

Trial #	10
Location	Balclutha
Province	South Otago
Farm Type	Beef and Sheep
Product Trial	FPF v/s Granular
Date	1996 – 1998

Introduction: The fertilisers were compared by assessing the differences in dry matter produced. The site was chosen to allow comparison with another Southland site (Carterhope Estate) and to have relevance to the dairy industry. Fertiliser was applied on 16 April 1996 to 4m x 4m plots. There were 3 replications. Soil tests were taken prior to the trial. Southfert recommended 2.5T/ha AgLime & 375kg/ha of 15% Potash Super. Soil Testing Services recommended the following FPF mix:

DAP	50%	Limeflour	20%
Elemental Sulphur	20%	Trace Element mix at 2.5kg/ha	
Sulphate of Potash	10%	Cobalt Sulphate at 25grams/ha	

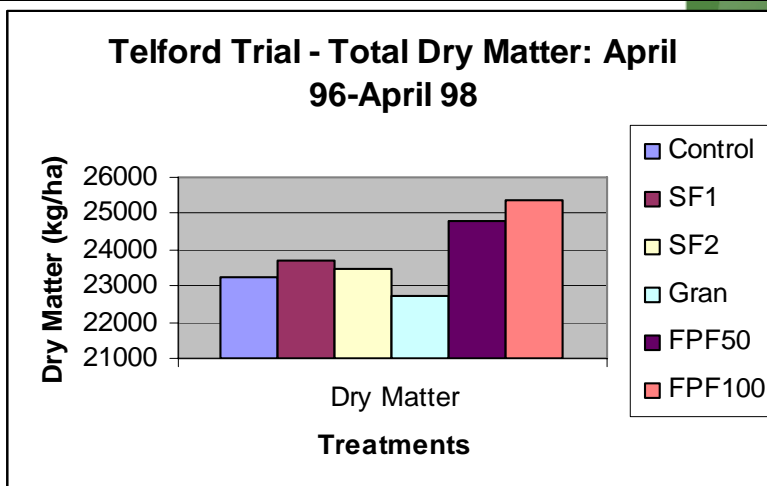
Treatments:

	Rate	Details	Cost (/Ha applied)
1. Control	Nil	Nil	
2. SF1	250kg/ha	15% Potash Super	\$51.70
3. SF2	500kg/ha	15% Potash Super	\$98.85
4. Gran	250kg/ha	Unground FPF mix	\$129.00
5. FPF 50	50kg/ha	As above	\$65.72
6. FPF 100	100kg/ha	As above	\$108.14

Results:

Total Dry Matter Production (kg/ha) April 96-April 98			
Treatment	Dry Matter	Extra DM (%)	Cost
Control	23234	0	0c
SF1	23716	2	11c
SF2	23490	1.1	39c
Gran	22707	0	Nil
FPF50	24793	6.7	5c
FPF100	25367	9.1	5c

Extra DM - percentage increase in dry matter compared to Control
Cost - cents/extra kg of dry matter grown over Control



The FPF treatments grew the most dry matter. The granular treatment, which comprised the same materials, demonstrated the importance of applying this fertiliser in fine particle form and using a suspension.

The cost differences re growing the extra dry matter above the control were also significant. Extra kg's of dry matter were grown at less than half the price of using 15% Potash Superphosphate.