

Ballyhaise Weekly Farm Notes - Monday 18/4/2010

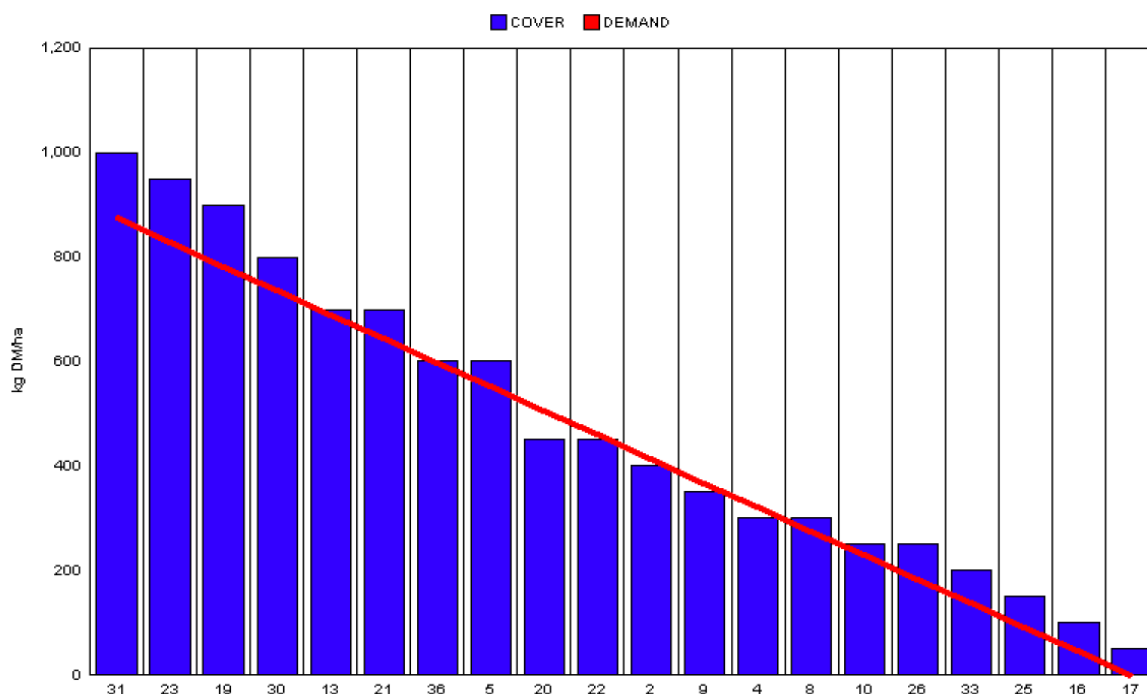
A. Critical Issues

1. Maximise cow intakes of pasture and maintain residual at 3.5cm.
2. Ensure cows are getting better fed each week.
3. Treat high SCC cows and reduce risk of cross infection.

B. On farm situation

1. Soil temperature today is 8.5°C.
2. Total weekly rainfall is 0mm.
3. Average growth was 39kgDM/ha/day, (16% DM).
4. Feeding 4kg of concentrate.
5. Farm feed wedge (18/4/10).

Teagasc, Dairy Production Department, Moorepark		GrazePlan - Grass Measurement Report	
Group : TEAGASC RESEARCH FARMS		Date Produced 20-APR-10	
Farm : Ballyhaise Farm	Ballyhaise BMW region systems comparison		
Date : 19-APR-10	Treatment : 3.1 stocking rate		
Rotation Length :	21	Farm Cover (kg DM/ha) :	472
Grass Allocation /cow (kg grass dry matter/LU	12	Farm Cover (kg DM/LU) :	136
Concentrate Fed (kg/cow) :	4	Current Monthly Fertilizer Rate (kg/ha) :	
Silage Fed (kg DM/cow) :	0	Stock Rate (LU/ha) :	3.48
N Application Rate (units/acre) :		Growth Rate :	39
N Application Rate (kg/ha) :		Farm Demand (kg DM/LU/day) ::	42
Residual Height :	3.5	Target pregrazing yield (kg DM/ha) :	876
Total Livestock :	58		



6. Paddocks 37 and 39 have been removed from rotation for reseeded. This means that the stocking rate on the area is now 3.48 cows/ha. The ideal pre-grazing yield is 880 kgDM/ha ($3.49 \times 12 \times 21$).
7. Feeding 4kg of concentrate to maintain intake at 17kg DM / cow per day. Growth is just about matching demand so we will remain at this feeding level until growth rates improve. With cold nights and no rain forecast for this week growth rate won't improve this week.
8. We are allocating 1/21st of the farm each day (0.8 ha). At PGY of 950kgs and 59 cows this means a grass intake of 13kgs/cow/day.
9. 59 cows calved out of 62 (95%) to date.
10. Average milk yield is 24.6kg at 4.36% fat and 3.36% protein (1.9kg MS/cow), lactose 4.78%, SCC 310k, TBC 6k.
11. Six cows with high cell counts have been CMT tested and quarter sampled. They have been removed from tank and are being used to feed calves. They are milked separately from the rest of the herd to minimise risk of cross infection.

C. Critical short term actions :

- Allocating grass in 24hr blocks.
- Cows calved on paddocks to reduce incidence of mastitis.

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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:18/04/10	HG system	HS system
Stocking rate (cows/ha)	3.1	4.6
Milk yield (kg/cow/day)	24.62	20.43
% Fat	4.36	4.53
% Protein	3.36	3.10
% Lactose	4.78	4.85
Milk solids (kg/cow/day)	1.9	1.55
Supplement (kg/cow/day)		
Concentrate	4	6
Silage	0	3
Cumulative		
Milk yield (kg/cow)	921	856
% Fat	4.81	4.81
% Protein	3.36	3.31
% Lactose	4.77	4.67
Milk solids (kg/cow)	76	69
Bodyweight (kg)	460	443
Body Condition Score	3.0	2.9
Supplement (kg/cow)		
Concentrate	211	238
Silage to milking cows (kg DM/cow)	137	120
Maize (kg DM/cow)	0	114
Conserved silage (kg DM/cow)	817	126
Total silage fed (kg DM/cow)	930	1233