



# NORTHERN REGIONS FOCUS FARM

PUBLIC FIELD-DAY

3rd FEBRUARY 2010

**NORTHERN REGIONS FOCUS FARM**  
**Property of David Dewar, 376 Parsons Rd, Ngakuru**

**FIELD-DAY AGENDA**

**3rd February 2010**

**Deer Industry NZ Rep: Tony Pearce**  
**Focus Farmer: David Dewar**  
**Facilitator: Mark Macintosh (AgFirst)**  
**Chairman: Andy Mitchell**  
**Co-facilitator/Vet: Robin Hopkirk (Animal Health Services)**

- 11.00am Arrive at woolshed (tea/coffee)
- 11.15am Welcome and Introduction
- 11.20am Environment Plan Overview (Bala Tikkisetty, EW)
- Dewar nutrient loss – what is it? How does it rate? How can it be improved?
- 11.50am Farm Tour and Lunch (provide own lunch)
- View hinds/fawns on crop – weaner growth, utilisation
  - View spray topping – quality
  - Visual soil assessment (Bala Tikkisetty)
  - Copper supplementation (Robin Hopkirk)
  - Weaning Management
- 2.00pm Back in woolshed  
Breeding Trial Results (Andy Mitchell)
- Fawning %
  - Weaner weights
- 2.30pm Dewar Trading Margin Analysis (Mark Macintosh)
- 2.50pm Group discussion
- 3.00pm Refreshments

# NORTHERN REGIONS FOCUS FARM FARM OVERVIEW

**NAME:** DAVID DEWAR

**ADDRESS:** 376 PARSONS ROAD, RD1, ROTORUA

**PHONE NO:** 07 3331952

**EMAIL:** daviddewar@xtra.co.nz

---

**OWNERSHIP STRUCTURE:** SOLE OWNER

**AREA:**  
Deer: 140 ha approx.  
Sheep: 6 ha approx.  
Other: 3 ha approx.  

Total:	149 ha
--------	--------

**SUBDIVISION:** West side (59ha): 18 pdks (23 deer fenced) - 3.3 ha/pdk (most 2.8ha/pdk)

East side (66ha): 14 pdks (12 deer fenced) – 5.4 ha/pdk

**SOIL FERTILITY:** Soil test taken August 2008

	EAST TOP HILL	EAST TOP HAY	WEST BOTT HILL	WEST BOTT HAY
PH	5.6	6.3	5.4	5.5
Olsen P	23	36	23	106
Potassium	3	3	3	2
Magnesium	6	5	5	4
Sulphate	4	6	9	4
Org Sulphur	10	11	7	9
Fert History	Poor	Good	Good	Good

- Low pH except for Top Hay
- Extremely high phosphate for Bottom Hay – most likely an error

## **STOCK POLICY:**

Hinds mated: 15<sup>th</sup> March

Stags out: 5-10<sup>th</sup> May

Mating period: 50-55 days

Weaning: 8<sup>th</sup> March

Replacements: Purchased in as R1yr. 15% replacement rate.

Hind numbers: Reduced to 220 wintered.

Progeny: sold to works Oct-June

**STOCK NUMBERS** - Livestock as at 30th June

**Breed:** Sires 100% Hybrid  
Hinds 25% Hybrid

Class of Stock	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	SU/hd
MA Hinds	534	460	250	258	205	217	2.2
R2 Hinds(IC)	79	0	0	50	0	0	2.0
R2 Hinds(Dry)	0	177	130	75	6	0	2.0
R1 Hinds	356	233	350	250	223	252	1.5
Velveting Stags	0	0	0	0	0	0	3.0
R2 Stags	17	118	110	25	4	82	2.3
R1 Stags	100	221	350	391	451	220	1.7
Herd Sires	0	0	0	23	15	10	3.5
<b>Deer Stock Units</b>	<b>2076</b>	<b>2363</b>	<b>2183</b>	<b>1995</b>	<b>1626</b>	<b>1453</b>	
Ewes	170	430	570	420	355	328	1.1
Ewe Hoggets	64	0	360	0	0	0	0.8
Ram/Wether	321	30	0	15	0	0	0.9
Rams	5	4	8	6	6	6	0.8
<b>Sheep Stock Units</b>	<b>531</b>	<b>503</b>	<b>921</b>	<b>480</b>	<b>395</b>	<b>365</b>	
Breeding Cows	0	3	0	7	2	2	6.5
R2yr Heifers	0	0	0	0	7	0	6.0
R1 Heifers	0	0	0	17	12	25	4.0
R2 Bulls/Steers	15	0	0	0	7	17	6.0
R1 Bulls/Steers	0	10	7	10	0	12	4.5
Herd Bulls	0	0	0	1	0	0	6.0
<b>Cattle Stock Units</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>165</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>269</b>	
<b>Total Stock Units</b>	<b>2697</b>	<b>2931</b>	<b>3136</b>	<b>2640</b>	<b>2166</b>	<b>2087</b>	
<b>SU/ha</b>	<b>16.2</b>	<b>17.7</b>	<b>18.9</b>	<b>15.9</b>	<b>15.5</b>	<b>14.2</b>	

## DEER PERFORMANCE:

### Fawning

	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09
Fawning % to hinds mated	454/516 = <b>88%</b>	306/354 = <b>86%</b>	344/378 = <b>91%</b>	319/364 = <b>88%</b>	218/239 = <b>91%</b>

- Good consistent fawning result

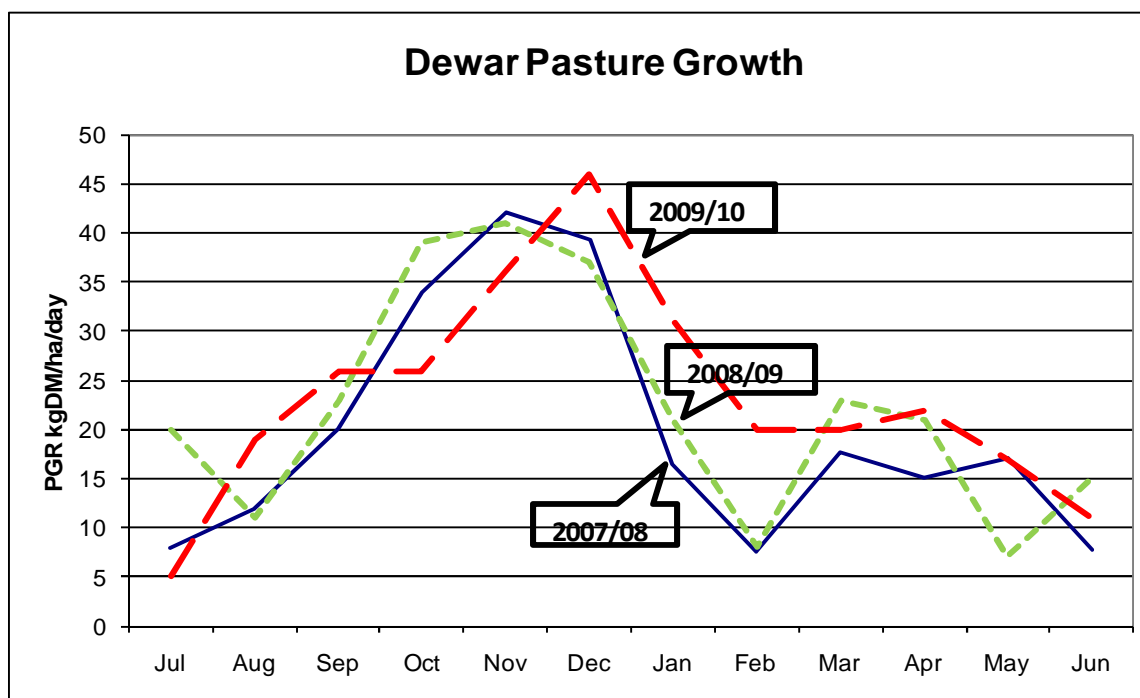
### Finishing

	05/06	06/07	07/08	08/09	09/10 est
% sales by 30 <sup>th</sup> Nov	64%	37%	39%	34%	38%*
Weaning weight kg	n/a	n/a	45	50	55
Av. Sale weight kg	51	53	51	50	51
Mean Sale date	10 <sup>th</sup> Nov	10 <sup>th</sup> Feb	18th Dec	25 <sup>th</sup> Dec	28 <sup>th</sup> Jan

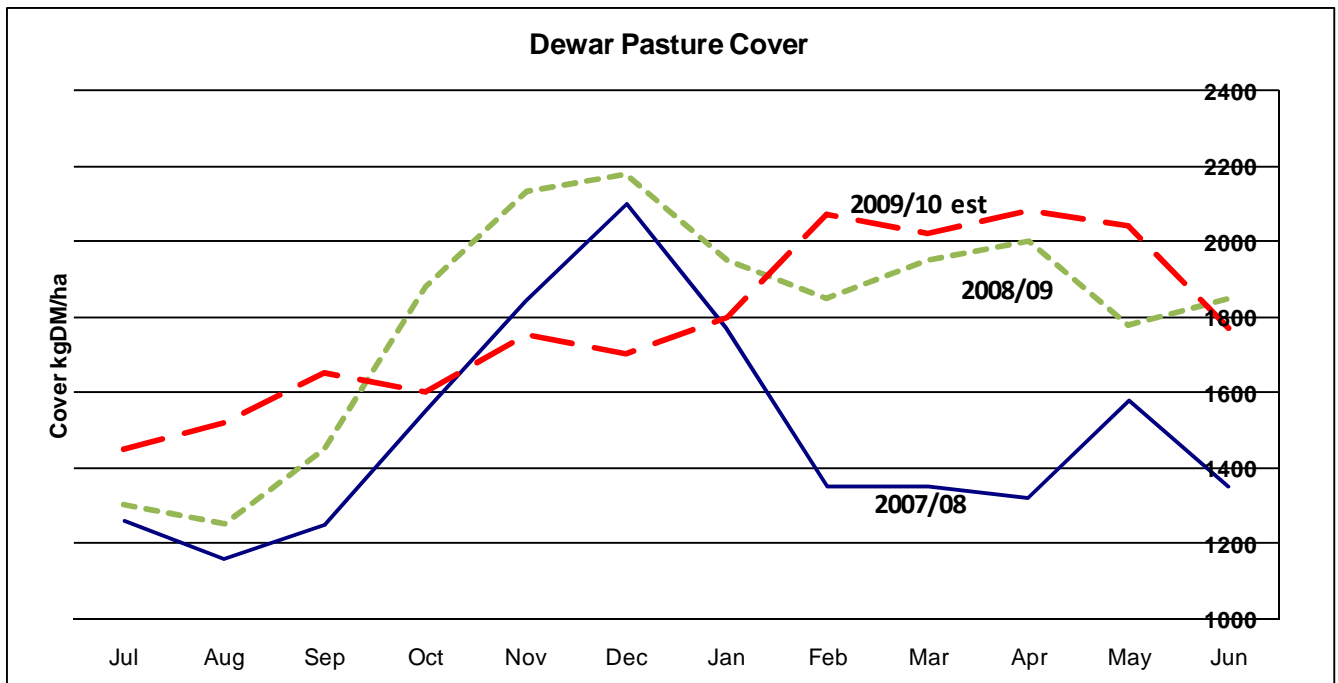
\*Actual

- It has proven difficult to match the rate of sales achieved in 2005/06.

## PASTURE PERFORMANCE



- Annual pasture production for 2009/10 is looking promising. Pasture growth has been similar to date despite a record cold October. With recent rain the expectation is that we may get a reasonable February for a change.



- Pasture cover is under good control presently mainly due to having 10ha crop in the ground and the spray topping of 52ha back in November. This should result in good quality feed over the next few months which should transfer into good weaner growth rates.

# Farm Plan 2009/10

Dewar 2009 - 2010			31-Jul	31-Aug	30-Sep	31-Oct	30-Nov	31-Dec	31-Jan	28-Feb	31-Mar	30-Apr	31-May	30-Jun	
<b>Land</b>	Grazing Area (ha)		130	130	130	130	130	92	125	128	128	128	128	128	
	<b>Growth Rate</b>	<b>kgDM/ha/day</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>11</b>	
	Nitrogen	Area (ha)											88		
		kgN/ha											30		
		kgDM/kgN											10		
	Rape 08	5ha													
	Swedes 08	6ha													
	Spray top 09	52ha													
	Turnips	2ha													
	Swedes	4ha													
Silage (25%DM)	4ha														
Tama	4ha														
Silage (25%DM) 2	6ha														
Pasja	3ha														
<b>Pasture Cover</b>	<b>(kgDM/ha)</b>	<b>Actual</b>	<b>1450</b>	<b>1520</b>	<b>1650</b>	<b>1600</b>	<b>1750</b>	<b>1700</b>	<b>1800</b>	<b>2069</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2084</b>	<b>2036</b>	<b>1767</b>	
<b>Deer</b>	Hinds	Bought		49					40						
		Sold							15	30		40			
		<b>Close</b>	<b>217</b>	<b>266</b>	<b>266</b>	<b>265</b>	<b>264</b>	<b>263</b>	<b>287</b>	<b>257</b>	<b>257</b>	<b>217</b>	<b>217</b>	<b>217</b>	
		Live Wt.(kg)	107	106	110	116	99	99	101	103	104	106	106	107	
		Gain (g/d)	-6				-10	20	50	50	40	30			
	2-Year Stags	Bought	35												
		Sold		55	62										
			<b>Close</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>62</b>										
			Live Wt.(kg)	89	82										
		Gain (g/d)	60	40	80										
	Sire Stags	Bought													
		Sold													
			<b>Close</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>
		Live Wt.(kg)	173	173	173	173	173	173	173	173	173	171	168	168	168
	1 year hinds 08	Bought	21												
		Sold				9	40	25	62	19	22	21	72		
			<b>Close</b>	<b>272</b>	<b>272</b>	<b>272</b>	<b>262</b>	<b>222</b>	<b>196</b>	<b>134</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>72</b>		
			Live Wt.(kg)	62	65	70	75	78	81	82	85	85	87		
			Gain (g/d)	95	120	150	188	191	169	164	150	100	120	80	
	1 year stags 08	Bought	70												
Sold					59	84	26	34	10	4	24	46			
		<b>Close</b>	<b>289</b>	<b>289</b>	<b>289</b>	<b>230</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>46</b>			
		Live Wt.(kg)	70	75	79	82	85	84	81	82	85	86			
		Gain (g/d)	140	150	150	250	300	50		100	100	150	100		
Mixed Fawns 09	Bought												150	150	
	Sold														
		<b>Close</b>									<b>200</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>350</b>	<b>500</b>	
		Live Wt.(kg)									56	59	60	62	
		Gain (g/d)									45	87	150	100	
<b>Sheep</b>	Ewes	Bought								100					
		Sold	20						80						
			<b>Close</b>	<b>306</b>	<b>301</b>	<b>296</b>	<b>294</b>	<b>292</b>	<b>292</b>	<b>211</b>	<b>310</b>	<b>309</b>	<b>308</b>	<b>307</b>	<b>306</b>
			Live Wt.(kg)	66	69	61	62	62	58	59	59	59	61	63	64
	Rams	Bought													
		Sold													
			<b>Close</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>
		Live Wt.(kg)	111	113	115	117	119	120	122	124	125	127	128	129	
	Mixed Lambs 09	Bought						59							
		Sold								134	222	145			
		<b>Close</b>						<b>501</b>	<b>367</b>	<b>145</b>					
		Live Wt.(kg)						36	39	40					
	Gain (g/d)						300	200	150	50					

- Aim to keep pasture cover at between 1,800-2,000 kgDM/ha over summer/autumn
- Summer crop 5ha turnips/pasja.
- Winter crop 3.5ha Swedes, undersown with turnips in January.
- Spray topped 52ha of fawning country in early November
- Maintain 220 breeding hinds and 300 ewes
- Winter 600 yearling deer

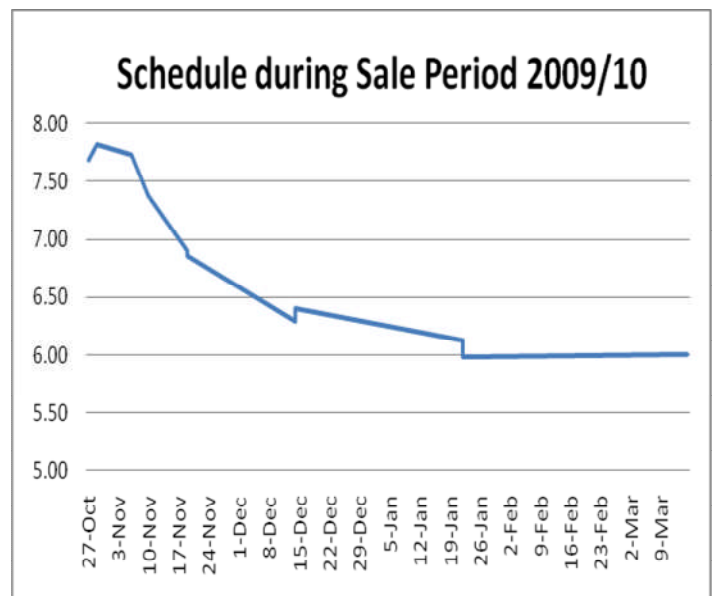
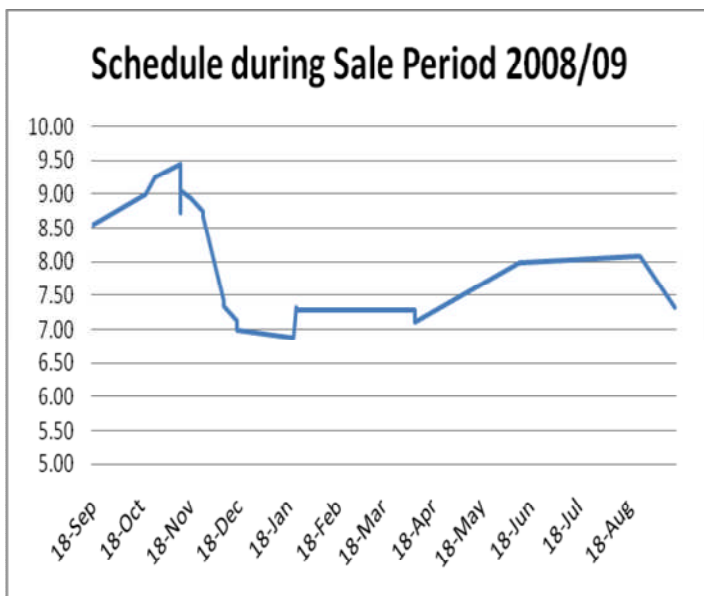
# FARM PLAN 2009/10 – contd.

Dewar 2009 - 2010			31-Jul	31-Aug	30-Sep	31-Oct	30-Nov	31-Dec	31-Jan	28-Feb	31-Mar	30-Apr	31-May	30-Jun	
<b>Beef</b>	Cows	Bought													
		Sold													
		<b>Close</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>
		Live Wt.(kg)	560	517	514	505	507	523	541	554	563	565	570	570	577
		Gain (kg/d)	0	0	-0.1	-0.3		0.5	0.5	0.4	0.2	0	0	0	0
	1-Year Heifers	Bought	6												
		Sold					4		23				4		
		<b>Close</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>				
		Live Wt.(kg)	326	329	335	351	367	398	367	384	393				
		Gain (kg/d)	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.5	1.0	1.0	0.8	0.6	0.3	0.4			
	2-Year Steers	Bought													
		Sold					12						4		
		<b>Close</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>				
		Live Wt.(kg)	405	423	459	493	462	490	515	531	544				
		Gain (kg/d)	0.2	0.6	1.2	1.1	1.2	0.9	0.8	0.6	0.4	0.3			
1-Year Steers	Bought				3										
	Sold														
	<b>Close</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>15</b>	
	Live Wt.(kg)	182	195	216	252	288	326	354	373	389	404	419	434	434	
	Gain (kg/d)	0.4	0.4	0.7	1.0	1.2	1.2	0.9	0.7	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	
Steer Calves 09	Bought											40			
	Sold														
	<b>Close</b>							<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>41</b>	
	Live Wt.(kg)							213	230	246	228	243	258	258	
	Gain (kg/d)							0.6	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	
<b>Supplements</b>	Swedes	tonnes	15	15	14									12	
	Silage (33%DM)	Big Bales	90	92											
	Silage (25%DM)	Big Bales										25	12	12	
	Palm Kernel	tonnes	10	5				3.7					3	3	
	Turnips	tonnes								12					
	Tama	tonnes						4	4	3	3	3	3	2	
	Pasja	tonnes								18					
<b>Summary</b>	<b>Supply</b>	Pasture	3	17	25	25	29	37	25	17	15	19	16	9	
		(kgDM/ha/d)	10	9	4				2	11	1	2	2	5	
		<b>Total</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>13</b>	
	<b>Demand</b>	(kgDM/ha/d)	Deer	17	17	16	18	16	20	15	13	11	11	12	13
		Sheep	3	4	5	6	6	11	7	5	3	3	3	3	
		Beef	3	3	3	4	4	5	3	2	2	3	3	3	
		<b>Total</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>20</b>	

- Cattle component maintained at around 60 head
- Palm kernel currently being fed to yearlings at 250kg/day
- Hinds and fawns on annual/plantain pasture
- Pasja/turnips to be fed in February/March

## DEWAR MARGINS ANALYSIS SUMMARY

	<u>2007/08</u>	<u>2008/09</u>	<u>2009/10</u>	<u>Average</u>
Purchase weight	55	53	56	55
Purchase \$/kg	\$3.70	\$3.71	\$4.61	\$4.01
% of sale schedule	56%	47%	71%	57%
Days to sale	270	285	257	271
Sale weight	51	50	51	51
Av LWG/day	140	134	142	138
Sale \$/kg	\$6.60	\$7.91	\$6.52	\$7.01
Intake/day	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3
Purchase price/hd	\$204	\$198	\$257	\$219
Sale Price/hd	338	\$397	\$331	\$355
Margin/hd	\$135	\$200	\$74	\$136
Feed Eaten	621	656	592	623
Return c/kgDM	21.7	30.5	12.5	21.9



- Margin varies from 12c to 30c per kilogram of drymatter eaten over last two years
- Average of 22c per kilogram of drymatter eaten over last three years
- This compares with a return of 12-14c/kgDM for breeding hinds

# DEWAR FARM MAP

