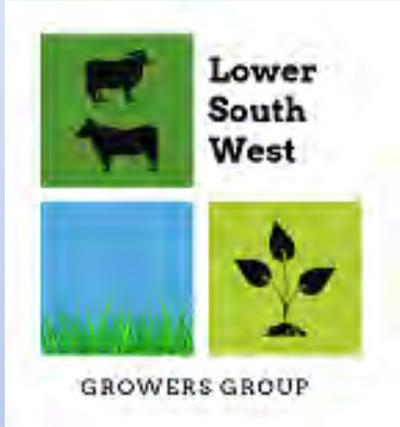




Lower Blackwood Catchment
Land Conservation District Committee



LOWER BLACKWOOD AUTUMN FEED GAP

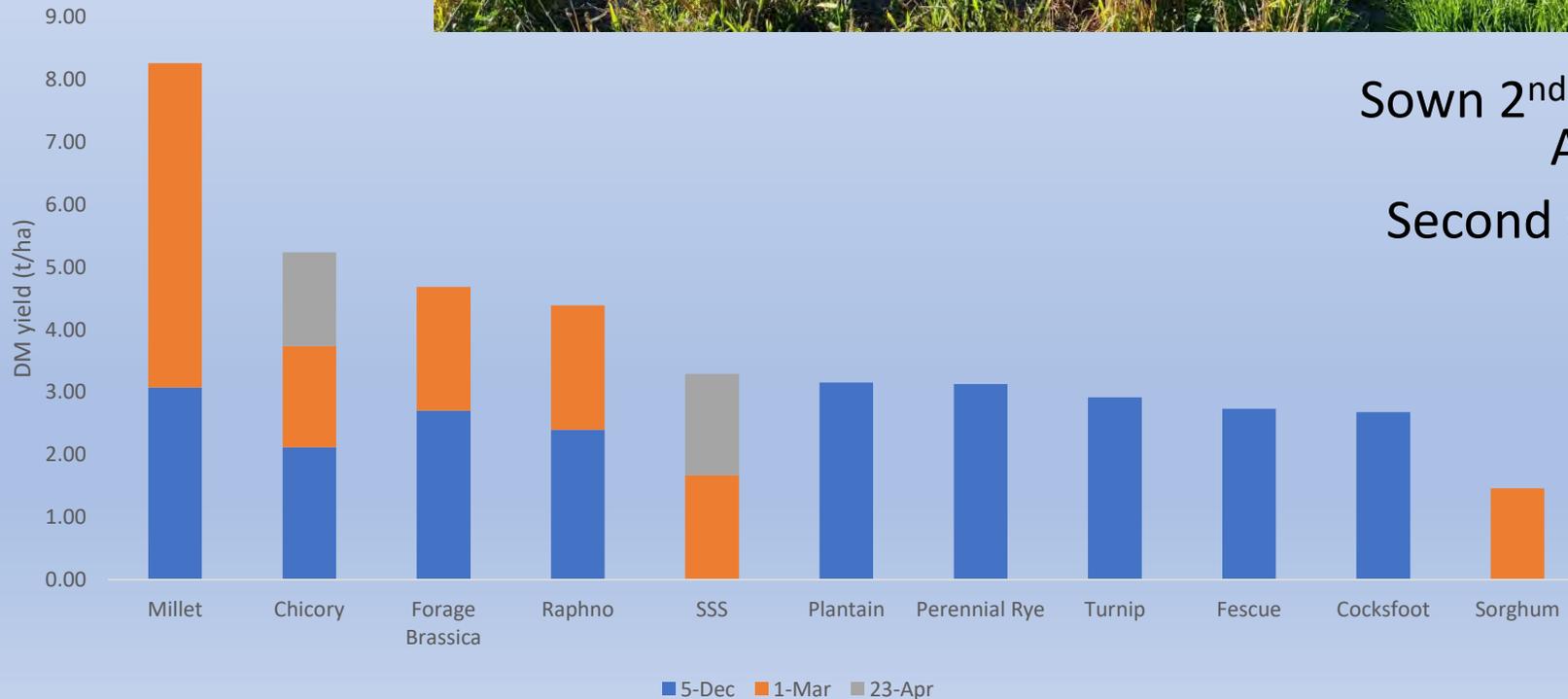


2020/21 Species Demonstration Strips

- Single strips of various species
- Take yield and quality cuts



2020/21 Demo Strips



Sown 2nd and 26th of October by Andrew McNab

Second site at Asher Cohen at Forest Grove

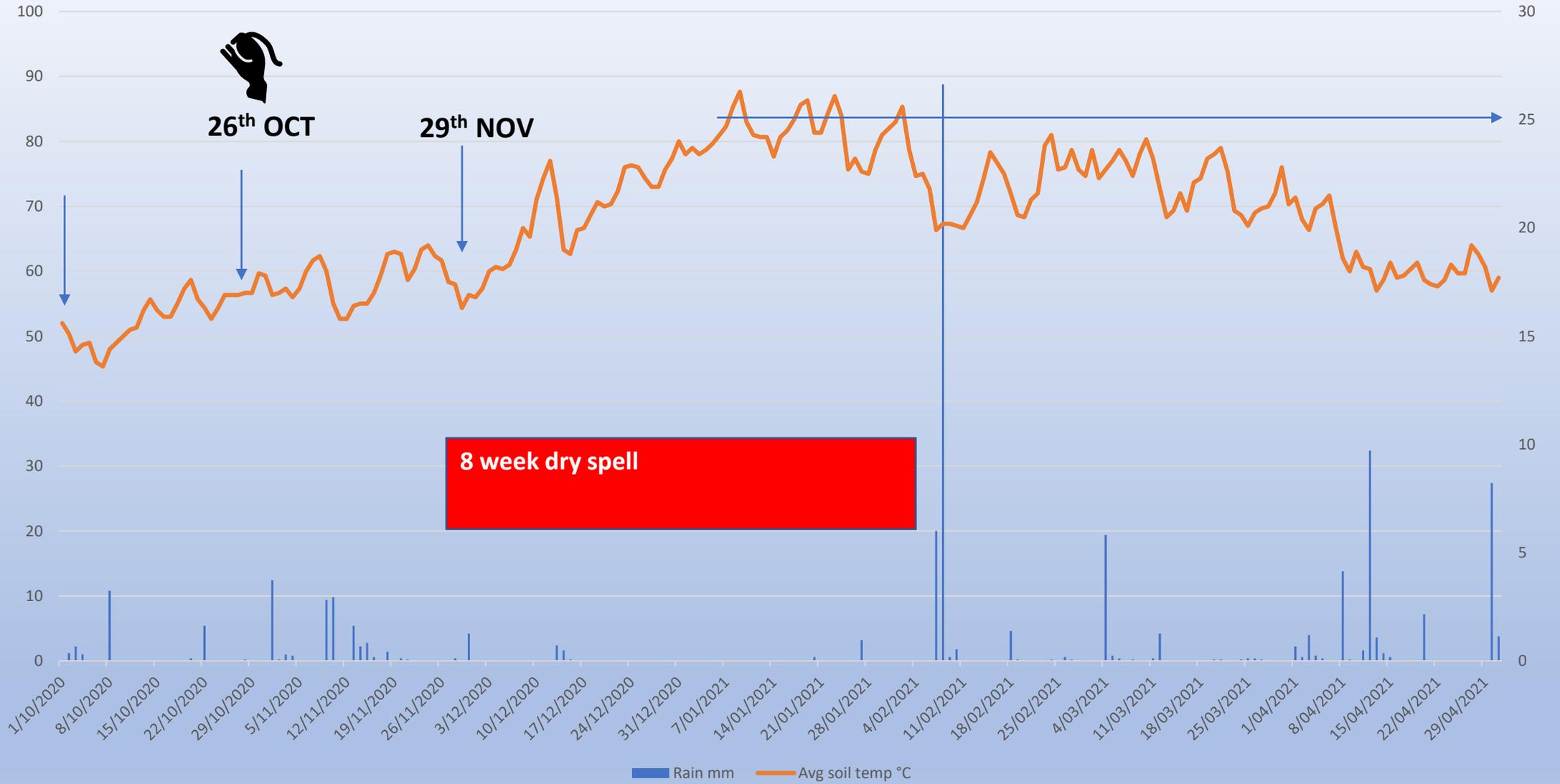
Cost/Benefit: Cost per tonne of Dry Matter

		Total Input Costs (\$/ha)			
		\$400	\$500	\$600	\$700
DM Yield (t/ha)	2	\$200	\$250	\$300	\$350
	4	\$100	\$125	\$150	\$175
	6	\$67	\$83	\$100	\$117
	8	\$50	\$63	\$75	\$88
	10	\$40	\$50	\$60	\$70

1st year learnings

- Cost effective feed can be grow off spring soil moisture
- Soil temp v moisture for seeding
- Diamond back moth on brassicas
- Species persistence under grazing pressure and a dry spell

2020/21 Karridale summer rain and average soil temp



ANDREW MCNAB – 1 MARCH 2021 SCOTT RIVER EAST



2021/22 Commercial Grazing Paddocks

- Plant species of choice
- Graze and monitor animal growth rates



Five commercial grazing demos 2021/22



2021/22 Karridale summer rain and average soil temperature



BEN SIEBER – 4ha MARGARET RIVER

Seed type and rate	5kg/ha Millet + 1.6kg/ha Raphno + 1.1kg/ha forage rape + 5kg/ha ryecorn
Sowing date	18 November
Cut yield (14 th FEB)	3.35t/ha
Feed Test ENERGY	9MJ/kg DM
Feed test PROTEIN	10.6%
Feed Test NDF	55%
Cattle growth rates	46 yearlings and dry heifers. 0.2kg/hd/day over 28 days in March

BEN SIEBER - MARGARET RIVER 10th March 2022



JEFF JOHN – 8ha KARRIDALE

6.25kg/ha Millet + 1.9kg/ha SSS + 2kg/ha red clover +
2kg/ha chickory + 2kg/ha buster radish
Too dry to seed – postponed to 2022/23



SIMON CREAGH – 5ha NILLUP

Seed type and rate	12kg/ha Millet (50% germ) + 2kg/ha SSS + 2kg/ha forage rape + 2kg/ha red clover
Sowing date	2 nd December
Cut yield (19 th JAN)	0.48t/ha (ave) – 1.2t/ha (good)
Feed Test ENERGY	9.5MJ/kg DM
Feed test PROTEIN	16.6%
Feed Test NDF	57%
Cattle growth rates	17 yearlings. 0.8kg/hd/day over 30 days mid Feb to mid March

Planned paddock too dry to sow, moved to wet area of different paddock

SIMON CREAGH – NILLUP 19th JAN 2022



ANDREW MCNAB – 10ha SCOTT RIVER EAST

Seed type and rate	4kg/ha millet + 4kg/ha SSS or 4kg/ha sorghum
Sowing date	13 th November
Cut yield (19 th JAN)	0.3t/ha
Feed Test ENERGY	9.3MJ/kg DM
Feed test PROTEIN	16.6%
Feed Test NDF	57%
Cattle growth rates	63 mixed weaners. 0.9kg/ha/day on Silage in Jan. Went backwards on millet would not eat silage provided. Removed after 2 weeks and back on silage only.

ANDREW MCNAB – SCOTT RIVER EAST

19th Jan 2022 v 1 March 2021



DARYL AVERY – 55ha SCOTT RIVER EAST

Seed type and rate	3kg/ha millet + 3kg/ha forage sorghum
Sowing date	Mid November to Mid December
Cut yield (19 th JAN)	2.3t/ha
Feed Test ENERGY	9.2MJ/kg DM
Feed test PROTEIN	17.5%
Feed Test NDF	59%
Cattle growth rates	10 weaners tagged in mob. 1.26kg/ha/day over 70 days in 3 grazings 27/1 – 7/4. Fed hay also.

DARYL AVERY – SCOTT RIVER EAST 19th JAN 2022



COST OF PRODUCTION AND PROFITABILITY

Operation	Ben	Jeff	Simon	Daryl	Andrew
Spray	\$25	\$25	\$25	\$25	
Mouldboard				\$100	
Cultivate	\$20			\$40	\$40
Level				\$10	\$10
Drill	\$15		\$15	\$15	\$15
Seed cost	\$97		\$124	\$45	\$66
Fertiliser				\$225	
TOTAL (\$/ha)	\$157	\$25	\$164	\$460	\$91

Cattle production	Ben	Jeff	Simon	Daryl	Andrew
Kg/hd/day	0.2	0	0.8	1.26	0
\$/ha @\$6/kg lwt	\$332	0	\$596	???	0
Profit/loss \$/ha	\$175	-\$25	\$432	???	-\$91

Cost/Benefit: Cost per tonne of Dry Matter

		Total Input Costs (\$/ha)			
		\$150	\$300	\$450	\$600
DM Yield (t/ha)	2	\$75	\$150	\$225	\$300
	4	\$38	\$75	\$113	\$150
	6	\$25	\$50	\$75	\$100
	8	\$19	\$38	\$56	\$75
	10	\$15	\$30	\$45	\$60

2nd year learnings

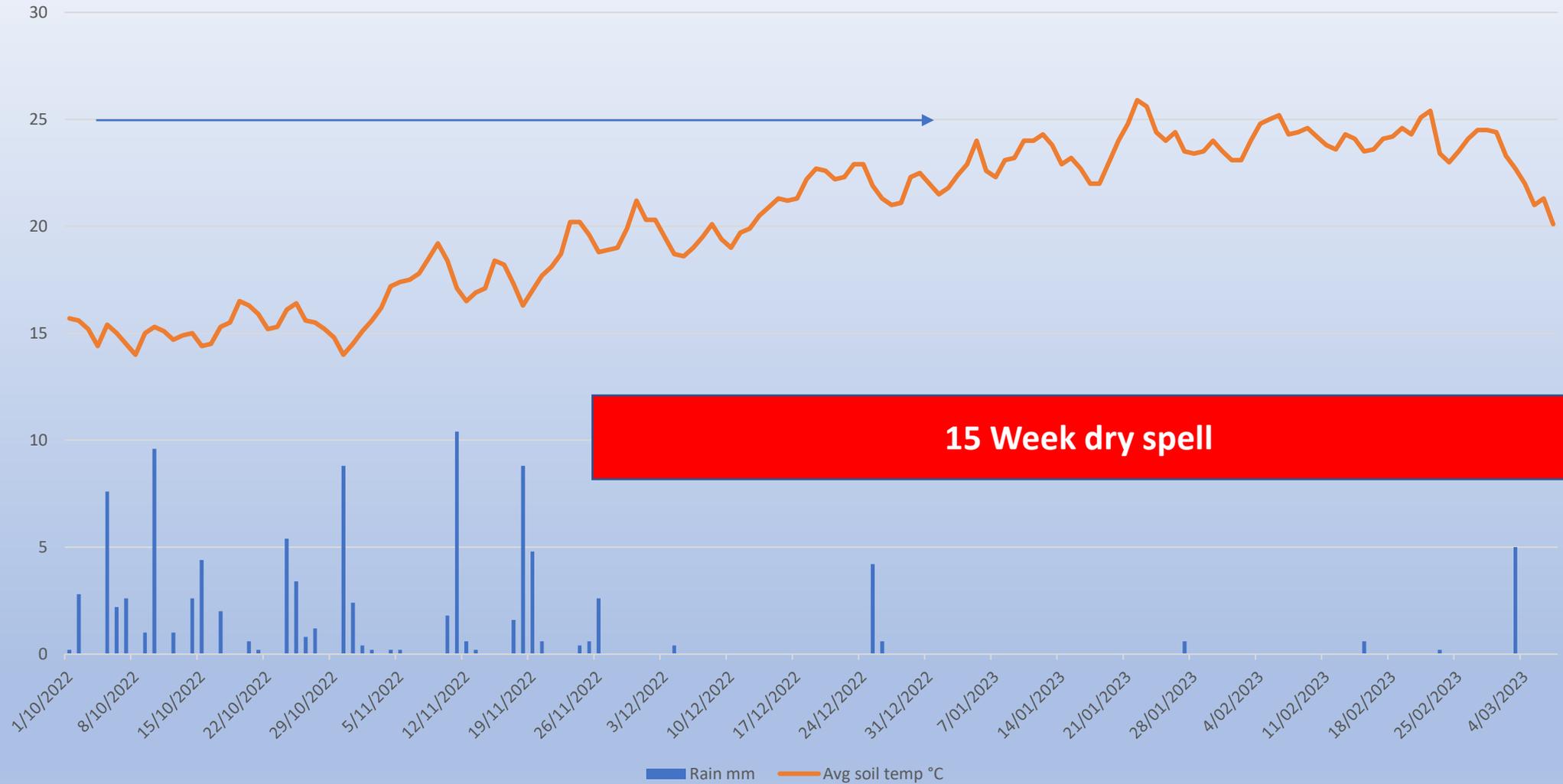
- In a very dry warm summer profitability was variable.
- Summer fodder species can be opportunistic or grown for the benefit of the following winter pasture production.
- Timing important to get the crop up and able access spring moisture as profile dries. Follow-up rains are needed to get big crops.
- Silage can put weight on animals at similar growth rates

2022/23 Commercial Grazing Paddocks

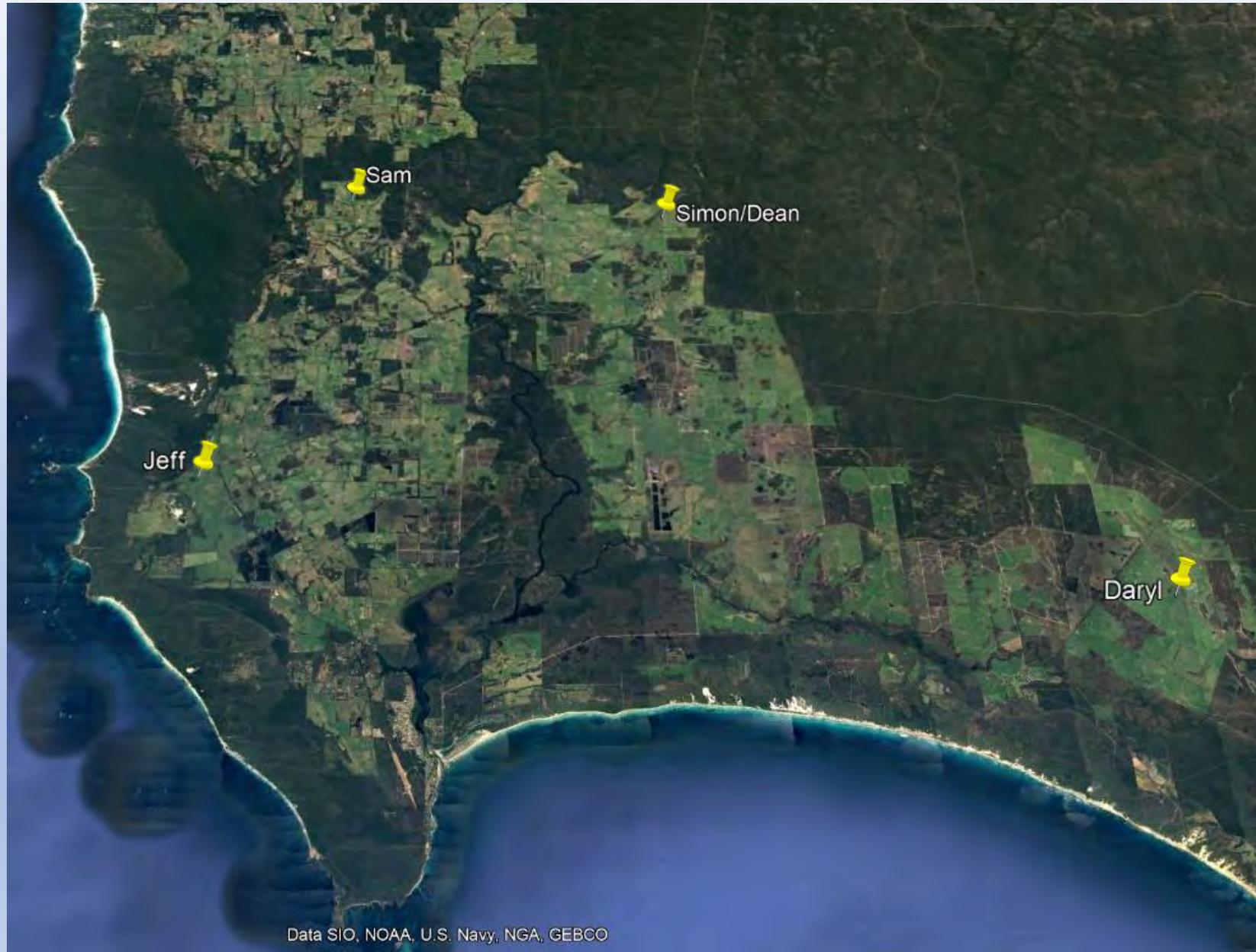
- Returning and new farmers
- Graze and monitor animal growth rates



2022/23 Karridale rain and average soil temp



2022/23



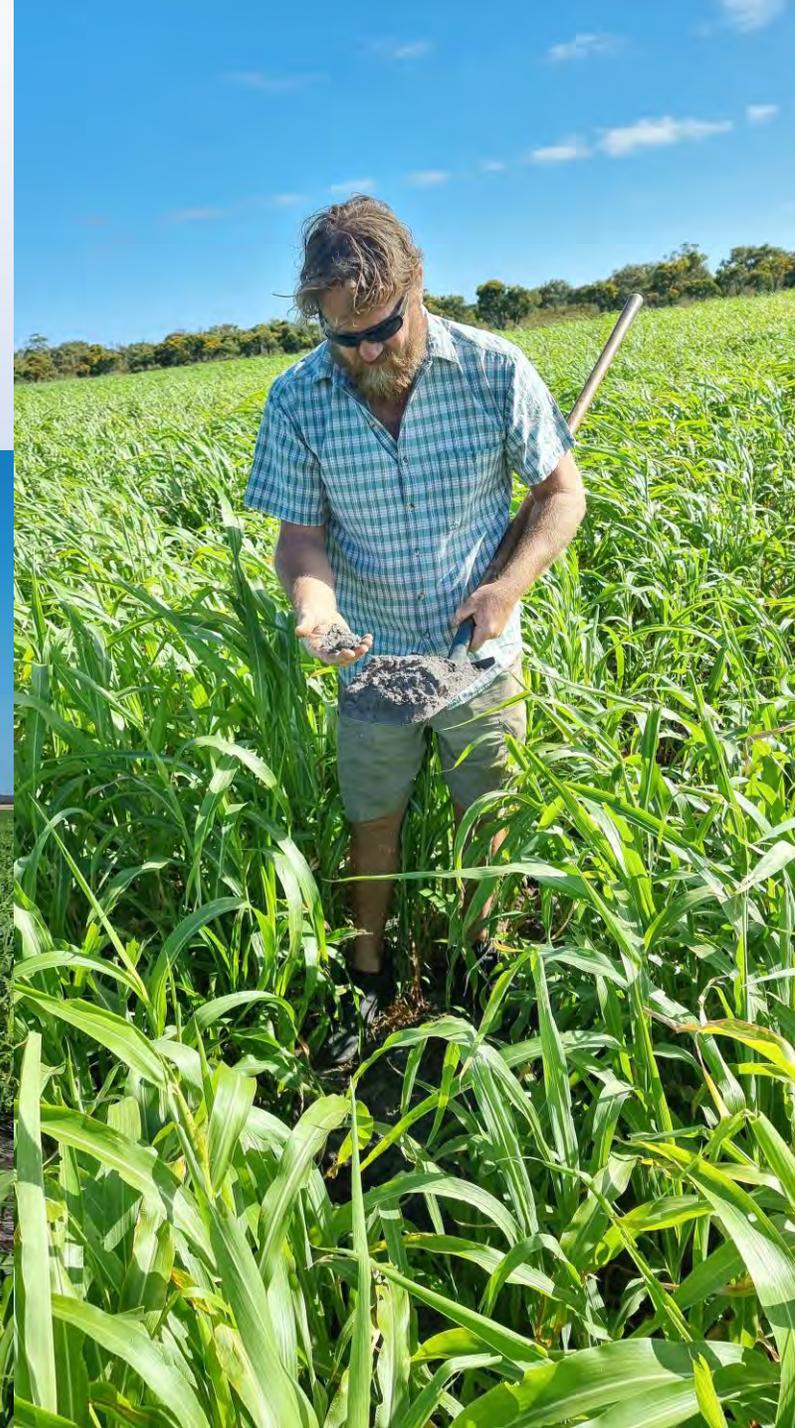
Sam Weightman Forest Grove

25th Jan cut:
1t/ha; 10MJ/kg; 11.2% protein



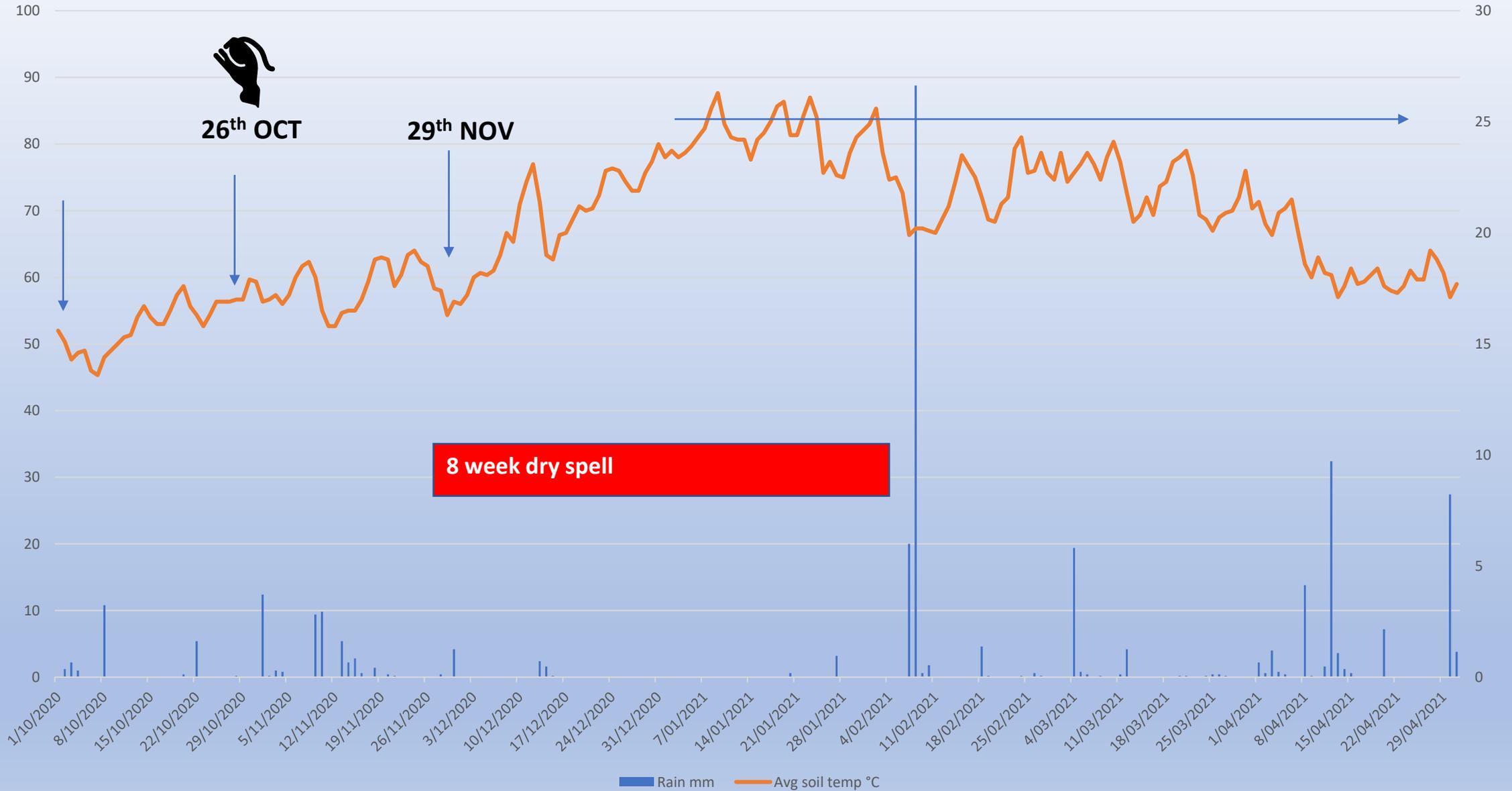
Daryl Avery 25th Jan 2023

	Yield (t/ha)	Energy (MJ/kg)	Protein (%)
Site 1	4.7	8.9	8.4
Site 2	4.25	9.4	15.5





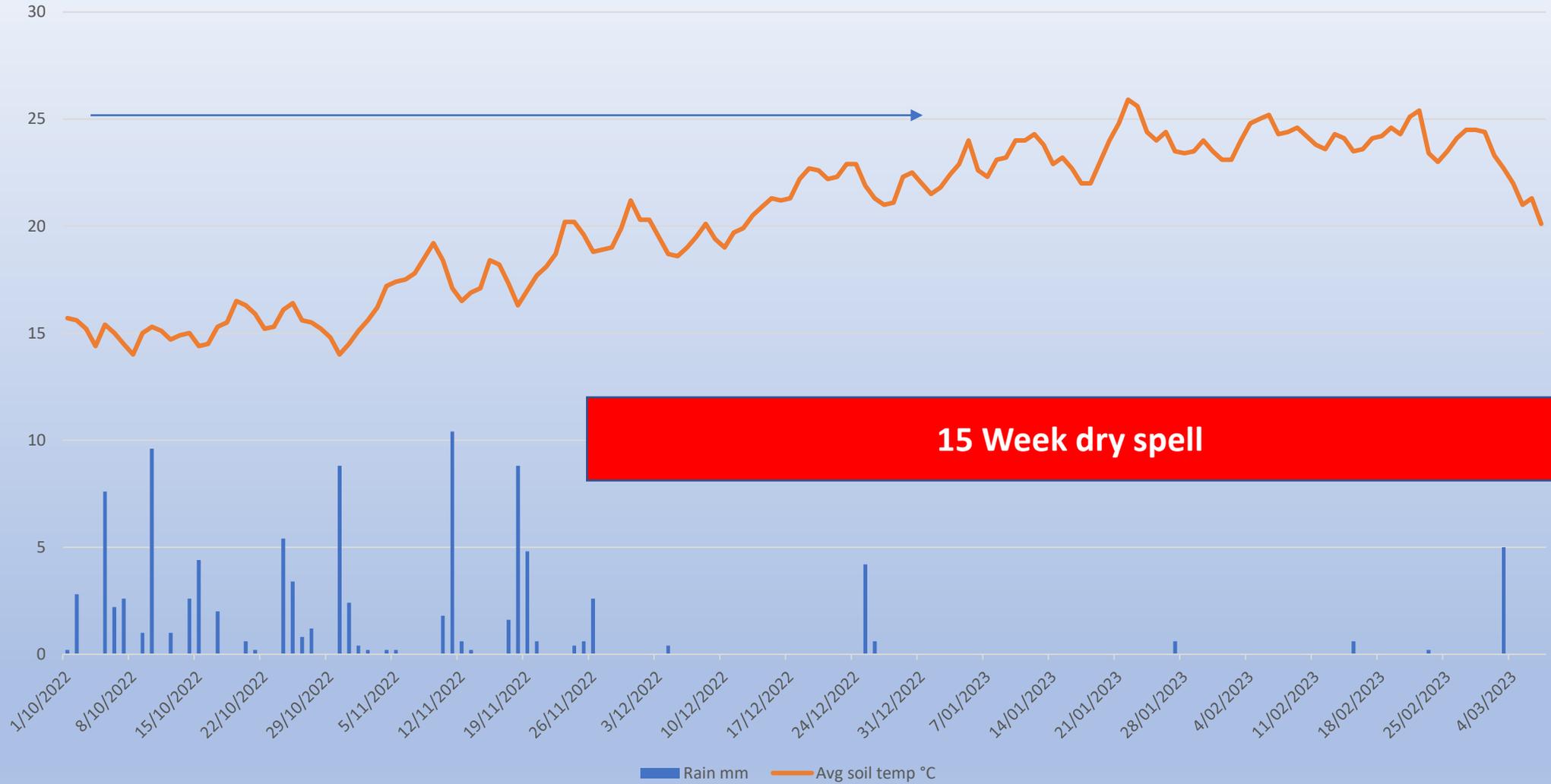
2020/21 Karridale summer rain and average soil temp



2021/22 Karridale summer rain and average soil temperature



2022/23 Karridale rain and average soil temp

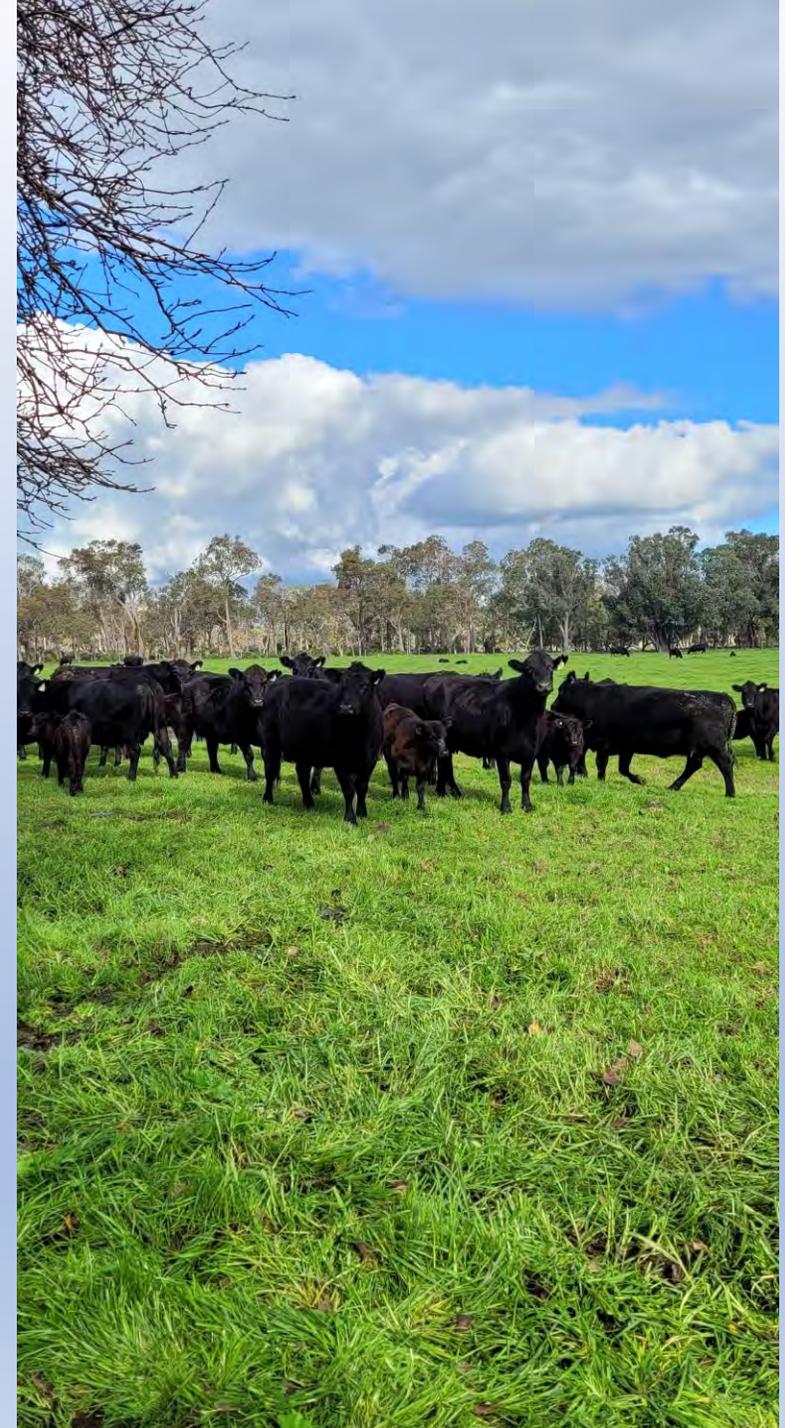


Chance of summer rain? 10 years @ Karridale

Summer	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
13/14	60.4	45.6	4.8	5.6	2	27.8
14/15	35	55.6	4.6	0.4	15.8	54.2
15/16	49.2	10.6	16	81.8	10.4	10.6
16/17	91.8	14.2	33	3.6	21.2	88.4
17/18	68.6	37	45.8	20.8	8.8	21.4
18/19	67.4	23.6	27.6	54.6	2.8	19.6
19/20	78.6	13.4	17	14	22.4	50
20/21	21.2	51.2	4.2	3.8	117	27
21/22	101.2	14.2	8.2	2.4	16	35.4
22/23	58.8	33.4	5.2	0.6	0.8	17.6
Average	63.22	29.88	16.64	18.76	21.72	33.94

2020 – 2023

- Use summer crops to prepare paddocks for winter renovation
- Manage risk by conserving spring moisture
- Good yields can be achieved in dry summers
- Summer rain needed to get crop through to autumn







Lower Blackwood Catchment
Land Conservation District Committee



THANK YOU



GROWERS GROUP

