

## Ballyhaise Weekly Farm Notes - Monday 8/3/2011

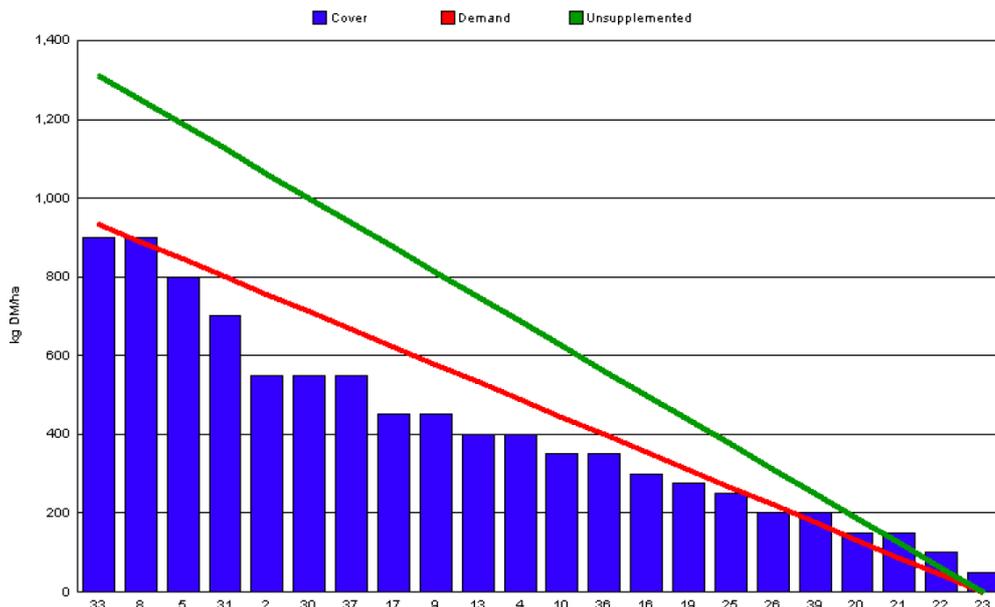
### A. Critical Issues

1. Use rotation planner to allocate grass daily.
2. Maintain residual at 3.5cm.
3. Minimise risk of mastitis infection around calving.
4. Ensure each calve receives adequate colostrum.

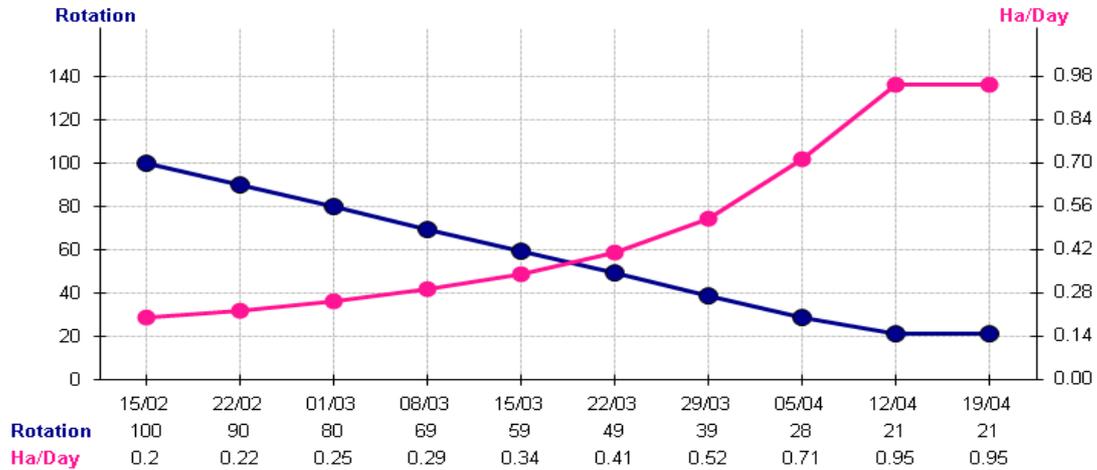
### B. On farm situation

1. Soil temperature today is 6.5°C.
2. Total weekly rainfall is 0mm.
3. Average growth was 14kgDM/ha/day, (20% DM).
4. Demand is 14kgDM/ha/day (1.7 SR \* 8 kg DM /cow / day).
5. Feeding 3kg of concentrate and 3kg of silage.
6. Farm feed wedge (8/3/11).

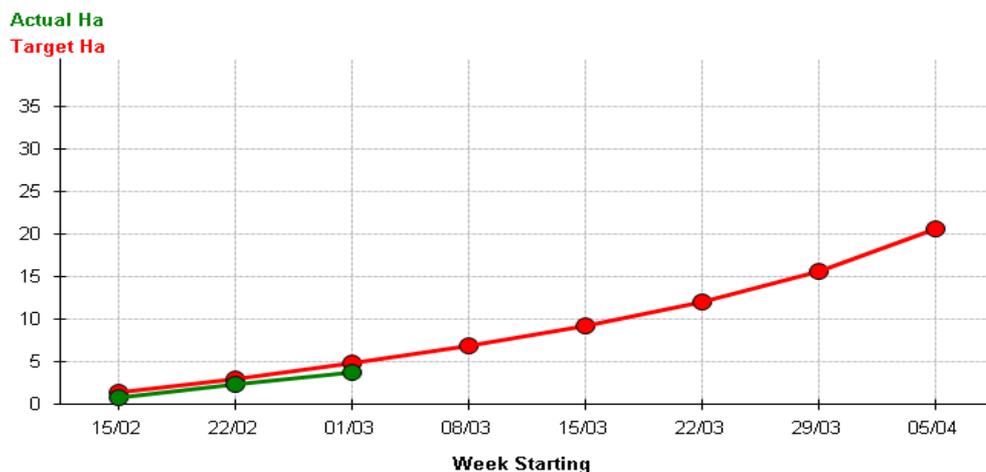
Moorepark Animal & Grassland Research and Innovation Centre		GrazePlan - Grass Measurement Report	
Group : TEAGASC RESEARCH FARMS		Date Produced 08-MAR-11	
Farm : Ballyhaise Farm		Ballyhaise BMW region systems comparison	
Date : 08-MAR-11		Treatment : 3.1 stocking rate	
Rotation Length :	69	Farm Cover (kg DM/ha) :	411
Grass Allocation /cow (kg grass dry matter/LU	8	Farm Cover (kg DM/LU) :	242
Concentrate Fed (kg/cow) :	3	Current Monthly Fertilizer Rate (kg/ha) :	
Silage Fed (kg DM/cow) :	2.8	Stock Rate (LU/ha) :	1.70
N Application Rate (units/acre) :		Growth Rate :	14
N Application Rate (kg/ha) :		Farm Demand (kg DM/LU/day) :	14
Residual Height :	3.5	Target pregrazing yield (kg DM/ha) :	936
Total Livestock :	34		



7. Farm cover is low due to very low over winter growth rates. The opening cover on the farm was 419kg DM / ha. The closing cover last autumn was 475kg DM / ha. Growth this week is 14kg DM / ha which is up from 11 kg DM / ha last week.
8. Spring Rotation planner (8/03/11)



Week Start Date	Ha/Day	Target Ha Grazed	Target %	Actual Ha Grazed	Actual %
15/02 - 21/02	0.20	1.40	7.0	0.76	3.8
22/02 - 28/02	0.22	2.94	14.7	2.2	11
01/03 - 07/03	0.25	4.69	23.4	4.34	22
08/03 - 14/03	0.29	6.72	33.5		
15/03 - 21/03	0.34	9.10	45.4		
22/03 - 28/03	0.41	11.97	59.7		
29/03 - 04/04	0.52	15.61	77.9		
05/04 - 11/04	0.71	20.58	102.6		



9. Area was being allocated on the basis of the SRP last week (0.25 ha / day) and no silage was being fed. Cows were grazing below the target post grazing residual of 3.5cm.
10. The area allocated this week is 0.29ha per day. At a pre-grazing yield of 950kg DM / ha this area will give each animal an allowance of 8kg DM per day ( $950 * 0.29 = 275 / 34 = 8\text{kg DM / cow / day}$ ).
11. Feeding 3kg of concentrate and 3kg of silage to maintain intake at 14kg DM / cow per day.
12. Post grazing height on the last paddock grazed was 2.8cm.
13. Urea was bulk spread on 70% of the area on the 15<sup>th</sup> of February (23 units N / acre), 20% of the area received 2500 gals / acre. The remaining 10% of the area is the wettest part and will get 23 units of N this week.
14. Calving started on the 6<sup>th</sup> of February, 56 % calved to date. Of 65 animals calved 4 were assisted, there have been no cases of milk fever and there was one case of retained afterbirth. There are 29 heifer calves born and no calf deaths to date.
15. There have been 8 clinical cases of mastitis since calving started, 5 of these were first calving heifers. The first bulk tank SCC was 532K, the whole herd was CMT'd last week and 6 high SCC animals have been taken out and treated.
16. Average milk yield is 17.7kg at 4.76% fat and 3.66% protein (1.56kg MS/cow), lactose 4.86%, SCC 116k, TBC 18k.

### C. Critical short term actions :

- Allocating grass in 12hr blocks.
- 3kg concentrate and 3kg of silage are being fed.

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