The Detailed Aspect Measurement System (DAMS) is a commonly used measurement of climatic exposure to help anticipate how stable a crop may be and if thinning is an acceptable operation. A higher DAMS (>16) score helps to demonstrate where thinning may be too risky to undertake.

The high DAMS scores across West Sutherland and the predominantly wet organic soils indicate that rotations are likely to be short and thinning area restricted.