



Southland

Breeding – Finishing
Farmers Learning from Farmers



Why? – Challenges Faced by the Group

- Wintering In Southland – Cost and drives spring opportunities
- Multiple farms - highly stocked



Fodder Beet

- Richard Greer and Richard Cook 1st users
 - 20-26tDM/ha
 - Greer -Improved weaner performance – 60days
 - Cost ~10c/kgDM
 - Same Cost as Brassica/kgDM
 - Double yield / Half area
 - More grass
- Farmers now growing Fodder beet
 - Bruce Allan – 25-28TDM/ha, Dave Nind, Des Ford, Robert Legg



Matching Feed Supply with Demand

- Richard Cook was 22SU/ha
 - Costs - Baleage, Nitrogen, PKE Spring pasture damage
 - Bought land and Leased land – No feed shortage now- tough growing year
- Bruce Allan
 - Was 75ha – 200breeding hinds 120 Velvet Stags
 - Tight spring – difficult fawning
 - Now 300 Velvet stags and 120 hinds – better fit
 - Supported by good fodder beet
- Robert Legg
 - Reduced 350hinds to 250 hinds
 - Fence pokers gone
 - 2kgCW/head above previous year
 - 4 months ahead
 - All killed by Jan rather than April



Conclusion -FFs

- Fodder Beet – working well
- Feed S Supply Matching – Big gains multiple members

