



**Penwith
Landscape
Partnership**

Preparing for Winter After the Dry Summer

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Introduction

1. Review of Summer 2022
2. Short/Medium & Long Term Options
3. Winter Budgeting

Current Position

ROLE OF FARM MANAGER

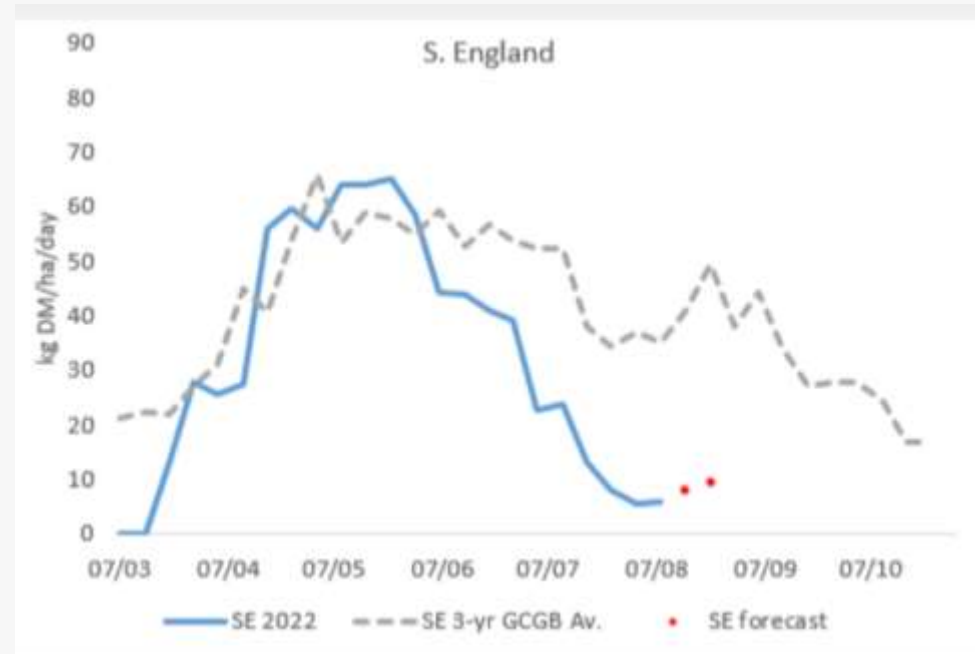
Supply the right Quantity and Quality of feed to animals at the right time.



Current Position

Its Dry

- Low rainfall since January
- Record temperatures
- Moisture limiting growth



Review

**ACTUAL -
YTD**

	South England				
	3y Average		2022		
	kgDM/ ha	tDM/h a	kgDM/ ha	tDM/h a	
Mar-22	20	0.6	0	0.0	
Apr-22	30	0.9	25	0.8	
May-22	55	1.7	60	1.8	
Jun-22	50	1.5	45	1.4	
Jul-22	50	1.5	20	0.6	
Aug-22	35	1.1	10	0.3	
Sep-22	40	1.2		0.0	
Oct-22	20	0.6		0.0	Difference (tDM/ha)
Total		9.1		4.9	-4.3

	South England - Estimated				
	3y Average		2022		
	kgDM/ ha	tDM/h a	kgDM/ ha	tDM/h a	
Mar-22	20	0.6	0	0.0	
Apr-22	30	0.9	25	0.8	
May-22	55	1.7	60	1.8	
Jun-22	50	1.5	45	1.4	
Jul-22	50	1.5	20	0.6	
Aug-22	35	1.1	20	0.6	
Sep-22	40	1.2	50	1.5	
Oct-22	20	0.6	25	0.8	Difference (tDM/ha)
Total		9.1		7.4	-1.7

Review

1-2tDM/ha Deficit

50ha Farm

50tDM – 100tDM

Equivalent to 200-400 round bales of silage

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	3y Average		2022		
	kgDM/ ha	tDM/h a	kgDM/ ha	tDM/h a	
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Apr-22	30	0.9	25	0.8	
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Aug-22	35	1.1	20	0.6	
Sep-22	40	1.2	50	1.5	
Oct-22	20	0.6	25	0.8	Difference (tDM/ha)
Total		9.1		7.4	-1.7

Short Term Strategy & Decisions

KISS THE FROG – Deal with the situation

Farm

- Review feed on hand – quantity and quality
- Review groups on farm and rank in order of priority
- Winter Feed Budget
- Source Pasture Seed / Forage Crop seed for over/re-seeding
- Source Nitrogen Fertiliser

Short Term Strategy & Decisions

Cattle

- Do not cut for silage - keep as grazing.
- Graze 5 days per “paddock” maximum to promote recovery.
- Autumn Cows weaned, cull cows sold, cows fed straw/hay on sacrifice paddock.
- Consider feeding forage to sucklers or growing cattle
- Consider feeding barley to finishing cattle
- Consider selling store cattle – book in TB test ready for sale,
- Set a date i.e. If no rain by 1st August all will be sold.
- Purchase hay or straw for dry cow / youngstock feed.

Short Term Strategy & Decisions

Ewes and Lambs

- Wean all lambs and weigh.
- Pick for 18kg carcass (38-40kg?)
- Decide strategy for remaining lambs:
 - Finish heavy lambs / store light lambs on farm or sell
 - Sell heavy lambs to store / grow light lambs
- Ewes – remove known culls at weaning and sell ASAP.
- Draft remaining ewes Fat / Thin
- Allocate groups to feed – fats could tidy up and re-set ready for rain or be fed hay/silage in sacrifice paddock

Medium Term

Protect body condition of breeding stock to ensure this year does not impact their performance in 2023.

- Increase cull rate
- Don't keep any heifer replacements
- Don't mate or don't keep any ewe lamb replacements
- Consider selling Spring calves at weaning.
- Do a cashflow budget.
- Reduce costs and review planned farm investments.

Long Term

Design farming system for resilience.

- Herbal Leys
- Stocking Rate
- Organic Matter



Forage Supplementation

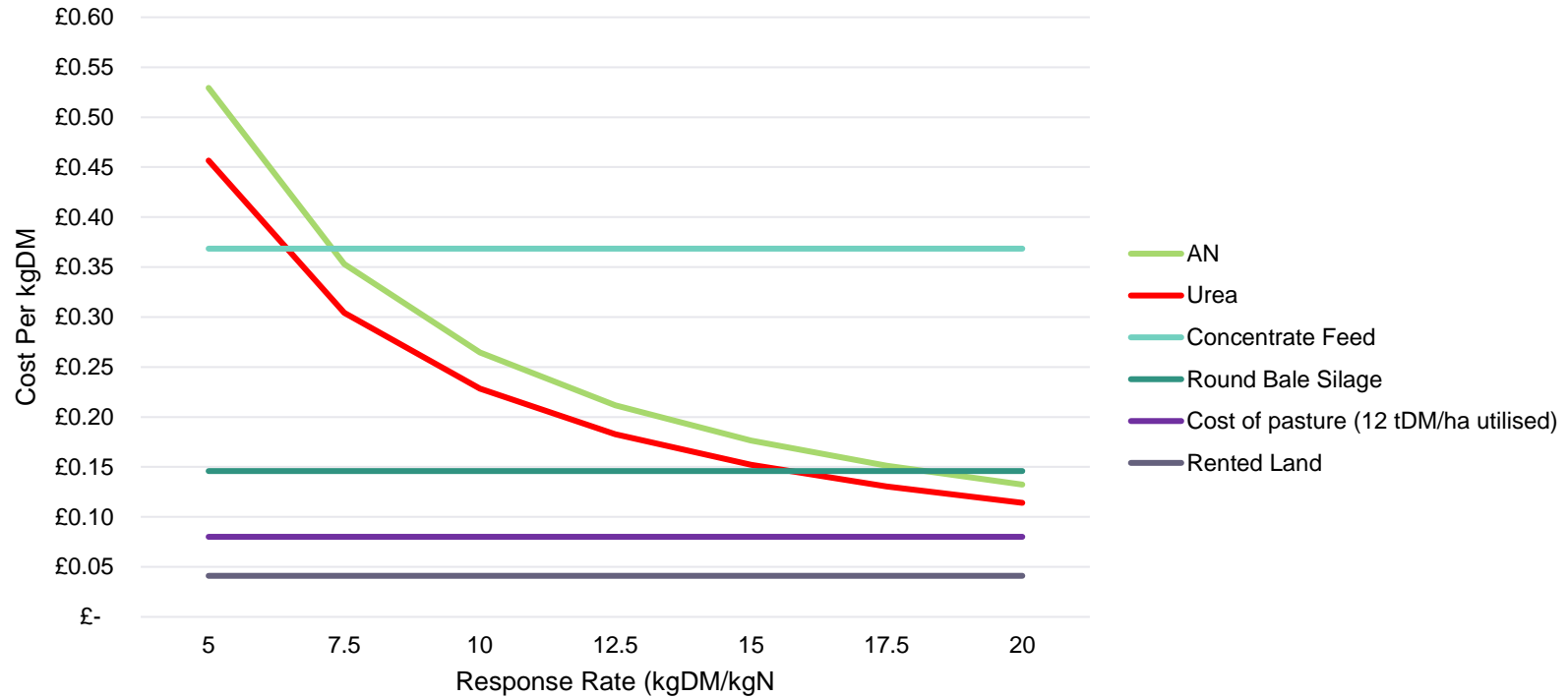
1x Round Bale of Silage – 600kg @ 40% DM = 240kg – utilise 200kgDM?

1x Round Bale of Hay – 300kg @ 85% DM = 255kgDM – utilise 200kgDM?

1 bale will feed the following for 1 day:

- Suckler Cow (plus calf) = 16-18kgDM/day = ~12hd or
- Growing Cattle = 10kgDM/day – 20Hd
- Weaned Calve = 6kgDM/day – 33hd
- Dry Ewe = 1.4kgDM/day – 150hd
- Weaned Lamb = 1kgDM/day – 200hd

Cost of Supplementary Feed



Forage Crops

- Fast growing
- Low cost
- Winter hardy
- Re-grazing potential / Spring re-growth
- Yield – 2-4tDM/ha (if re-grazed)
- Cost – £125-250/ha / 6-12p/kgDM

Grasses	Cereals	Legumes	Brassicas
Westerwolds	Winter Oats	Vetch	Forage Rape
Italian	Winter Barley	Berseem Clover	Stubble Turnips
Forage Rye		Crimson Clover	

Nitrogen Fertiliser

Nitrogen fertiliser only effective IF Soil Moisture are NOT limiting & Plant Needs It!

- Apply when there are 1.5-2 leaves (ryegrass)
- Urea needs >10mm rain within 3 days of spreading to avoid high losses.
- Ammonia Nitrate more stable and normally needs ~4mm to dissolve
- Apply 20-30kg N/ha only. (20-30 Units/Acre)