

Ballyhaise Weekly Farm Notes - Monday 29/6/2009

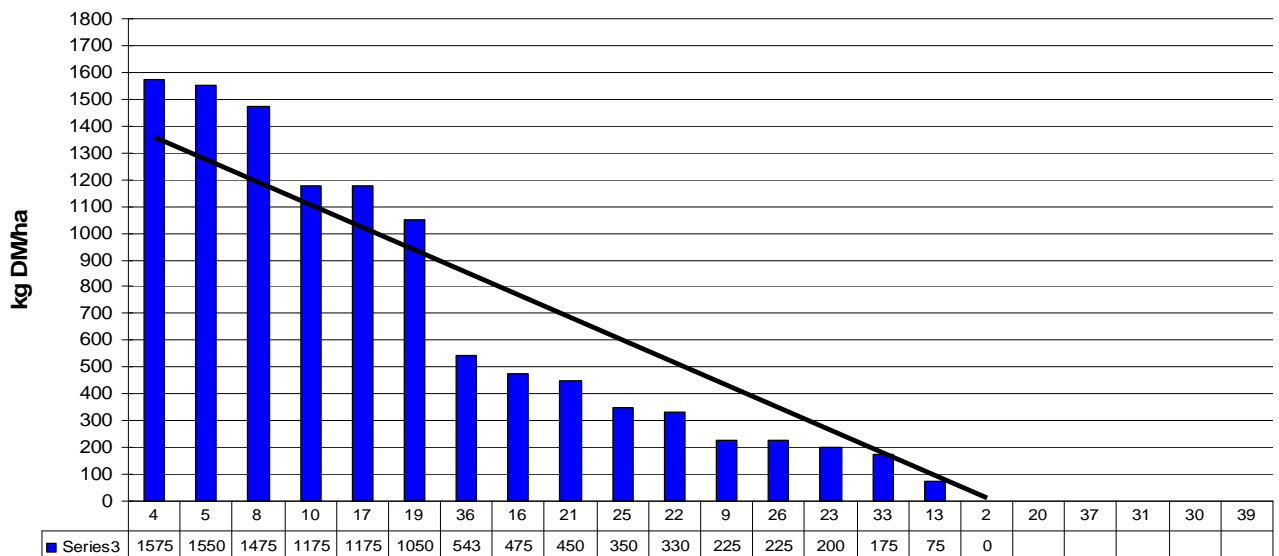
A. Critical Issues

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 17.5°C.
2. Total weekly rainfall is 1.6mm
3. Average growth was 80kgDM/ha/day, (17% DM)
4. Demand is 75kgDM/ha/day (4.44 SR * 17kgDM/cow/day).
5. Grass supply below target (143 vs. 150/cow)
6. Farm feed wedge (29/6/09)

Farm cover 636kg DM/ha (143/LU)



7. Paddocks 20 and 37 have been skipped for bales, both had a cover of 1600kgDM/ha. The next 6 paddocks are above the line but skipping more paddocks would leave us exposed (120 cover/LU). With good growing conditions forecast for this week we may be able to skip paddock 8. This will be assessed on Friday by doing another cover.
8. At stocking rate of 4.44 cows /ha, a 17kg per cow grass allowance and an 18 day rotation length our ideal pre-grazing yield is now 1350kg DM/ ha (4.44*17*18= 1350).
9. Post grazing height on the last paddock grazed was 3.8cm.
10. Rotation length 19 days.
11. 27 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 82% after third week of breeding season.

13. Average milk yield is 18.5kg at 4.06% fat and 3.25% protein (1.33kg MS/cow), lactose 4.77%, SCC 225k, TBC 50k.

C. Critical short term actions :

- Concentrate removed.
- 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:28/06/09	HG system	HS system
Stocking rate (cows/ha)	3.1	4.6
Milk yield (kg/cow/day)	18.49	19.49
% Fat	4.06	4.00
% Protein	3.25	3.17
% Lactose	4.77	4.78
Milk solids (kg/cow/day)	1.33	1.39
Supplement (kg/cow/day)		
Concentrate	1	2
Silage	0	0
Cumulative		
Milk yield (kg/cow)	2250	2302
% Fat	4.44	4.45
% Protein	3.28	3.17
% Lactose	4.79	4.81
Milk solids (kg/cow)	173	175
Bodyweight (kg)	450	454
Body Condition Score	2.75	2.79
Supplement (kg/cow)	295	458
Mean Calving Date		4 th March

