MEAT & LIVESTOCK AUSTRALIA

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For the latest in red meat R&D

Building Better Breeders

Alastair Rayner

RaynerAg

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The 7 most expensive words in the cattle business...

"We have always done it this way"

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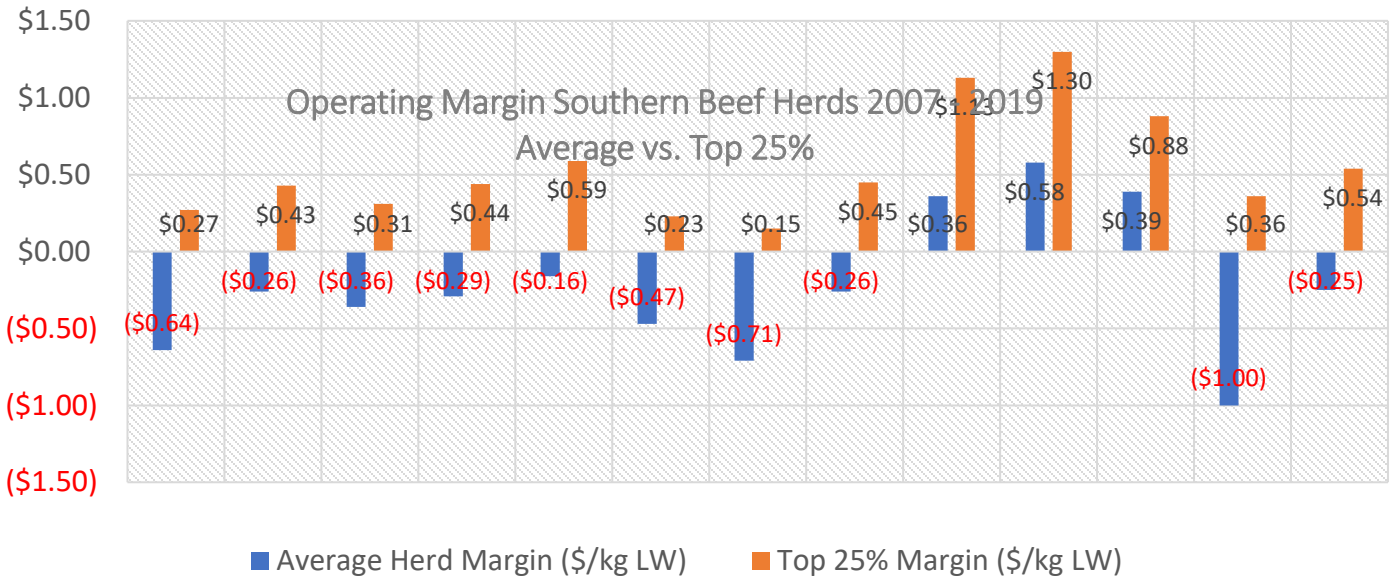
How much difference is there in operating margins?



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Knowing the opportunities for beef producers

- Australian Beef report 2020 suggests:
  - A 5% increase in fertility = a 7% increase in income
  - A 1% decrease in mortality = 2% increase in income
- Increasing sale weight by 5% can see a 4% increase in farm income

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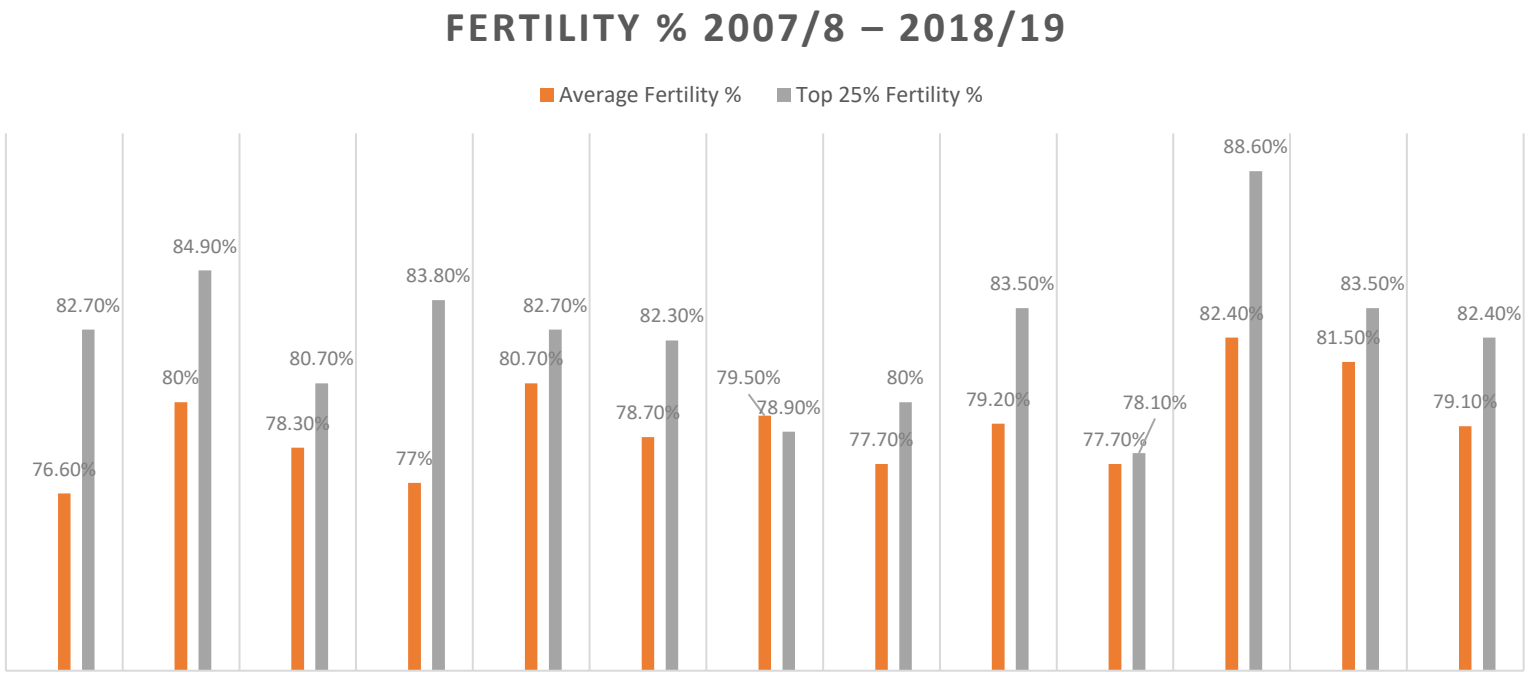
Average fertility rates in southern Australia



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There is room for improvement

- Managing fertility should be a priority
- How you manage cows
- How to select, prepare and manage your replacements

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Making up the differences

3 OPTIONS

Genetics

Management

Nutrition

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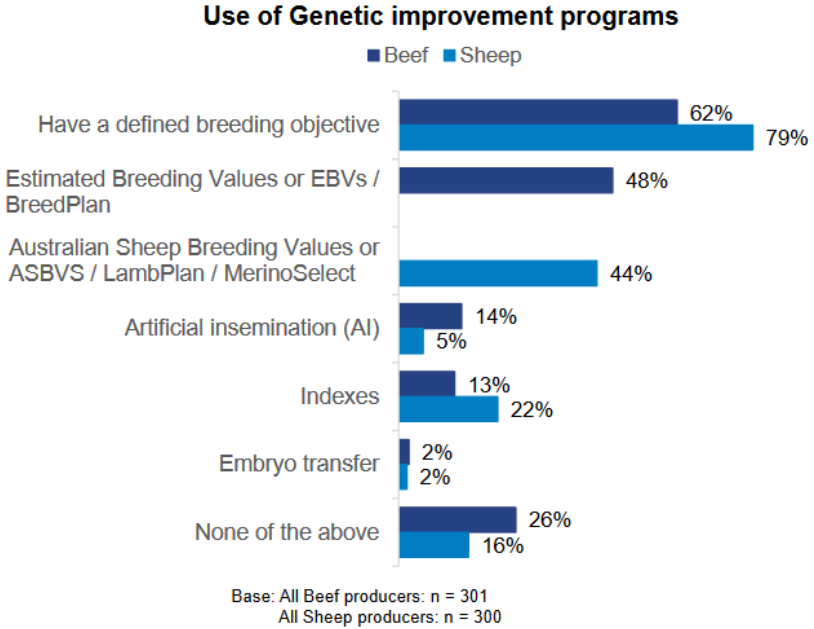
Clear breeding objectives

- Recent MLA research identified other opportunities
- The number of breeders with defined breeding objectives is low
- Use of EBVs & Indexes are also low



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Can you identify your areas for improvement?

- What data are you collecting on your business?
- Are you using the data to make ‘informed’ strategic decisions
- Are you focusing on the simple things first?

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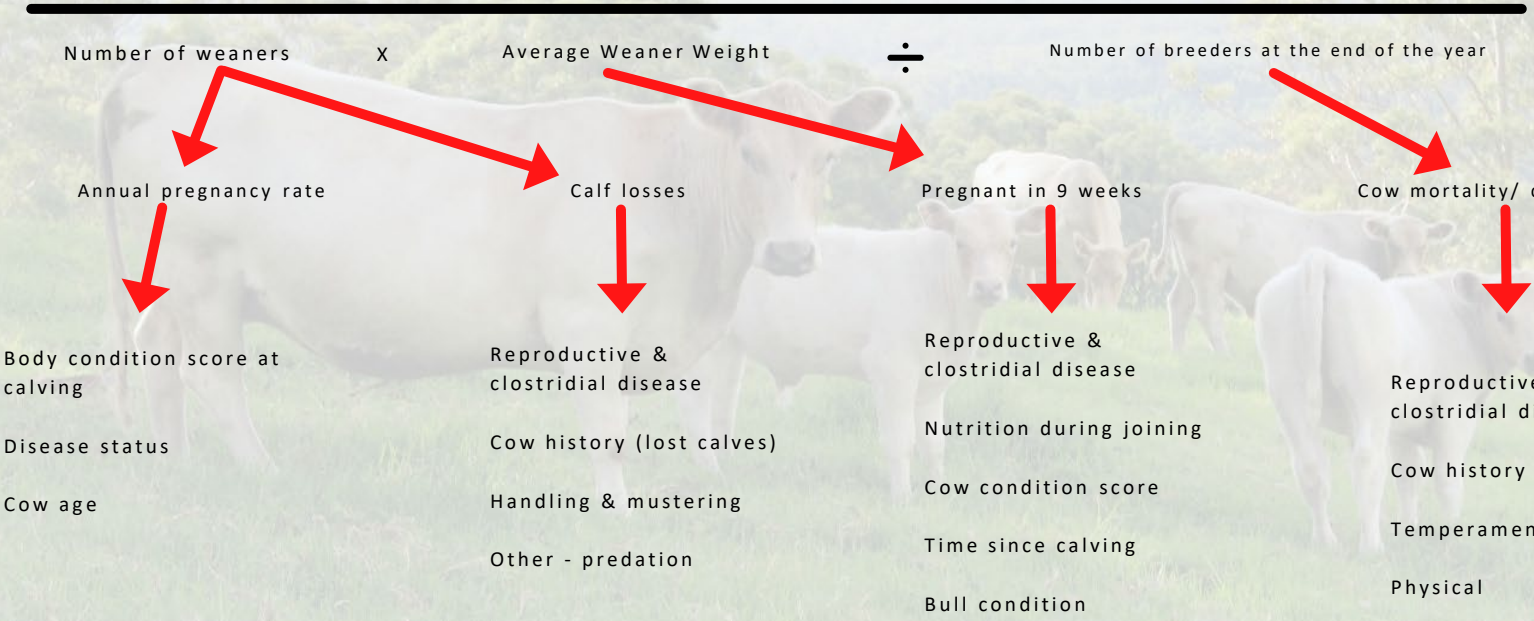
Weaner production per cow retained



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Bringing these together

- Developing a framework to support
  - Setting a breeding objective
  - Establishing critical points of measurement & management
  - Refining on farm decisions around fertility

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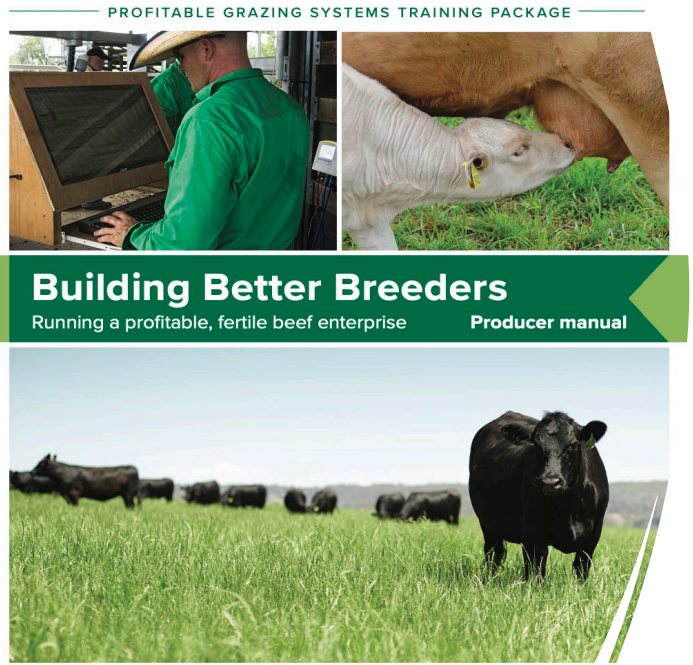


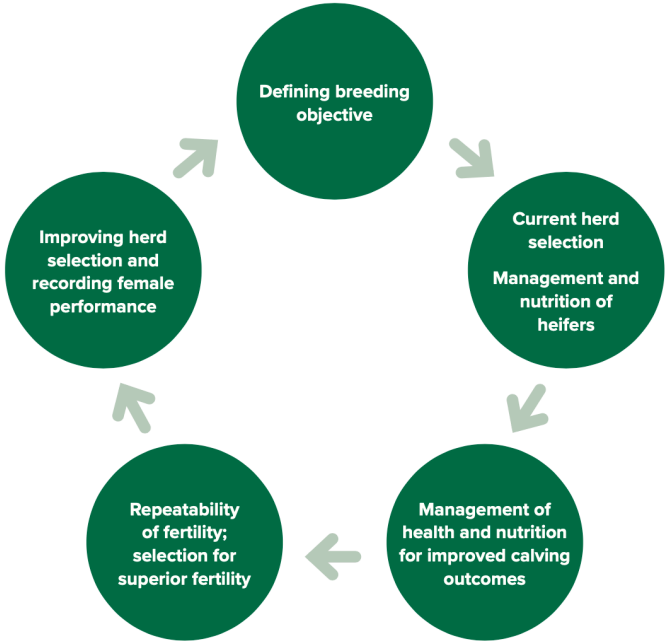
Building Better Breeders

- MLA – Profitable Grazing Systems (PGS)
- Based on the success of Lifetime Ewe Management
- 6 on farm sessions focused on key management points of breeders

Core skills

- The sessions are built to enhance current skills
  - Selection & management practices
  - Nutrition & pastures

- Providing a framework for these skills around key points
  - Weaning
  - Joining
  - Calving
  - Rejoining



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Module Overview

- Building Better Breeders Modules
    - Setting breeding objectives
    - Preparing for joining
    - Joining
    - Weaning & calving preparation
    - Calving
    - Successful rejoining

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Session 1 – Develop a business objective

- Set your business objective
- Define your goals
- Choosing suitable breeding objectives

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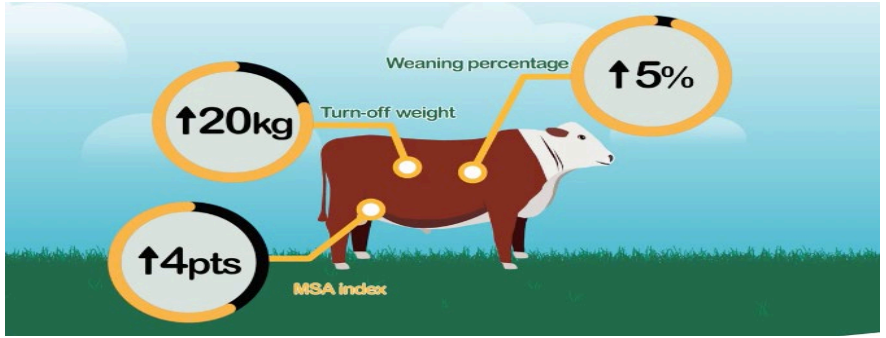
Profit drivers & production goals



- Ask what will help increase profit ($/kg) or production (kgs / Ha)
- What does this mean in practice?
- What is the most efficient?

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Building your pasture & livestock skills

- Session 2 re-enforces skills from programs such as PROGRAZE
- Brings your focus to using pastures to meet production goals for the breeding herd
- Opens up the opportunity for new MLA projects to be used in your business

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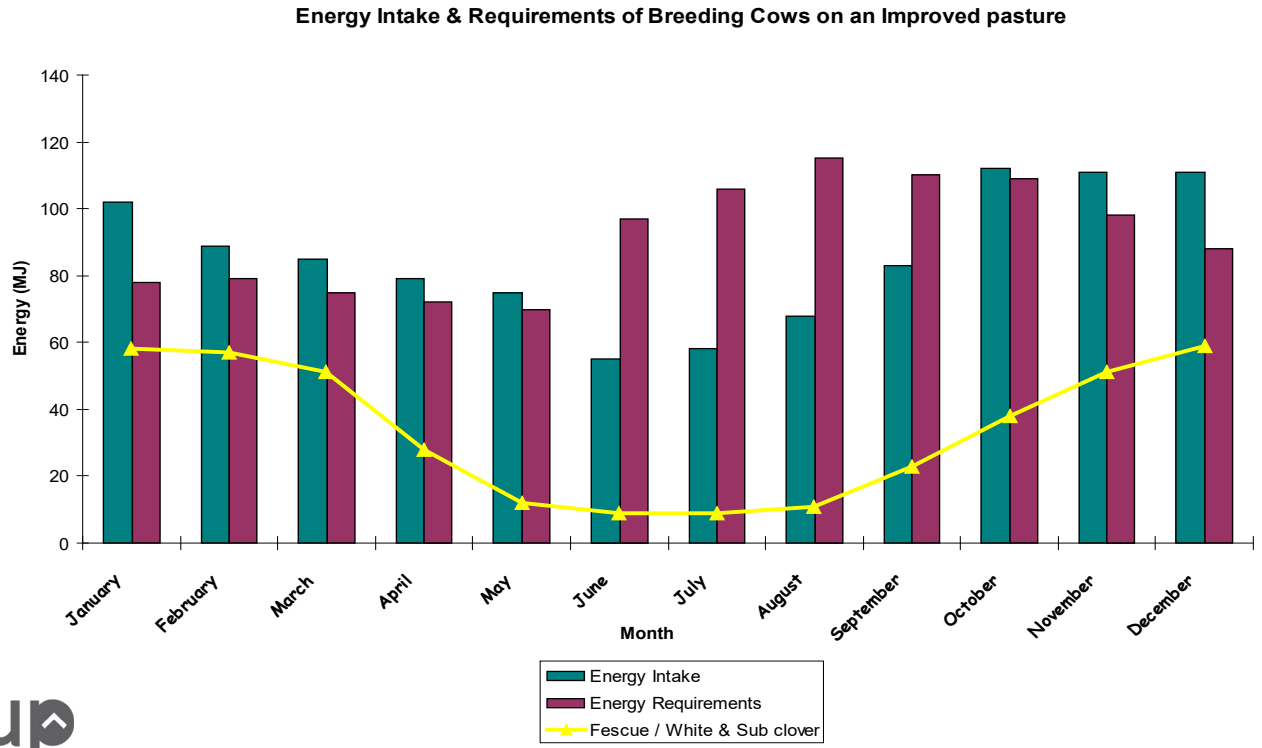
Target growth rates to achieve critical joining weights

	Calving at:	
	2 years old	3 years old
Age at CMW of 280 kg	15mths	27 mths
Average growth rate required from birth (weight 30 kg) until mating	0.55 kg/day	0.31 kg/day
Age at heifer calving weight of 450kg+ and fat score 3	24 months	36 months
Average growth rate required from mating until calving	0.63 kg/day	0.63 kg/day

Pasture growth & cow requirements



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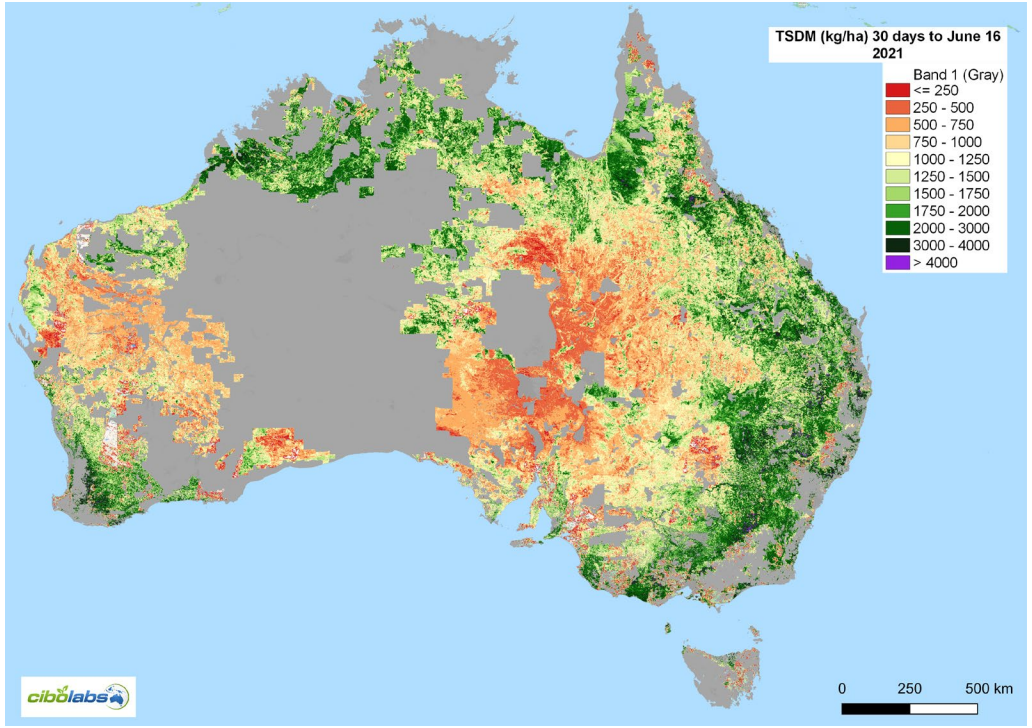
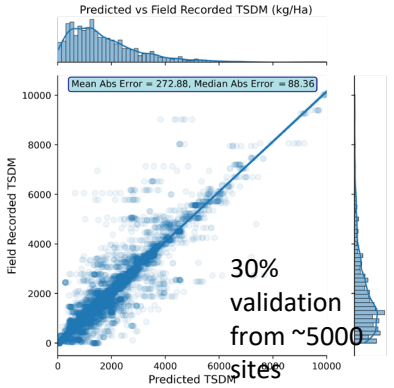
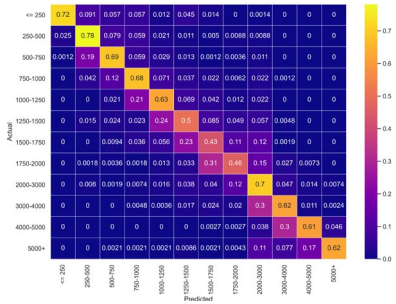
Paddock to nation biomass predictions every month







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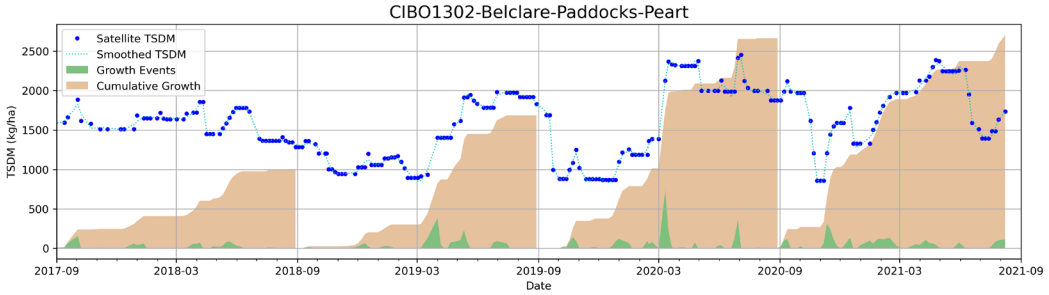

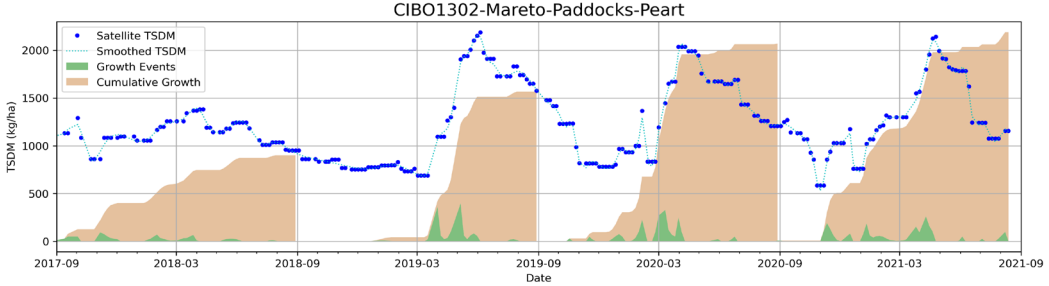

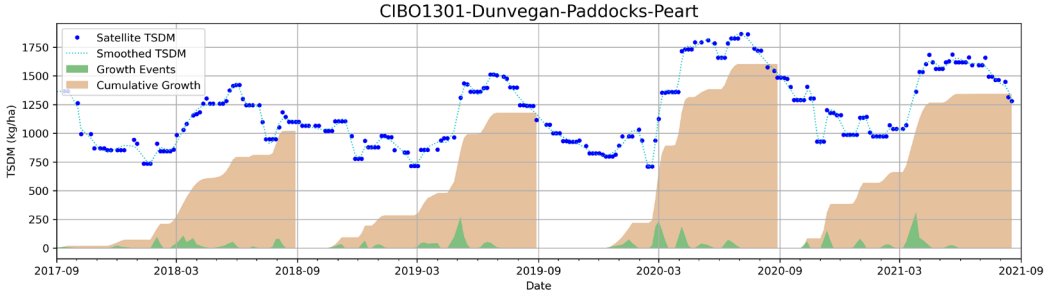

The opportunity to analyze your pasture production across the entire property

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Collecting better data

- Farm data needs to be useful
- Data should drive innovation
- What needs to be collected
- How should it be interpreted

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CIBO1452-Oatleigh

George Russell Drive

Southern Example

- Google Hybrid
- Esri World
- Open Street Map
- Landsat Seasonal Ground Cover
- Sentinel Seasonal Fractional Cover
- No background

- [x] CiboLabs Bounds 2021-10-14
- [ ] CiboLabs FOO 2021-10-14
- [x] CiboLabs Display 2021-10-14
- [ ] CiboLabs Fractional Cover 2021-10-14
- [ ] CiboLabs Total Cover 2021-10-14
- [ ] CiboLabs NDVI 2021-10-14
- [ ] CiboLabs TSDM 2021-10-14
- [ ] CiboLabs Monthly Change 2021-10-14

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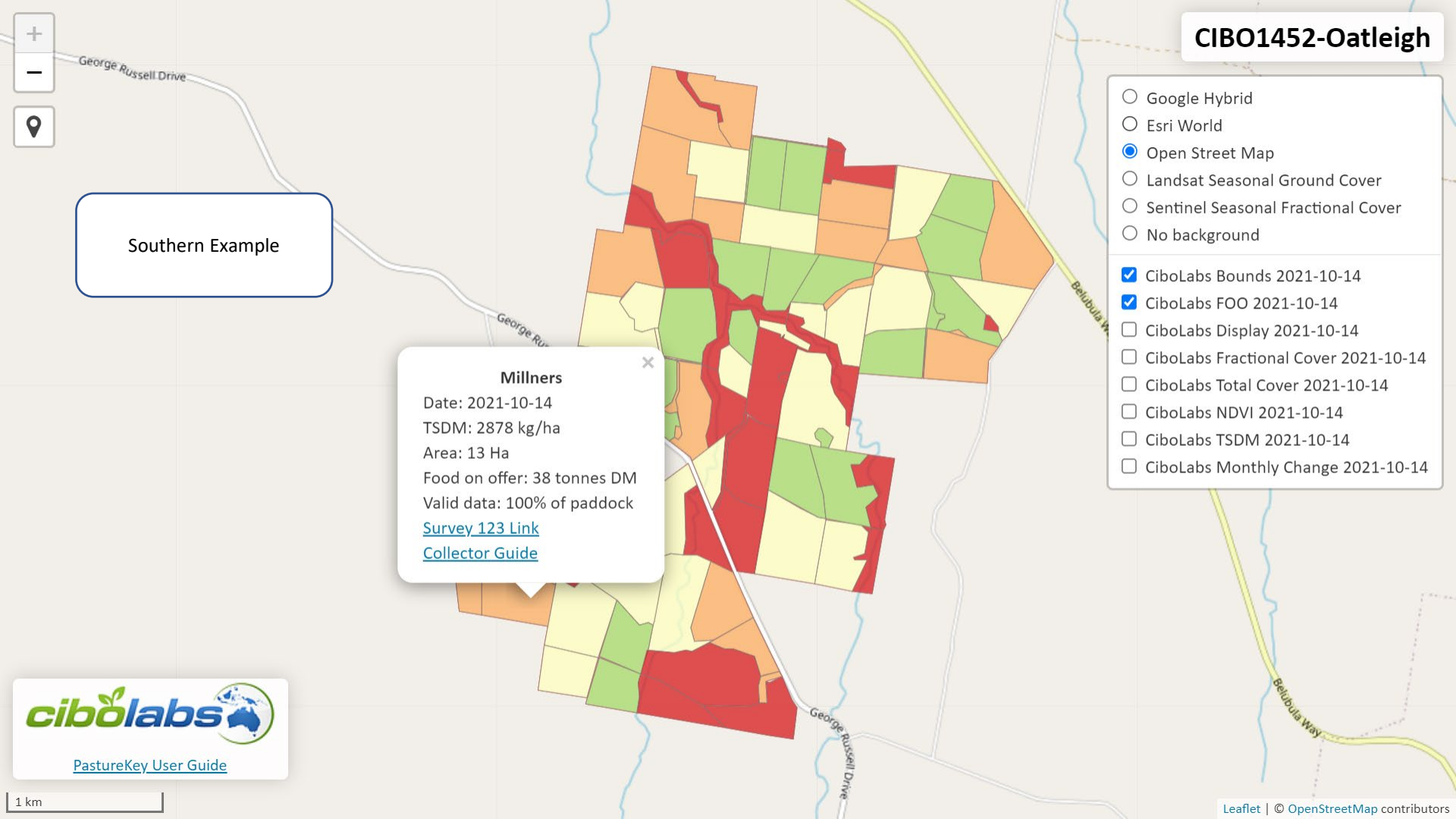
PastureKey User Guide

1 km


CIBO1452-Oatleigh
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CiboLabs Bounds 2021-10-14
CiboLabs FOO 2021-10-14
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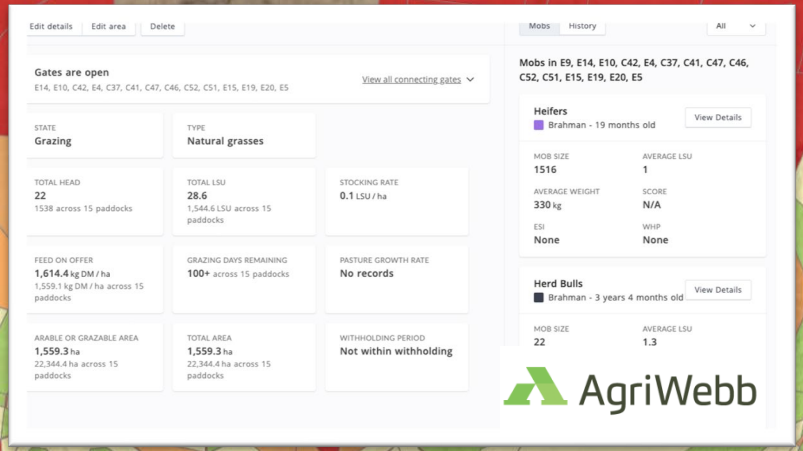
CiboLabs Total Cover 2021-10-14
CiboLabs NDVI 2021-10-14
CiboLabs TSDM 2021-10-14
CiboLabs Monthly Change 2021-10-14
Southern Example
Millners
Date: 2021-10-14
TSDM: 2878 kg/ha
Area: 13 Ha
Food on offer: 38 tonnes DM
Valid data: 100% of paddock
Survey 123 Link
Collector Guide
George Russell Drive
Belubula Way
cibolabs
PastureKey User Guide
1 km
Leaflet | © OpenStreetMap contributors

3rd Party System integration.

“Live FOO” to Agriwebb



CIBO1142

- Google Hybrid
- Open Street Map
- Landsat Seasonal Ground Cover
- Sentinel Seasonal Fractional Cover
- No background

- [x] CiboLabs Bounds 2020-05-24
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- [ ] CiboLabs Monthly Change 2020-05-24

Mooramong

TSDM: 2895 kg/ha

Food on offer: 1249 tonnes DM

Date: 2020-05-24

Valid data: 100% of paddock

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Building Solutions for Agriculture

Paddock	Landtype	Hectares	TSDM20200524
Mooramong	Hard gidgee	2722	1655
Mooramong	Jump-ups	1302	2805
Mooramong	Open alluvial plains	1774	1928
Mooramong	Open downs	2050	2356
Mooramong	Pebbly downs	430	1991
	PADDOCK LEVEL	**8278**	**2128**

Heifer selection & breeder management sessions

- CRC research highlights the importance of managing both weight & fatness in 1st calf heifers
- To increase re-conception in 1st calf heifers, focus must be on managing nutrition and providing time for weight gain and condition recovery

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Heifer retention and cow culling in a 500 cow herd

Heifer retention rate	Number of heifers retained	Number of cows culled to keep 500 cows
40%	88	41
60%	132	84
80%	176	128
Pregnancy rate		93%
Cow mortality rate		2%
Calf survival rate		95%

Take home messages

- Increased profits in beef breeding - focus on areas that don't require increased spending (in the first instance):
  - Have clear goals and objectives
  - Refine management decisions
  - Have critical points to measure & review
- Building Better Breeders provides a framework to guide & support this process

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Tools and resources

MLA Profitable Grazing Systems

MLA – PROGRAZE & More Beef From Pastures

Future Beef

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Australian Beef Report - Bush Agribusiness

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Building Better Breeders

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