

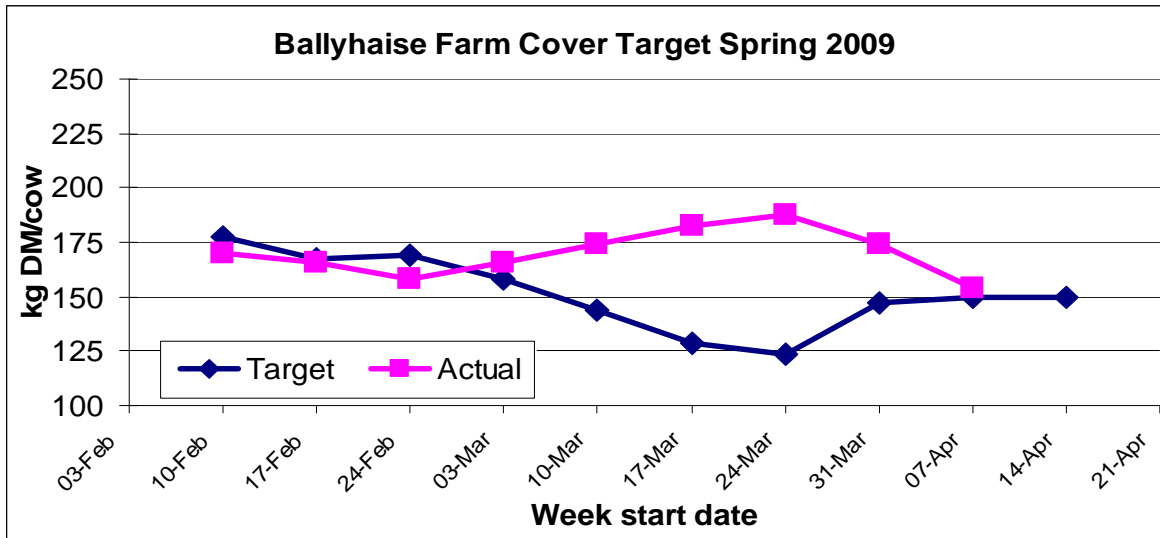
## Ballyhaise Weekly Farm Notes - Monday 30/03/2009

### A. Critical Issues

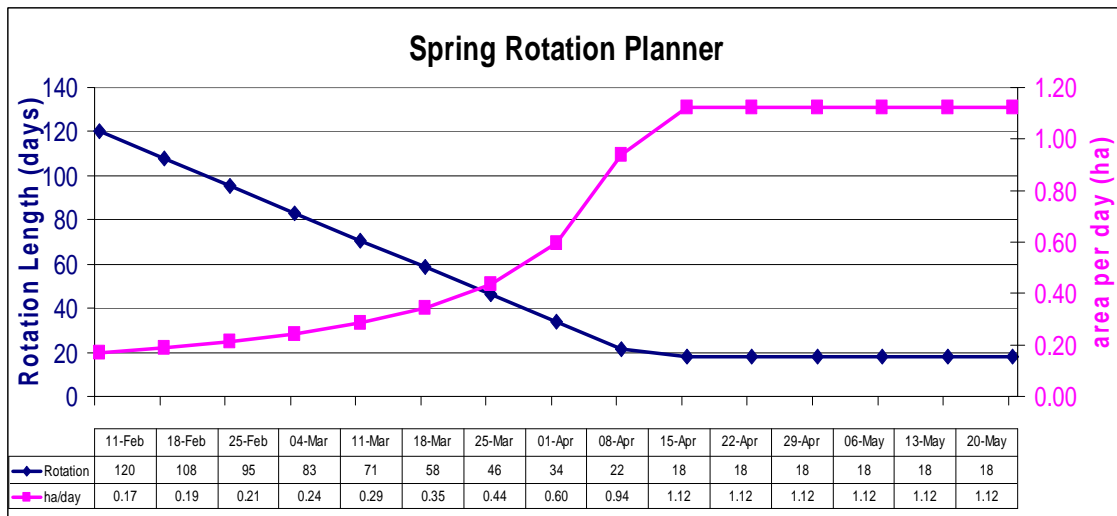
1. **Don't poach**
2. **Maximise cow intakes of pasture and maintain residual at 3.5cm**
3. **Ensure cows are getting better fed each week**

### B. On farm situation

1. Soil temperature today is 8.5°C, similar to last week
2. Total weekly rainfall is 10.1mm
3. Average growth was 26kgDM/ha, (20% DM)
4. Grass supply is on target (154 vs 150/cow)

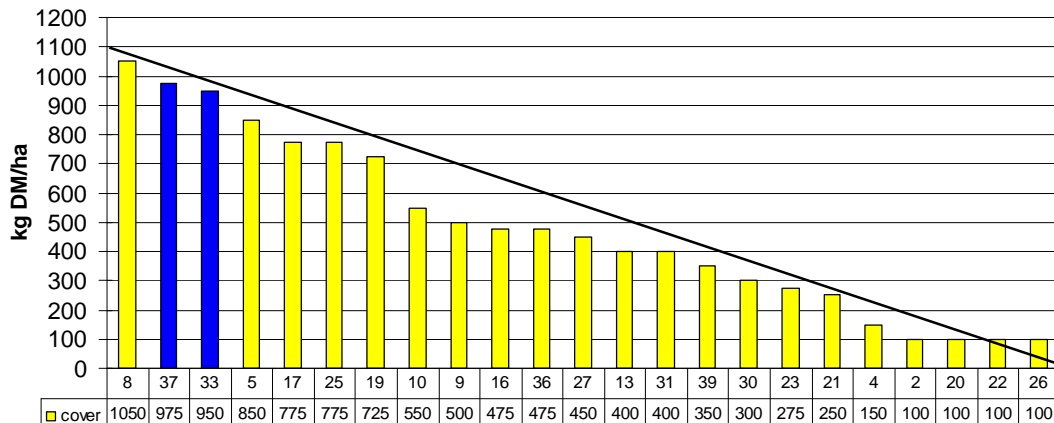


5. Growth rate is well below target (26kg vs 40kg) due to cold weather, this has brought cover back in line with budget.
6. We currently have 90% of farm grazed, which is ahead of our rotation plan target (75%).
7. This leaves 10% which will bring us to April 3<sup>rd</sup> before we commence the second rotation.



8. Farm feed wedge (30/03/09)

Farm cover 479kg DM/ha (154/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 3<sup>rd</sup> to avoid excessive pre-grazing yields (>1,400 kg DM/ha).

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. 86% of the herd calved to date (expected mean calving date is 4<sup>th</sup> March).

13. Average milk yield is 20.11kg at 4.43% fat and 3.31% protein (1.55kg MS/cow), lactose 4.81%, SCC 253k, TBC 32k.

**C. Critical short term actions :**

- Grass allocated on a whole paddock basis.
- Cows straight to grass as they calve.
- Calmag dusting of paddocks (1 strip per paddock).
- Concentrate removed.