



**Its Just an
Electric
Fence !!!**

Michael Shannon

Michael Shannon

- Worked for 20 years plus in the Wholesale seed trade
- Bought the farm in January 1996
- Part time farming up to January 2008
- Farm has fluctuated in size up to 400 acres

Thankerton Camp Farm

- **213 acres Semi Arable Ground**
- **Finishing Bought in Cattle – All Native Breed**
- **100 % Forage based – no hard feeding**
- **Winter – Kale/Swift/Fodder Beet/Swedes with Silage**
- **300 Ewes – All lambs finished**
- **Selling our own meat through our shop and online - www.damndelicious.co.uk**
- **Surplus sold deadweight**





Money

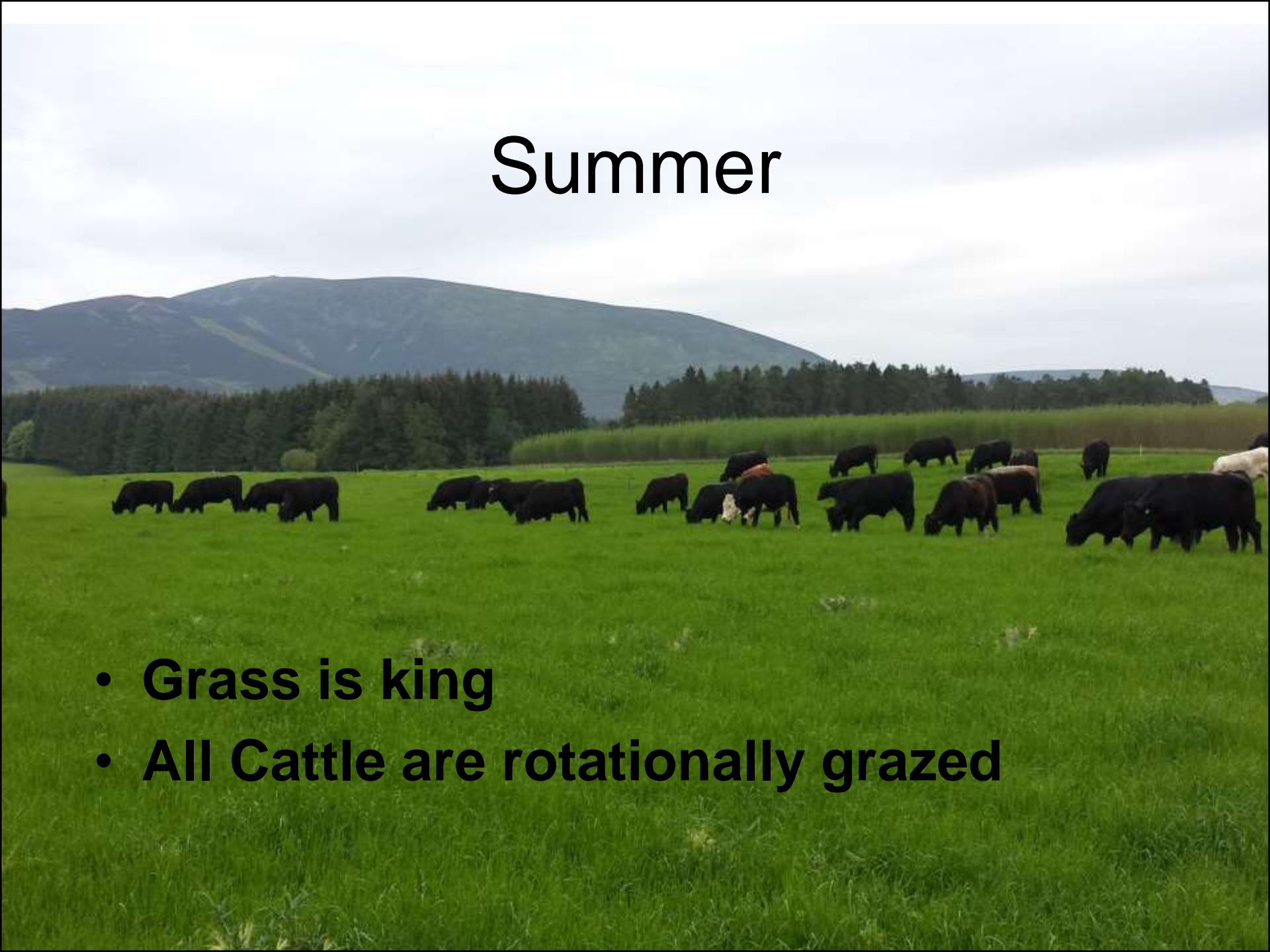
££££££

Rotation

- Year One Swedes, Fodder Beet, Silage then Swift of Kale
- Year Two Whole crop Undersown – Diploids only with Red Clover
- Year Three Grazed with sheep
- Year Four, Five, Six, Seven Grazed with Cattle

Summer

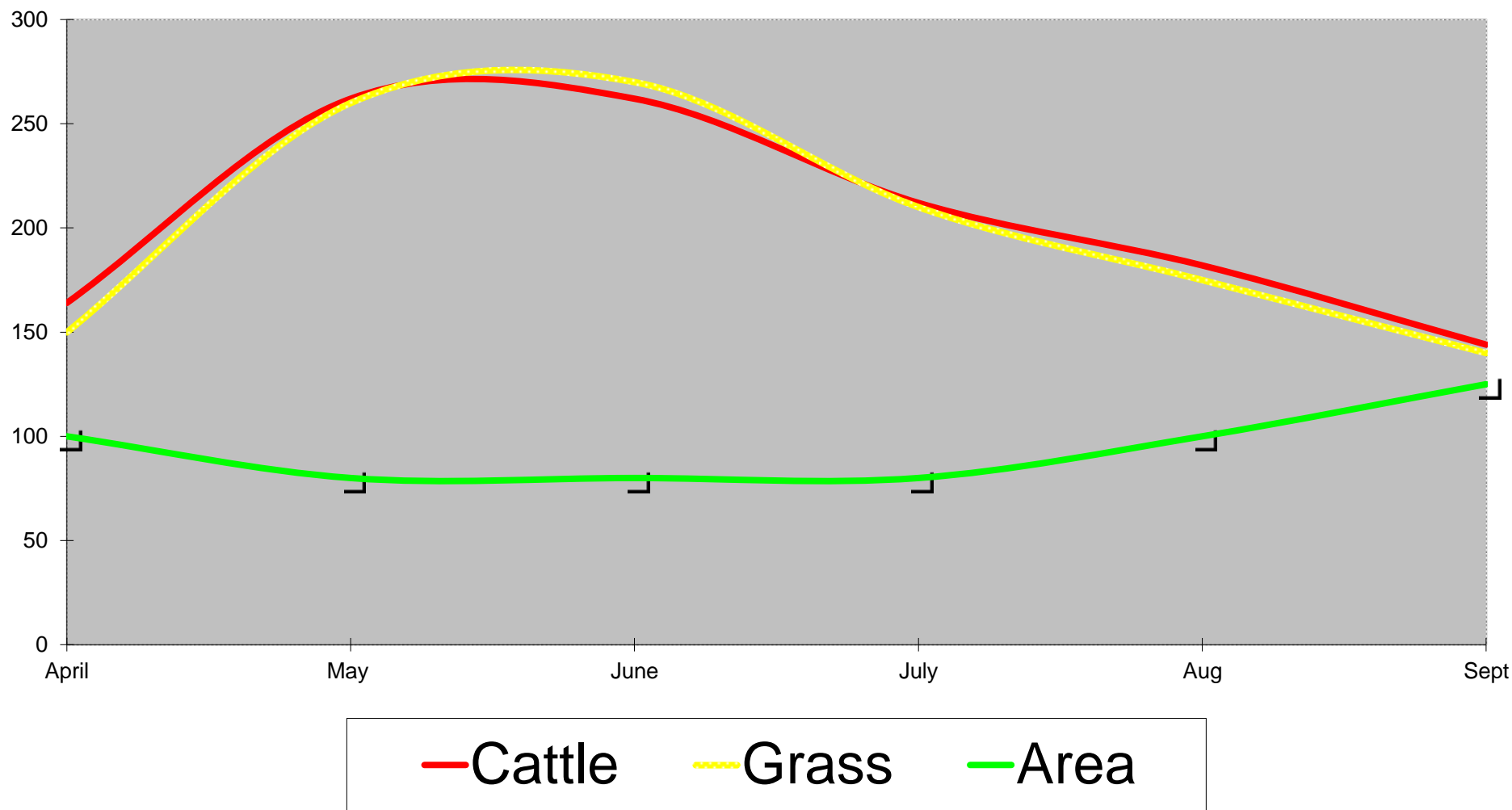
- **Grass is king**
- **All Cattle are rotationally grazed**



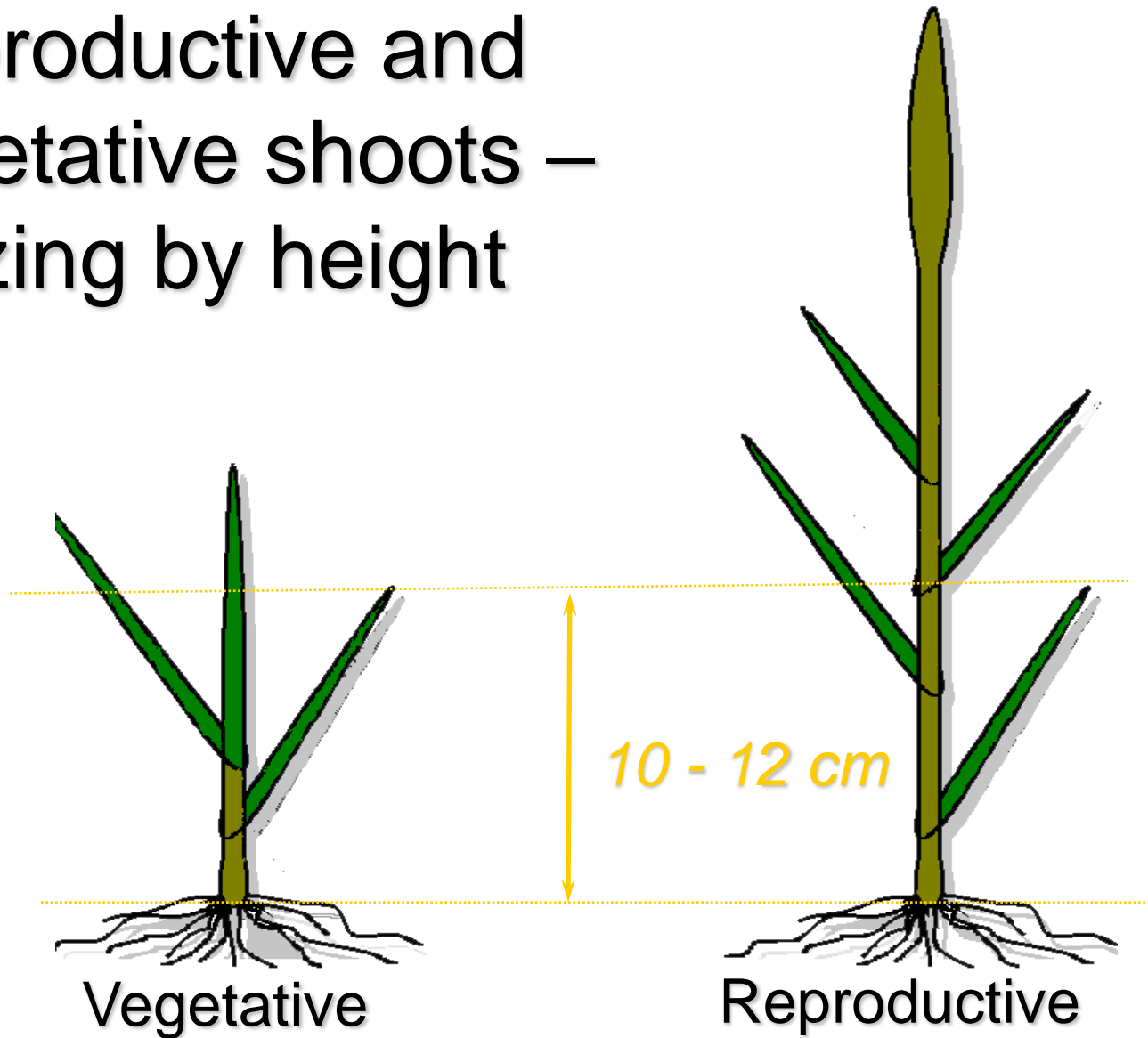
Cattle Grazing

- **Cattle are grouped by size**
- **Target Live weight per acre 1200 kilos
spring dropping to 1000/800 kilos**
- **Aiming for DLWG of 1.50 at grass**
- **Summer stocking rate Av 2.11/acre**

Grazing Target – Following the grass !!



Reproductive and vegetative shoots – grazing by height



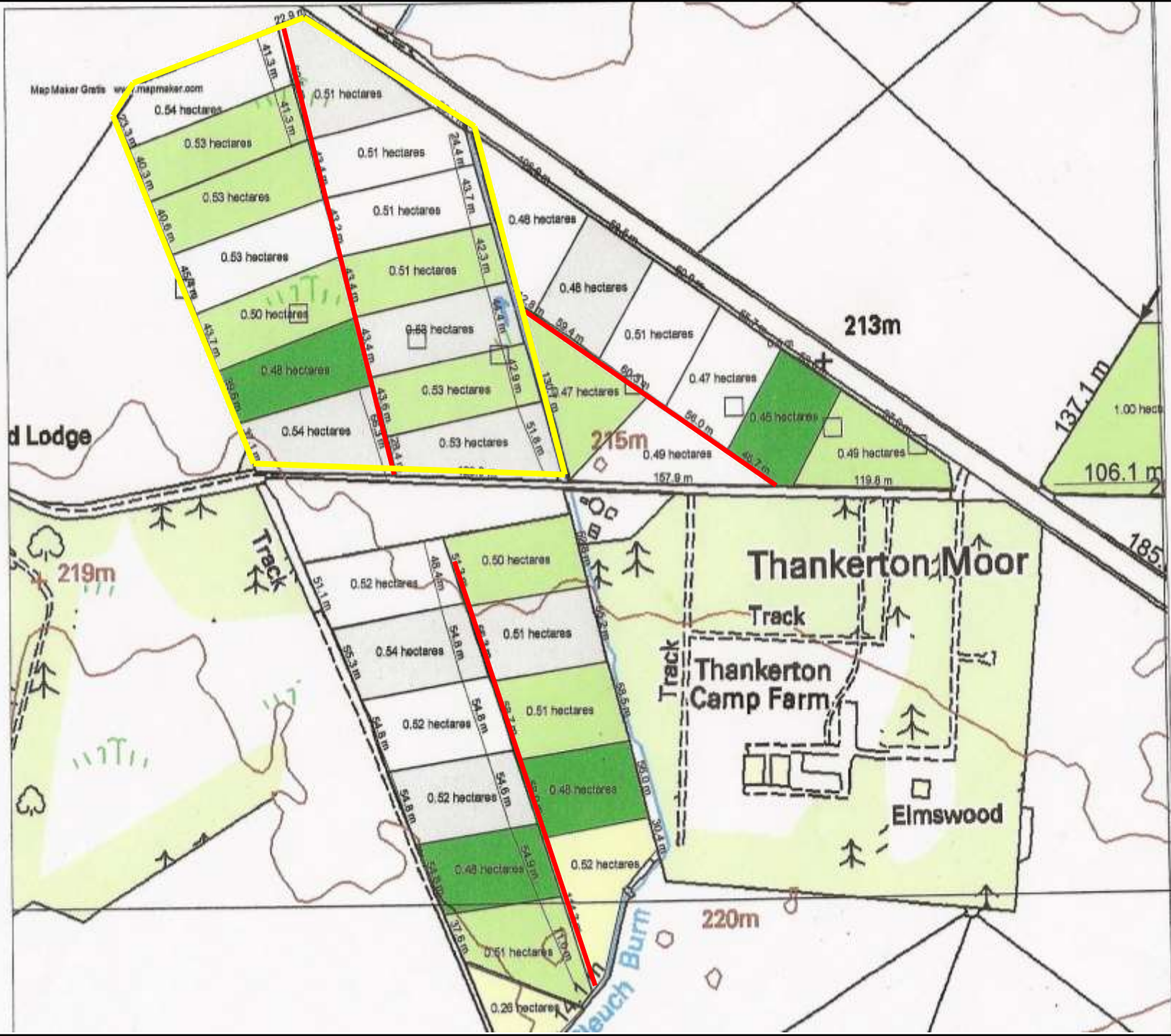


Rotational Length/Grazing Interval

- Spring Summer 18- 21 days
Graze down to 3 cm
- Mid summer 24 – 28 days
Graze down to 6cm
- Autumn 30 – 40 days
Graze bare on final round



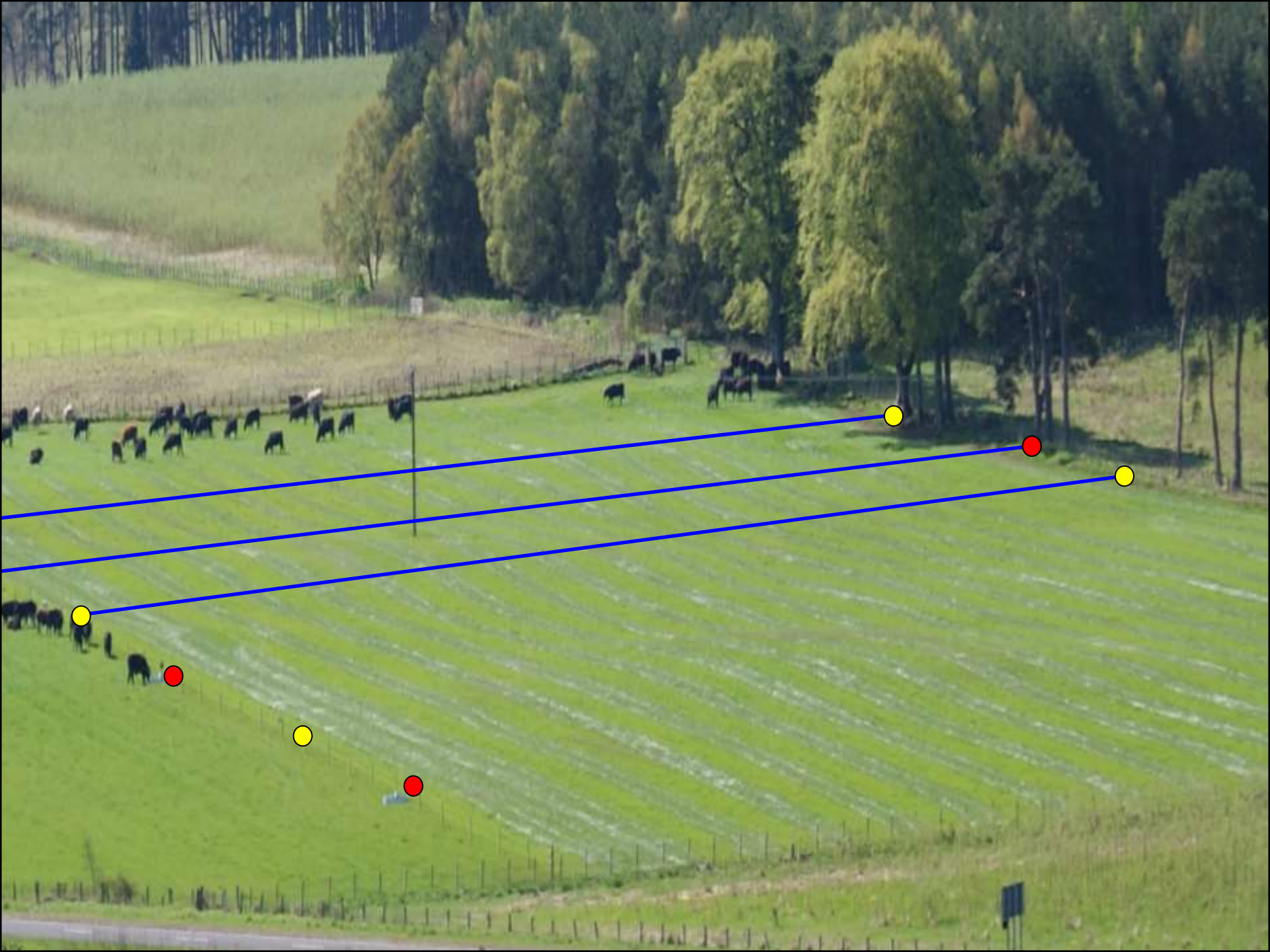












Cost - 29p per day
Includes 10p per day reseeding cost

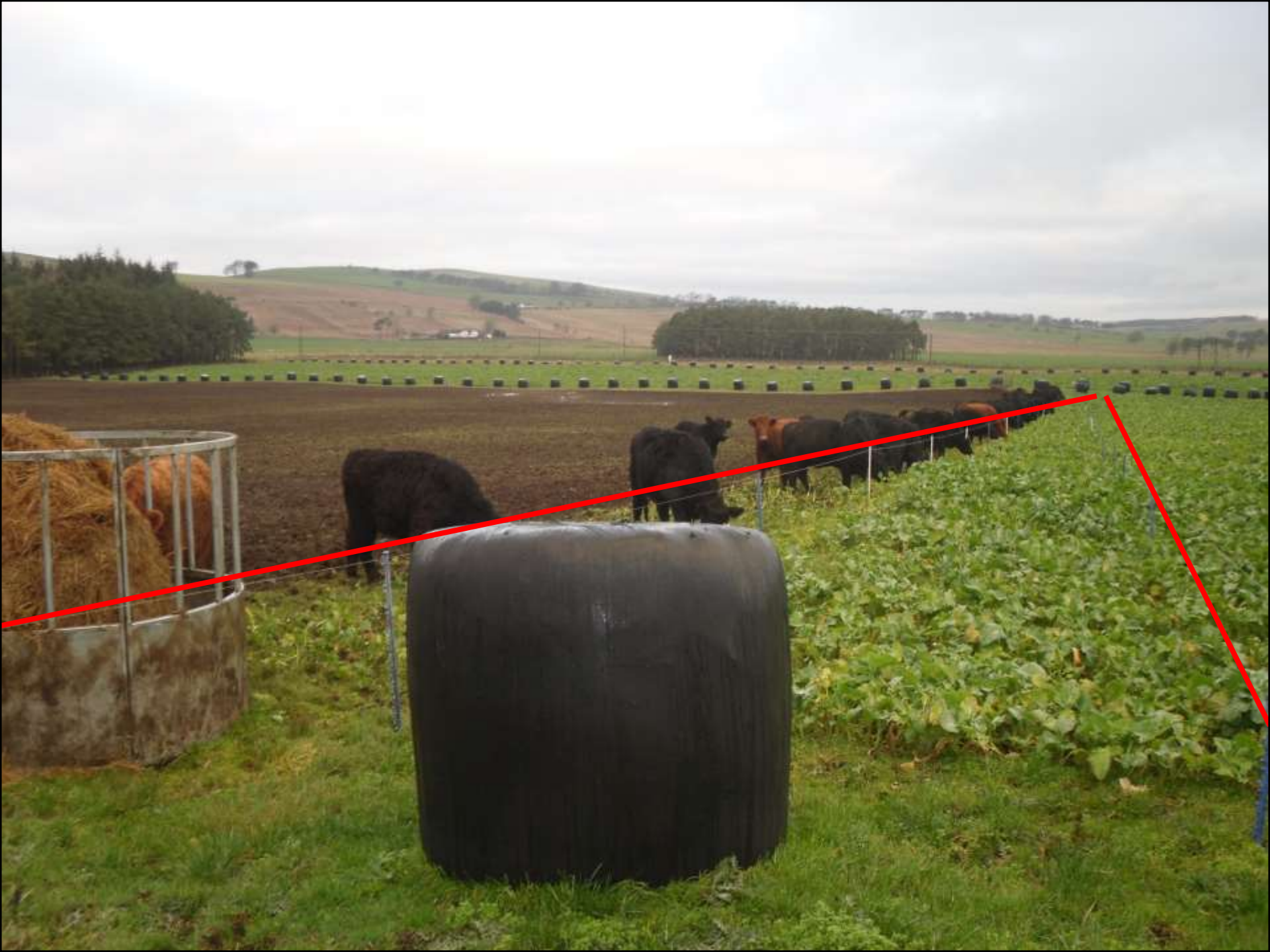


**Sheep all in Paddocks
2 or 3 day shifts**

10 ewes with lambs per acre

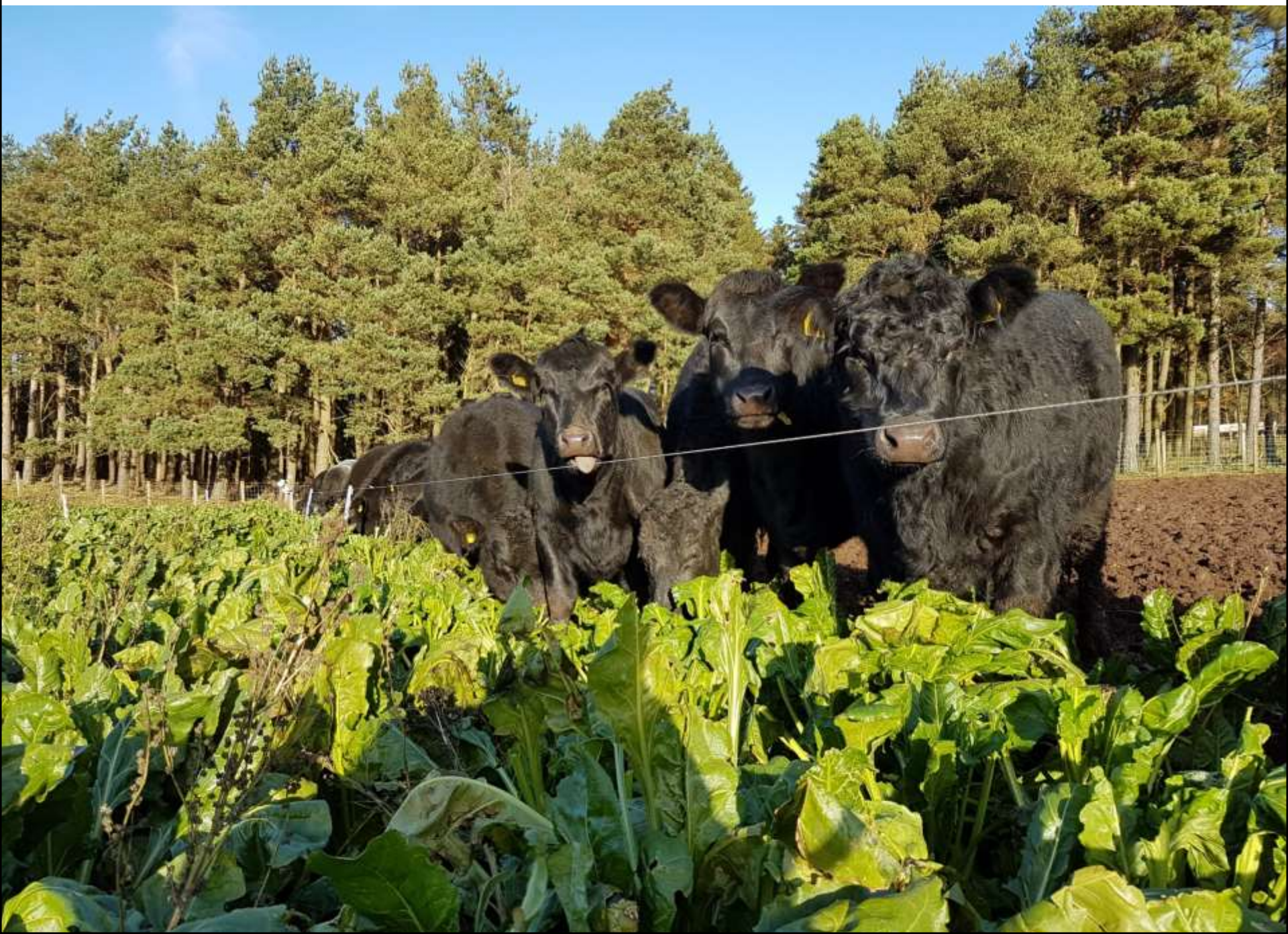




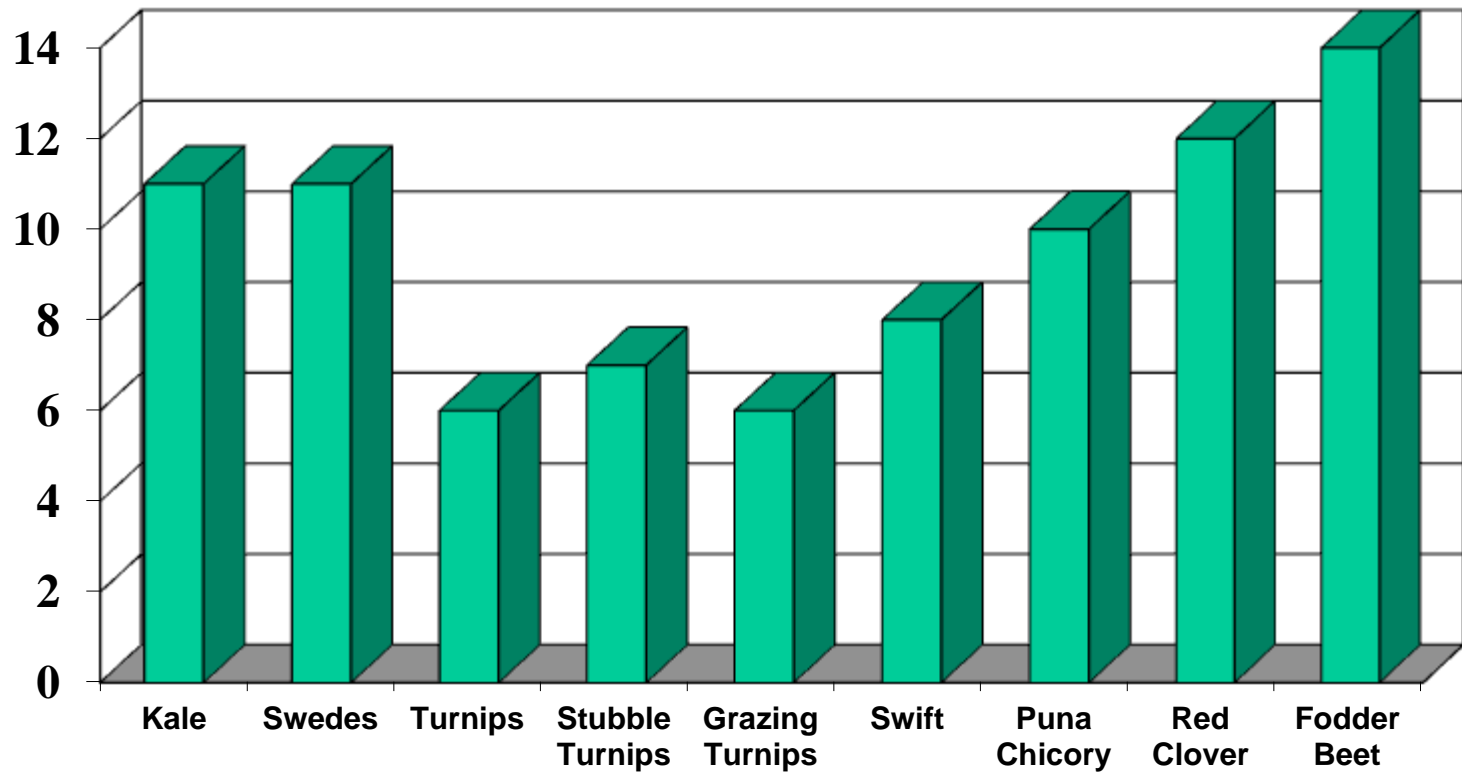


1st January 2017





Yield DM (t/Ha)



Cost - 48p per day



The future !!!!

Expand up not out

Opportunities ?

- Increase performance using forage only diets
- Maximise the healthy benefits of grass fed meat
- Enhanced genetics to maximise performance from forages
- Reduce our reliance on cereals
- Increase our output from the same area
- **Make us more sustainable**



How can you try our meat ?

- Our shop Thankerton Camp Farm, Thankerton
- Your house !! Telephone orders 01899308688
- Online www.damndelicious.co.uk