

# Weekly Farm Summary

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

KPI	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)	170	138	166	137
Pasture Stocking rate	2.7	2.3	2.6	2.3
Winter Feed Milking supplement	Kale In-Shed feed		Fodder beet Fodder beet/Baleage	
Average Cover	2251	2155	2279	2179
Average Growth	27	17	28	24
Target rotation length	42	40	42	40
Last week act rotation (d)	42	46	43	40
Last week supp (kg DM/cow)	4.5	3.0	4.4	4.2
Average BCS	4.45	4.45	4.42	4.43
% of herd on OAD/Priority feeding	25%	22%	8%	16%
Milk yield (L/cow)	14.2	13.8	12.6	12.0
Milk yield (kgMS/cow)	1.52	1.48	1.37	1.36
<b>Nitrogen Cap kgN/ha/yr</b>	<b>193</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>193</b>	<b>50</b>
% Nitrogen used (kgN/ha) YTD	74% (143kg)	76% (38kg)	68% (132kg)	78% (39kg)
Effluent N YTD	7	11	18	18
Profit/ha comp to Control	\$0	-\$210	-\$173	-\$166
YTD supp (kg DM/cow)	575	456	462	424
YTD MS/cow	346	349	324	330
YTD MS/ha	1,063	934	991	883
<b>Business Area</b>	<b>Current Status</b>			
<b>Feed</b>	Rotation length is out to 40 days for all herds; increasing supplementary feeding for all herds – 3kg inshed and 3-4 kg DM/cow as baleage (lucerne & pasture); Holding APC at current feeding levels			
<b>Milk Production</b>	Have not held milk yield this week indicating insufficient energy intake across all herds hence the increase in supplementary feed			
<b>People</b>	Team managing really well through the rostering complexities of COVID cases in our HUB families; Performance assessments for all staff underway, including some 360° feedback for our farm manager			
<b>Animals</b>	BCS either holding or slightly increasing for all herds and fewer below BCS 4; No culls away this week			
<b>Environment</b>	No nitrogen fertiliser as conditions too dry; targeting effluent to paddocks with lower applications season to date			
<b>Wintering</b>	Italian paddocks due for harvesting; Fodder beet to be sprayed for fungus and brassica's for aphids and white butterfly			
<b>Research</b>	Currently working through behaviour data collected between June and September this year; Kale cows averaged 9.3 and fodder beet 9.1 hours lying/day during winter			

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

# Feed

## Principles of Pasture Management this week

<b>Pasture Quality</b>	<p>Limited options for influencing pasture quality under the current dry conditons</p> <p>Lucerne baleage is still being fed to all farmlets as a way of increasing the protein content in the diet</p> <p>New grass paddocks are still greener and leafier than others and are still higher in protein</p>
<b>Growth Rate Management</b>	<p>Have increased supplementary feeding to all herds to prevent overgrazing of pastures with the aim to leave more leaf for regrowth</p> <p>Supplement to be fed out across the whole paddock ahead of grazing with additional supplement added if required at each grazing</p>
<b>Nitrogen Strategy</b>	<p>N applications remain on hold. A strategy is being worked on to ensure that the LI farmlets get their total allocation before the 10th of April and the Std farmlets get as close to their allocation as possible.</p>

	<b>Standard Kale Pink</b>	<b>Low Impact Kale Blue</b>	<b>Standard Fodder beet Green</b>	<b>Low Impact Fodder beet Yellow</b>
<b>Quantity</b>	Growth only 57% of demand	Growth only 43% of demand	Growth only 61% of demand	Growth 60% of demand
<b>Quality</b>	New grasses holding quality, others very dry	New grasses holding quality, others very dry	New grasses holding quality, others very dry	New grasses holding quality, others very dry
<b>Surplus Management</b>	None	None	None	None
<b>Deficit Management</b>	3.0 kg inshed (down 0.3 from last week) 1.4 kg DM baleage	2.2 kg inshed (up 0.2 from last week) 0.9 kg DM baleage	2.2 kg inshed (up 0.2 from last week) Baleage 1.8 kg/cow/day	2.0 kg inshed (up 0.3 from last week) Baleage 2.3 kg/cow/day
<b>Rotation Length</b>	42 days	40 days	42 days	40 days

# Milk Production

## Principles of Milk production management this week

<b>Milk Production</b>	<p>Milk as many cows to the end of season but not at the expense of BCS gain; cows will be dried off early if required</p> <p>Keeping milk production at a level that will allow us to milk into May without SCC issues</p>
<b>Key influences on milk production</b>	<p>Total energy intake is likely the biggest contributor to milk production this week; kale herds with a higher proportion of inshed feeding have fared better</p> <p>Increasing inshed feeding to 3-3.5 kg DM/day across all herds, limited to feeding any more than this on 3n2 due with the single day milking and the impact of PKE on FEI</p>
<b>Cow Management</b>	<p>Light BCS, early calving cows continue to receive priority feeding inshed at milking</p> <p>Average BCS has increased in the Std FB and LI Kale herds and decreased slightly in the other two</p>

	<b>Standard Kale Pink</b>	<b>Low Impact Kale Blue</b>	<b>Standard Fodder beet Green</b>	<b>Low Impact Fodder beet Yellow</b>
<b>kg Milksolids per cow this week / (last week)</b>	1.52/(1.62)	1.48/(1.54)	1.37/(1.48)	1.36/(1.52)
<b>kg Milksolids per ha this year / (this time last year)</b>	1063/(1103)	934/(893)	991/(1051)	883/(863)
<b>Season to date compared to last year</b>	Down 3.6% total milk Half paddock extra in grass this year affects KPI.	up 4.5% total milk One paddock less in grass this year affects KPI.	Down 5.7% total milk	Up 2.2% total milk One paddock less in grass this year affects KPI.
<b>Cows needing preferential feeding (% herd)</b>	40 cows (24%)	30 cows (22%)	12 cows (7%)	20 cows (15%)
<b>Animal health peculiarities</b>	None	None	None	None

# People

## Reviewing performance

The farm team are utilising some of the extra time during the day from the reduced milking frequency to complete 6 monthly performance assessments.

Billy is meeting with each staff member individually and talking through what is working well, what things they would like to start/stop doing and why and what their goals are.

This time round there is also a discussion on team goals and how the individual team members can contribute to this.

As someone relatively new to people management Billy is also seeking feedback on his performance as a manager and what he could be doing differently to support them and the team. This is a great demonstration of real team leadership and there have already been some really good suggestions come through.

The staff having confidence to give open and honest feedback on the performance of their manager demonstrates the trust within the team.

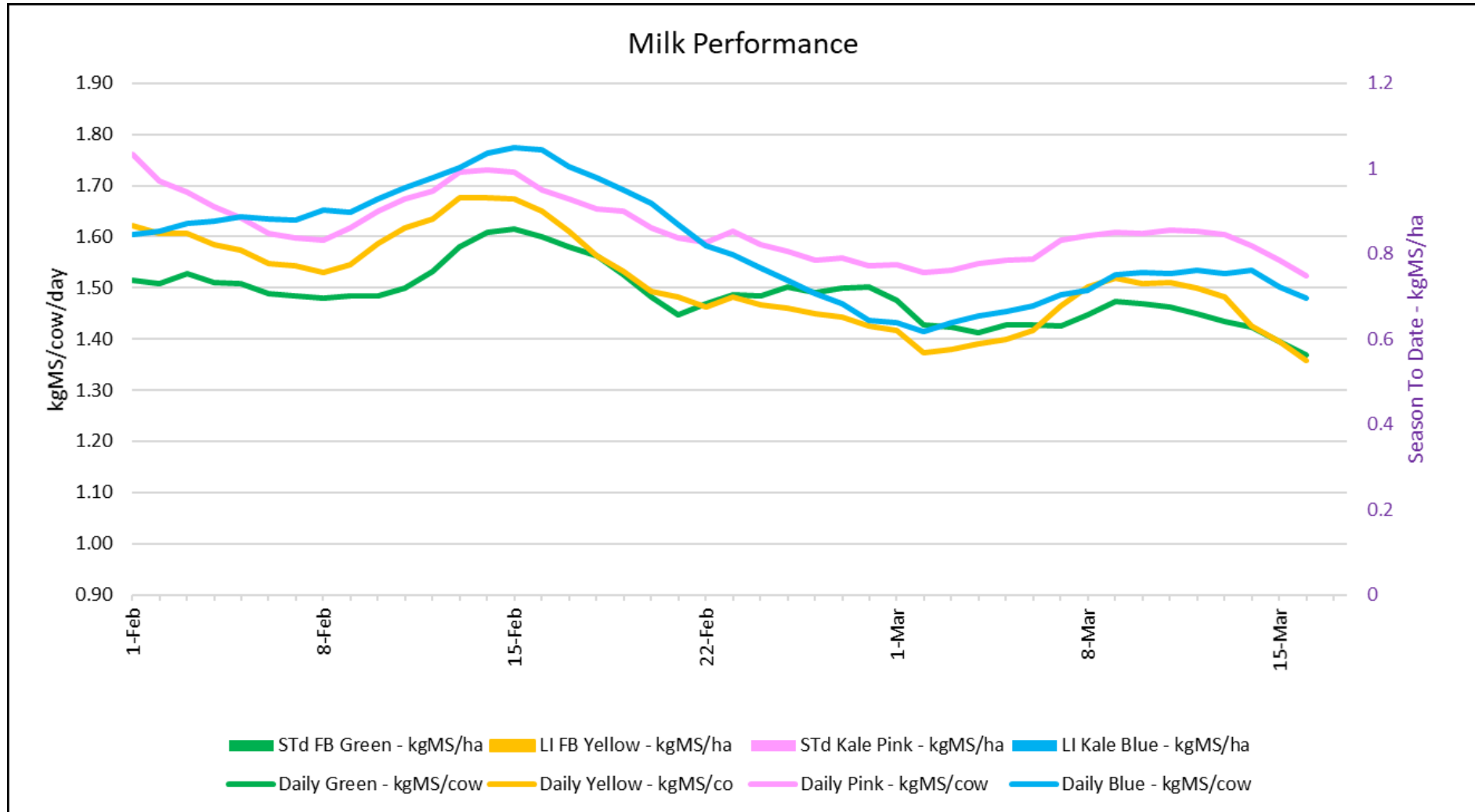
Having a robust system in place for managing staff performance helps employees stay on track and allows you to get the most from your team

More information on Employee catchups and reviews is available from the DairyNZ website

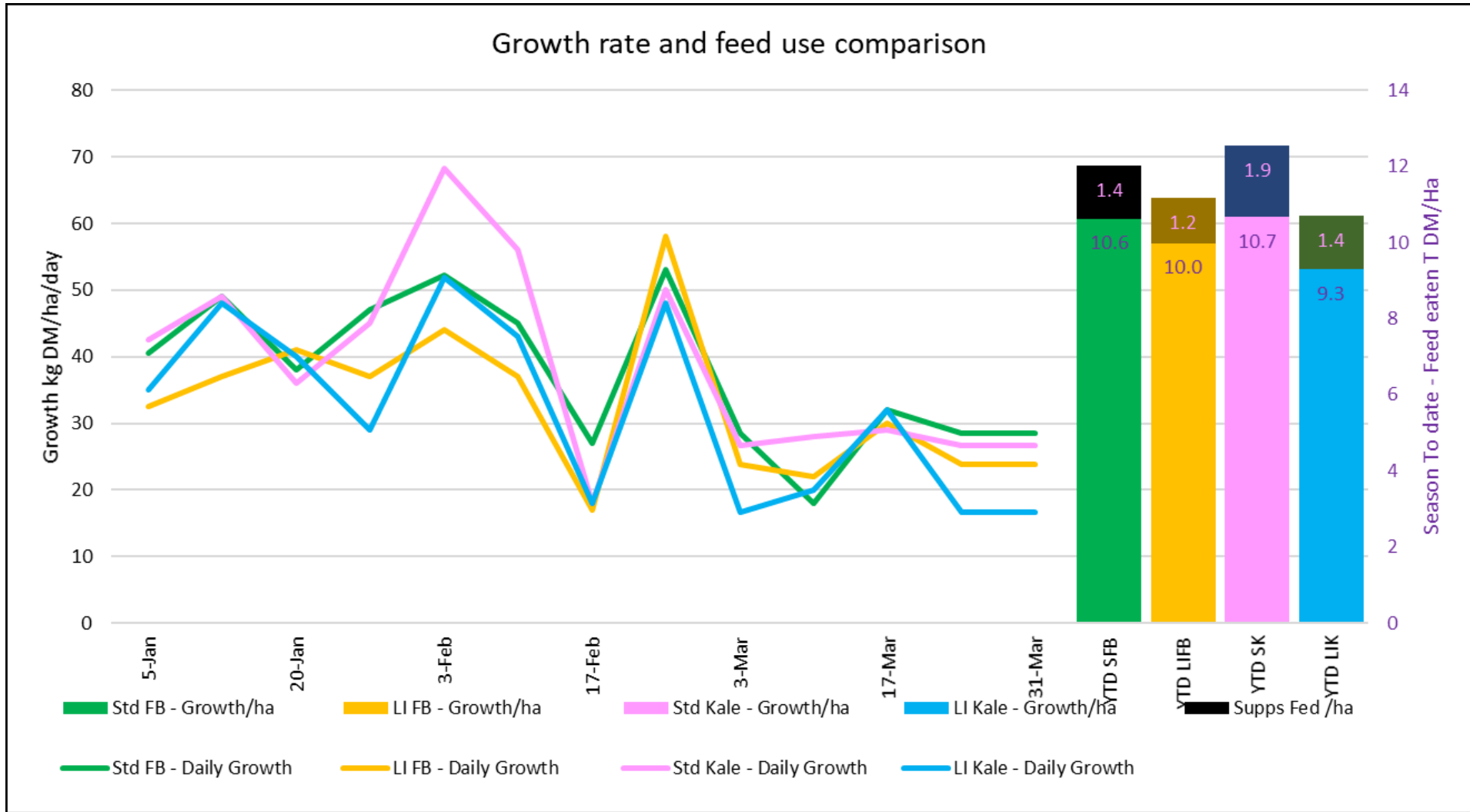
[Employee catchups and reviews - DairyNZ](#)



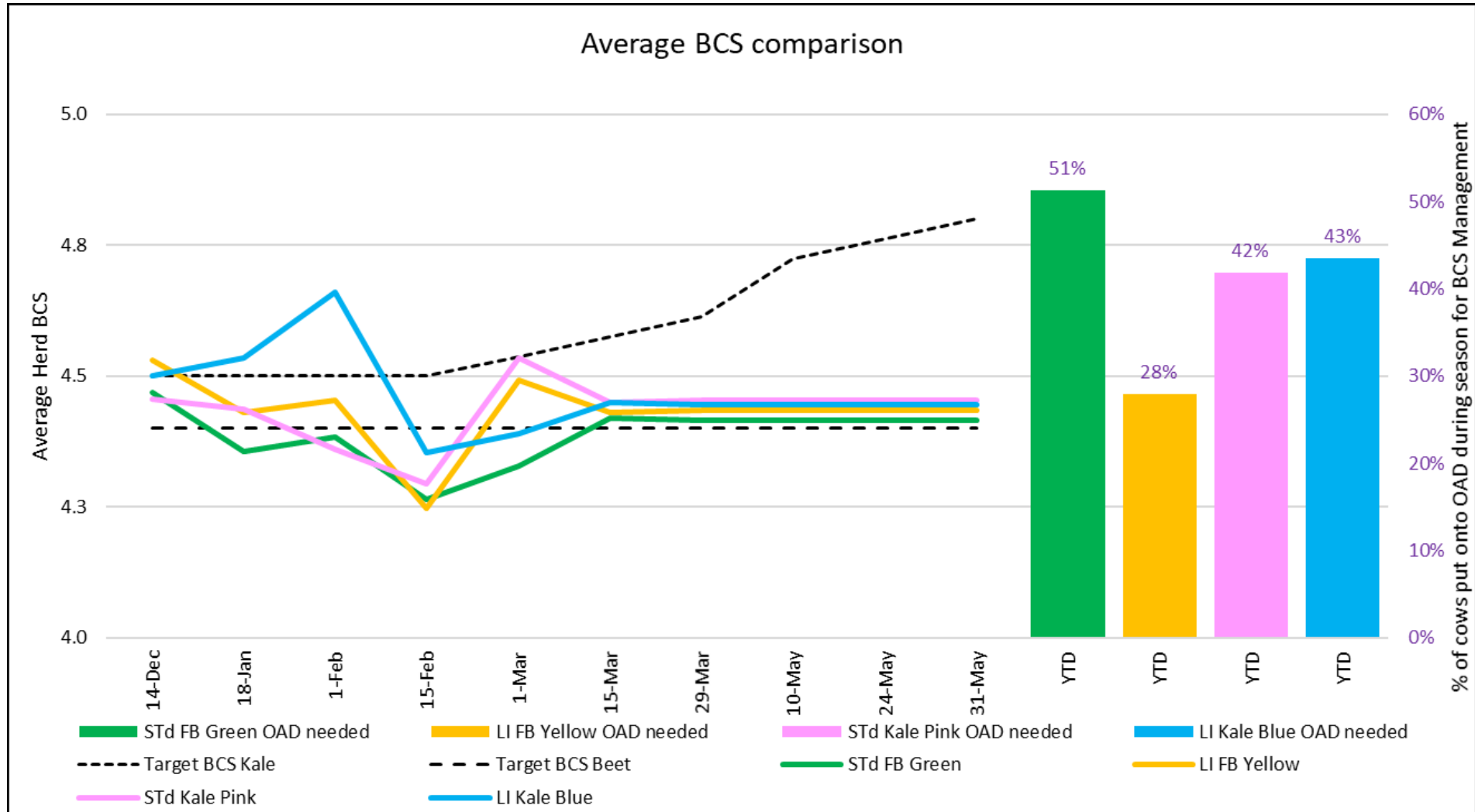
**Farm system impacts: of Kale vs Fodder beet for winter AND Reducing N loss to water by 30%.**  
**Kale, Winters on kale - in-shed feed available. Fodder beet, winters on Beet, Beet as lactation supp.**  
**Low impact (LI) limited Max 50kg N/ha/year vs Std 193kg N/ha/year**



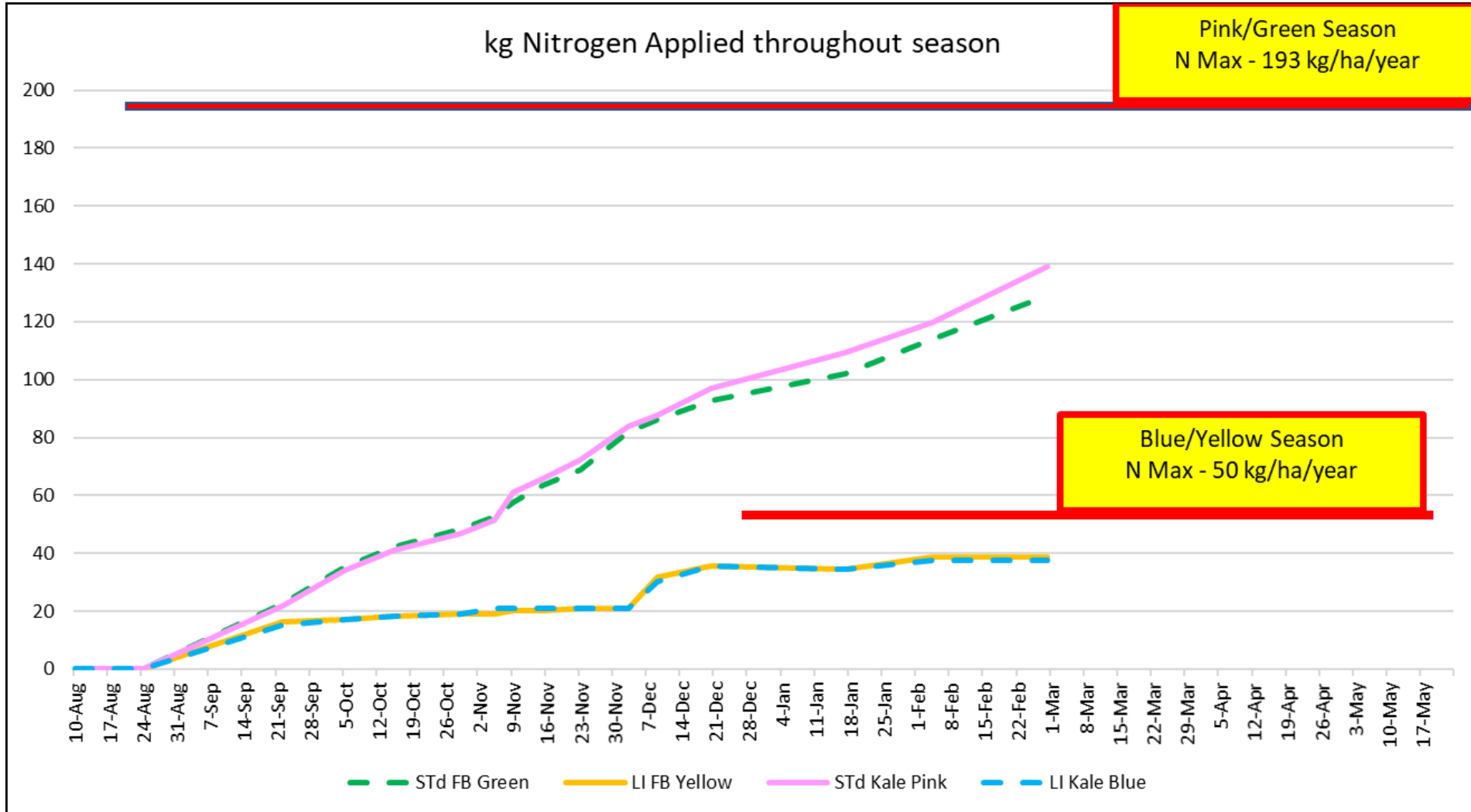
**Farm system impacts: of Kale vs Fodder beet for winter AND Reducing N loss to water by 30%.**  
**Kale, Winters on kale - in-shed feed available. Fodder beet, winters on Beet, Beet as lactation supp.**  
**Low impact (LI) limited Max 50kg N/ha/year vs Std 193kg N/ha/year**



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



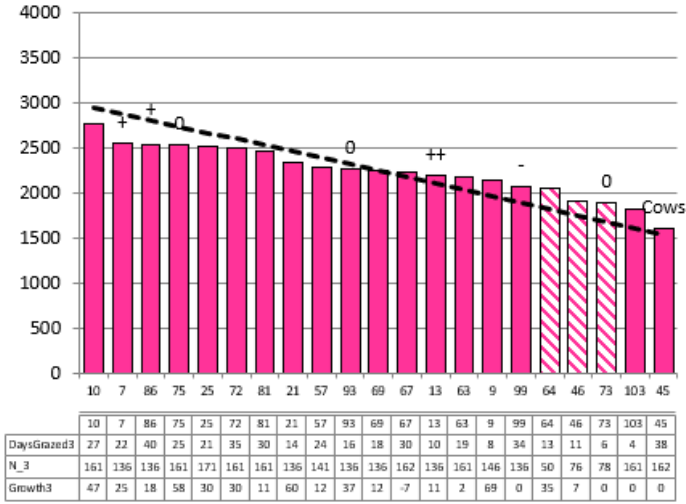
**Farm system impacts: of Kale vs Fodder beet for winter AND Reducing N loss to water by 30%.**  
**Kale, Winters on kale - in-shed feed available. Fodder beet, winters on Beet, Beet as lactation supp.**  
**Low impact (LI) limited Max 50kg N/ha/year vs Std 193kg N/ha/year**



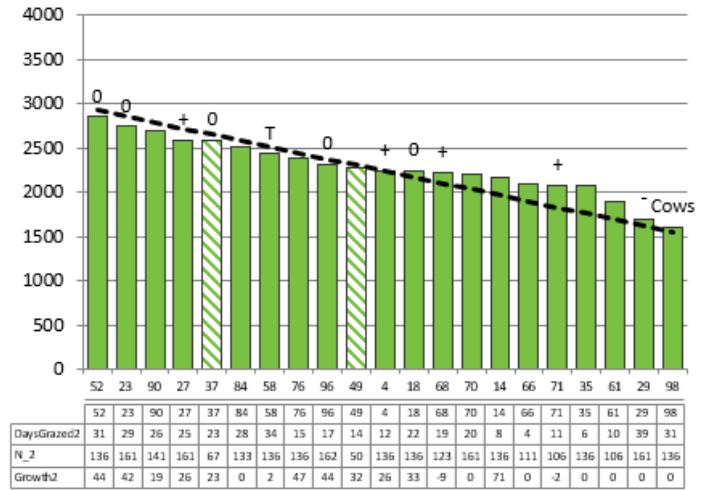


# Farm-system impacts of: Kale vs Fodder beet for winter AND Reducing N loss to water by 30%.

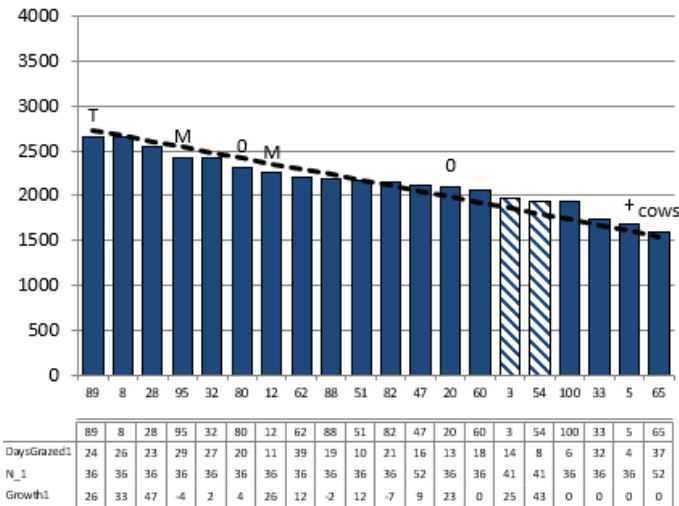
### Standard Kale



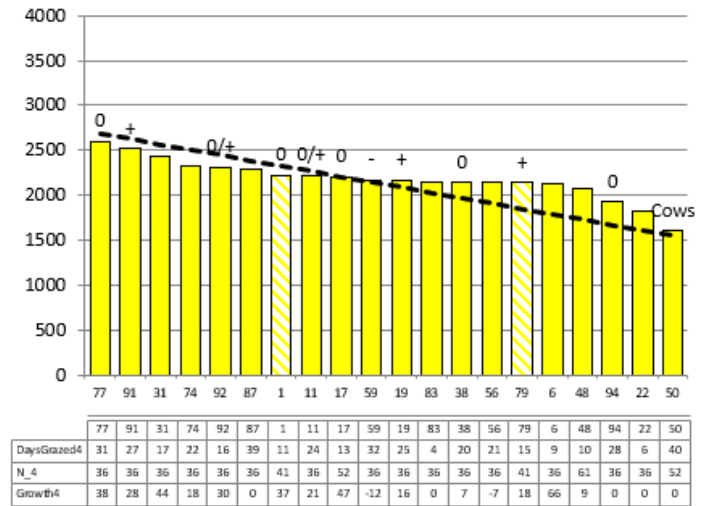
### Standard Fodder Beet



### Low Impact Kale



### Low Impact Fodder Beet



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

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

17 Mar 2022

