



# John & Glen Jowsey

TE WHANA - 858 HECTARES, KERERU



John and Glen Jowsey fit into a very special bracket of Hatuma clients who have become third generation users of dicalcic phosphate. John's father, Bill, first started applying Hatuma's dicalcic in the early 1960's after talking with neighbours who were involved in ground-spreading at the time. They told him about the great results other farmers were getting from using it and recommended he try it. Back then, dicalcic was very new to the farming market and the only other property

in their district that used Hatuma's dicalcic was Olig Station.

40 years later, the Jowsey family are still using dicalcic phosphate and the farm is still producing excellent results through good solid farming and by maintaining a healthy soil.

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producing plenty of thick clover all over the farm - including the northerly faces. John's theory is "why rip them up if there's nothing wrong with them?"

"Everything on this property is recycling well - the pastures are clean and aerated, and we feel that we have a balanced environment. The earthworm population is very good, and the cowpats don't take long to disappear.

We used to topdress the whole place, but these days we don't feel that we have the need to, so we only do half the farm by ground-spread one year, and then the other half by plane the next."

Glen comments, "although droughts can affect us like everyone else, we have peace of mind that as soon as the first bit of rain arrives, the country will respond really well to it and bounce back quickly, making it stand out from many other properties in the district."

Our lambing percentage was 112% over the year which is a figure that we are very comfortable with. All our lambs are easily fattened, with nothing under 15kgs, and this year they were up to 17kgs.

The sheep shear well, with two-tooths being shorn twice a year and the rest once a year. 80 - 85% of the sheep shear at 3.5kgs ( main fleece ) and we normally get about 45 fleeces to a bale when we shear the ewes. The amount of dagging that we have to do is minimal and we only drench the ewes once a year.

We have 180 breeding cattle and calving this year was 96% making 600 head of cattle in all. We also

fatten heifers and sell 18-month steers at around the 500kg mark. Year in and year out, we've managed to maintain this sort of production," says John. "On top of this, we rear 150 dairy calves ( 4 day olds ) - both heifers and steers."

Bloats not a problem either. Sometimes we wonder whether there's too much clover in some paddocks - but something has to eat it. Often we'll go out expecting to see some cows with their "toes up", but there never are. We had some isolated cases of staggers years ago, but we haven't seen it since.

The dry, rank looking grass is cleaned up well by the stock. Some paddocks have got away, but we know that come winter that's going to be standing hay for them. The native grasses have become palatable, so they get mown down quickly by the stock, therefore we don't have to worrying about time and money spent in topping the paddocks.

We're very comfortable that the dicalcic phosphate is still producing the clover and keeping everything running smoothly. We're certainly happy with it."

