# Farm systems to enhance profit and protect the environment

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## Financially-robust dairy businesses

#### **Key Attributes**

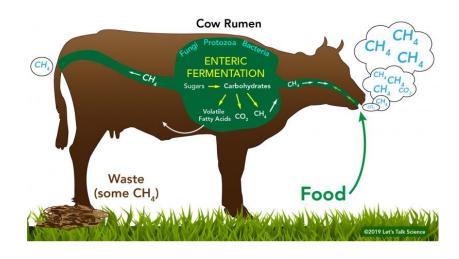
- High pasture harvest
- Effective cost control
  - Low reliance on supplementary feed
- Disciplined use of capital

Neal and Roche (2020)



# What has changed?



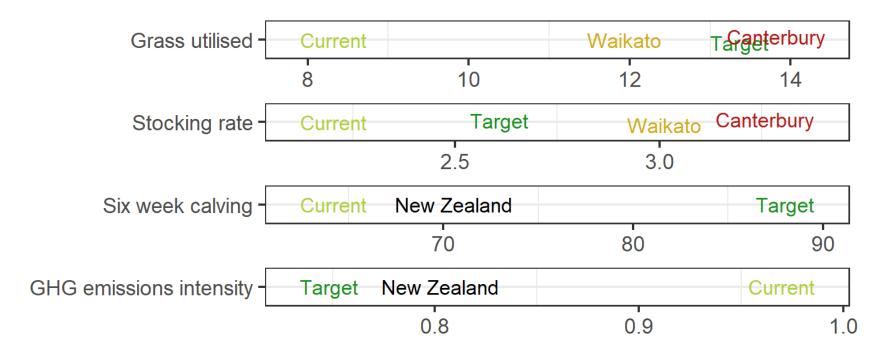


### NZ vs Ireland



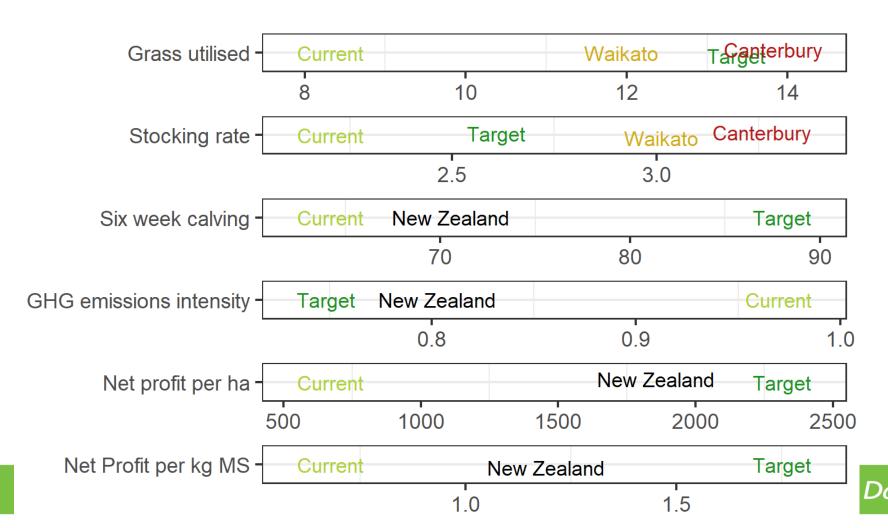


#### NZ vs Ireland





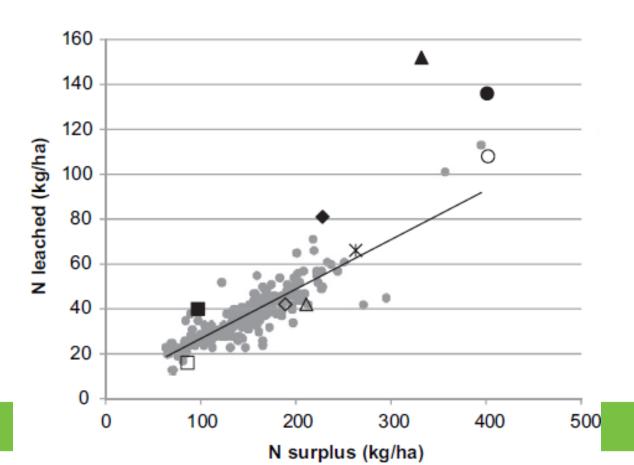
#### NZ vs Ireland



## Know your numbers

- "Step Change" Regional Events
- Get familiar with key numbers
  - Profit
  - N Surplus
  - Feed eaten -> Methane (CH4)
- Discuss and Consider actions

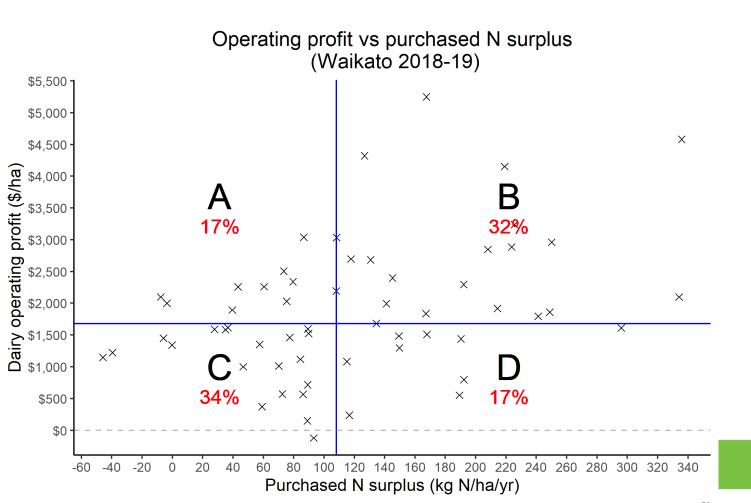
# N loss to water, related to N surplus



Beukes et al. (2014)

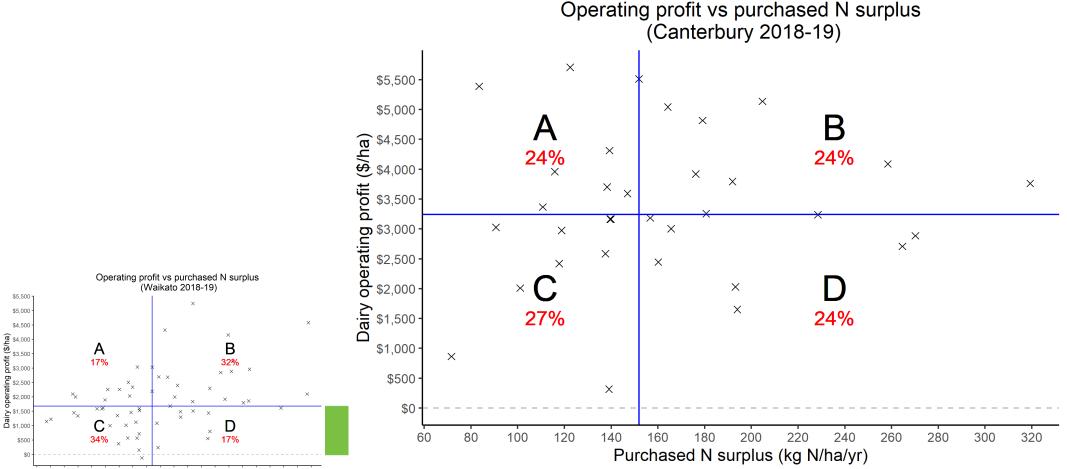


## Opportunities: N surplus and profit



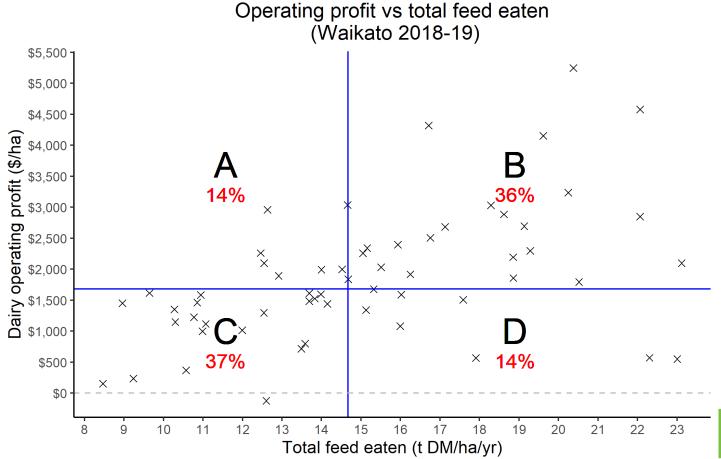


## Opportunities: N surplus and profit



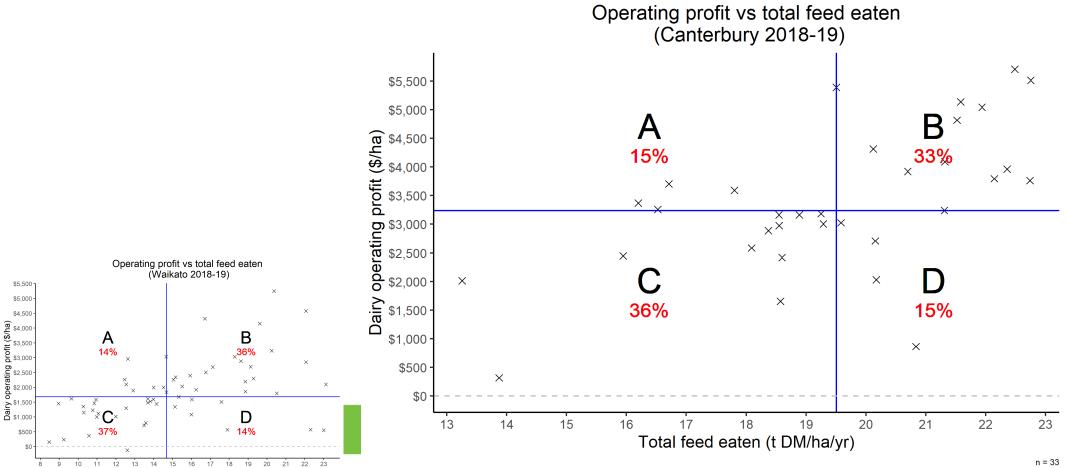
# **N** Mitigations

# Opportunities: Feed eaten (Methane) and profit





# Opportunities: Feed eaten (Methane) and profit



# **CH4 Mitigations**

# Customer demand reflected in processor schemes

- \$0.10; Environment, Animals, People, and Co-op & Prosperity + Milk quality Excellence
- Environment, 3 out of 4
  - Purchased N Surplus < 138 kg/ha</li>
  - 80% farm grown feed

#### Research

- Not starting from scratch...
- National + International collaborations
- Adapting emerging solutions
  - E.g. On farm delivery of inhibitors, Early life interventions



# The most efficient grass producer...



# The most efficient grass producer...



#### Just beat the TMR and Alternatives?



#### Conclusions

- Basics of financially robust businesses haven't changed
- Know your numbers
- Think about your options
- Keep up with the science-backed mitigations
  - More options should be coming