



# Gippsland Floods, Storm & wet Pastures Feeding options, availability and costs

26<sup>th</sup> July 2021

# Herd Rationalisation

- **Stock prices are very good at present so sell off any passengers or animals that you don't want at the end of the year**
- **Such as: any old cows, lame cows, not in calf, Pregnancy test the heifers and sell the empties, this give more feed for the productive cattle.**
- **If you have not already weaned the beef calves over 6 months of age it is worth the consideration.**
- **Store cattle prices a good so you may not have to finish cattle to have them marketable EYCI @ 1000C**

# Options for feed

- Put young stock out **on agistment** at \$7 per week plus GST and they eat 6 kg DM / day works out to be 18 cents per kg of dry matter
- **Leasing a farm** at \$200 per acre (\$500 per Hectare + GST) and it grows 5.5 tonne of dry matter per hectare also works out to be about 10 cents per Kg DM. (*Need to consider transport, fertiliser, maintenance and remote husbandry costs.*)
- **Pellets or grain @ \$450 / t works out to 47cents / kg DM**
- **Barley straw @ \$150 / t works out at 16 cents / kg DM**
- **Oaten Hay @ \$240 / t works out at 27 cents / kg DM**
- **Vetch Hay @ \$340 / t works out at 38 cents / kg DM**

## Freight costs

- The previous slide were prices delivered to Leongatha / Sale area.
- A semi trailer runs at \$5.00 per kilometre, 44 square bales max load 28 tonne
- B doubles run at \$6.60 per kilometre up to 62 bales max load 42 tonne
- Large square bale weights vary:
- Barley straw 500 kg
- Oaten hay 600 kg
- Vetch hay 700 kg

## Other considerations

- **Look for local hay if you can find it.**
- **Only consider pellets or grain if you have the facilities to handle and feed.**
- **A good resource for information is the Weekly Times hay and grain report.**
- **Check your local hay supplier for up to date prices & availability**
- **If you don't want a full load negotiate with a neighbour and you maybe able to spilt a load**



## **In winter:**

- **Reduce stock numbers**
- **Feed stock so they don't walk**
- **Select the dryer paddocks during wet weather**



# **In spring;**

- **Roll paddocks with paddock roller**
- **Put young stock back over damaged paddocks while still damp**
- **Allow a longer rotation on damaged paddocks**



# In Summer ;

- Allow damaged paddocks to set seed
- Feed hay back on damaged areas of the paddock
- Muggers in late summer





# In Autumn;

- Renovate badly damaged pastures
- Oversow damaged areas in patchy paddocks
- Have a set rotation to allow pastures to recover