

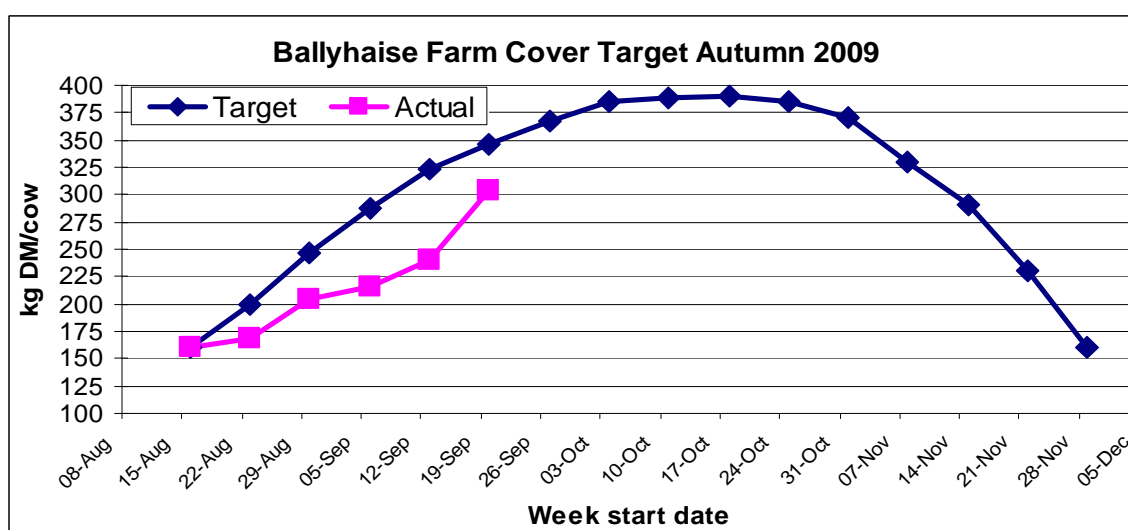
Ballyhaise Weekly Farm Notes - Monday 21/9/2009

A. Critical Issues

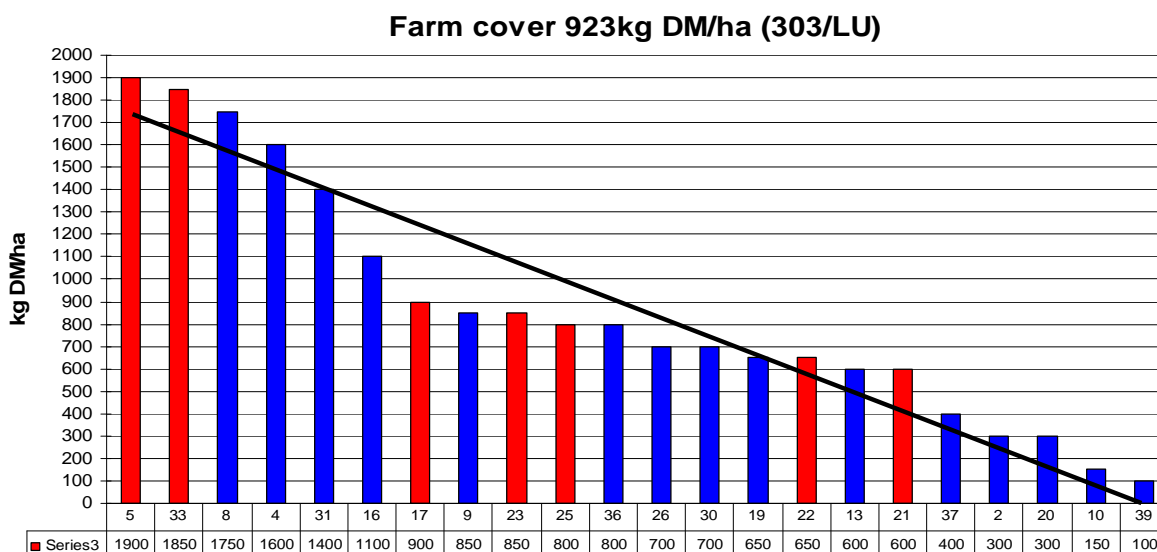
1. Maximise cow intakes of pasture and maintain residual at 3.5cm.
2. Ensure cows are getting better fed each week.

B. On farm situation

1. Soil temperature today is 11°C.
2. Total weekly rainfall is 0.7mm.
3. Average growth was 55kgDM/ha/day, (14% DM).
4. Demand is 37kgDM/ha/day (3.1SR * 12kgDM/cow/day).
5. Grass supply is below target (303 vs. 350/cow).
6. Feeding 3kg of concentrate.
7. Autumn budget.



8. Farm feed wedge (21/9/09).



9. Farm cover is still behind budget this week. Growth rate is similar to what was budgeted for this week. Ground conditions are excellent which is allowing good grass utilisation. We have removed the bale silage from the diet. This should help maintain the residuals at 3.5cm.
10. The red paddocks on the wedge are the wettest paddocks on the farm, they will be grazed first during dry periods once they are in the top third of the wedge. This will help minimise pasture damage on these paddocks during wet periods.
11. Empty cows will be sold in the next week to help reduce demand on the farm.
12. Rotation length is 36 days.
13. Post grazing height on the last paddock grazed was 3.5cm.
14. Total N usage for the year is 257kg/ha.
15. Cows were scanned last week. 18% empty rate after 12 weeks of breeding. The six week in-calf rate is 57%.
16. Average milk yield is 13.45kg at 4.57% fat and 3.74% protein (1.1kg MS/cow), lactose 4.62%, SCC 173k, TBC 4k.

C. Critical short term actions :

- Allocating grass in 12hr blocks.
- 3kg concentrate being fed.

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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:20/9/09	HG system	HS system
Stocking rate (cows/ha)	3.1	4.6
Milk yield (kg/cow/day)	13.45	14.8
% Fat	4.57	4.55
% Protein	3.74	3.59
% Lactose	4.62	4.64
Milk solids (kg/cow/day)	1.1	1.2
Supplement (kg/cow/day)		
Concentrate	3	3
Silage	3	5
Cumulative		
Milk yield (kg/cow)	3561	3749
% Fat	4.53	4.45
% Protein	3.38	3.28
% Lactose	4.75	4.77
Milk solids (kg/cow)	280	289
Bodyweight (kg)	507	497
Body Condition Score	2.70	2.77
Supplement (kg/cow)		
Concentrate	462	746
Silage	81	180
Maize	0	180
Conserved silage (kg DM/cow)	831	126
Mean Calving Date		4 th March

