

Background and Key Stats

- Location: Morrinsville, Waikato, NZ - Pete & Mandy Paterson have owned and operated the farm for many years.
- Milking 215 cows on effective milking area of 72 Ha.
- Milk production 480kg MS per cow (NZ average is approximately 350kg MS per cow¹).
- Spring calving over 6 week period (moving to autumn).
- Production system based on maximising home grown feed - pasture and silage. Minimal supplementary feeding with concentrates. Operating a system with strong focus on biological health of soils. Soil type predominantly peat.
- Commenced transition to organic certification in November 2015.

Great Land Application and Split Paddock Trials

- Great Land has been applied to the whole farm at a rate of 40L/Ha. Five applications over 18 months.
- Split paddock trials: in three separate paddocks, Great Land was applied to only one half of the paddock.
- A towed plate meter was used before and after every grazing to determine pasture growth and harvest volumes.

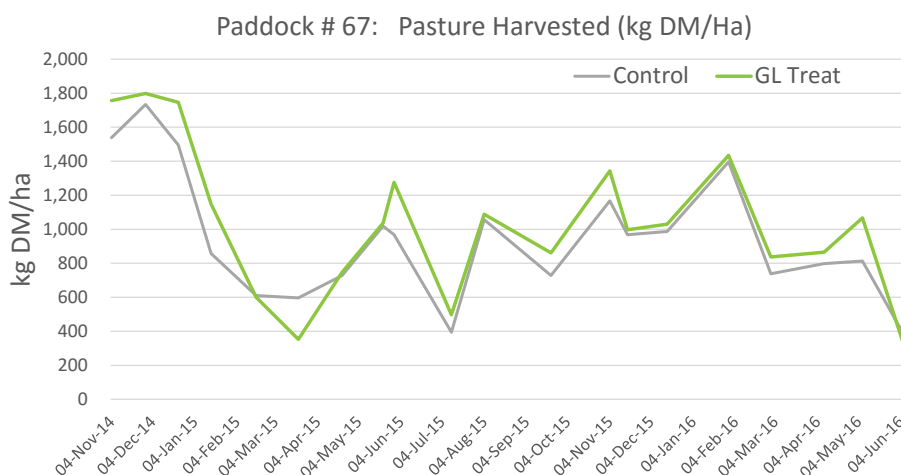
Outcomes and Observations

Trials demonstrated consistent gains of approximately 2 tonnes DM per Ha (over 19 months) in all three split paddocks, representing gains of between 9% and 15% over control (untreated) areas.

Paddock	Kg DM Harvested per Ha (19 mths)			
	Control	GL Treat	Var. (T-C)	Var. %
#38	24,742	26,969	2,227	9%
#36	18,172	20,933	2,761	15%
#67	18,965	20,786	1,821	10%

Observations:

- Consistently more clover and increased density of total pasture cover.
- Pasture resilience in periods of stress.
- Better herd health through improved pasture nutrient density.
- Excellent establishment and growth of clover in new pastures.



Maize Silage Trial

A trial was conducted on two maize blocks last season to compare conventional v's organic systems. Great Land was applied to both blocks. The organic block achieved better yield by approximately 1 tonne DM per Ha.

Future

Organic certification. Incorporating Great Land will enhance transition by: more rapid improvement of soil biological health; effective compensation for less use of chemicals and soluble fertilisers; and improved animal health.

¹ New Zealand Dairy Statistics 2012-13. DairyNZ.