

I'm starting this newsletter by pointing out to the media, some of whom get our newsletters and all have free access to all Newsletters, and everything in [grazinginfo](http://grazinginfo.com), but few tell our farmers anything of use. The Australian Fairfax billionaire owns the Waikato Times and 94 other New Zealand publications. I've been to Australia consulting a dozen times on business, and know that most Australians, are like most Americans, (been there 20 times consulting) are envious of New Zealand, so attack us verbally and financially whenever possible, and don't aim to help our farmers. The USA also showed it by telling untruths about the NZ Dairy Board, convincing the then Labour Party in 2001 to close it, and replace it with the disastrous USA designed Fonterra, and auctioning our milk by a USA, Boston Marketing company, that takes a commission, but doesn't market or promote NZ milk. Its poor auctioneering has caused the low milk price which has ruined the world's dairy market.

Some Waikato Times Fairfax staff have criticised GrazingInfo for making their 'correct' farming look so easy. Some of their staff have told me, "Don't expect free publicity, advertise." The media used to pay us for writing articles. One Fairfax farming 'writer' told me that he knew nothing about farming, and does no research to learn, so they still write about Facial Eczema failures and Nitrates caused deaths, both by bad farmers who don't read or follow GrazingInfo. Fairfax promote bad news in NZ and more positive information in Australia, without a word of help for our farmers, or about prevention, all of which is free in www.grazinginfo.com and works in NZ and most countries. Read the hundreds of Testimonials GrazingInfo has received from round the world.

The Waikato Times has used the bad farmers running Limestone Downs twice to show the tick-born disease decades ago, but I gave up helping them up after one visit, because they would not reduce their cow numbers to be able to feed all correctly without buying unprofitable feed, which was and still is a loss maker, and they would not feed Solminix, so their cows were thin, deficient and sick, as shown in the Waikato Times photos, so suffered tick diseases, which the Waikato Times enjoyed writing about twice, both times with photos showing the underfed, mineral deficient, skinny cows, without mentioning the simple www.grazinginfo.com solutions.

The Waikato Times makes millions out of the rural sector, but does nothing or little, to help them, so we have changed to the NZ Herald.

Costs we've had were \$6,000 for the new bigger GrazingInfo web site Provider, plus their annual fees for running GrazingInfo.com, and our paying staff for proofing and filing what I write, using 70 hours a week of my time not charged, so GrazingInfo makes no profit, and was not meant to. Because it is so big, some media think we make thousands. The very few donations have been from successful kind farmer members who have benefitted so much from GrazingInfo, or beef farmers who have also benefitted. An example is Farmer A in the chapter called 'Milk Profit & Quality' in the Dairying chapter, which all should have read to see how to succeed, and how to improve milk quality so much that Fonterra gave them a 'High Milk Quality Certificate' for their excellent milk. It had improved from close to the high 400,000 Somatic Cell Counts 'bad' grade from 30 cows with mastitis, to low somatic cell counts averaging 150,000 SCC and only one cow with mastitis, for the 2015 year and received another Certificate of Merit for Milk Quality in 2016. The certificate should have been awarded to GrazingInfo.com

Fonterra should have asked the farmer how they did it, so Fonterra could tell all suppliers to follow www.grazinginfo.com by applying 4 tonnes/ha of LimePlus twice, based on ryegrass calcium levels, and feed Solminix with fine salt at only \$5 a bag, from Farmlands in the drinking water.

If any of you have milk with high Somatic Cell Counts and have animal health problems and mastitis, it could be because you are not applying enough LimePlus and/or are not feeding enough Solminix and salt in the drinking water. Those who have got all these levels correct get very few milk fevers, abortions, empties or other animal health problems, so should not need a vet to sell treatments to cows for vitamin B12, cobalt, copper, and more.

Don't let any vets or sales people talk you into any of their soluble mineral mixes without salt,

and some with manganese and oxides, which are fertilisers, because they know that salt is essential for animal health, so they don't add it to theirs. Some other mineral mixes have serious faults, such as the addition of lime, oxides and/or manganese, which in New Zealand is a poison in our very acid, lacking lime, high manganese soils, so it is also high in pastures, unless the soil is limed correctly. Manganese is also high in most waters. It causes Parkinson's disease and/or Alzheimer's in humans and nervousness and bad emperers in cows. Liming and feeding Solminix with salt reduces the toxic manganese effects. A farmer who changed to GrazingInfo in March years ago, and did everything right, phoned his vet in October to come and vaccinate his calves. His vet asked where he was now because "Last year I came to your place every week, this year not since March". Many GrazingInfo members have found the same.

Iodine & Organic

In 2013 some Chinese mothers complained that NZ milk was very low in iodine. NZ pastures are lower in many elements than in most countries, because of high rainfall leaching minerals. I measured ours and they were right, so I checked Solminix fed herds, which had milk iodine levels well up from the typical 15, to 80 ppm. My checking confirmed what Chinese mothers had found. What has Fonterra done about it? Like other problems, nothing.

Do what is recommended in GrazingInfo, then tell your Fonterra director and Fonterra representative about it, and ask them to then pay farmers for all milk on quality, so that most farmers then produce top quality milk for reward, which is natural, and will increase good farmer payouts. Some small efficient companies are now paying \$14/kg for organic milk, and Fonterra is paying \$9 for organic milk. Have they encouraged you to produce it? If not, why not?

Fonterra boasted (as they always do) that they were going to increase organic milk production by three times within three months, not knowing that it takes three years to become organic. Instead they have halved their number of organic suppliers, caused by reducing the organic milk payout and stopping collecting from small organic farmers where they were on their own, instead of encouraging others in the area to also produce organically.

Roundup (Glyphosate) poisons many people

This problem is increasing worldwide, and could affect you. Some bore waters in the Waikato have Roundup as high as 15 ppm. This is not a fair go. Many countries have banned Roundup's use. Australia did so because so much had accumulated in their underground waters. Many others have banned it for dozens of reasons. Some farmers spray grain crops to desiccate wheat and others to allow earlier harvesting, and some are spraying genetically modified crops, and those like carrots that are not affected by Roundup. Consumers then get it in their bodies. Grazon is a far safer spray, which I have used occasionally for 22 years with no allergy, and know of none allergic to it, nor do Dow Ltd, the manufacturers, or those who specialise in toxins.

Mix Codacide at 50% with it to make the spray cheaper, more effective and non-drifting, and halves the amount of spray required. Read about it in Weeds and Sprays. I'm against toxic sprays, but things like Couch grass, and some weeds and some Kikuyu, need control.

Learn from this

All cows on an Otago healthy organic herd were slaughtered because one possibly had TB.

Blood TB tests have been known to be unreliable. The farmer should have asked for another blood test. Anyway, they test the blood, not the milk. Decades ago there were thousands of TB cows in NZ herds. I and other farmers drank their milk raw, with no infections, nor was it occurring in humans. There are many raw organic milk producers across the country, with no infection problems.

Not being able to sell his milk without pasteurising was ridiculous. His cows looked really healthy, more so than most I see on TV and in the Waikato Times. He could have reared beef calves with his milk which would help fill a need and make a profit higher than selling the milk to humans (read previous newsletters), and some could rear piglets.

He should have offered to test all his cows for TB again, and every month. Typically ignorant bureaucrats were wrong in what they did, and unjust, so was a high cost to the unfortunate farmer.

Fairfax

They should employ agricultural journalists, rather than just writers like many are. An Agricultural 'writer' told me that he knew nothing about farming. I got 99% in 1948 in dairying at Agricultural university, (never been obtained before), was the NZ Dairy Board's 'Waikato Best Farmer' winner in 1959, and an agricultural journalist, student and researcher since 1947, and spent a lot on researching and writing 300 farming chapters and 60 spreadsheets and on Human Health, in GrazingInfo to help farming, so was awarded a Queen's honour for contribution to New Zealand farming, and have increased the profits of hundreds of farmers, and improved milk quality like no other system has, but, because I don't advertise with them, many don't publish what I send them.

Had Fairfax reported even a small amount of what I have discovered and written about since 1958, farmers and their animals would not have suffered Selenium deficiency, Facial Eczema, or nitrates toxicity, not suffered by GrazingInfo members' animals.

Fonterra's job

Fonterra should also publicise the proven information from www.grazinginfo.com like the NZ Dairy Board did through the 'Exporter' magazine which went free to all their 13,000 suppliers.

Fonterra's mistakes

Fonterra has made or caused 20 serious mistakes, showing that it is a colossal disaster for the New Zealand dairy industry. It should help dairy farmers, like the New Zealand Dairy Board did for a hundred years, with excellent, practical consultants, and were marketing milk so well that the payout in the 1950's was \$14/kg equivalent of milk solids in today's money.

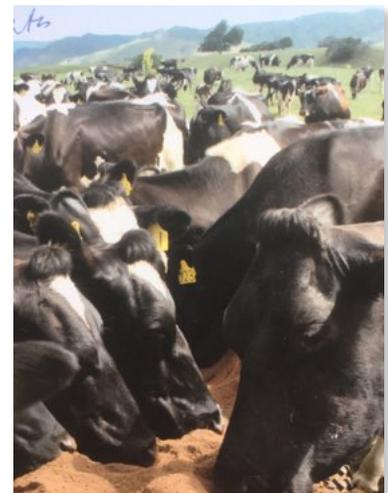
This is a current (April 2016) photo in China taken by a Hamilton friend, Shane Hobson, on holiday there.

The world wants pasture fed milk, but Fonterra doesn't know or promote it: no wonder our payout is so low.

I believe that 'Anchor Milk' is known by very few people in China, so all should be told that New Zealand milk is pasture fed, with no toxins and no subsidies, and with health advantages galore. See the Anchor price here of 23 versus 12 from Australia that subsidises exports, and 11 from Holland, fed subsidised grain, but these are not explained by Fonterra, nor used against Australia for unfair trading or dumping their subsidised milk, and other export products like their chisel ploughs coming to NZ. Stupid Fonterra think they can sell ours at twice the price of the others in China, just by writing '100% Pure Milk', without showing our pasture-fed benefits. So adding this to Spierings showing and helping China increase milk production by 12%, so no wonder China is not buying NZ milk, so the world volume is higher, reducing the price of our 2% of the world milk volume. USA produces most, then India (all home consumed), then China.



This photo of eating PKE is typical on many farms where a few cows get lots and some can't access it and some dislike it so eat none. Fonterra has been too late, and is now only limiting PKE, which again shows Fonterra is too far from the 'coal face', because they should have banned it in the beginning, when cows in New Zealand and Australia were killed by its excessively high levels of copper and manganese. Mostly, it should be banned because it comes from a foot and mouth disease area. Our government is so weak. In GrazingInfo I warned against PKE's many problems years ago.



Limiting its consumption on a per cow basis on some farms is impossible as this photo shows.

How many know that PKE comes from a Foot and Mouth area and that a dead monkey came in one load into the Waikato, and that it cost Japan millions of dollars to get rid of Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) that came from China in their straw. FMD in NZ would ruin us, so farmers should be alert, because the government is not, as shown by other dreadful imports.

PKE contains 34 ppm of copper (12 is optimum) and 225 ppm of manganese (2 is the maximum). USA changed their optimum manganese last year from recommending 1 to 3 ppm, to 1 to 2 ppm. Both are poisons when eaten in high quantities. Read both chapters on manganese, in the Farming and in Human Health sections of GrazingInfo.

The abuse of cows by some staff when milking manganese-stressed ones can be caused by excess manganese in pastures and water, which cause bad tempers in cows and people. Our acid soils in New Zealand increase the release of manganese into pastures, and into supermarket vegetables. Analysing ryegrass shows how much plants are taking up and being fed to animals. In ryegrass leaves and stems, calcium should be close to 0.9% Ca, which is a much better guide than analysing soils, which vary with moisture, organic matter and other elements such as potassium, and soil testing doesn't show all mineral contents.

www.grazinginfo.com

In 2008 the following was in a newsletter to you all.

“We appreciate the many of you who have told others about GrazingInfo who have then joined for their and their country's benefit. Thank you very much.”

Unfortunately this has not happened since the milk price crash, because dairy farmers, desperate to reduce others' milk production, are now secretive about good farming practises.

What all should realise is that you are all in this together, so should help each other, so help the country, despite the fact that townies having forgotten about the dairy farmers earning 11 billion dollars in exports in 2013. If farmers were more astute and used the spreadsheets to measure the costs and losses from feeding bought feeds, they would not buy any feed, so no PKE, no grains, no bought silage, or anything else which would get rid of the surpluses and bankruptcies now occurring. Cow numbers should be reduced to achieve this by using the spreadsheet called Dairy Cow Numbers for Max Profit.

25 years ago working with a USA university, I calculated the cost of producing milk there on bought feed, and it was not profitable even with their cheap 50% subsidised maize grain, while milk from grazing was very profitable. In Canada dairy farmers, Smith brothers, in their subsidised and sheltered country (no dairy imports allowed) were going bankrupt. Their bank would not lend them more. They paid for me to go to Canada to help them as I've done for many. They had 600 cows, but grew pasture enough for only 300 cows. I got them to sell 300 cows and with less milk they changed to a profit. One was married and she was stressed. They then came to New Zealand, very happy, on a very happy learning more holiday.

New Zealand

There are now fat pigs with their snouts in their capitalistic troughs and farmers being fleeced by high interest and council rates and farmer and townie water and pollution rules.

The same occurred under the Labour Party and Rogernomics capitalists, earning high interest rates of up to 26%, getting richer, from 1984 for a few years. We had just swapped for a larger farm so borrowed at 5% from Switzerland.

Water

Farmers must start objecting. Look at this city pollution. Looking upstream from Fairfield Bridge, this is Hamilton waste water entering the Waikato River from the west, on 30 May 2016. There had not been heavy rain. On the right, its volume is shown when looking downstream from the other side of the bridge, covering nearly half the river.



Huntly and Auckland will have to drink it. Both photos were taken from the bridge within minutes of each other.

The brown water from the Waipa River is from the very fine brown soil, not from pollution, or waste like this.



Following a downpour, a farmer was fined \$50,000 for clean water leaving his new sediment pond, designed by the Waikato Regional Council, running onto his own land, and not into a river. Effluent water from Hamilton sewerage treatment plant at Pukete (not shown), runs into the Waikato River all day and night and in large amounts after storms, without any fines. Waikato Regional Council told me in 1998 that Hamilton should have four waste water sediment ponds, but they still have only one, at the Pukete sewerage plant. They have also said that private cars should be washed on lawns to stop detergent running down gutters and to the river, which is not allowed on farms. Almost none in towns do this, and about 80% can't, because there is no car access to get on to their lawns.

Companies can sell and export bottled water they get free from taps, while dairy farmer water is metered from their bores on their own farms.

For those of you who have not noticed, some bottled water is dearer than milk. How is that for good marketing, and an example of poor marketing of milk.

Hamilton water is bad, judged by Muscle Testing, analysing, and the iron and manganese which show up by staining toilet pans. The Waikato River water used in Auckland measures better because it is far better filtered. USA inspectors visiting their filter when new, said how good it is, showing that the five decades or older Hamilton one should have been updated or replaced decades ago.

Councils should reduce wasting water by suggesting to all to place a brick in toilet cisterns, and do so in their own in cities.

The sand in our water gets in when plumbers and others allow it in when working underground. This sand gets in the toilet valves which then don't close completely so leak and waste water all day and night. Hamilton has no where near enough inspectors. I can give many examples of failures.

Washing your teeth in hot water

When water is bad or polluted in any way, as Hamilton's is from its source and from added fluoride, using water from the hot water tap can be a lot safer and healthier, or buy an e-Filter from 07 870 2102 for sources and information. We have one and would not like to be without it. It is nice to drink without a smell. Our previous filter cost \$500 and was useless. Farmers buying an e-Filter are very happy with them. We tested the e-filter and was amazed at how it removed heavy metals from Hamilton City water, which contains mercury, E. coli, fluoride and manganese, but left good ones like magnesium in, so we bought one.

We tested its water after a year after it beeped for a new filter, and its water was still perfect.

Two local farmers with very bad high manganese water are also very pleased with its results. It was designed in USA after they found that all the 300 USA rivers had become unsuitable to drink, because of mercury pollution from their burning so much oil and discarding so many circuit boards.

Muscle test your hot water and read about it in Health in www.grazinginfo.com and compare it with water from your cold taps and you will be amazed. For decades, people who know how bad Hamilton's water is boiled it to kill the bugs. The hot water cylinder seems to do the same. Use it to wash your hands and teeth. Read Water.

Trans Pacific Partnership (TPP)

You all should be very pleased that TPP, which was going to have such an adverse effect on New Zealand farming, is now **dead** because most Americans are against it, so both presidential candidates have realised that to get votes they will support the majority, so have said so.

Haiti

How USA wrecked Haiti is a disgrace. It is in GrazingInfo 'Political' file. USA would like to do the same to NZ beef and dairy industries, and the Japanese car manufacturing success that killed Packard (their empty factory shown here) and others. The USA government forced the closure of our NZ Dairy Board in 2001/2 and designed Fonterra and its auction system, run by a Boston, USA company, taking a commission all with the secret aim of killing our dairy industry.



New Zealand is losing its assets

China already owns PGG Wrightsons and NZ dairy factories.

“A \$200 million dairy plant planned near Gore may appear superficially good news for Southland, but having a Chinese state-owned company holding the majority ownership is not,” says New Zealand First Leader and the Northland Member of Parliament, Rt Hon Winston Peters.

“This is another example of China gaining more control of our economics.”

Don't upgrade Microsoft Excel for a few months after they have fixed **all** their mistakes. They apologised to the first users, but have wasted hundreds of my hours correcting them.

Earthworms to save costs and increase pasture production

Read and apply this from 'Soils' because breeding and spreading them can increase pasture production by 100% just for the labour of breeding and spreading more earthworms around your farm. If you want some at no cost now, phone us at 07-853-7555 and bring two buckets.

For a higher milk price, NZ must sell to the wealthy people

I've written many times since 1990 that New Zealand should work on selling dairy and other products to the wealthy, and should have our own NZ healthy organic milk standards, rather than one influenced by USA, who make it harder for NZ farmers to comply. See the unbelievably high prices possible for top quality NZ free range pasture fed milk, and read the high profit successes in NZ Pasture fed 'Poultry to USA' sold in the wealthy parts of California and Texas.

Milk Quality

More important than the three year requirement, before being able to be organic, are the GrazingInfo milk quality analyses, reducing mastitis and dairy cow illnesses. Milk from www.grazinginfo.com is better, because it has been farmed far better than organically, by analysing the mineral and toxin content of their pasture and milk, then liming and fertilising to get pasture and milk mineral levels correct. I've analysed the milk of one good Waikato standard organic retail milk seller to the public, for many years, It still has toxins, not measured by their organic authority.

GrazingInfo milk has had at least two Fonterra 'Highest Quality' milk awards based on low SCC and other quality levels. If you were getting organic prices, you'd be getting three times more. Fonterra won't do this on their own, they will need GrazingInfo members' pressure, and information, like a drop in SCC, and a mastitis drop from thirty cows down to one, and improved cow health.

GrazingInfo Members

Please tell us if you have gained a Fonterra High Quality Milk Certificate for your milk, like GrazingInfo Farmer A has twice. Please also keep the pressure on Fonterra to produce and market 'New Zealand Pasture fed Approved Milk' world-wide.

Vaughan Jones, ONZM Queen's Honour in 2013 for services to farming. International Agricultural Consultant & Journalist, founder & past Fieldays Manager for 8 years & Honorary Life Member.

NZ Dairy Board winner of the 1959 'Most Improved Dairy Farm' in the Waikato. Author and MD of the charitable www.GrazingInfo.com and eBook since 1970, with 520 members, now at no cost, to help farmers, lifestylers and gardeners in many countries, especially USA, including their university scientists. A greater percentage in USA have changed from confinement to grazing after reading the 300 chapters of practical organic farming, vegetable growing, and 70 chapters on Human Health to help the third of members who are stressed and unwell. Please encourage joining to get free newsletters. There have been 50,000 Grazinginfo eBook hits, and several hundred testimonials and thanks.