

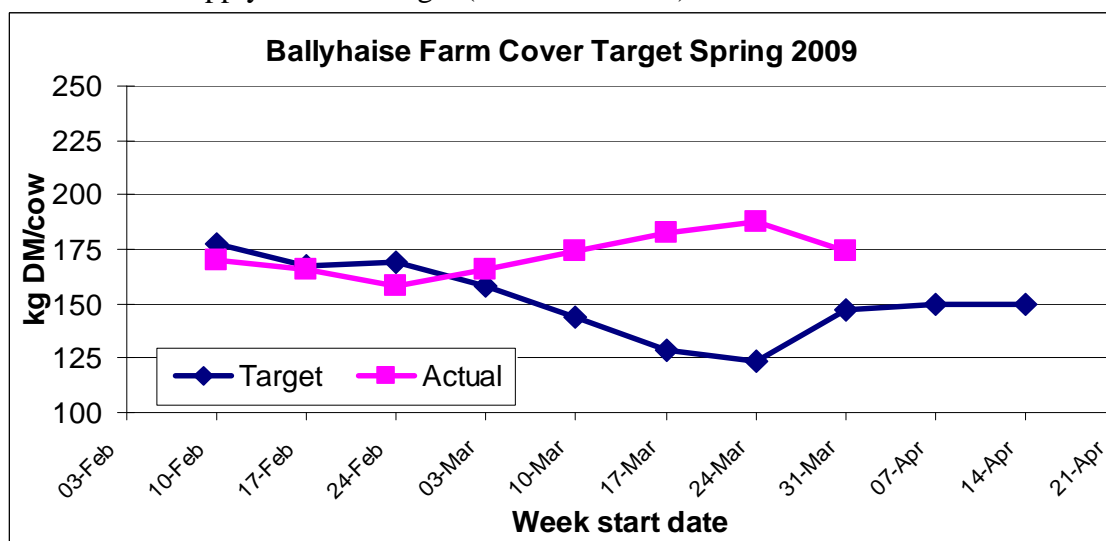
## Ballyhaise Weekly Farm Notes - Monday 23/03/2009

### A. Critical Issues

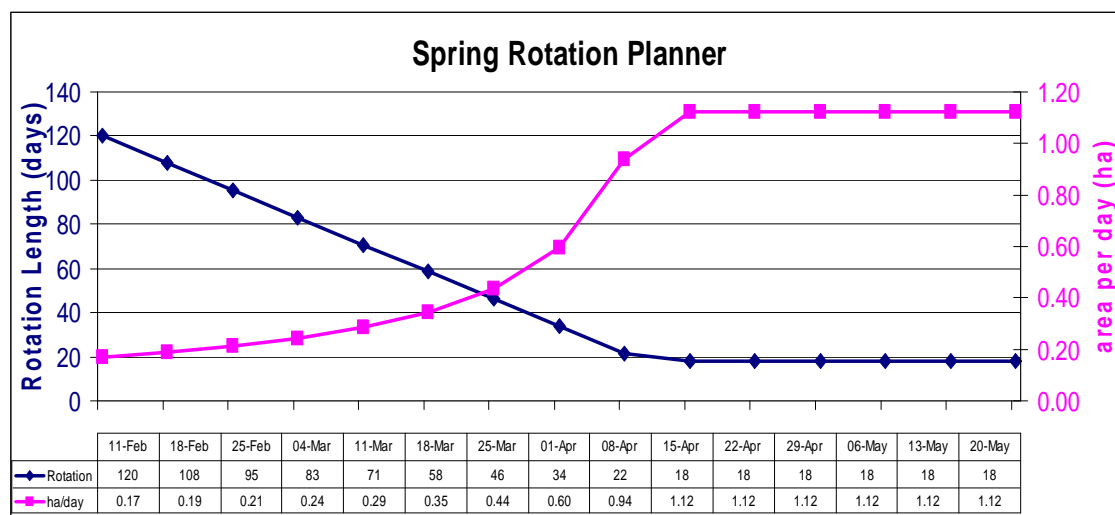
1. **Don't poach**
2. **Maximise cow intakes of pasture and maintain residual at 3.5cm**
3. **Ensure cows are getting better fed each week**

### B. On farm situation

1. Soil temperature today is 8.5°C, similar to last week
2. Total weekly rainfall is 1.9mm
3. Average growth was 29kgDM/ha, which is on target (16% DM)
4. Grass supply is above target (174 vs 150/cow)

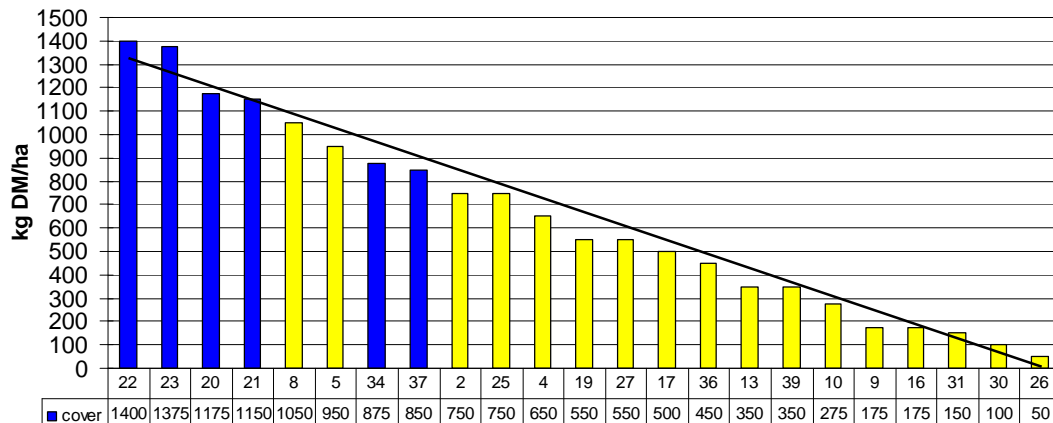


5. While the cover per cow is above target and the expectation for growth is good given the weather outlook, we had anticipated feeding supplement out into April, which is now no longer required. Cows will be removed from concentrate by the weekend to bring feed supply back to target.
6. We currently have 61% of farm grazed, which is ahead of our rotation plan target (50%) and we are moving ahead of our rotation plan based on the good conditions and an excellent 2<sup>nd</sup> rotation wedge emerging.
7. This leaves 39% which will bring us to April 5<sup>th</sup> before we commence the second rotation.



8. Farm feed wedge (23/03/09)

Farm cover 541kg DM/ha (174/LU)



Yellow paddocks have been grazed this spring, paddock 2 is partly grazed.

9. The wedge is now showing an excellent 2<sup>nd</sup> rotation wedge emerging. Based on the wedge, we must commence the 2<sup>nd</sup> rotation on April 5<sup>th</sup> to avoid excessive pre-grazing yields (>1,400 kg DM/ha). If growth rates exceed expectation next week, shorten the first rotation by introducing heifers to the grazing area.

10. Post grazing height on the last paddock grazed was 3.2cm.

11. Total N application to date is 28kg N/ha. Slurry from the out wintering pad has been applied to 37% of the entire grazing area post grazing to date. Paddocks not receiving slurry will get 23 units of urea this week.

12. 83% of the herd calved to date (expected mean calving date is 4<sup>th</sup> March).

13. Average milk yield is 19.9kg at 4.55% fat and 3.25% protein (1.54kg MS/cow), lactose 4.76%, SCC 211k, TBC 9k.

**C. Critical short term actions :**

- Grass allocated on a whole paddock basis.
- Cows straight to grass as they calve.
- Calmag dusting of paddocks will commence this week (1 strip per paddock) and calmag will also be introduced through water with concentrate removed by weekend.