

Central Regions AP



Niven's Farm Details

- Location - Otaki, Horrowhenua
- Size - 76ha
- Rainfall – 1400mm
- Altitude – 160m
- Soils – Silt loams
- Operation – 75% Velvet, 25% Breeding
- Stock – 300 deer
- Supplements – Maize and Balage



Issues / Opportunities

Options / Solutions

Pasture Quality
Pasture Renovation

Seeds
Topping / mowing
Daily grazing

Cross to Grass
or through a crop

- plantain

- Determine best options for THIS farm - Tom Richardson
- Contractor to do small areas - Lucerne
- Summer safe pastures - clover & clover sown crop

Levee
not allowed
last part of year

↳ levels in drainage paddocks?

Soil Fertility

- soil tests done before 2 years ago - Cool fertility
- Ballance flag and to take soil tests

in the Ag. BS

12/11/14 drainage paddocks

Genetics

- all meeting in winter - site to have to land grazing
- Purchase birds for the winter - Get Yearlings from top whickers, not dud birds

stocking rate - could ↑ but low stress + animal health

Managing pasture: Bal. knowledge

Farm profitability

on financial analysis of production options
maintain options which maintain balance

Advice - see contract set up to do Ballance. See advice from soil test

Plan

Farm production goal 75% velvet, 25% version - 80 winds
- 100 velvet stags

Project

- Financial analysis of having option velvet vs version
- Call Ballance to come and do soil tests @ national budget
- Feasibility due to start pasture renovation - lowest growth rate paddock?

- Financial analysis of production options

- Paul Weeks for planting advice
- Yearling birds from velvet produces

- contact Tom Richardson for help with
Scoping and management

Issues/Opportunities

- Overstocking
- Pasture quality
- Genetics
- Financial Analysis of Systems



Changes

- Switch in system – 75%Velvet 25%Venison
- Invested in new stock
- Soil/Fert Consultant employed (Nutralink)
- New pastures in as part of a Regrassing programme
- Knowledge Development

Spread the AP Story

- Upskilling to increase productivity
- Increasing Industry Standards
- Attracting new talent
- Demonstrate confidence in the Industry