



Department of Primary Industries
and Regional Development



Pastures With Low Methane Potential

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7th March 2025



Local Land
Services
Central Tablelands

NSW Net Zero Plan Stage 1: 2020–2030



CN30



CN30 is the Australian red meat industry's
aspirational target to be carbon neutral by 2030.

MLA is supporting CN30 through investing in research, development and adoption:



EMISSIONS
AVOIDANCE R&D



CARBON
STORAGE R&D



INTEGRATED
MANAGEMENT



LEADERSHIP
BUILDING

Coles Finest Certified Carbon
Neutral range



Denmark will introduce the world's first emissions tax for cows and pigs

The Danish government says it hopes it will inspire other countries to follow suit.

Category	Mt CO ₂ -e	Percentage		
Total net emissions	136.6	100%		
1. Energy	107.4	79%		
2. Industrial Processes	12.8	9%		
3. Agriculture	16.3	12%	Percentage	GHG
A. Enteric Fermentation	12.3	9%	76%	CH ₄
B. Manure Management	1.2	1%	7%	
C. Rice Cultivation	0.0	0%	0%	
D. Agricultural Soils	2.2	2%	13%	N ₂ O

Source: State and Territory Greenhouse Gas Inventories 2019

Feed additives and Tech to reduce methane

CH₄ Inhibitors

- Bovaer® (3-nitrooxypropanol, 3-NOP)
- Asparagopsis (seaweed)

Rumen manipulation

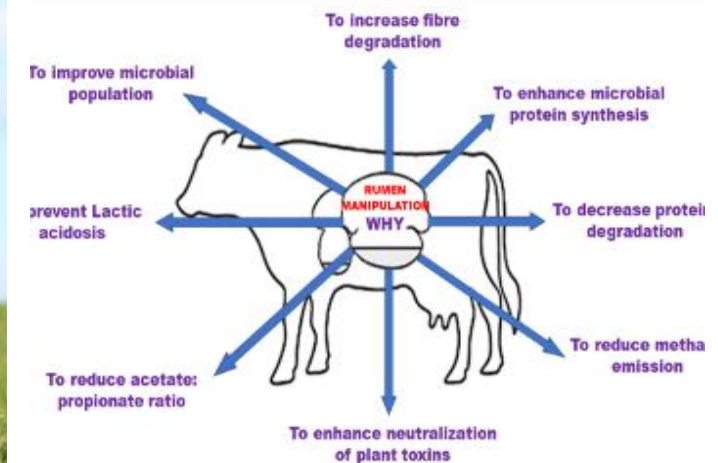
- Vaccines
 - Development stage
- Early-life programming

Breeding

- Increase efficiency
- Lower CH₄

Technologies

- Zelp collars



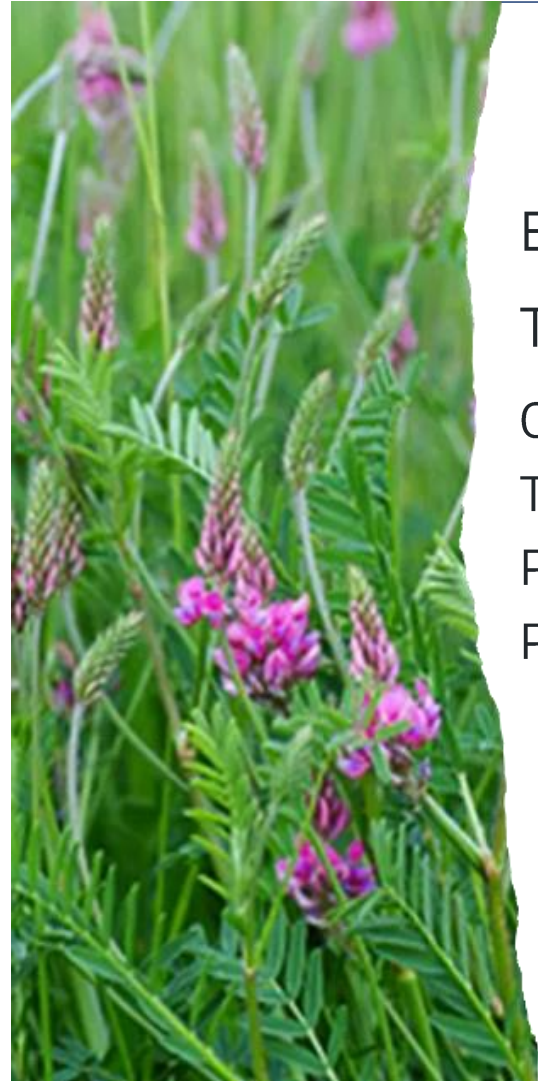
Pasture Management

- Options to improve pasture quality
 - PSC inhibit methanogenesis
 - Condensed Tannins
 - Saponins
 - Phenols
 - ↑ quality pasture = ↓ CH₄
 - Decrease EI

Functional grouping	Pasture Grp / Spp.	PSC	Change in CH ₄ %
Perennial legumes	Lotus – Big trefoil / birdsfoot trefoil	CT	-38 , (- 64 to 0)
	Lucerne	Sap, Phe	-3 (-27 to +20)
	Clovers- Red / White	T, Phe	-2 (-31 to + 39)
	Sanfoin	CT, Phe	-13 (-48 to +2)
	Sulla	T, Sap	-32
Annual Legumes	Clovers – arrowleaf / bladder / sub	T, Phe	-1 (-28 to + 47)
	Biserrula	Phe	- 77
	Burr medic	Phe, Sap	+9
	Serradella – french / yellow	Phe	+5 (0 to + 11)
Perennial herbs	Chicory	CT, Phe, Sap	-9 (-37 to +5)
	Plantain	CT, Sap	-14

Badgery et al. 2023

Cowra Trial



Established 2022

Two Trials

Chicory (Puna II)

Tall Fescue (Temora)

Phalaris (Holdfast)

Plantain (Lancelot)

Trial 1:

Balansa Clover (Bolta)

French Serradella (Margurita)

Yellow Serradella (Avila)

Biserulla (Casbah)

Sub Clover (Seaton Park)

Lucerne (Aurora)

Trial 2: EST 2023

White Clover (Haifa)

Greater Lotus (Maku)

Sainfoin (Othello)

Sulla (Wilpena)

Lucerne (Aurora)



Average Biomass Production

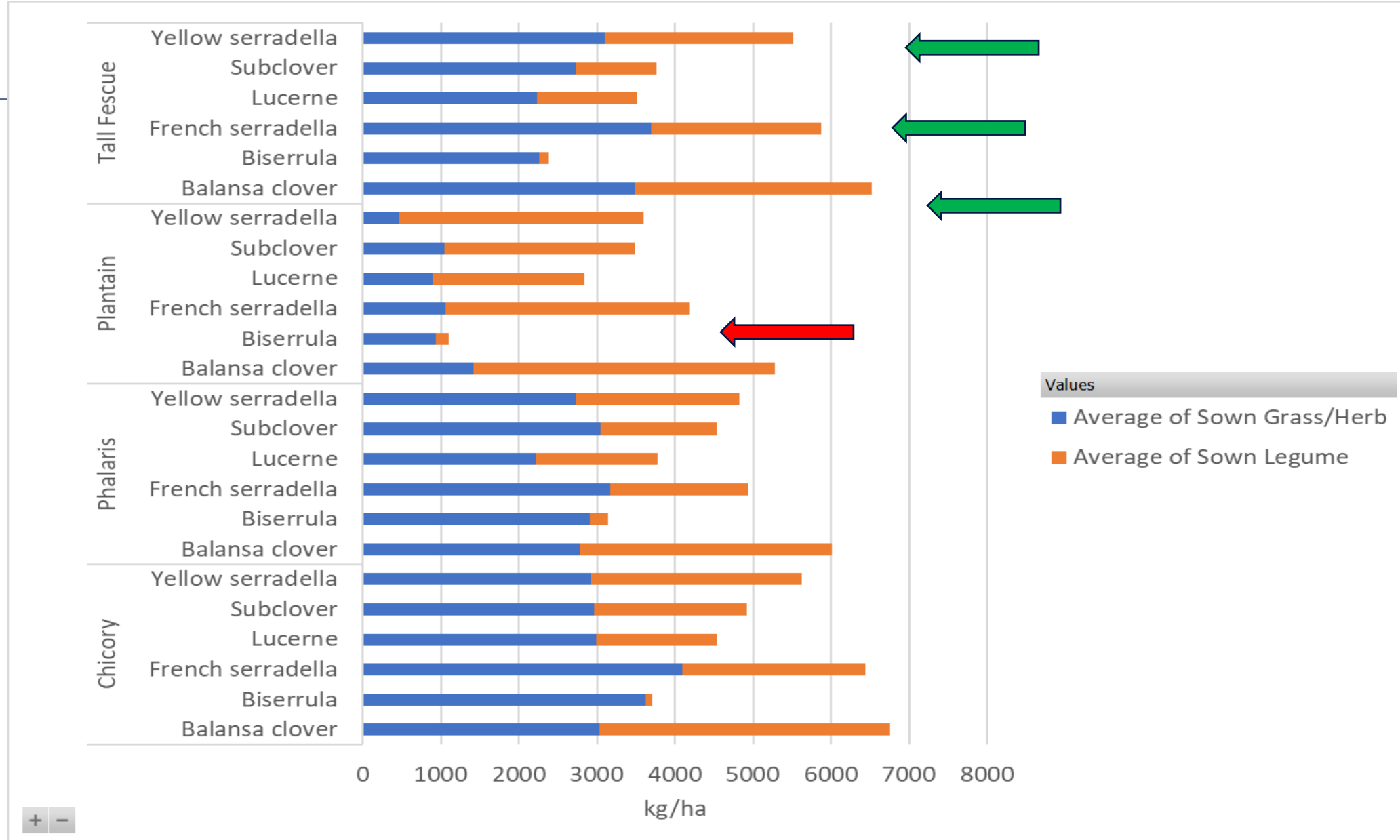
- Average dry matter measured seasonally for 3 years
- Trend for higher DM from chicory and fescue
- Higher legume content in mixes with chicory
- Dry matter production was lowest for plantain, mainly due to declining plant population, particularly with the higher producing legumes.
- Seedling recruitment



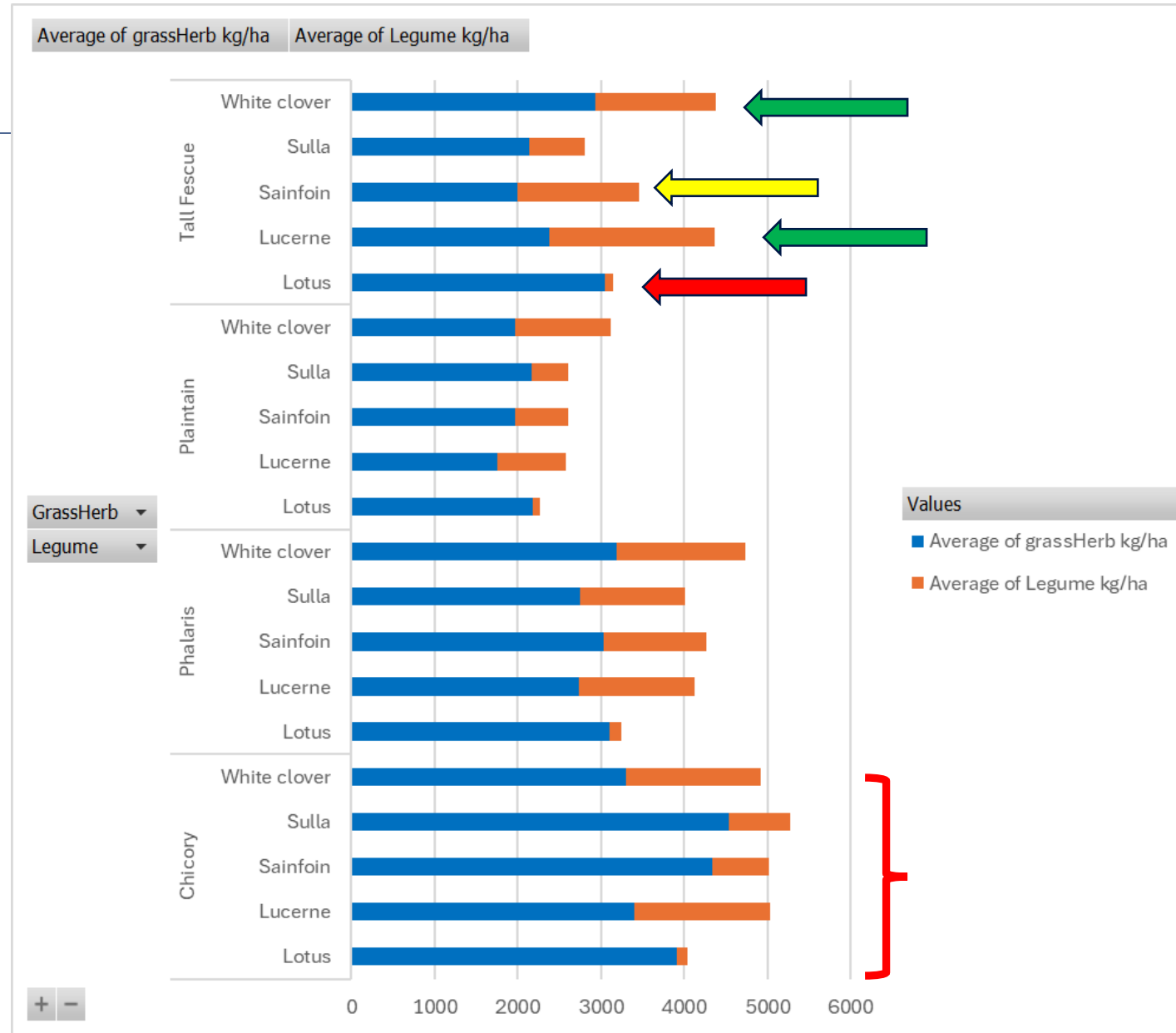
Values

- Average of Sown Grass/Herb
- Average of Sown Legume

Average Biomass Production



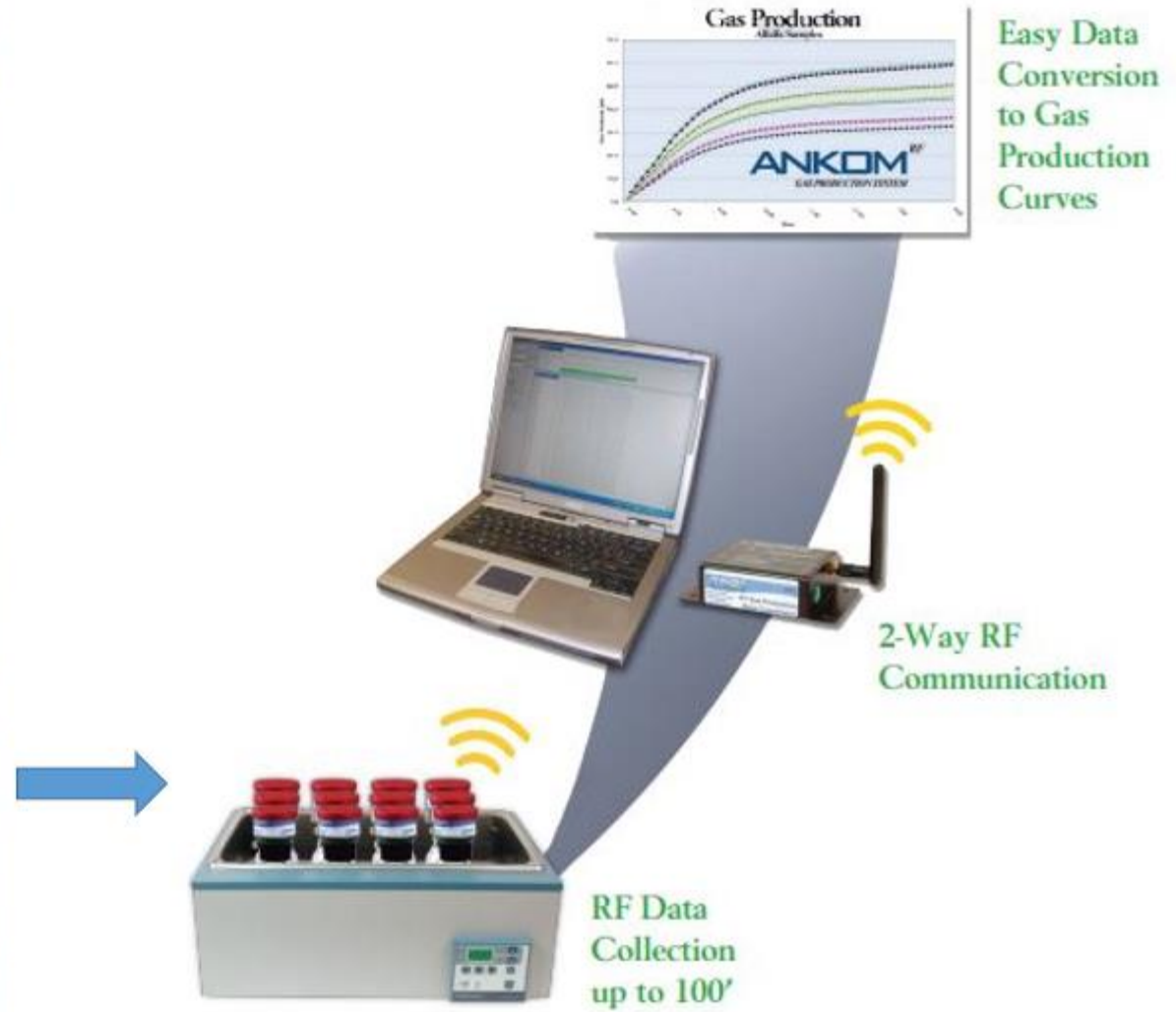
Average Biomass Production



Forage Quality

	NDF	Crude Protein	ME (Mj/kg)	WSC
Lucerne	34.3	20.6	10.6	8.2
Yellow serradella	35.6	20.5	10.5	6.4
Subclover	36.6	19.2	10.4	8.5
French serradella	39.5	18.8	10.2	7.4
Chicory	27.0	17.7	10.6	17.2
Balansa clover	33.9	17.4	11.7	15.1
Plaintain	34.1	14.7	10.5	12.6
Biserrula	33.3	12.5	11.4	13.8
Phalaris	46.1	10.7	11.2	20.1
Tall Fescue	51.4	9.9	10.2	14.8

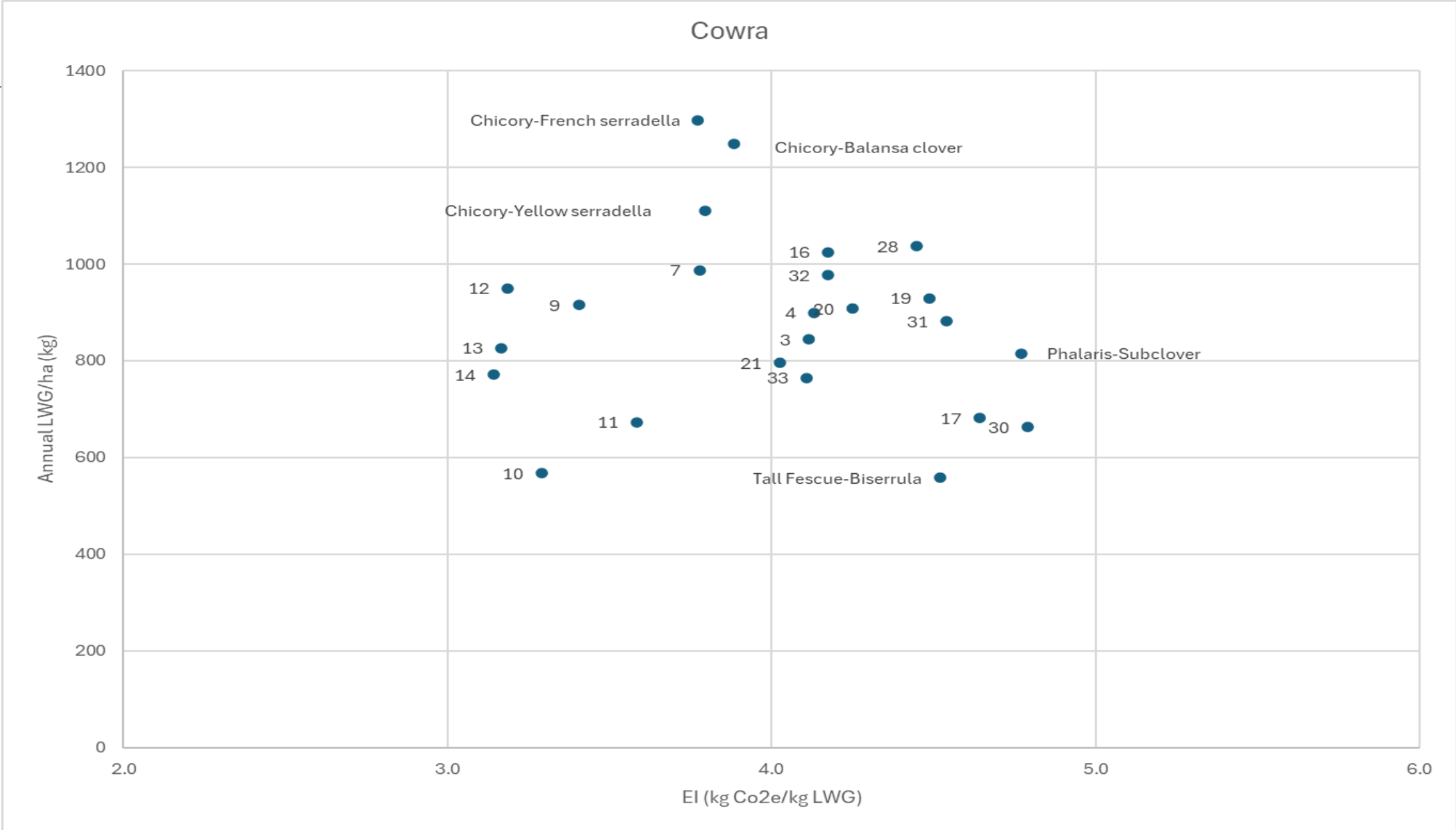




Methane Reduction Potential

Pasture Type	Gas (ml) per gram of sample	Methane mL/g DM	CH ₄ reduction% compared to phalaris	
Biserrula	155.2	8.7	-78.64	←
Plantain	217.2	31.1	-23.39	
French Serradella	202.9	32.1	-21.06	
Yellow Serradella	212.8	33.2	-18.26	
Chicory	236.5	34.2	-15.83	←
Sainfoin	235.3	34.6	-14.9	←
Lucerne	209.1	35.9	-11.68	
Subclover	221.7	37.3	-8.27	
Sulla	239.5	38.4	-5.42	
Tall Fescue	261.6	39.6	-2.49	
Phalaris	253.3	40.6	0	←
Balansa Clover	236.4	40.7	0.25	

Emission Intensity



Conclusion:

- Identified pasture species with potential for lower emissions
- Complementary combinations with legumes
- Regional adaptability

Next Phase:

- Animal testing: respiration chambers productivity



Team Cowra



Emission Intensity

Assumptions

Based on quality can calculate consumption, utilisation and carrying capacity

Grazfeed will calculate a methane production profile liveweight output

Can modify the methane production based on our invitro tests

Based on 40kg xb weaner 10mth old

