	Nitrogen analysis results have not yet returned. Pasture samples taken this week to gather actual data for DM content.

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Feed

Principles of Pasture Management this week

Feed Quality & Quantity	Pasture quality has held this week with the moisture in the system, however the base is soft suggesting DM content may have dropped. Samples being taken to confirm. In-shed feeding continues at the same rates as last week, however as pasture comes back this may be reduced to minimise substitution.
Growth Rate Management	Round length will not change this week and we are not in a positiion to push this out further at this stage due to the amount of supplement required. Until the last culls go we dont have any more leavers to reduce pasture demand.
Nitrogen Strategy	The last of the paddocks still requiring N received their N application on Monday. This completes this season application. The LI Kale farmlets and LI FB farmlets both received slightly more than this seasons N allocation due to additional N being applied to a few of the 2nd year grass paddocks that were struggling

	Standard Kale Pink	**Low Impact Kale Blue**	**Standard Fodder beet Green**	**Low Impact Fodder beet Yellow**
Quantity	Growth 73% of demand	Growth 82% of demand (up from last week)	Growth 68% of demand	Growth only 63% of demand
Quality	Quality returning slowly	Quality returning slowly	Quality returning slowly	Quality returning slowly
Surplus Management	None	None	None	None
Deficit Management	3.2 kg inshed (same next wk) 5.1 kg DM baleage	3.1 kg inshed (same next wk) 6 kg DM baleage	2.4 kg inshed (same next wk) Baleage 6.1 kg/cow/day Fodder beet 1.5 kg/cow/day	2.4 kg inshed (same next wk) Baleage 4.5 kg/cow/day Fodder beet 1.5 kg/cow/day
Rotation Length	44 days	42 days	44 days	42 days

Milk Production

Principles of Milk production management this week

Milk Production	OAD continues and will for the remainder of the season. When comparing to this time last season, all herds are behind in production SCC has reduced significantly for the FB vat after 5 mastitis cows were removed as a result of quarter stripping. SCC is sitting at 180,000 for the FB vat and 176,000 for the Kale vat.
Key influences on milk production	The cows are continuing to fluctuate in milk yield based on the paddocks that are being grazed due to the variability in pasture species across the farm. The LI Kale herd production dropped off noticeably this week after grazing through a couple of their worst paddocks.
Cow Management	Last week in-shed feed was removed from cows across all herds that have a BCS 5.5 or higher and are producing less than 8 litres/day. This week we stopped inshed feeding to all cows more than BCS 5. 13 cows were dried off over the weekend to ensure BCS targets are met at 1st June. BCS for these cows will continue on a fortnightly basis so we can ensure they are gaining condition.

	Standard Kale Pink	**Low Impact Kale Blue**	**Standard Fodder beet Green**	**Low Impact Fodder beet Yellow**
kg Milksolids per cow this week / (last week)	1.40/(1.38)	1.24/(1.26)	1.35/(1.32)	1.26/(1.24)
kg Milksolids per ha this year / (this time last year)	1168/(1214)	1015/(990)	1089/(1160)	958/(953)
Season to date compared to last year	Down 1.3%	Down 1.9%	Down 5.8%	Down 3.7%
Cows needing preferential feeding (% herd)	40 cows	31 cows	13 cows	22 cows
Animal health peculiarities	None	None	None	None

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Kale, Winters on kale - in-shed feed available. Fodder beet, winters on Beet, Beet as lactation supp.

Low impact (LI) limited Max 50kg N/ha/year vs Std 193kg N/ha/year

Happy Easter from Cow 721 and the team at SDH

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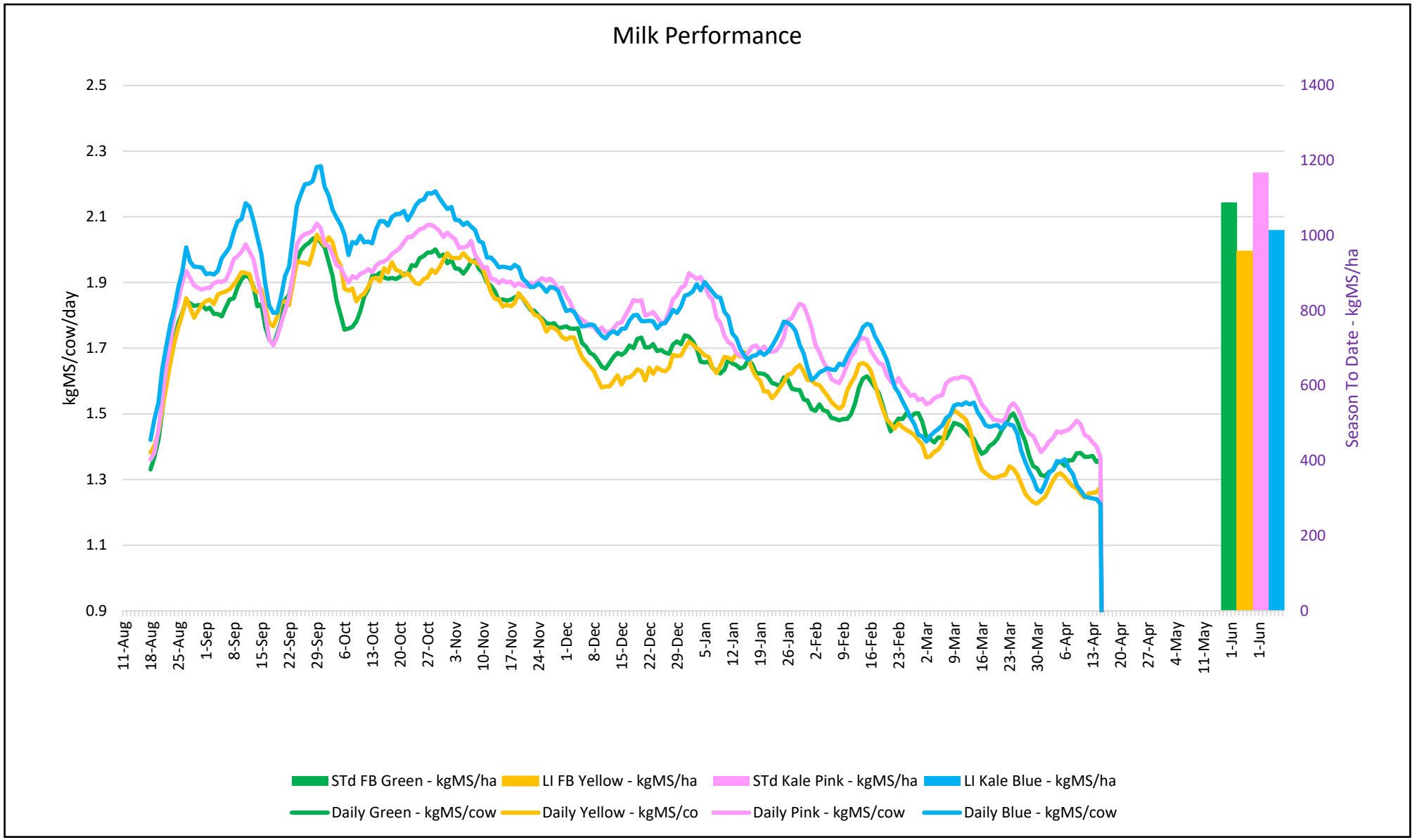

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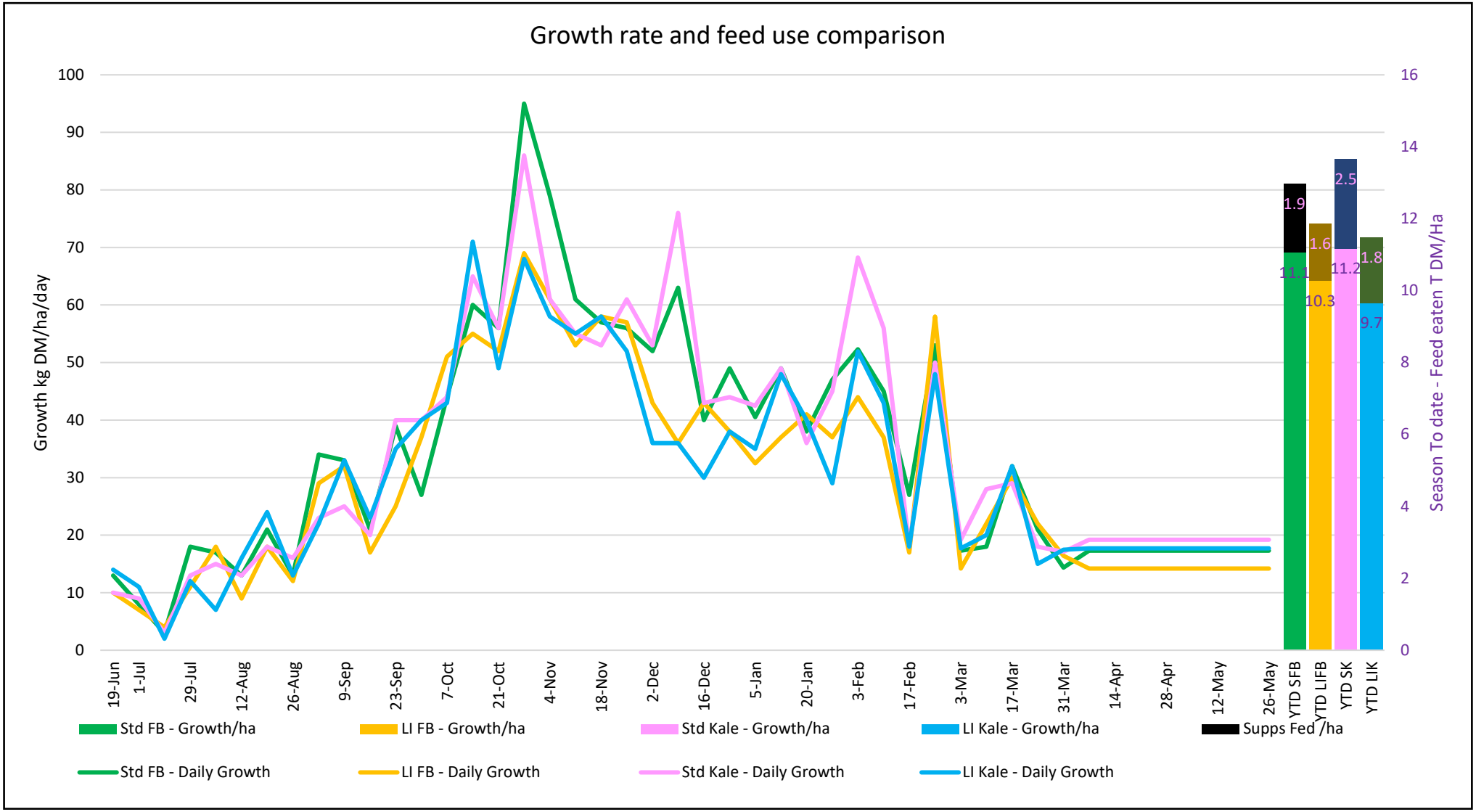

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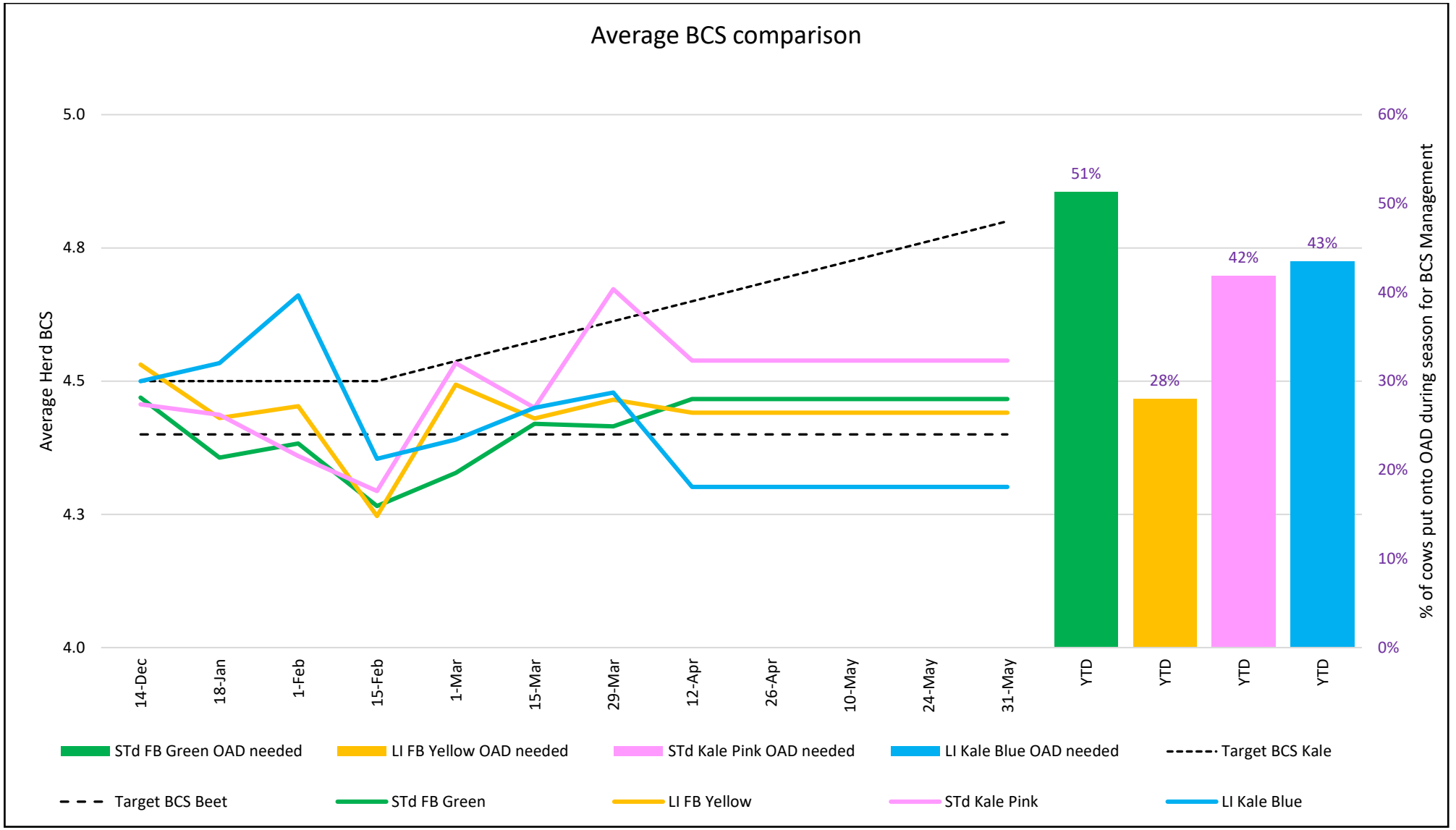

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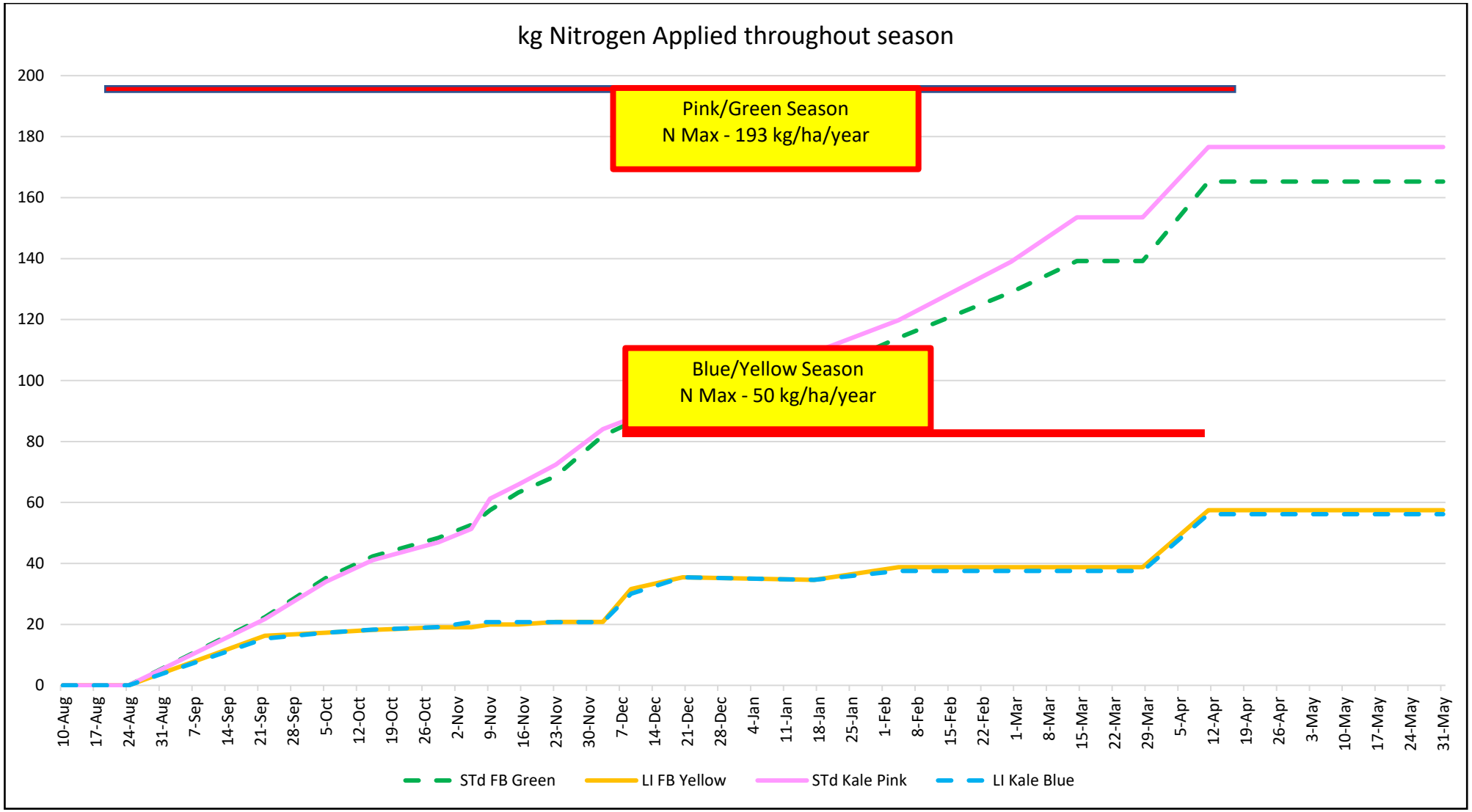

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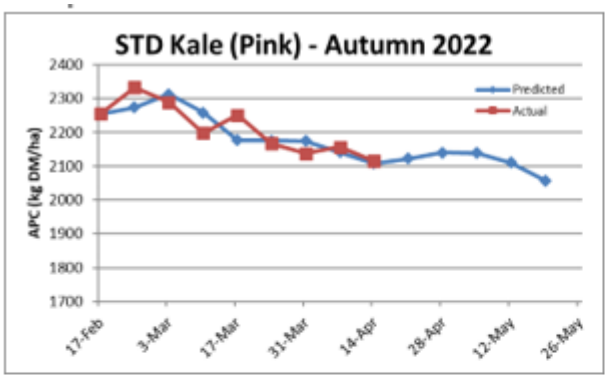

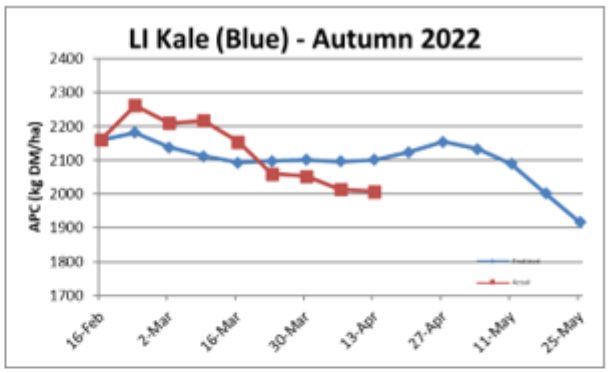

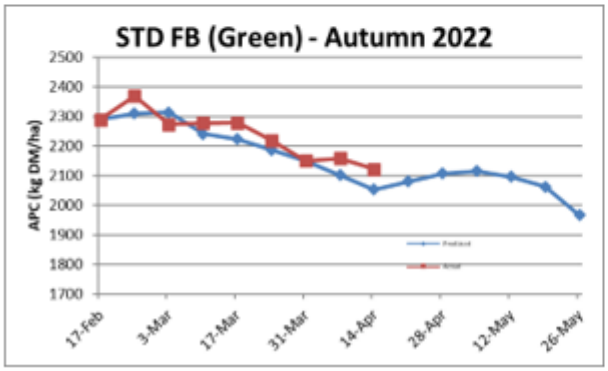

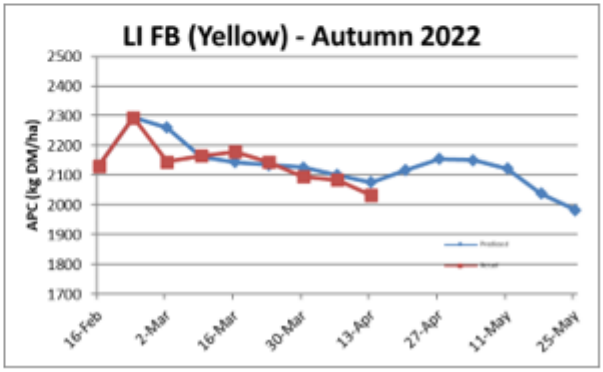

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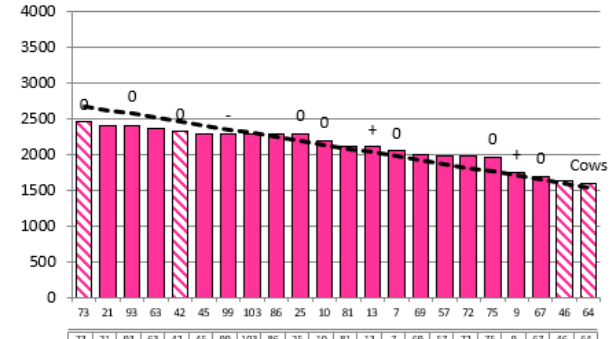
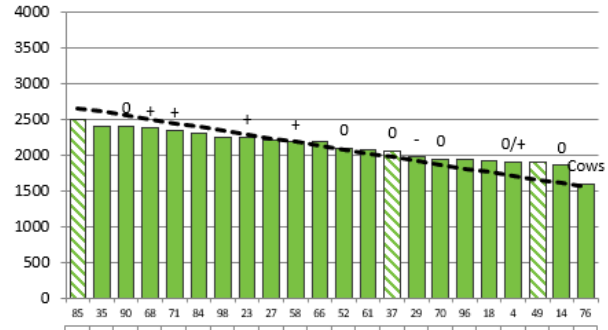
Standard Kale



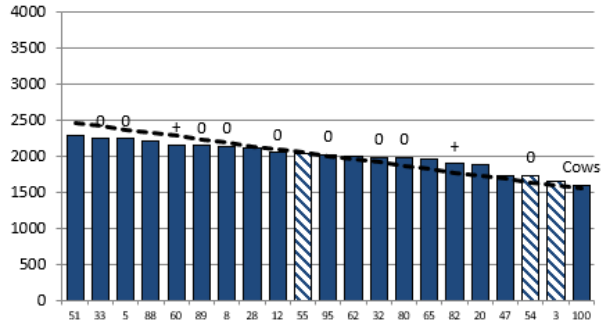
	73	21	93	63	42	45	99	103	86	25	10	81	13	7	69	57	72	75	9	67	46	64
DaysGrazed3	34	42	44	47	15	28	30	32	24	16	22	26	5	20	12	9	14	18	1	3	7	0
N_3	99	157	157	182	131	182	157	182	157	192	181	182	157	157	157	162	181	182	166	182	96	80
Growth3	14	14	7	8	66	19	21	32	32	27	15	14	0	18	14	8	16	14	0	0	7	0

Standard Fodder Beet



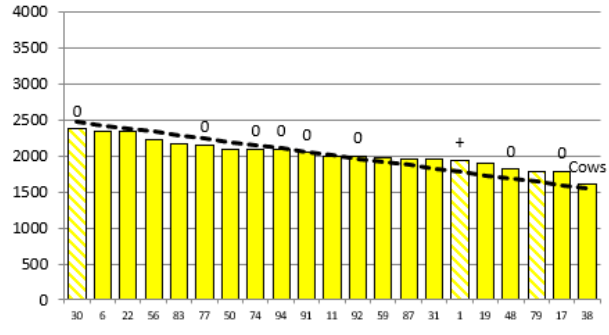
	85	35	90	68	71	84	98	23	27	58	66	52	61	37	29	70	96	18	4	49	14	76
DaysGrazed2	15	34	22	47	39	18	28	24	20	12	32	26	38	16	30	3	14	7	1	10	5	0
N_2	141	157	162	143	136	153	157	182	182	157	141	156	136	87	182	181	182	157	157	80	157	157
Growth2	50	14	31	4	14	17	0	16	17	18	8	6	4	27	8	0	6	33	0	22	0	0

Low Impact Kale



	51	33	5	88	60	89	8	28	12	55	95	62	32	80	65	82	20	47	54	3	100
DaysGrazed1	38	30	32	47	46	24	22	20	12	15	26	18	16	6	28	2	8	10	4	14	0
N_1	52	52	52	52	52	52	52	52	52	57	52	52	52	52	68	52	52	68	62	62	52
Growth1	16	36	21	1	2	18	23	19	24	18	4	24	14	0	10	0	41	10	0	20	0

Low Impact Fodder Beet



	30	6	22	56	83	77	50	74	94	91	11	92	59	87	31	1	19	48	79	17	38
DaysGrazed4	15	37	34	49	32	24	28	20	30	22	18	4	12	26	8	16	14	2	10	6	0
N_4	52	52	52	52	52	52	68	52	52	52	52	52	52	52	52	62	52	77	62	68	52
Growth4	20	21	21	4	4	5	2	42	4	7	20	0	6	0	22	18	26	0	4	0	0

NB – Target line set for 10 kg DMI of pasture

NB: Hatched bars are new grass paddocks being grazed on a faster return interval to maintain quality