

Weekly Farm Summary 2nd December 2022

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

	Std Brassica/ Baleage Pink	LI Baleage Blue	Std Fodder beet Green	LI Fodder beet 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)	222	133	215	134
Pasture Stocking rate (current)	3.0	2.4	2.9	2.4
Winter Feed Milking supplement	Swede/Bale	Baleage	Beet 80 days	Beet 60 days
	In-shed feed 500kg/cow + baleage as required			
Average Cover	2388	2401	2399	2416
Average Growth	68	60	57	54
Target rotation length	22	26	22	26
Last week act rotation (d)	22	25	22	26
Last week supp (kg DM/cow)	2.5	2.8	2.7	2.8
Average BCS	4.4	4.5	4.4	4.4
% of herd on priority feeding	8%	7%	10%	3%
Milk yield (L/cow)	23.3	24.5	22.9	23.4
Milk yield (kgMS/cow)	2.05	2.15	2.08	2.11
Nitrogen Cap kgN/ha/yr	180	50	180	50
% Nitrogen used (kgN/ha) YTD	32% (58kg)	44% (22kg)	32% (58kg)	42% (21kg)
Effluent N YTD	6	2	6	5
Profit/ha comp to Control	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
YTD supp (kg DM/cow)	369	238	324	273
YTD MS/cow	197	208	195	207
YTD MS/milk ha (YTD MS/farm ha)	593 (530)	516 (467)	583 (521)	507 (459)

Business Area	Current Status
Milk Production	Production stabilised, with a minor increase for all herds, quality continues to be the main driver.
Pasture & Feed	Given more feed in the form of silage due to the poor weather. The focus still is on managing pasture quality, right pre-graze, identifying paddocks for baleage and topping as required. ~25 Bales harvested this week on the support block
Animals	No animal health issues. Additional bloods being taken to monitor magnesium levels given increase in in-shed feeding that contains minerals. Mating continues to go well. First group of 2022 born animals were weighed, drenched, and had selenium and copper supplements being sent offsite for grazing. Remainder due to go in approximately 3 weeks
Environment	Continue to apply Round 3 of fertiliser for the Std farmlets. Round 3 for LI farmlets will begin following the cows at the start of December.
Wintering	Pasture spray booked for 3 new grass paddocks. Weed and Insecticide spray booked for all conventional Fodder beet paddocks. Have redrilled the direct drilled Fodder beet paddock and sprayed after the bug damage.
People	Team members enrolled in their Level 3 Primary ITO training courses
Research	Plantain trial paddock sown this week.

Milk Production

Principles of Milk Production management this week

Milk Production	Slight increase for all herds, offered more feed this week in the form of pasture silage as the week has mostly been cooler and wet.
Key Influences on Milk Production	Production changes continue to be most likely driven by pasture quality as it progresses through the reproductive phase and quality (energy & protein) declines. In-shed feeding continues to provide minerals and a high-quality feed option. Continue to focus on quality to maintain production levels and minimize the decline.
Cow Management	Latest BCS is 4.4 for each herd, with ~30 cows returning to TAD milking this week. Will continue to manage lighter BCS cows below 4 on OAD milking with priority in-shed feeding, of which 3 cows remain for non-cycling reasons.

	Std brassica/baleage Pink	LI Baleage Blue	Std Fodder beet Green	LI Fodder beet Yellow
kg Milksolids per cow this week / (last week)	2.05 (2.06)	2.15 (2.24)	2.08 (2.08)	2.11 (2.14)
kg Milksolids per ha this year / (same time last year)	593 (530)	516 (467)	583 (521)	507 (459)
% Var kg Milksolids per ha Season per ha to date vs last season to date	11.8	7.9	16.4	12.3
No. of Cows needing preferential feeding (% herd)	18 (8)	10 (7)	22 (10)	4 (3)
Animal Health peculiarities	None	None	None	None

Milk Production

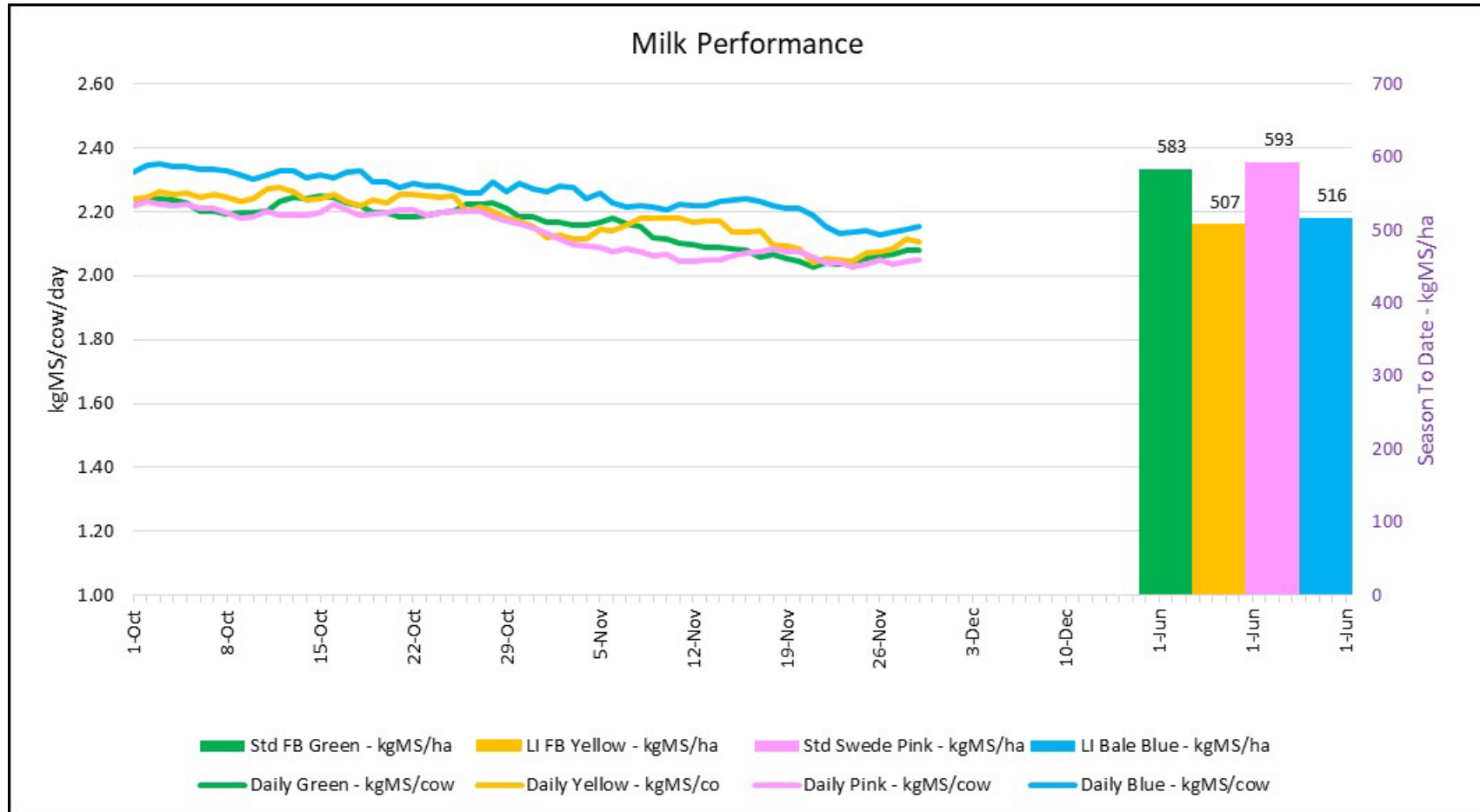


Figure 1: Milk solids production (/cow/day) plus cumulative season production (kg/ha)

Body condition score

As at 29th November 2022 – updated fortnightly

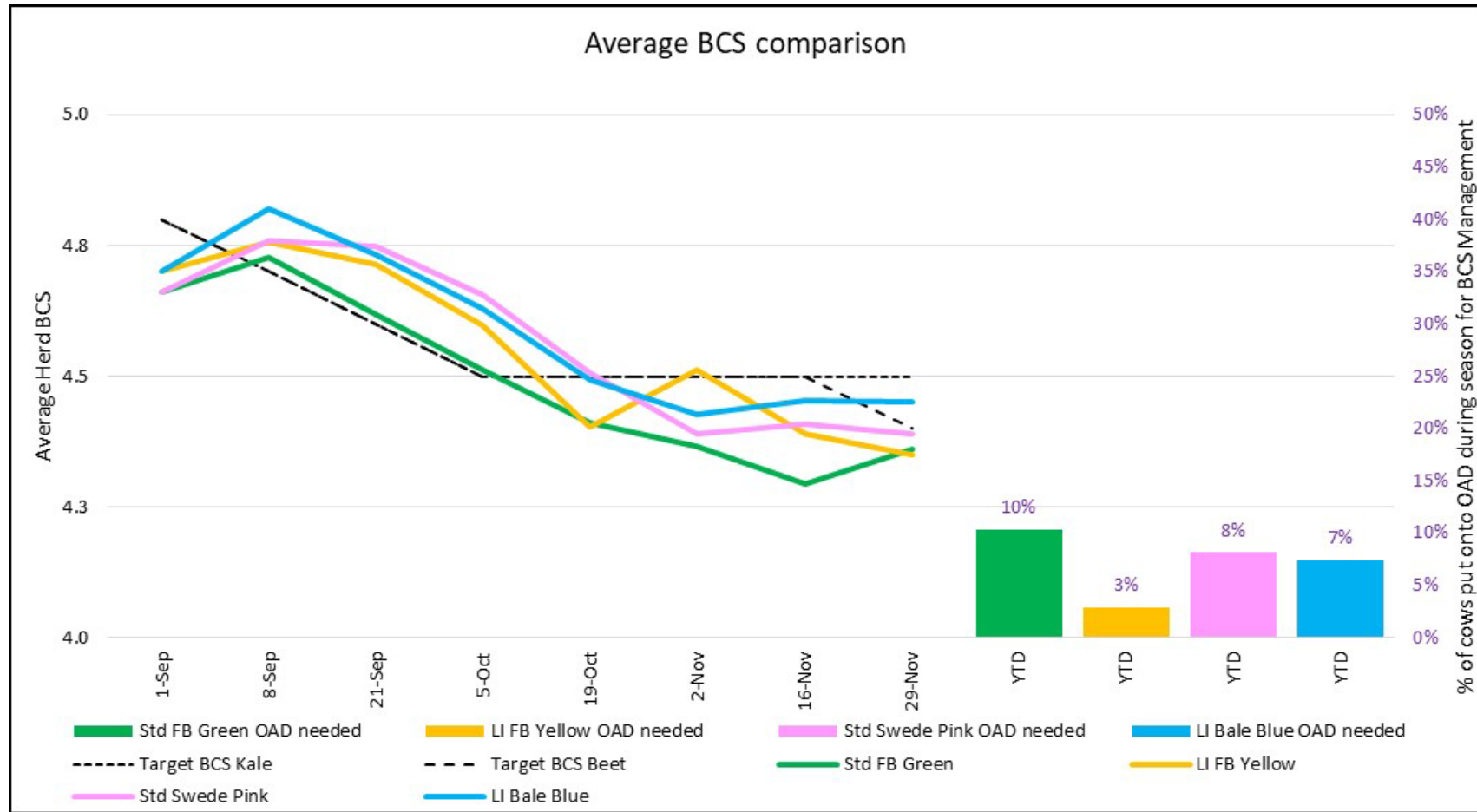


Figure 2: Fortnightly BCS trends and percentage of the herd requiring OAD milking season to date

Feed

Principles of Feed management this week

Feed Quality	A lot of seed head and less leaf in the pasture. Herds have been meeting residuals. Have been topping paddocks as needed to remove the seedhead/clumps. Have also reopened the silage stack, feeding herds more during the wet weather. Have begun reducing the level of in-shed feed.
Growth Rate Management	Remaining on our pasture quality management strategy, stepping over any paddocks greater than pre-graze target for baleage and topping to meet residual. Have utilized up to 2.5 kg in-shed feed/cow/day to support this strategy. Have high quality silage or increasing in-shed feeding to fill gaps if we have been too aggressive and find ourselves in a pasture deficit.
Nitrogen Strategy	Std herds on 3 rd round of Nitrogen applications (25 kg N/ha), Third round applications (12.5 kg N/ha) for LI due to begin following the cows at the start of December

	Std brassica/baleage Pink	LI Baleage Blue	Std Fodder beet Green	LI Fodder beet Yellow
Quantity	Surplus	Surplus	Surplus	Surplus
Quality	Stem elongation & some stalky base	Stem elongation & some stalky base	Stem elongation & some stalky base	Stem elongation & some stalky base
Surplus Management	X 2 pdks conserved X 1 pdk ID to skip	X 2 pdk conserved	X 1 pdk conserved X 1pdk ID to skip	X 1pdk conserved
Deficit Management - kgDM (diff from last week)	1.3 (-1.3)	1.2 (-1.6)	1.2 (-1.5)	0.9 (-1.9)
Target Rotation Length (days)	22	26	22	26

Feed

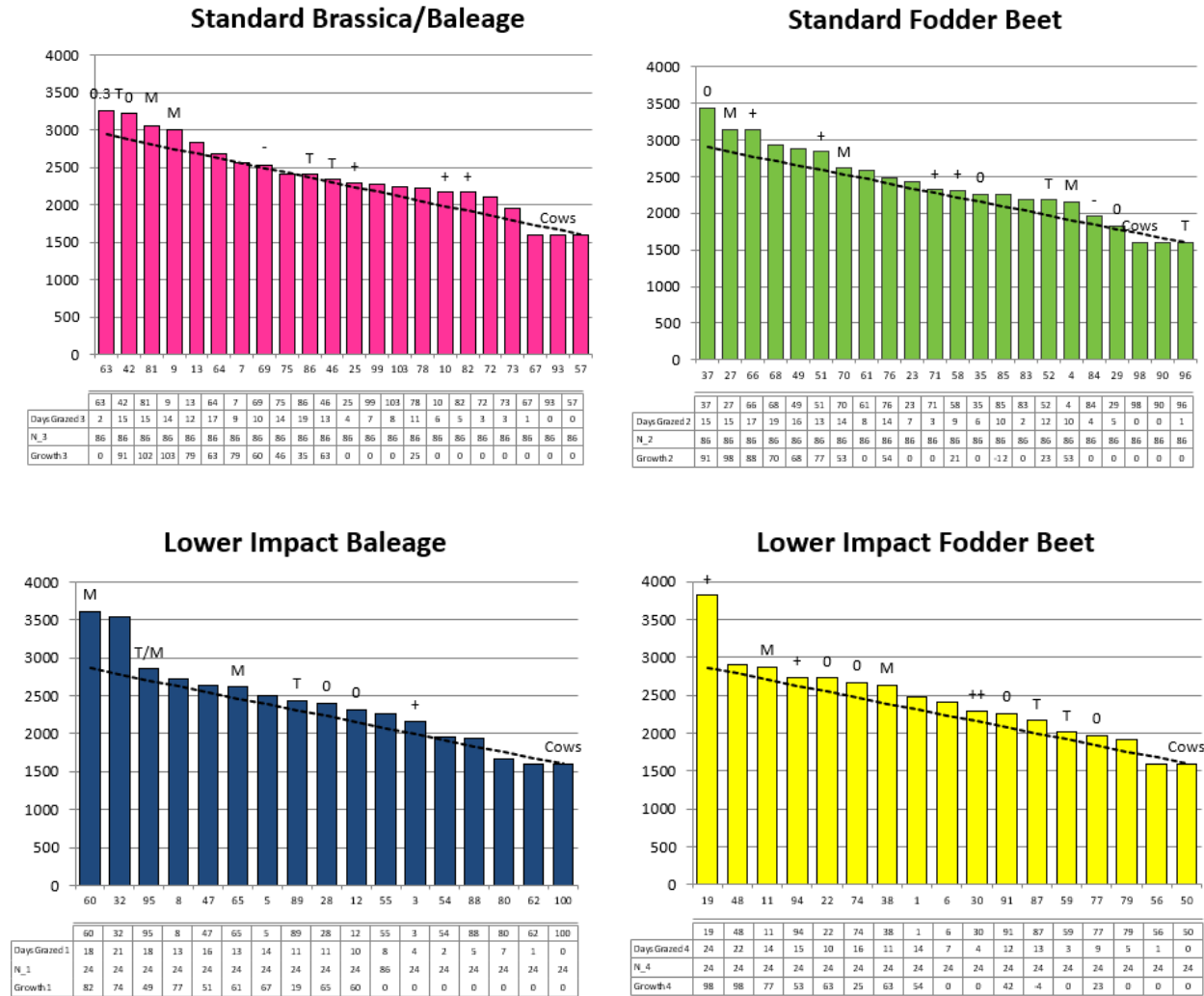


Figure 3: Feed Wedges as of 29th November 2022

Feed

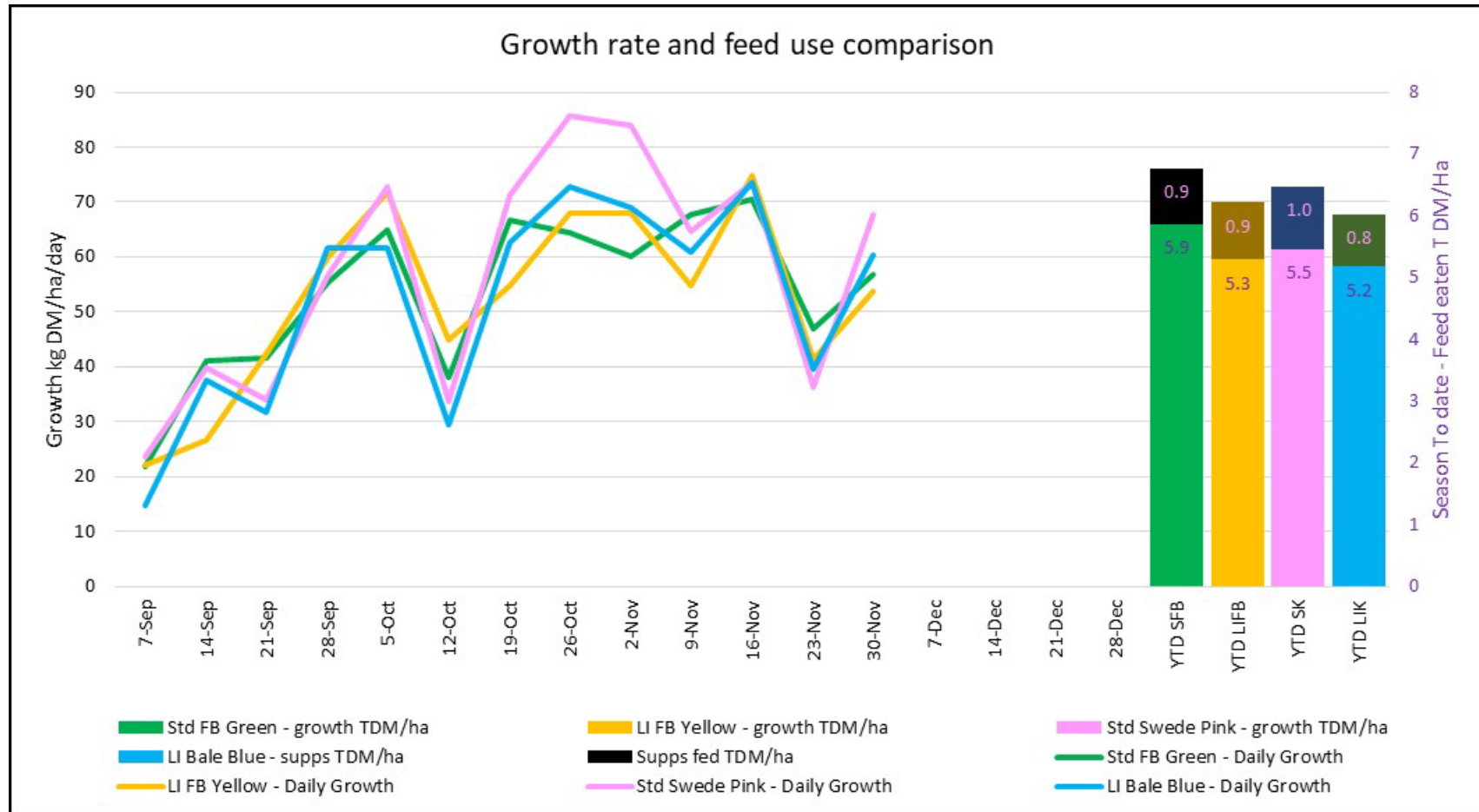


Figure 4: Weekly growth rate (kgDM/ha/d) & YTD feed use

Nitrogen

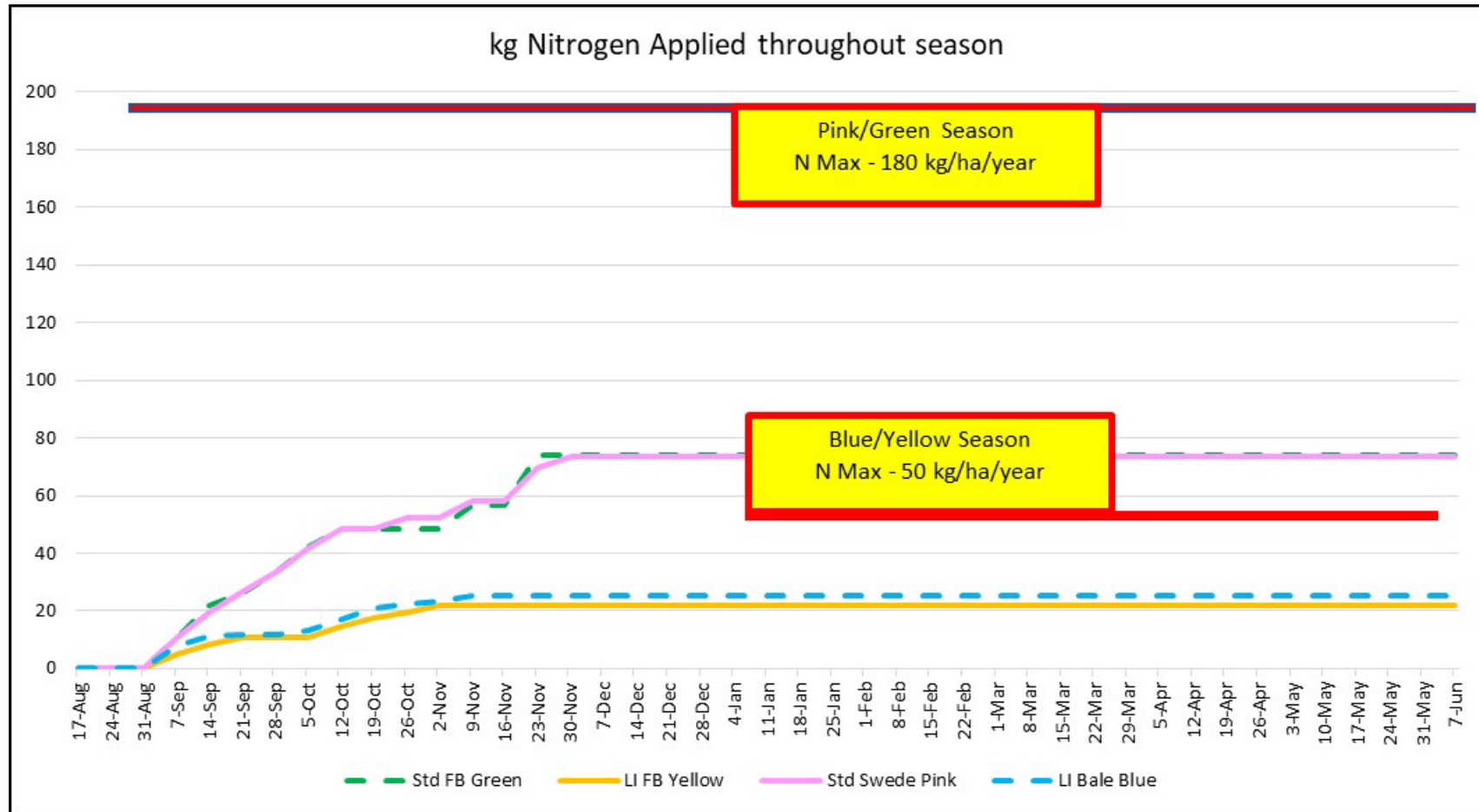


Figure 5: Cumulative nitrogen fertiliser applications (kg N/ha) for the 2022-23 season