A View From The Ground
What Actions Are Farmers Taking?

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for
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My background

• In USA – computer consultant & quantitative analyst
• Family purchased Castlepoint Station in August 1998
• Emigrated in October 1998 with family
• Fertiliser Quality Council Chairman 2014 -
• AgRecovery Foundation Trustee 2011 -
Castlepoint Station

- Coastal Wairarapa – 3,750 hectares
- Three quarters of income from sheep
- One quarter of income from cattle
- 200 hectares forestry
- 300 hectares cultivatable ground
- A separate Holiday Park & Motel operation

- Family owned company
- An advisory board used for strategic direction
- Management team for operations
- 5 full time staff, casuals and contractors on farm
- A full time couple with casuals for accommodation
What farmers are doing to mitigate climate change

• Energy efficiency – power usage, vehicles
• Production efficiency - less emissions/kg product produced
• Novel forages
• Carbon sequestration – trees, soil
• ETS participation – forestry
• Changing attitudes
• Looking for solutions
• Considering options
Trees on farm

- Erosion control
- Shelter for stock
- Amenity value
- Carbon sequestration
- Income diversification
- Succession/Retirement income
- Forestry is what we do with land that isn’t fit for livestock
Farming view of ETS

- Confusing
- More downside than upside
- Not conducive to behaviour change
Future directions

• New forages/feeds/supplements
• Technology - inhibitors
• Stable political policy
• New products
• Better marketing
Thank you.

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