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| **Technological factors affecting land use** |

* Technological factors also include scientific factors.

* The ability to change the growing environment to suit specific plants or animals has had some effect. Examples include

Spreading of cobalt via fertiliser has overcome “bush sickness” a disease affecting ruminant animals grazing pastures on volcanic soils. Forestry, the traditional land use, is now being replaced by dairying on properties surrounding Taupo.

The development of computer controlled glasshouses has enabled growers to produce on a large scale flowers, fruit and vegetable crops throughout NZ.

Use of prevention techniques that mitigate adverse weather conditions e.g. wind machines for frost control

The use of centre-pivot irrigation has allowed for widespread, efficient irrigation with minimal labour costs.

The development of rotary sheds and effluent systems has allowed for “large herds”

Plant breeding has widened the ability of plants to grow in different climatic areas

Sheep breeding using footrot resistant rams has allowed foot tender breeds such as the Merino to be farmed in wetter areas.

Grafting techniques allow for growers to change variety in minimal time span

Improved drainage techniques that allow wetlands to be productive.

Use of tracked tractors has allowed for cultivation of land previously left due to it being unsafe to work

Ability to drill into deepest aquifers to abstract water for irrigation purposes.