

FORAGE

Indicative Feed budget report

What is an Indicative Feed budget report?

The *Indicative Feed budget* report:

- provides 'short-term' feed budgeting information (up to 6 months) from user-specified information (below).
- includes user-nominated livestock numbers and a residual yield during the grazing period.
- can be requested for selected lot(s) on plan, property or paddock area.
- evaluates whether a nominated livestock number can be supported for a specified grazing period.
- will (otherwise) give an estimation of animal residence-time to achieve a pasture residual yield target.

General information

- Total land area: 37,369 ha
- User provided total stocking numbers in adult equivalent: 2000 AE (18.7 ha/AE)
- Nominated grazing period is about 167 days - 15 Oct 2026 to 31 Mar 2027
- User provided residual yield at the end of grazing period: 1000 kg/ha
- User provided current property average pasture yield: 1400 kg/ha

Location map



Feed budget information

- Can the pasture support grazing of 2000 AE during the whole grazing period? Yes, likely
- WARNING: the pasture utilisation rate for the nominated period will be much higher than the safe utilisation rate for the provided stock number.

What is the value of using the Feed budget Report?

- Allows you to match cattle feed intake requirements to available pasture supply.
- Important to achieve production targets (i.e. liveweight, reproduction) and environmental goals (ground cover, pasture composition/diversity).
- Can estimate the amount of feed (and target-set) during any time of the year (e.g. re-assessing stock placement, buying/selling, fire planning and inter-seasonal weather influences).
- Use in conjunction with the 'on-ground' pasture availability/assessment, species composition, adequate ground cover and feed required for drought reserve situations.

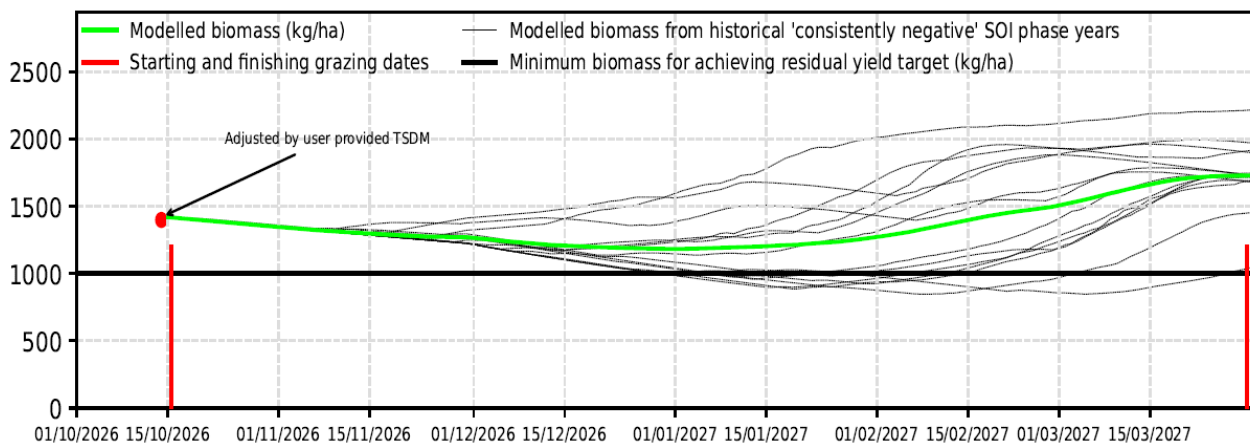
Requesting a report

- Available from the [FORAGE 'quick-report'](#) page or for sub-property/paddock-scale reporting use the [MyFORAGE online mapping tool](#).
- User can enter measured property (or paddock) pasture biomass at the beginning of the grazing period; or
- if unknown, a modelled pasture biomass estimate can be generated based on satellite imagery and other site information.
- the user nominates the livestock – by class or Adult Equivalents.
- the animal intake is calculated and assessed for the specified grazing period.
- calculations use modelled pasture growth, detachment and trampling, along with animal intake and liveweight change for a group of similar climate years – based on the 'SOI phase' forecast system.

Note: The information in this report is intended as a guide only. Results are based on modelled pasture growth and should be used alongside local knowledge and on-ground assessments when making stocking management decisions.

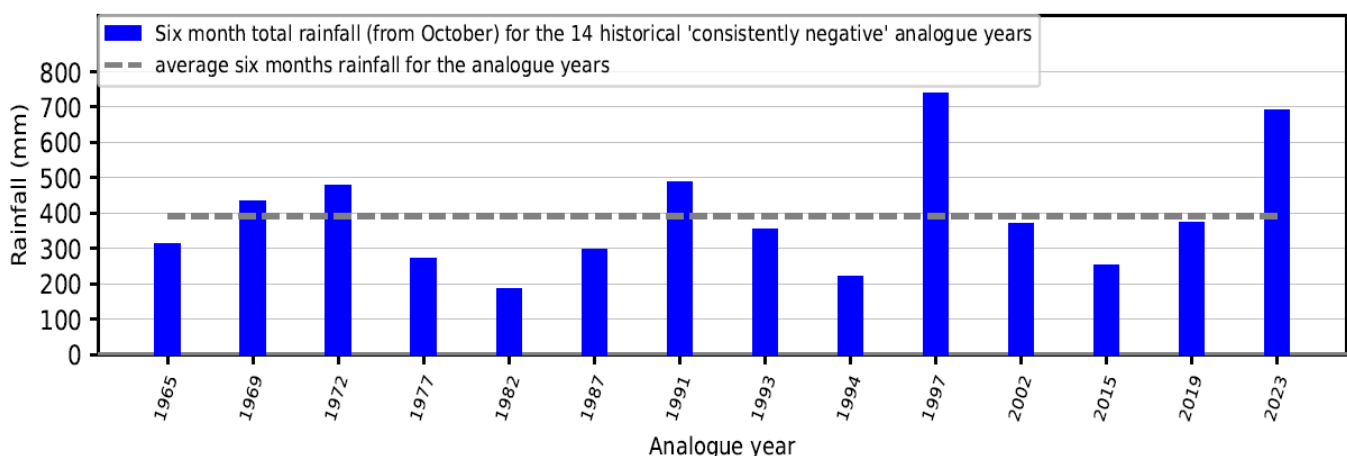
What is included in the report?

A pasture biomass feed budget graph



- the nominated stocking number for the whole grazing period. The green line is the 'average' of similar forecast year model simulations – for the nominated grazing period (red lines).
- A grazing days feed budget graph is also included (similar structure/information to the feed budget graph).

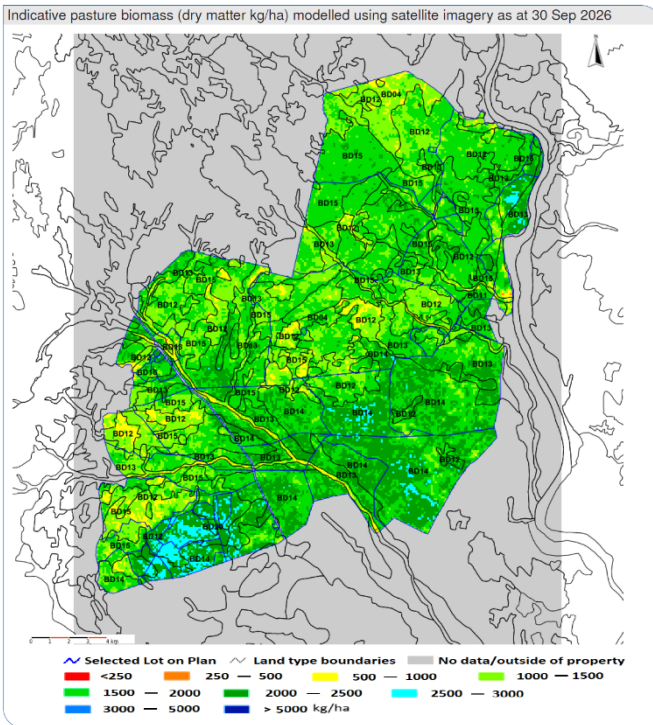
Rainfall in the forecasting period graph



The 'Forecasting period' graph shows:

- the six months' total rainfall for each of the similar historical years from the month the grazing period started.
- the SOI phase system is used to obtain the forecast of rainfall by identifying historical years with the same SOI phase and extracting the climate data in the months of interest for those years.
- these years are then used to forecast the pasture growth for the grazing period.

The indicative pasture biomass map



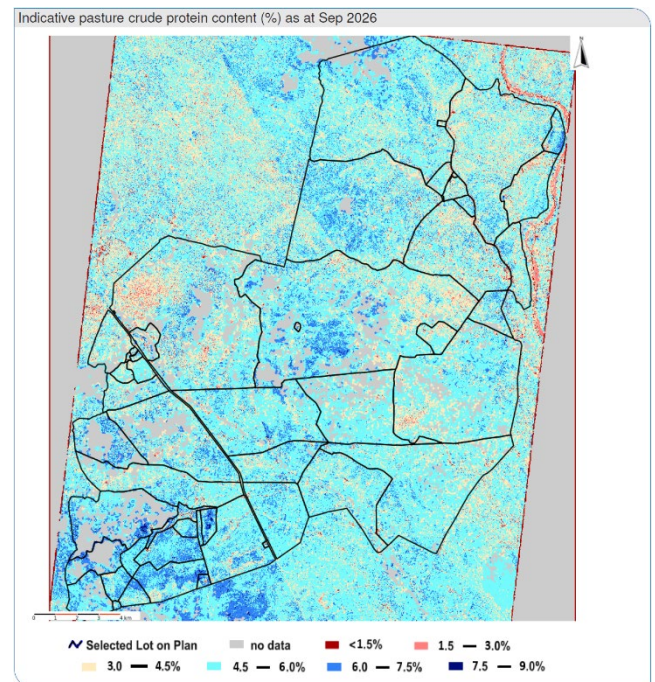
The indicative pasture biomass (kg/ha) map is:

- model-generated from field-calibrated data across many Queensland sites.
- uses the most recent satellite imagery and other site information for the property of interest.
- shows ranges from very low (<250 kg/ha) to high (>5000 kg/ha).
- includes GLM land type mapping.

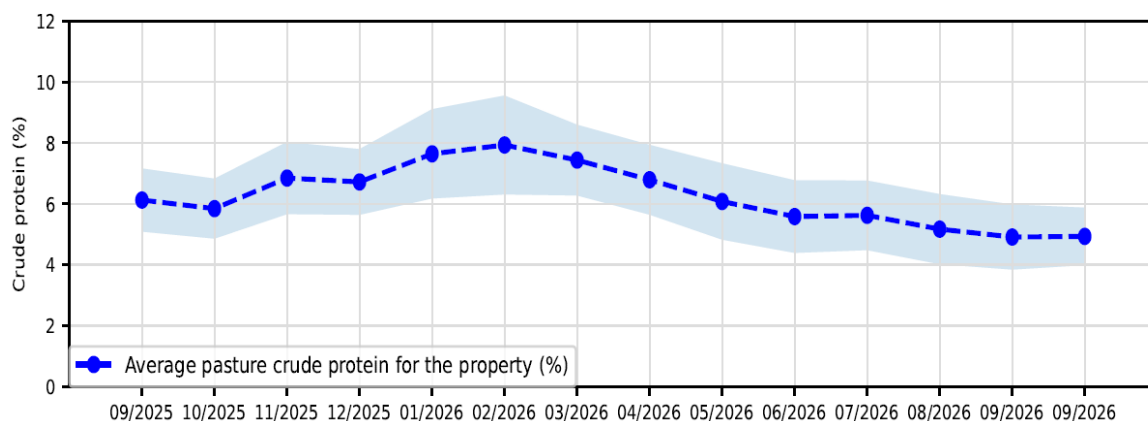
The pasture indicative crude protein (CP) content map

The indicative crude protein content map is:

- an 'indicative' measure of pasture quality.
- generated using remotely-sensed satellite imagery.
- is provided in the report due to its importance as an indicator of pasture quality.
- should be considered in conjunction with pasture biomass feed budgeting.



Time series of pasture crude protein



The time series of pasture crude protein (measure of pasture quality) tracks the monthly average crude protein (as a percentage) for the selected area for the most recent twelve months.

The shaded band relates the spatial variability within the property, indicating how uniform or variable pasture quality is at any given time.

The Indicative Feed budget report also includes:

- an uncertainty map for the indicative pasture biomass. This map relates property areas where model predictions are expected to be more or less uncertain. Confidence estimates are classified into qualitative categories.
- GeoPDF files of pasture biomass and crude protein mapping, which can be used 'on-site' with phone/tablet applications such as NomadTracks.

How to request The FORAGE Indicative Feed budget report

- Go to the FORAGE page at the Long Paddock website longpaddock.qld.gov.au/forage/.
- Select **Indicative Feed budget** from the drop-down list – include other reports if desired.
- Select your property by (several options):
 1. Providing the Lot(s) on Plan by typing in the Lot(s) on Plan in the space under "Enter lot(s) on plan" (e.g. 3MZ594) and select from list. Select 'add' and continue to select if required; or
 2. Enter the Lot(s) on Plan, use geolocation tool, or the address bar to add the property name, road address, town or just zoom in on the map to find your Lot(s) on Plan and click to select (one or more); or
 3. Use the MyFORAGE mapping tool to import an existing paddock file, or create property paddocks to generate 'more customised' mapping and information in the FORAGE reports.
 4. Provide required information (e.g. grazing period, livestock numbers and classes, pasture biomass target).
 5. Submit request and a PDF report will be emailed to the email address provided.

Note: completing this report requests can take a few hours, due to its complex nature and processing time.

[Short awareness videos](http://longpaddock.qld.gov.au/forage/videos/) are available on how you might use FORAGE for grazing land management decision-making longpaddock.qld.gov.au/forage/videos/.

Contact us

For questions or comments, please contact the Long Paddock Team.

Email longpaddock@qld.gov.au

Website www.longpaddock.qld.gov.au/forage/

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