

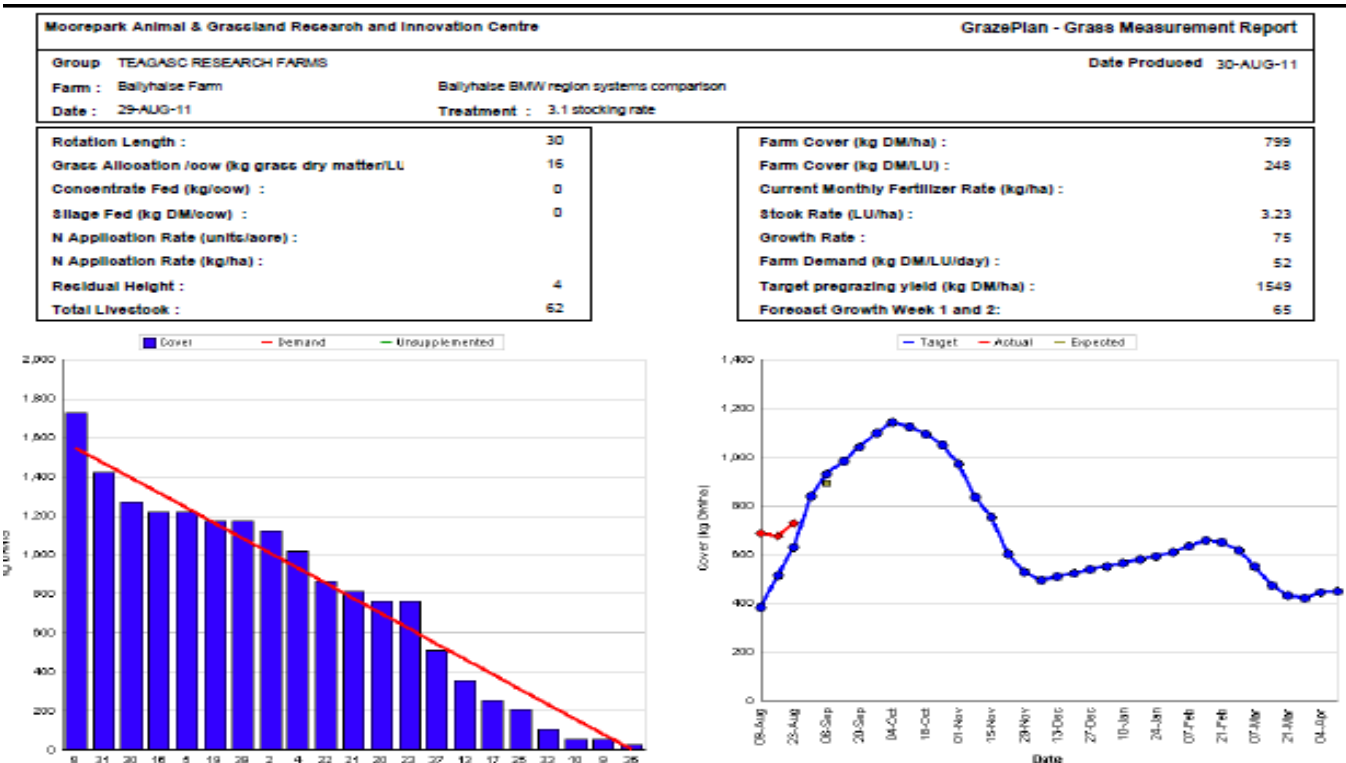
Ballyhaise Weekly Farm Notes – Monday 29/08/2011

A. Critical Issues

1. Maintain residual at 3.5cm.
2. Continue building autumn grass covers.
3. 12 hr allocation of grass.

B. On farm situation

1. Average growth was 75kg DM/ha/day, (17% DM).
2. Demand is 52kgDM/ha/day (3.23 SR * 16 kg DM /cow / day).
3. Average soil temperature for the past week was 15°C.
4. Total rainfall for the past week was 20.3 mm.
5. Farm feed wedge (29/8/11).



6. Growth rate this week was 75kg DM / ha which is above demand of 57kg DM / ha. The blue line on the graph is the target farm cover, the red line represents the actual cover and the yellow dots are the predicted cover for the next two weeks at a predicted growth rate of 65 kg DM / ha / day. Farm cover is on target (800 kg DM / ha) with the budget so no action has been taken.
7. The target is to reach a peak average farm cover of 1100kg DM / ha in the first week of October. This will mean grazing pre-grazing covers of 2200kg DM / ha. The target closing cover is 550kg DM / ha, the first paddock closed on the 5th of October should have a cover of 1100kg DM / ha which will be carried over the winter for grazing next spring.

8. Current rotation length is 30 days; this will increase to 45 days by the 15th of October. This means that the cows are grazing 1/30th of the available area per day (0.63ha * 1700 kg DM / ha = 1023 kg DM / day for 62 cows = 17.4 kg DM / cow / day.
9. Total grass grown to date is 11.6 tons DM / ha.
10. Paddocks 36 and 9 were reseeded with Tyrella on the 30th of July. They were grazed with the calves at the weekend at a cover of 400 kg DM / ha. They are now back in the rotation.
11. Grass is allocated in 12 hr blocks in order to achieve the desired residual while grazing covers in excess of 1600 kg DM / ha.
12. Average post grazing residual for the week was 3.9cm.
13. Following cows with 27 units of N (Can) after grazing.
14. Heifer calves were weighed last week and averaged 143kg. These are all jersey cross heifer calves. They are 12kg behind target weight due to problems with worm infestations earlier in the grazing season.
15. There have been 17 clinical cases of mastitis since calving started, 6 of these were first calving heifers. There were no new cases of mastitis this week.
16. Started breeding season on the 10th of May with the milking cows. Submission rate for the first 24 days of breeding was 93%. Bulls used were-
FR – MWW, WNE, WDS, MJD.
JE – SYI, HWY, WFM, RVW, PKU, TIO.
17. The stock bulls were removed on the 7th of August (13 week breeding period).
18. The whole herd was scanned on the 29th of July. The six week in-calf rate is 58% and the 8 week in-calf rate is 72%. The maiden heifers have not been scanned yet.
19. Average milk yield is 16.85 kg at 4.67% fat and 3.64% protein (1.4kg MS/cow), lactose 4.74%, SCC 165k, TBC 9k.

C. Critical short term actions :

- Allocating grass in 12hr blocks.
- Applying 27units of N / acre.
- Monitor condition score.

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Week:27/08/11	HG system	HS system
Stocking rate (cows/ha)	3.1	4.6
Milk yield (kg/cow/day)	16.85	17.69
% Fat	4.67	4.61
% Protein	3.64	3.48
% Lactose	4.74	4.69
Milk solids (kg/cow/day)	1.4	1.42
Supplement (kg/cow/day)		
Concentrate	0.25	4
Silage	0	0
Cumulative		
Milk yield (kg/cow)	3607	3528
% Fat	4.46	4.49
% Protein	3.54	3.50
% Lactose	4.85	4.84
Milk solids kg / cow (kg / ha)	288 (904)	281 (1292)
Bodyweight (kg)	478	491
Body Condition Score	2.85	2.92
Supplement (kg/cow)		
Concentrate	249	371
Silage to milking cows (kg DM/cow)	77	140
Maize (kg DM/cow)	0	0
Conserved silage (kg DM/cow)	784	189
Total silage fed (kg DM/cow)	1100	1400