

Ballyhaise Weekly Farm Notes - Monday 06/04/2009

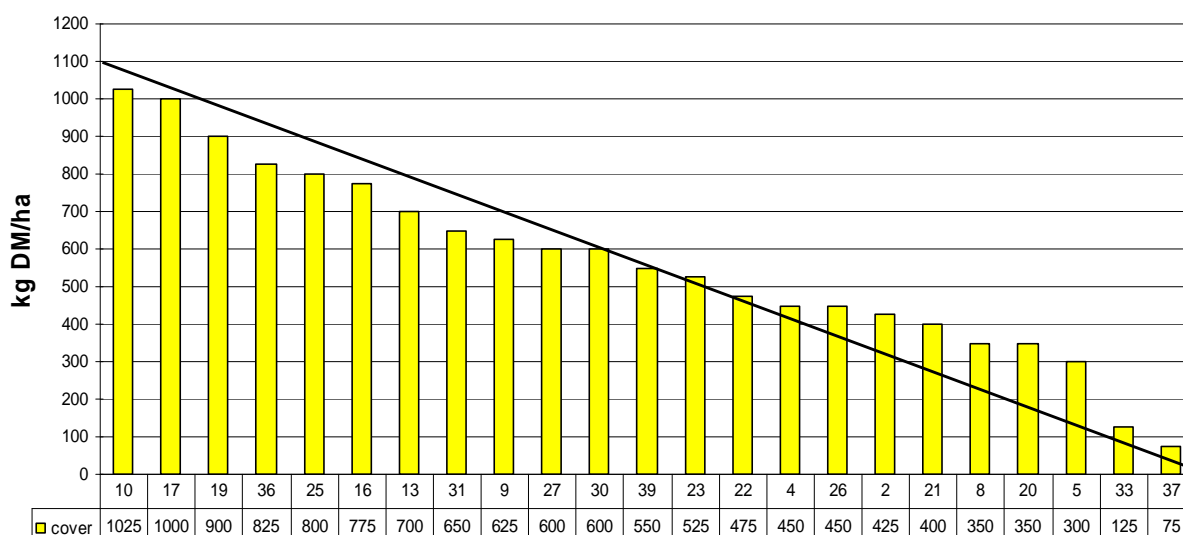
A. Critical Issues

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 9.0°C, similar to last week
2. Total weekly rainfall is 9.7mm
3. Average growth was 33kgDM/ha, (15% DM)
4. Grass supply is above target (181 vs. 150/cow)
5. We currently have 100% of farm grazed, started 2nd rotation on Friday.
6. Farm feed wedge (6/4/09)

Farm cover 561kg DM/ha (181/LU)



7. The wedge is now showing an excellent 2nd rotation wedge emerging.
8. Post grazing height on the last paddock grazed was 3.5cm.
9. Total N application to date is 37kg N/ha. Slurry from the out wintering pad has been applied to 37% of the entire grazing area post grazing to date.
10. 90% of the herd calved to date (expected mean calving date is 4th March).
11. Average milk yield is 21.21kg at 4.29% fat and 3.32% protein (1.61kg MS/cow), lactose 4.80%, SCC 239k, 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.

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Dairy Production Research in the Northeast

Objective:

To increase the profitability of milk production per hectare in the BMW region through improved pasture management and utilisation in combination with genetic improvement using the Economic Breeding Index.

Year	2004	2007	2008
Grazing season (days)	226	271	280
Herd EBI (€)	28	51	55
Stocking Rate (Cows/ha)	2.2	2.6	2.9
Concentrate (kg/cow)	700	400	250
Milk (kg/ha)	12,381	11,890	13,340
Milk Solids (kg/ ha)	928	931	1,150
6 week pregnancy rate (%)	38	55	65
Farm Profit (30 ha)	37,417	56,182	-

Week:06/04/09	HG system	HS system
Stocking rate (cows/ha)	3.1	4.6
Milk yield (kg/cow/day)	21.21	21.19
% Fat	4.86	4.9
% Protein	3.42	3.19
% Lactose	4.82	4.8
Milk solids (kg/cow/day)	1.81	1.73
Supplement (kg/cow/day)		
Concentrate	0.25	5.0
Silage	0	0
Cumulative		
Milk yield (kg/cow)	763	750
% Fat	5.07	4.92
% Protein	3.48	3.33
% Lactose	4.75	4.75
Milk solids (kg/cow)	70	63
Bodyweight (kg)	465	454
Body Condition Score	2.92	2.93
Supplement (kg/cow)	115	145
Mean Calving Date		4 th March



