

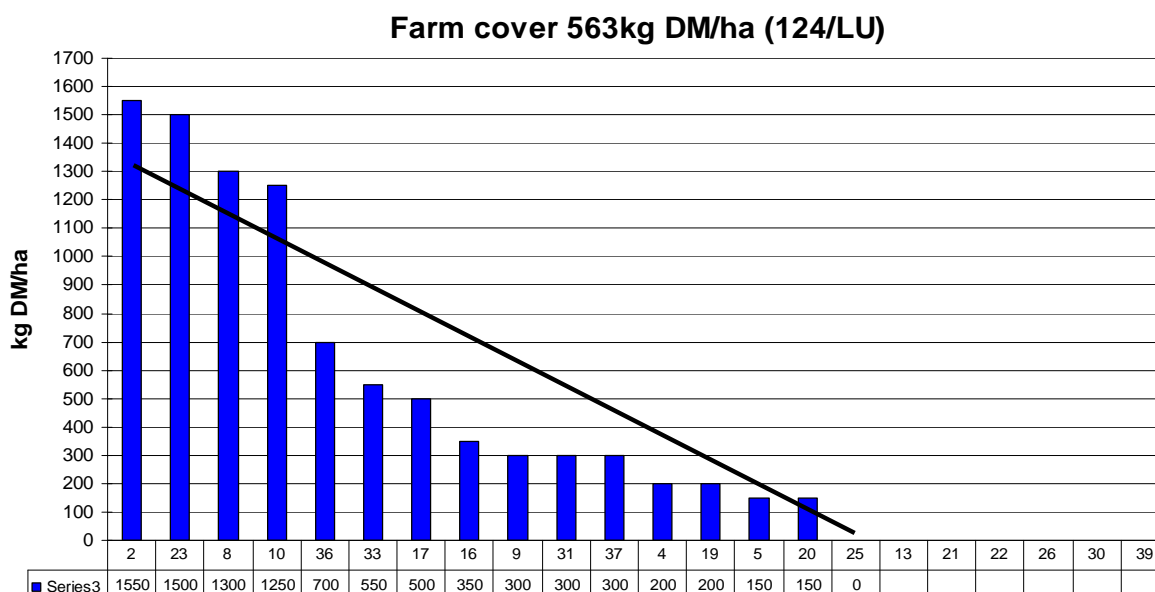
Ballyhaise Weekly Farm Notes - Monday 13/7/2009

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 18.5°C.
2. Total weekly rainfall is 18.5mm
3. Average growth was 105kgDM/ha/day, (14% DM)
4. Demand is 72kgDM/ha/day (4.56SR * 16kgDM/cow/day).
5. Grass supply is below target (124 vs. 150/cow)
6. Farm feed wedge (13/7/09)



7. There is a feed deficit evident on the wedge but this of no concern as even at our current stocking rate growth is still 23kgs/ha/day higher than demand. Paddocks 5, 9, 20, 31 and 37 were baled last week and are back in our rotation. Another cover will be done on Friday to assess if more paddocks need to be skipped.
8. Paddocks 13, 21 and 22 will be baled when they reach a cover of 2000-2500kgDM/ha, probably the beginning of next week.
9. At stocking rate of 4.56 cows /ha, a 16kg per cow grass allowance and an 18 day rotation length our ideal pre-grazing yield is now 1300kg DM/ ha (4.56*16*18= 1300).
10. Post grazing height on the last paddock grazed was 3.4cm.
11. Rotation length 18 days.
12. 20 units of N are being spread on grazed paddocks. Total N usage to the first of July is 160kg/ha.

13. Submission rate of 82% after third week of breeding season.

14. Average milk yield is 17.71kg at 4.32% fat and 3.38% protein (1.35kg MS/cow), lactose 4.77%, SCC 133k, TBC 24k.

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:12/7/09	HG system	HS system
Stocking rate (cows/ha)	3.1	4.6
Milk yield (kg/cow/day)	17.71	18.71
% Fat	4.32	4.38
% Protein	3.38	3.18
% Lactose	4.77	4.74
Milk solids (kg/cow/day)	1.35	1.41
Supplement (kg/cow/day)		
Concentrate	0.25	0.25
Silage	0	0
Cumulative		
Milk yield (kg/cow)	2527	2593
% Fat	4.49	4.51
% Protein	3.32	3.18
% Lactose	4.78	4.89
Milk solids (kg/cow)	196	199
Bodyweight (kg)	486	473
Body Condition Score	2.82	2.77
Supplement (kg/cow)	299	467
Mean Calving Date		4 th March

