

meatup FORUM

For the latest in red meat R&D

Managing and monitoring your feed: Australian Feedbase Monitor

Alastair Rayner

National Extension & Adoption Manager

Cibo Labs



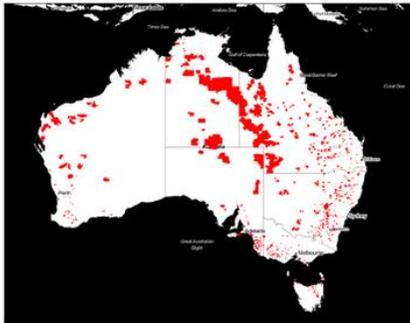
The Australian Feedbase Monitor

Overview

The AFM is a \$4.7m co-funded (50:50) investment by Cibo Labs and the MLA Donor Company to deliver industry-wide benefits

Objective, consistent and repeatable feedbase assessments for every farm, every month

Creating a foundation for “spatially-enabling” the industry.



National industry reporting



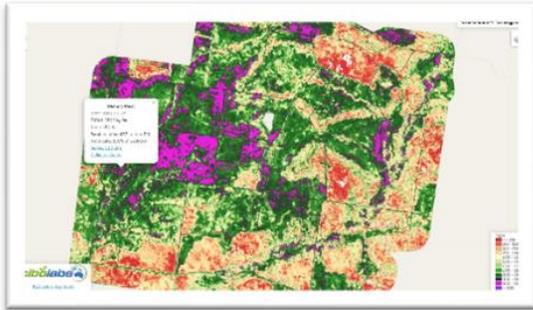
Farm and supply chain reporting / benchmarking



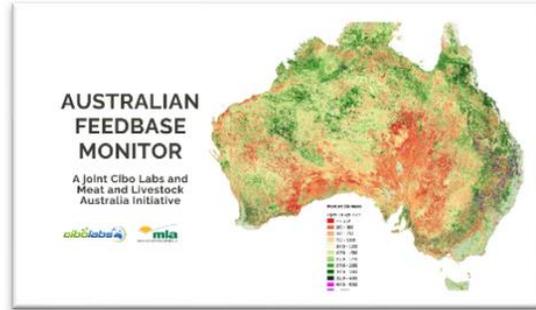
Field data collection systems



Paddock pasture monitoring



National, state, industry services



CeresTag animal tracking



Farm mapping systems

RESEARCH | PROJECTS

Rangelands Carbon

This \$6.5million collaboration will develop a remote sensing tool to accurately and affordably measure soil carbon in Australian rangelands

Long-term collaborative R&D



Cross industry integration

The Cibo Team



Phil Tickle

Co - Founder & GM

Phil has over 30 years experience in the application of geospatial and remote sensing solutions focused on natural resource management, agriculture and climate change.



Dr Peter Scarth

Co-Founder & Principal
Research Scientist

Peter is a world-leading scientist in full stack remote sensing across terrestrial and aquatic environments.



Nik Henry

Senior GeoSpatial Analyst

Nik is a Business Analyst with 15+ years experience, working in spatial systems development come platform management and tech support roles.



The Team Behind Us



Alastair Rayner

National Extension & Adoption
Manager

Alastair is a highly regarded extension specialist. His career includes 17 years with NSW DPI and 10 years operating RaynerAg



Jess Paton

Customer Support Manager
(Grazing Technologies)

Jess has experience in livestock production, genetics and reproduction, customer service and support, administration and data management



Wendy Gill

Extension and Support Team

Wendy has worked in the Agricultural Advisory and extension space for more than 20 years, She has extensive experience and qualifications in mixed farming agricultural systems, livestock production

What we know

84% of producers undertake regular pasture assessments



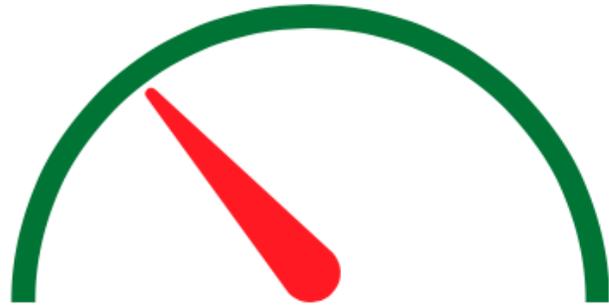
40% of producers assess their pastures on a weekly basis



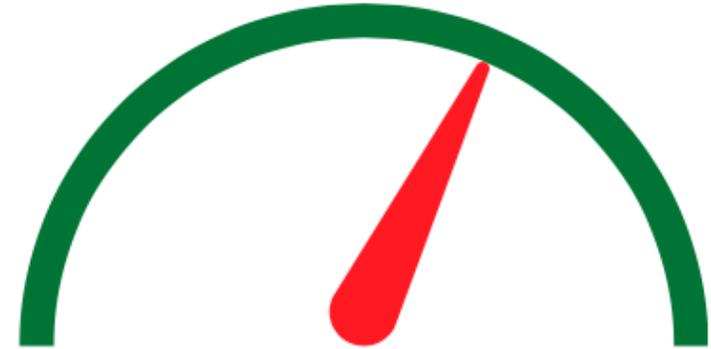
75% of producers rely on visual assessment & previous experience



However,



In the past 5 years - 29% of producers have had to make unplanned destocking decisions at least twice



63% of producers forced into this position had to make unplanned sales

48% of producers said they had lost money on sales as a result

Who can use the system?

- It is free to all MLA members
- Non-member Levy Payers can subscribe for \$99/year
- Users simply need to link their active LPA Account to their MyMLA Account.

mymla
MEAT & LIVESTOCK AUSTRALIA

Dashboard | Profile ▾ | Linked accounts ▾ | Help

MLA home | Log out

Link your other accounts

Tired of having too many passwords? Now you can use your myMLA login credentials to access other key industry systems. Link your other accounts below.

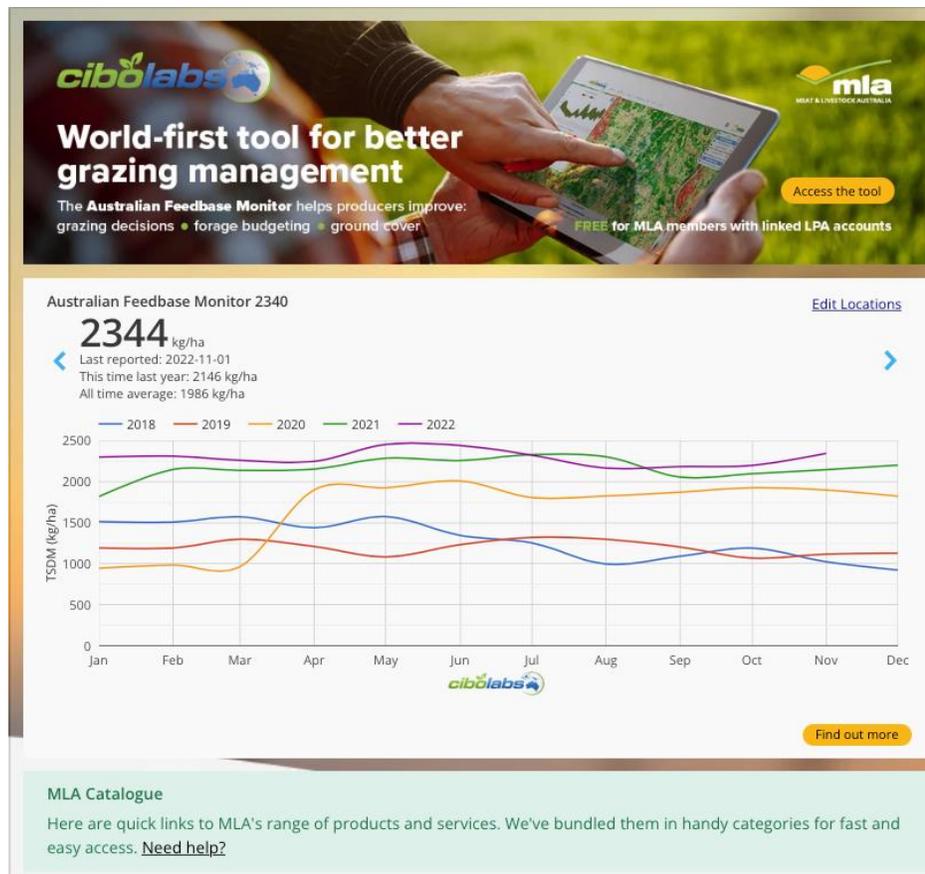
 National Livestock Identification System (NLIS)
Linked 
+ Link account

 Livestock Production Assurance (LPA)
Linked 
+ Link account

 Meat Standard Australia (MSA)

Using the AFM

Getting started



01

Create myMLA Account

A myMLA account will allow you to access all your MLA information

02

Link your LPA Account

Your LPA is needed to link your property or properties. You can link through the myMLA account

03

Access the AFM

Click on find out more go to the Cibo page

04

Complete your details

Enter your profile, location and land parcels

AFM Dashboard

YOUR FARM

Farms	Products	PIC	Size	View	Attributes
AFM	AFM	QDZZ3333	0.0 ha	Manage products	Manage

Link your PICS

+ SET UP FARMS

You have more farms to set up

[Set up farms](#)

PROFILE

Update your profile

[Update profile](#)

PRODUCTS

No Active products

[Manage Products](#)

+ Farm setup

1. Farm Details

2. Farm Address

Street Address

Suburb

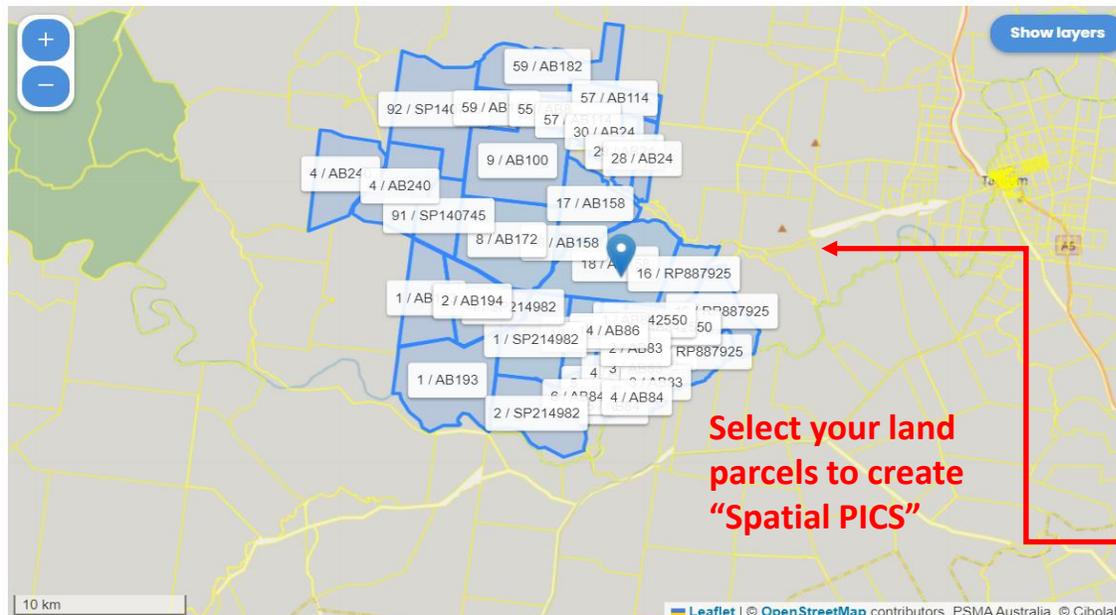
State

Postcode

3. Select Parcels



Locate your property on the map and select one or more polygons that make up your



Select your land parcels to create "Spatial PICS"

[Get more info](#)[Compare AFM and PastureKey](#)

+ SET UP FARMS

You are all ready to go! We have retrieved your LPA properties linked to your myMLA account.

3ABDB103

[Set up](#)

3ABDJ124

[Set up](#)

3ARNB010

[Set up](#)

3DNBK052

[Set up](#)

NCS13039

[Set up](#)

WAAM0426

[Set up](#)

1 farm is set up on your account

AFM

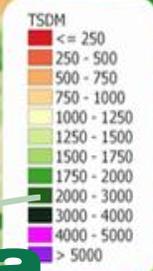
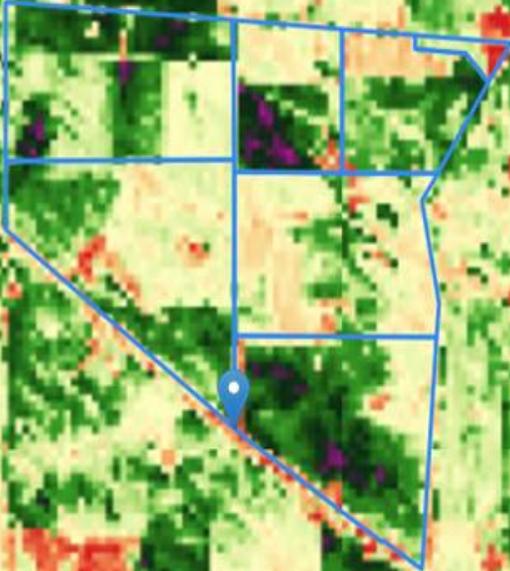
[Manage](#)[Go to my dashboard](#)

Kickatinalong

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Hide layers

- ESRI
- Mapbox Satellite
- Open Street Map
- Mapbox Street
- Woody Cover
- Cibo Labs TSDM
- Total Ground Cover

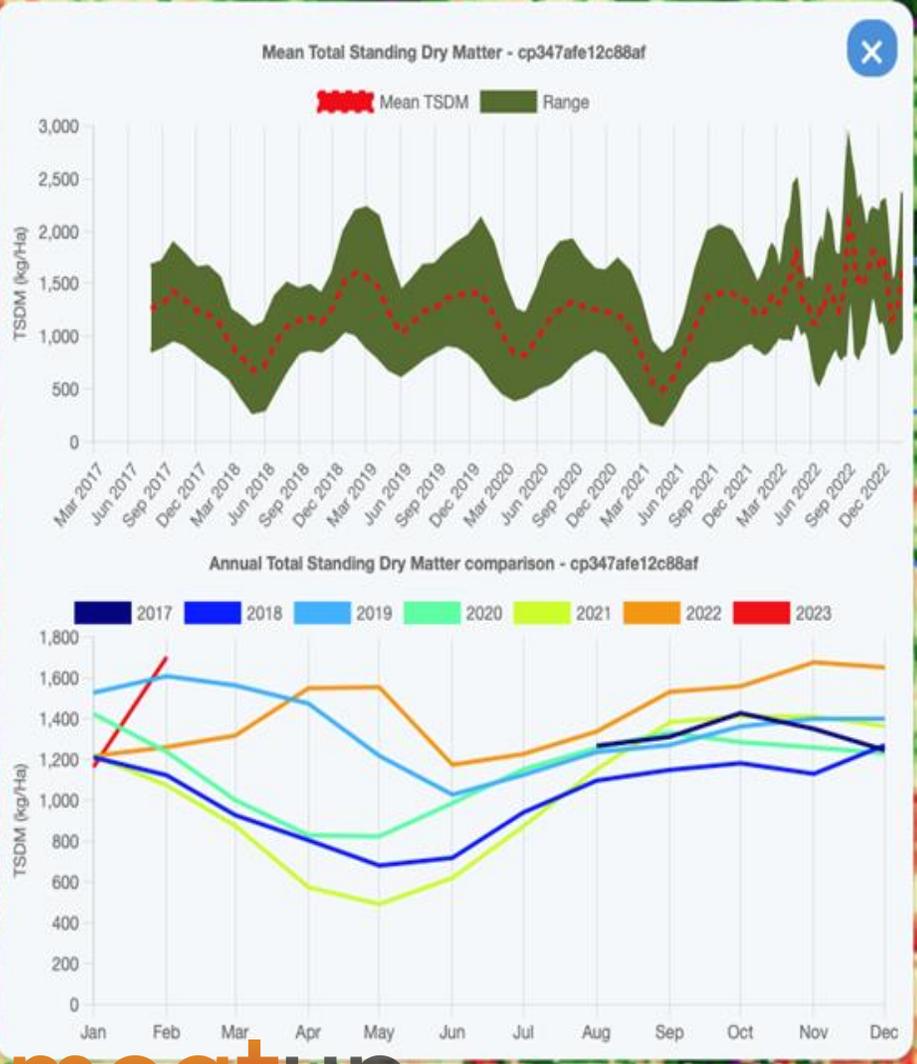


Feb 2023

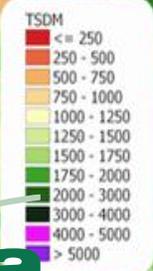
Mar 2017 Feb 2023

Kickatinalong

Hide layers



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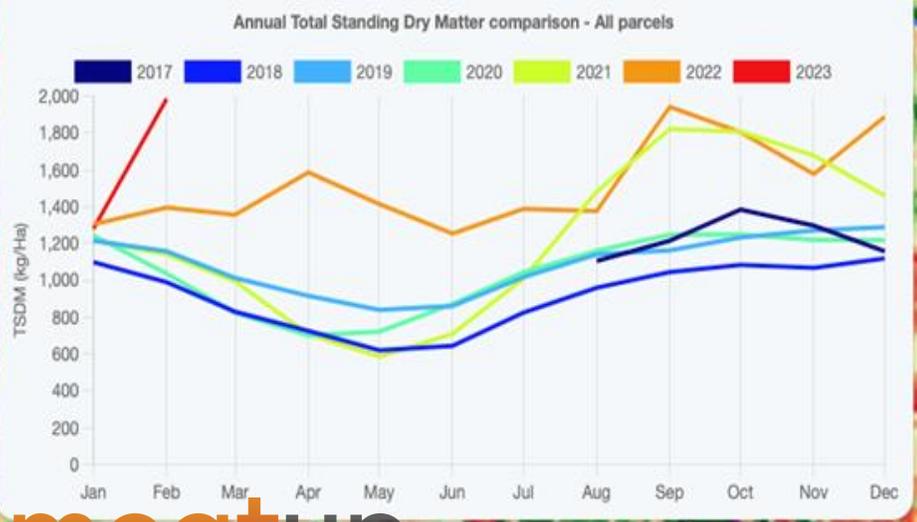
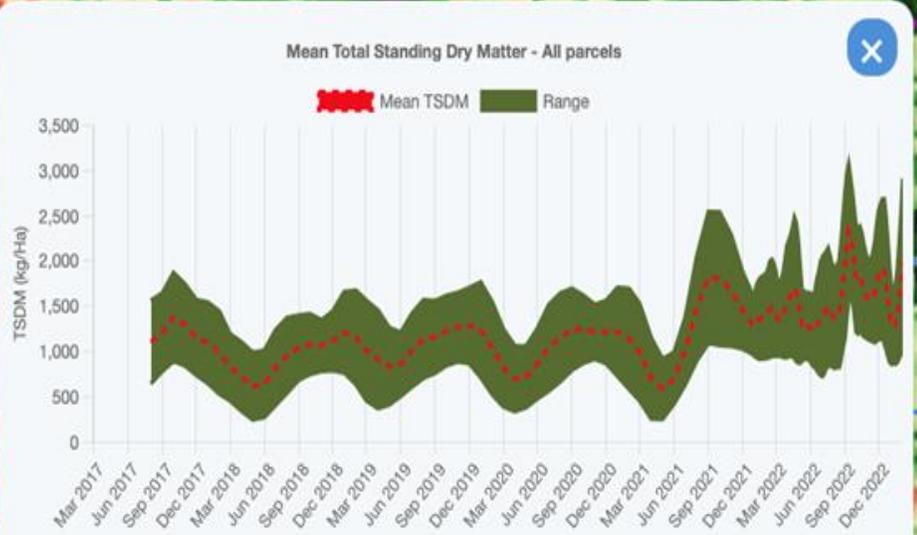
Feb 2023

Mar 2017 Feb 2023

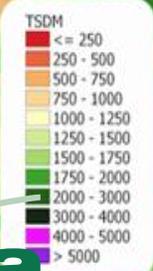
meat & LIVES FROM AUSTRALIA

Kickatinalong

Hide layers



- ESRI
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Feb 2023

Mar 2017 Feb 2023



Using the AFM for decisions

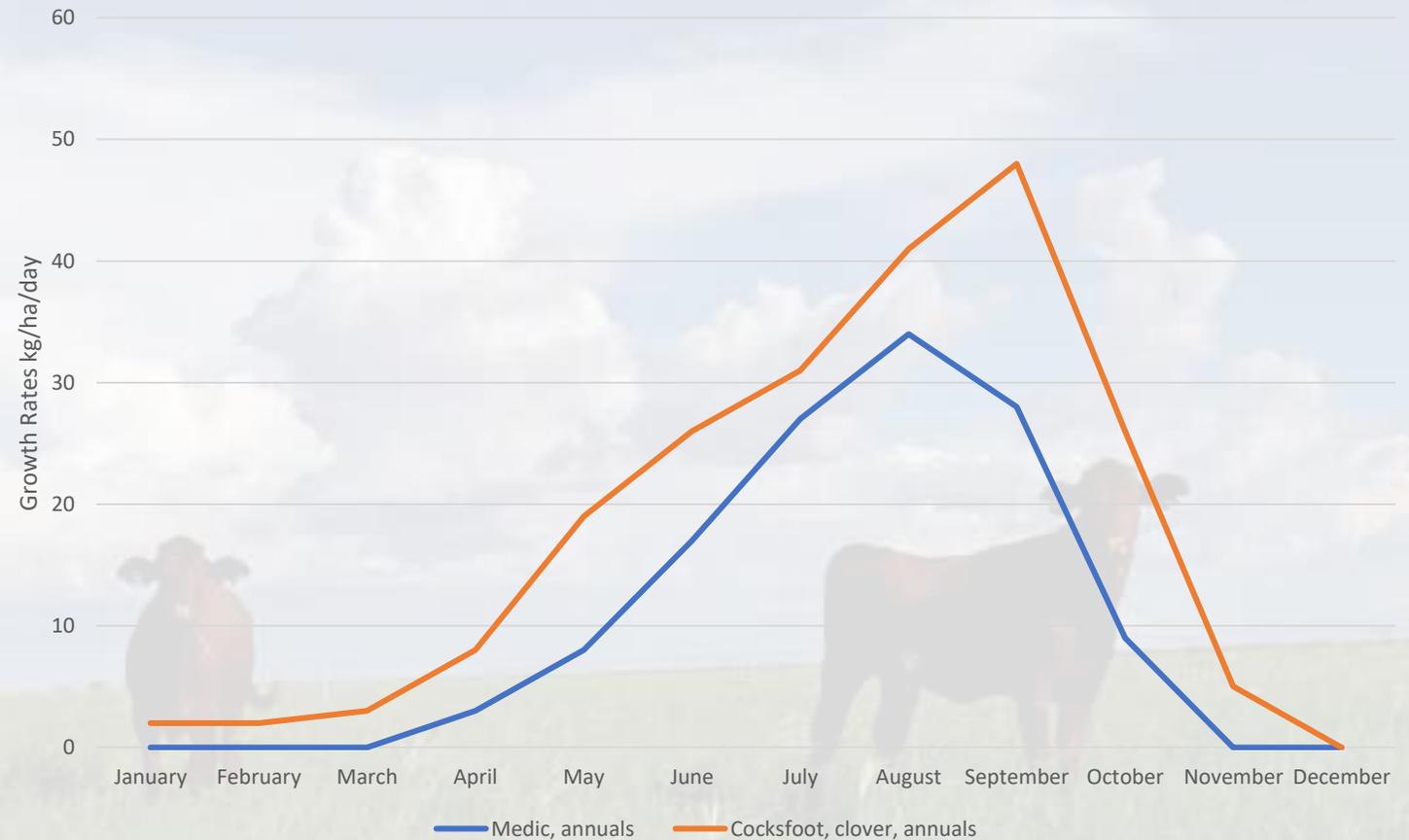
A photograph of a sheep with thick, white wool standing in a grassy field. The sheep is looking towards the camera. The background is slightly blurred, showing trees and a bright sky, suggesting a rural setting.

- The AFM data offers insights for producers to:
 - Manage seasonal trends
 - Manage areas of high or low pasture mass
 - Manage ground cover % to achieve targets

Strategic Applications

- Aligning annual calendars with regional data
- Doesn't always show the local variations or changes
- These differences can be significant for individual producers

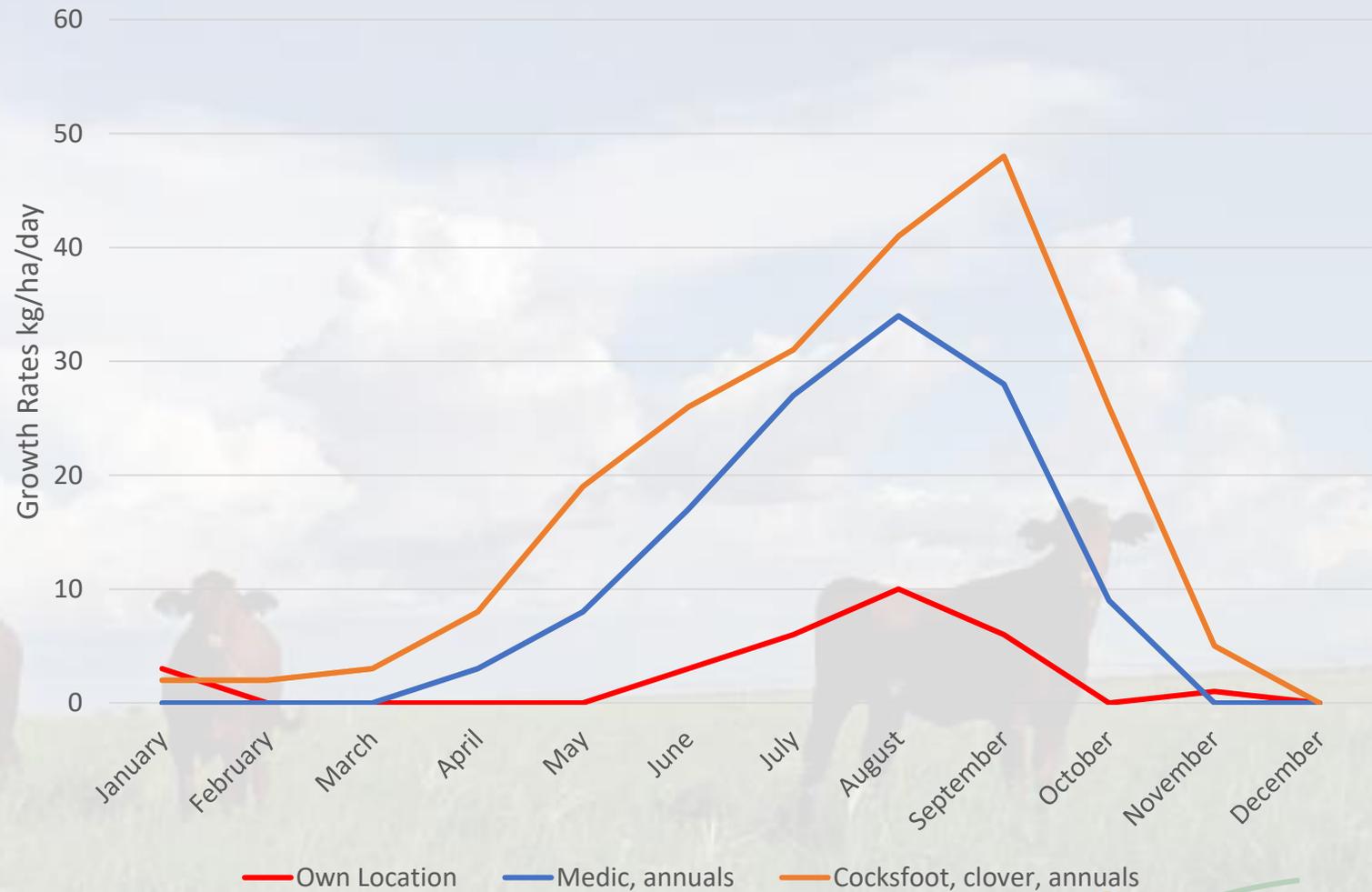
Pasture Growth Rates Eyre Peninsula (Standard Year)



Strategic Applications

- Individual growth rates do vary
- This can allow reflection on timing of key events
- May change the way decisions or benchmarks are set

Pasture Growth Rates Eyre Peninsula (Standard Year)



Tactical Applications

- Provides a reliable starting point for budgeting
- Ensures consistency in data
- Increase confidence in decisions
- The MLA Feedbase Budgeting Tool is a good start

Field	Data
Paddock	
a) Paddock size	48 ha
b) Current feed on offer (FOO)	1329 Kg DM/ha
c) Pasture quality	60% dig, 8.2 MJ ME/kg - Gone to seed
d) Consumption wastage factor	15%
e) Pasture growth	1 Kg DM/ha/day
f) Desired FOO when animals removed	1200 Kg DM/ha
Stock 1	
Stock type	Cows
Average weight	600 kg/Hd
Physiological state	Early Lactation (2 Months)
Twins / singles / not applicable	Not Applicable
g) Number of animals grazing	60
h) Estimated pasture intake (kg DM/Hd/day)	10.2
Maintenance energy required (MJ ME/Hd/day)	167
Stock 2 (optional)	
Stock 3 (optional)	
Results	
m) Feed on offer (Kg DM/ha)	129
n) Daily intake per ha + wastage (Kg DM/ha/day)	14.6
o) Change in feed on offer (Kg DM/ha/day)	-13.6
Number of days paddock will last	9.5

MLA Stocking Rate Calculator

Paddock description

Paddock size
48 ha

Pasture available at start of grazing
1329 kg DM/ha

Pasture available at end of grazing
1200 kg DM/ha

Pasture growth rate
1 kg DM/ha/day

Number of days grazing
10

X CLEAR **↺** RESET

Alternative allowance (kg DM/head/day, 10MJ ME/kg DM)



Pasture allowance

30

kg DM/head/day, 10MJME/kg DM

Stocking rate

22.2

stock / paddock

Stock class	Pasture allowance (kg DM/head/day, 10MJ ME/kg DM)	Stocking rate
200kg lightweight steer	8	83.4
400kg lightweight steer	12	55.6
Dry cow	10	66.7
Lactating cow (5 months)	20	33.4

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Take advantage of the MLA tools

Explore our Tailored Services > **MLA** LPA & NVDS NLIS MSA myMLA: Access MLA's catalogue of products and services. All in one place. [SIGN UP NOW](#)

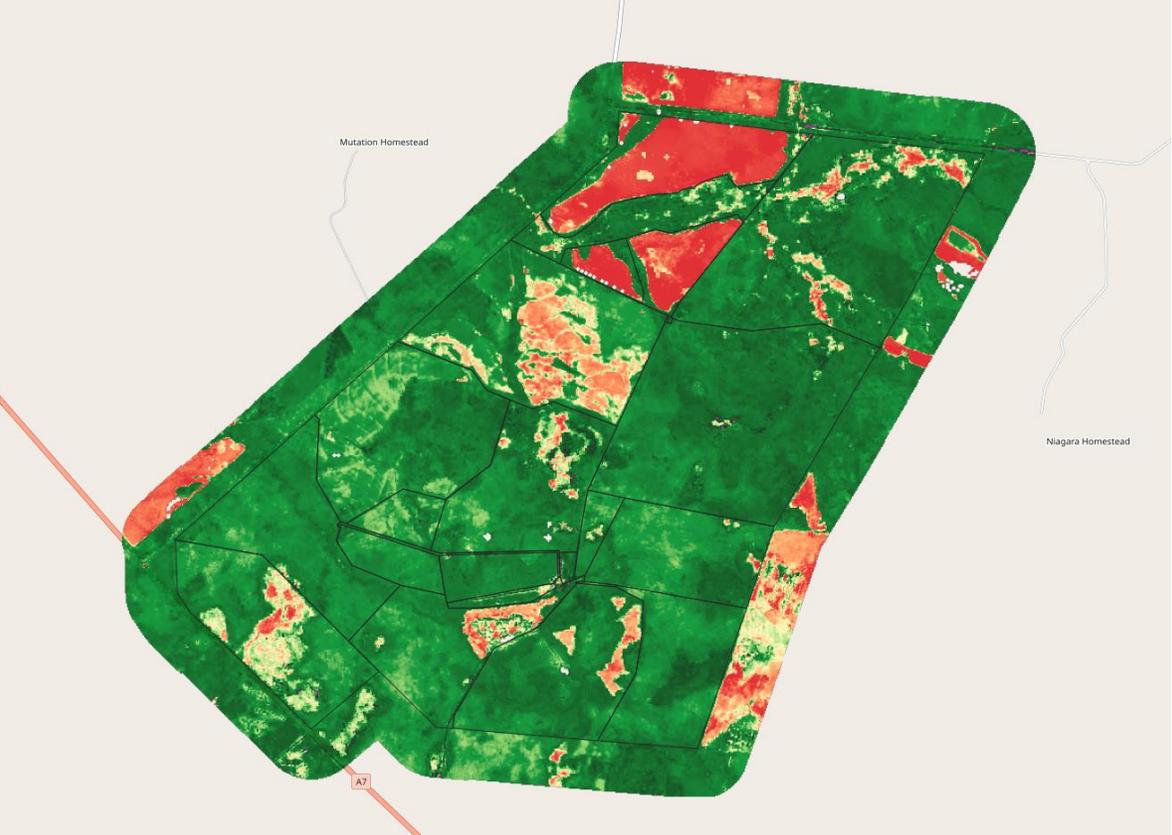
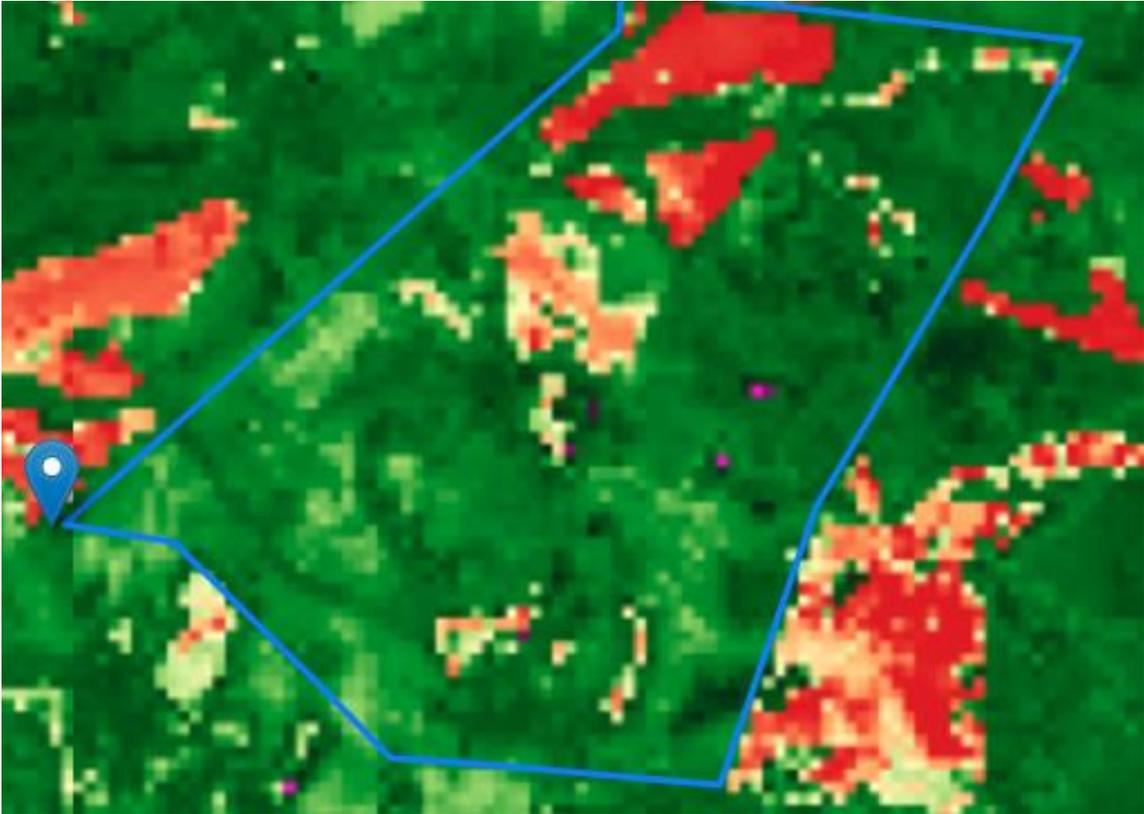


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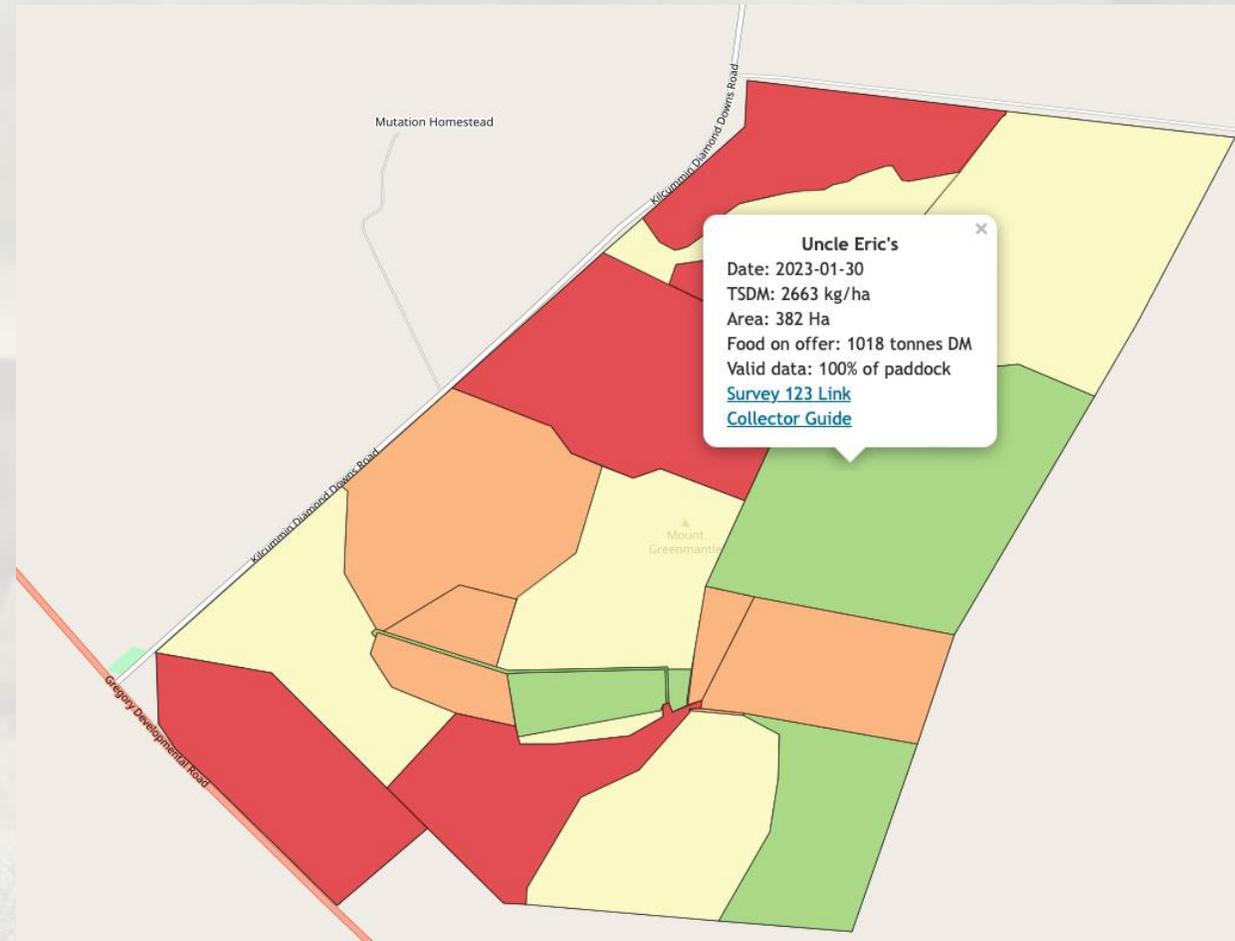
RESOURCE HUBS	TOOLS & CALCULATORS	TRAINING & WORKSHOPS	OTHER CONTENT
Livestock	Australian Feedbase Monitor	Goats hub	MLA Publications
Feedbase	Feed Calculators	Profitable grazing systems	Creative commons licenses
Sustainability	Pasture Tools and Calculators	EDGEnetwork	
Climate	Cost of Production Calculators	Productivity and Profitability webinars	
Mental health	Climatic Impact tools	Meatup forums	
Weed control	Calving histogram calculator	Producer demonstration sites	
Seasonal hubs	See all tools & calculators →	BredWell FedWell workshops	
Persistent pastures		Beefup forums	
See all hubs →		The toolbox online training	
		Livestock advisor updates	
		Livestock advisor essentials	
		See all training & workshops →	

Upgrades – what changes



Feed budgets

- Moving from AFM to PastureKey
- Paddock level (10m²) resolution
- 15 day rolling average
- Data sharing across platforms such as AgriWebb



Take home messages

- The AFM offers all producers access to accurate, regular and objective assessments
- Access is free to MLA members (make sure your details are correct with MLA membership if you receive a message saying you are not recognised)
- MLA Help Desk on 1800 865 255 or send an email to membership@mla.com.au
- Use the information to add value & accuracy to your decisions & with other tools such as feed budget & stocking rate calculators

Tools and resources

- www.cibolabs.com.au
- www.mla.com.au/mymla
- <https://www.mla.com.au/extension-training-and-tools/>

CIBO LABS

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 CiboLabs

OUR CONTACT DETAILS