



P2P

Advance Party

Nind Deer

Northern Southland

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Southland Next Gen AP Regional Workshop 2018

Nind deer – farm background

- ▶ Integrated farming operation deer, sheep, beef and arable spread over four Northern Southland farms
- ▶ 1025ha deer fenced with mix of extensive (Remarkables and most of East Dome) and intensive 125ha Bixter Road
- ▶ Stocking Rate deer fenced area East Dome and Bixter Road 12.6 SU/ha (deer only)



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Nind deer – farm background

- ▶ Deer operation breeding and finishing
- ▶ Venison focus
- ▶ Hind herd (Eastern Red type) 800 MA + 100 1st Calvers
- ▶ East Dome herd mated Red stags
- ▶ Remarkables herd mated 50%Red: 50% Wapiti



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Nind Deer East Dome – breeding KPI's

- ▶ Scanning MA hinds 98% + (sample scan 260)
- ▶ Scanning 1st Calvers 94%
- ▶ Weaning – fawns weaned/hinds mated
MA hinds 92%



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Nind Deer/ Bixter Road – finishing KPI's

- ▶ Finish 1750 R1 deer
- ▶ Average kill date 15th December
- ▶ Average carcass weight 54kg stags and 50kg hinds



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Nind Deer/Bixter Road – Project Outline

Finishing deer routinely treated with Copper pre-winter
Is it worth it?

- ▶ Optigrow liver Cu on cull hinds and early finishers low
- ▶ No clinical indication of Cu deficiency
- ▶ Trial run in 2018
- ▶ Mob of 600 weaners 50% injected Cu and 50% not treated.
Both mobs wintered on fodder beet with lucerne balage



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Nind Deer/Bixter Road – Project Result

	Number	Weigh 1 st May	Treat Date	Weigh 22 Sept	Grams per day
Control	300	65kg		79.6kg	101
1ml CopperGuard	300	65kg	15 th May	85.2kg	140



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Nind Deer/Bixter Road - Project Discussion

- ▶ In the 144 days between weighings the Copper injected weaners grew 40grams/day faster
- ▶ Copper injected group were 5.6kg heavier
- ▶ Copper injected group “looked better” and shed coat sooner
- ▶ Cost benefit:-
Drug cost = \$1
Return = \$34
(5.6kg liveweight = 3.1kg Carcass weight @ \$11/kg = \$34)
- ▶ **Positive growth rate benefit is the exception not the rule**



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