

BOOSTING PASTURE PRODUCTION

8TH SEPTEMBER 2022

Theme of the day: Perennials in action

Location: Yathroo

Total Farms Visited: One

Total Attendees: 25

Paddock 1: Characteristics

- Established perennial paddock over white, non-wetting sandy soils
- Regularly grazed by cattle in a rotational grazing system
- Multiple other paddocks over the farm have similar characteristics and grazing potential

Key Discussion Points

- Utilising the relationship between soil testing and plant tissue testing can help to maximise perennial production
- Focus on growing pastures, not growing animals

Farm 2: Characteristics

- Similar soil type to Paddock 1
- Was sown to a mix of legumes and cereals the season prior
- Multispecies mix performed better than expected

Key Discussion Points

- Legumes can be beneficial in a pasture mix, how could this be paired with rotationally grazed perennials
- Fertilisers over perennials, including established perennials and newly sown plants

Questions from the event - what is next?

- What is the cost benefit of fertilising perennials?
- What is the maximum production value of perennials? What can we do to get these pastures there?
- How does an intensive rotational grazing system help pasture productivity?

