

# Growing More Pasture

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# Grow more pasture to increase profit

- Higher stocking rate
- Higher animal production
- Less supplementary feed
- Less labour
- Lower cost of production
- Less stress
- More ground cover

# Basic mixed farm feed plan

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D

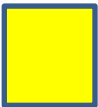
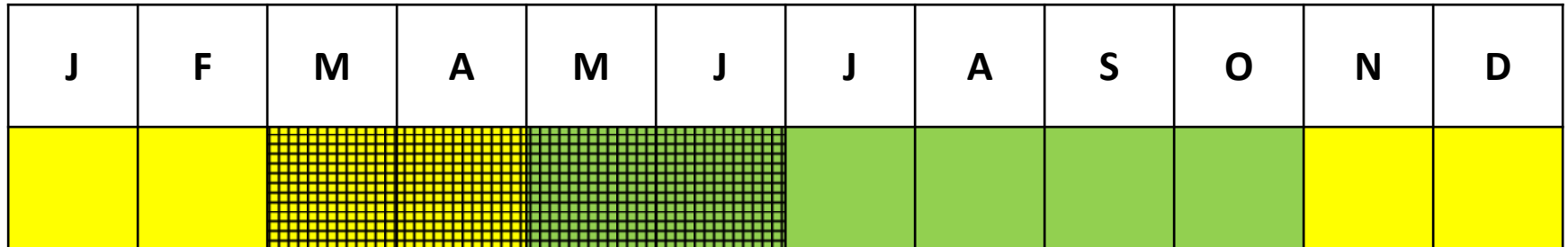


Crop Stubble



Annual Pasture

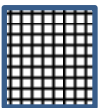
# Basic mixed farm feed plan



Crop Stubble



Annual Pasture



Grain

# A more robust year round feed plan

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D



Crop Stubble



Fodder Shrubs



Annual Pasture



Fodder Crop

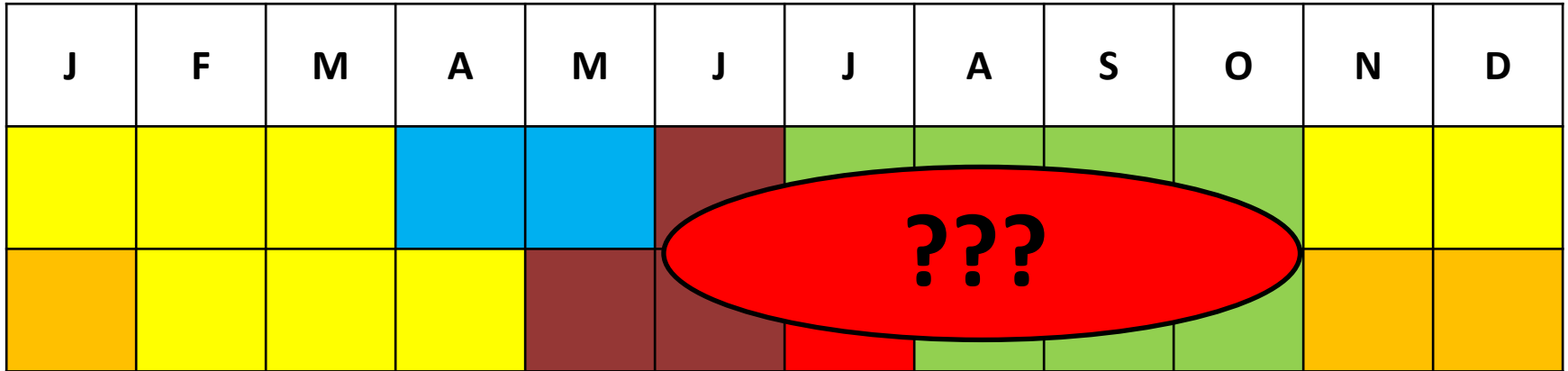


Crop Grazing



Confinement Feeding

# Late Break



Crop Stubble



Fodder Shrubs



Annual Pasture



Fodder Crop

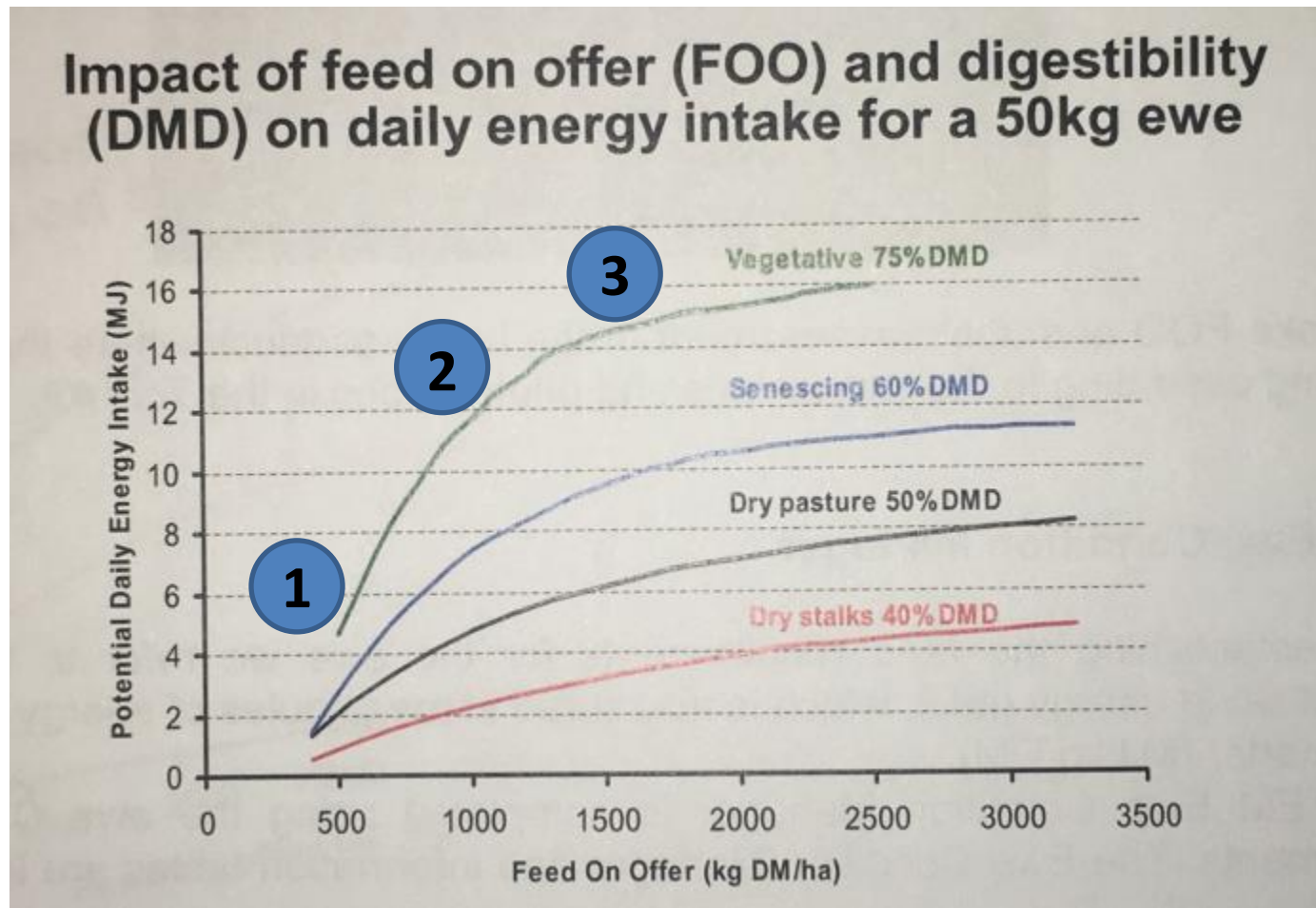


Crop Grazing



Confinement Feeding

# Changing gears (3 on the tree!)



# Options to increase Winter feed

- Confinement feeding
- Cereals as pastures
- Crop grazing
- Grassy pastures
- Nitrogen
- Dense pastures
- Rotational grazing
- Perennial pastures
- Early (summer?) sown annual legumes















# Cereals as Pastures













# Crop Grazing









**FOO = 77 kg/ha**






**FOO = 277 kg/ha**

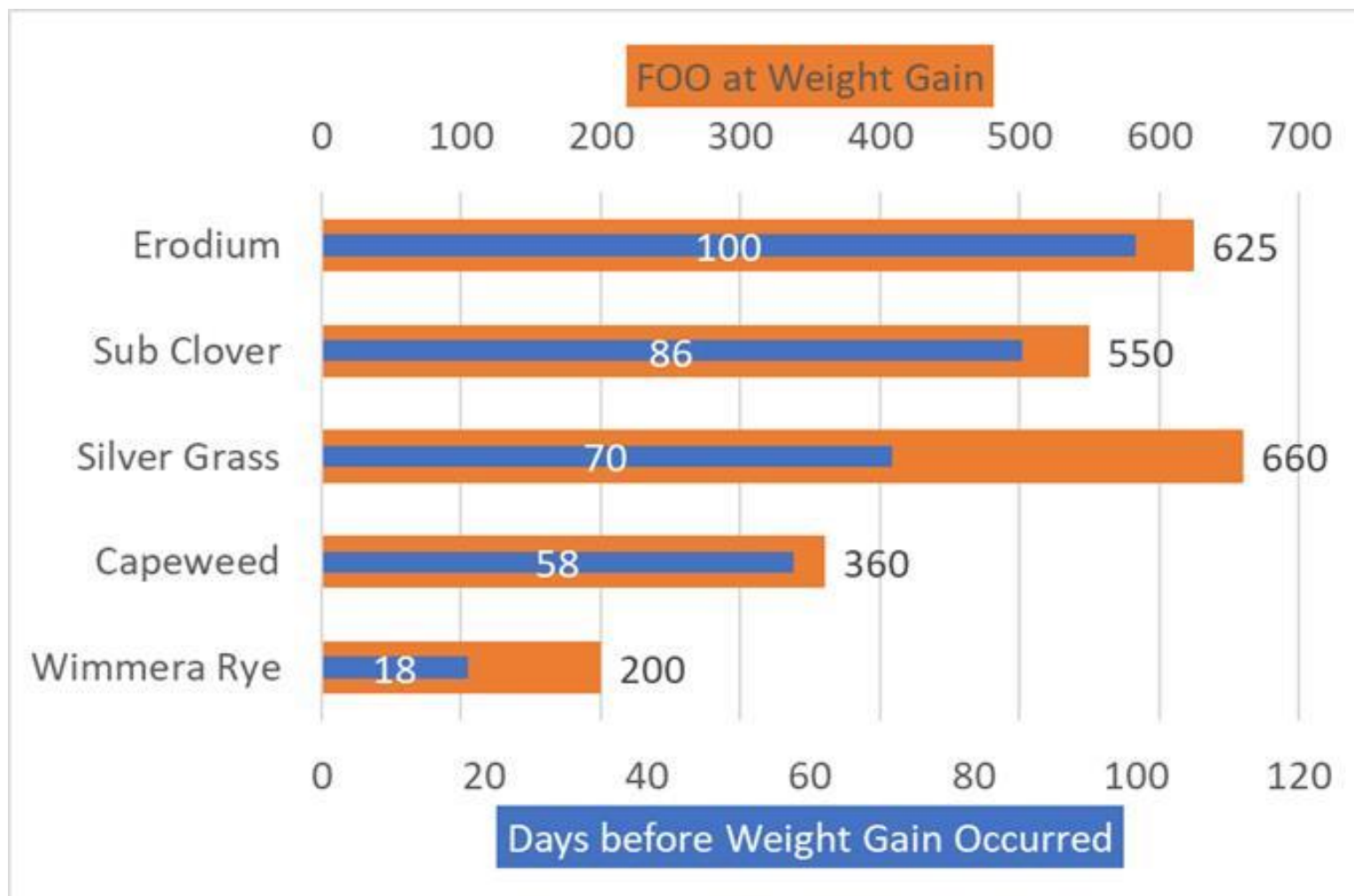






	1/6/16	21/6/16	ME	CP
Pasture	3.1	3.0	8-11	12-16
Crop	3.1	3.4	12-14	30-40

# Feed availability





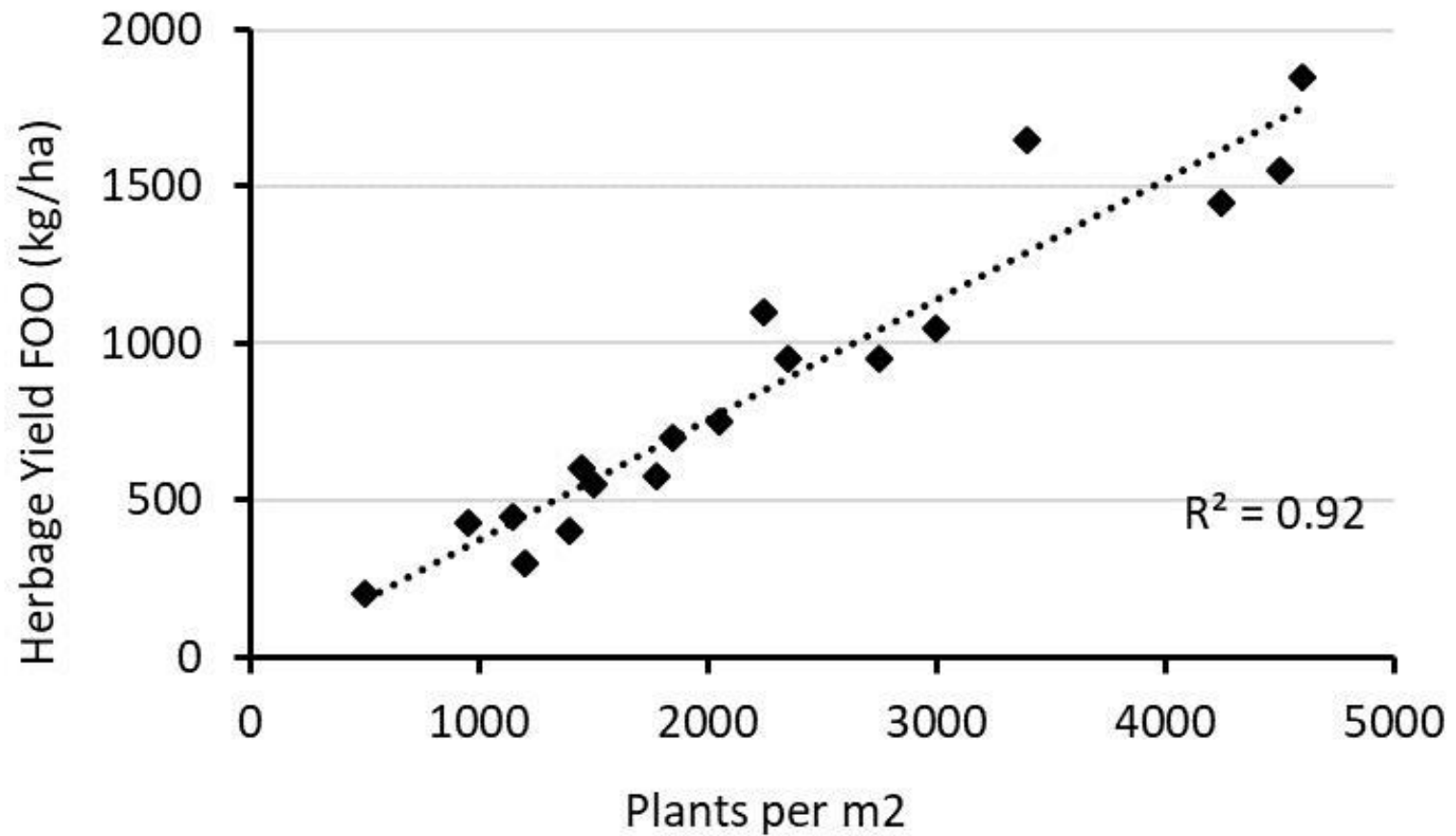
# Lambing TB ewes on crop

2016	Treatment	Ewe CS Pre Lamb	Ewe CS Post Lamb	Mark %
Walebing	Pasture	3.5	3.1	163
	Crop	3.5	3.7	168
Kojonup	Pasture	4.2	3.7	164
	Crop	4.2	4.2	166

# Grassy Pastures

- Very upright, available and productive
- Very nitrogen responsive
- But how do we create them?
- Sow “fancy” late maturing types?
- Use weedy paddocks coming out of crop?
- Have some longer term grassy pastures?
- Just use cereals?

# Density drives production



# Nitrogen

- Need a dense grassy pasture or cereal
- ~10 kg/ha per unit of N in winter
- At \$650/ton of Urea, cost of feed is \$140/ton
- ~20 kg/ha per unit of N in spring
- At \$650/ton of Urea, cost of feed is \$70/ton



# Rotational Grazing

Figure 5: Leaf and root development in ryegrass cut at 1, 2 and 3 leaves.



# Summer Sown Serradella





# Summer Sown Bladder Clover





# Autumn Sown Vetch



# Pasture Fundamentals

Right Plant	proven in your area
Right Place	soil type, pH, drainage
Right Purpose	finishing, out of season
Right Management	grazing mgt, inputs

# Options to increase Spring feed

- Winter feed!
- But quality is more of a driver in Spring
- Annual legumes
- Late maturing annual ryegrass
- Perennial pastures



# Tedera



# Big opportunities

- Confinement / deferral
- Cereals for extra winter “feed”
- Better (3<sup>rd</sup> gear) pastures for TB ewes
- Quality late spring pastures for lambs
- Turning shit land into something useful
- Turning risky land (frost) into reliable profit
- Better utilisation of chaff, straw, seconds, etc



# Closing Comments

- At the current Gross Margin of ~\$60/DSE, it pays to grow more pasture!
- Develop both short and long term plans
- Do some homework and get good advice