

The background features abstract, overlapping green geometric shapes, primarily triangles and polygons, in various shades of green, creating a modern and dynamic visual effect.

Wairarapa Advance Party Story

Background Information

- ▶ Wairarapa is summer dry.
- ▶ Hill country pasture becomes unreliable in most summers and autumns.
- ▶ A desire to be able to feed stock well all year.
- ▶ This farm only has 2 paddocks flat enough to cultivate by tractor.

The process of deciding on change.

- ▶ The decision was made to trial a "spray and pray" pasture renewal operation on a 12 Ha steep north facing paddock.
- ▶ This decision was made just before the Wairarapa AP was formed.
- ▶ At the first off farm meeting of our group a common issue amongst all members was identified as a need to have tools to manage summer dry and maintain feed quality into late summer.
- ▶ The timing of the decision to make this change was ideal for the group to be involved with its progress.

What was done

- ▶ 20 Jul 15 to 20 Aug 15 Strip graze beef cows through this paddock.
- ▶ 29 Sep 15 Spray out pasture by helicopter.
- ▶ 20 Oct 15 Plantain, chicory, white and sub clover sown by helicopter.
- ▶ 11 Nov 15 Urea applied by helicopter.
- ▶ 26 Nov 15 Advance Party meeting at the Moody's farm. Points to come from the day:
 - Strike was patchy but acceptable.
 - Spray out wasn't good as plenty of grass still present.
 - There are no sheep on the farm. Suggested that in the future, borrowing a mob from a neighbour to tread in seed may help.

Total cost was \$582 per Ha



The Outcome

Subsequent AP meeting updates

- ▶ 4 Feb 16 Paddock performing well. Ridges and high areas well grazed by Deer but gullies and lower areas are harder to control.
- ▶ 24 Mar 16 This paddock has rebounded well after some rain and yearling Deer have done well on it.
- ▶ 5 May 16 This paddock is still the best on the farm.



