

Ballyhaise Weekly Farm Notes - Monday 22/6/2009

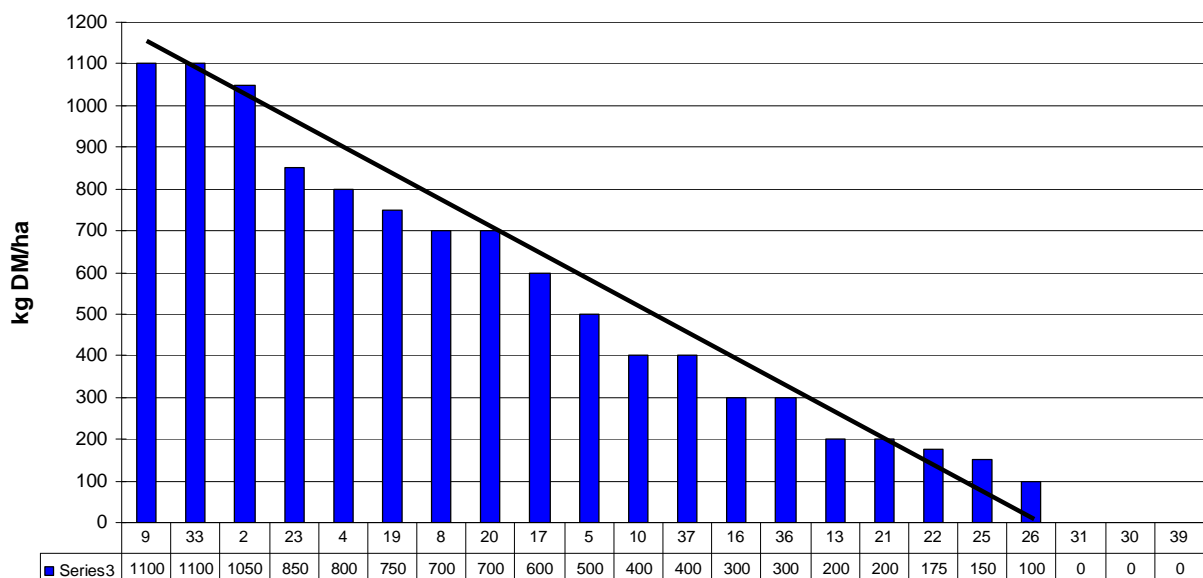
A. Critical Issues

1. Maximise cow intakes of pasture and maintain residual at 3.5cm
2. Ensure cows are getting better fed each week

B. On farm situation

1. Soil temperature today is 14.8°C.
2. Total weekly rainfall is 30.2mm
3. Average growth was 71kgDM/ha/day, (18% DM)
4. Demand is 64kgDM/ha/day (4.04 SR * 16kgDM/cow/day).
5. Grass supply below target (141 vs. 150/cow)
6. Farm feed wedge (22/6/09)

Farm cover 569kg DM/ha (141/LU)



7. Paddock 31 has been skipped, this paddock had a cover of 1600kgsDM/ha and was well above the target pre-grazing yield. This has left the cover/cow slightly low at 141kg/cow but with growth of 71kgDM/ha and a demand of 64kgDM/ha this should not be a problem. This paddock will be baled next week.
8. At stocking rate of 4.04 cows /ha, a 16kg per cow grass allowance and an 18 day rotation length our ideal pre-grazing yield is now 1160kg DM/ ha (4.04*16*18= 1160).
9. Post grazing height on the last paddock grazed was 3.4cm.
10. Rotation length 20 days.
11. 30 units of N is being spread on grazed paddocks. These paddocks are also receiving 2000gals of watery slurry from the lagoon.
12. Submission rate of 78% after third week of breeding season.

13. Average milk yield is 18.8kg at 3.89% fat and 3.33% protein (1.35kg MS/cow), lactose 4.78%, SCC 220k, TBC 50k.

C. Critical short term actions :

- 1kg of concentrate.
- Allocating grass on a 24hr basis.
- Cows moved when residual is reached.

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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:21/06/09	HG system	HS system
Stocking rate (cows/ha)	3.1	4.6
Milk yield (kg/cow/day)	18.8	18.21
% Fat	3.89	4.45
% Protein	3.33	3.21
% Lactose	4.82	4.76
Milk solids (kg/cow/day)	1.36	1.38
Supplement (kg/cow/day)		
Concentrate	2	5
Silage	0	0
Cumulative		
Milk yield (kg/cow)	2102	2142
% Fat	4.46	4.53
% Protein	3.28	3.17
% Lactose	4.79	4.81
Milk solids (kg/cow)	162	165
Bodyweight (kg)	450	454
Body Condition Score	2.75	2.79
Supplement (kg/cow)	291	445
Mean Calving Date		4 th March



