

**A. Critical Issues**

1. Start closing paddocks.
2. Use strip wire to maintain residual.
3. Graze 15% of the farm each week for October.

**B. 2013 Calving date trial**

- The herd is split into two separate calving dates
- Early calving group – mean calving date is the 25<sup>th</sup> of Feb.
- Late calving group – mean calving date is the 10<sup>th</sup> of March.
- Stocking rate is 2.9 cows per ha for both groups and fertiliser input will be constant (250Kg N / ha).
- Within each group there are equal numbers of Friesian and crossbred cows

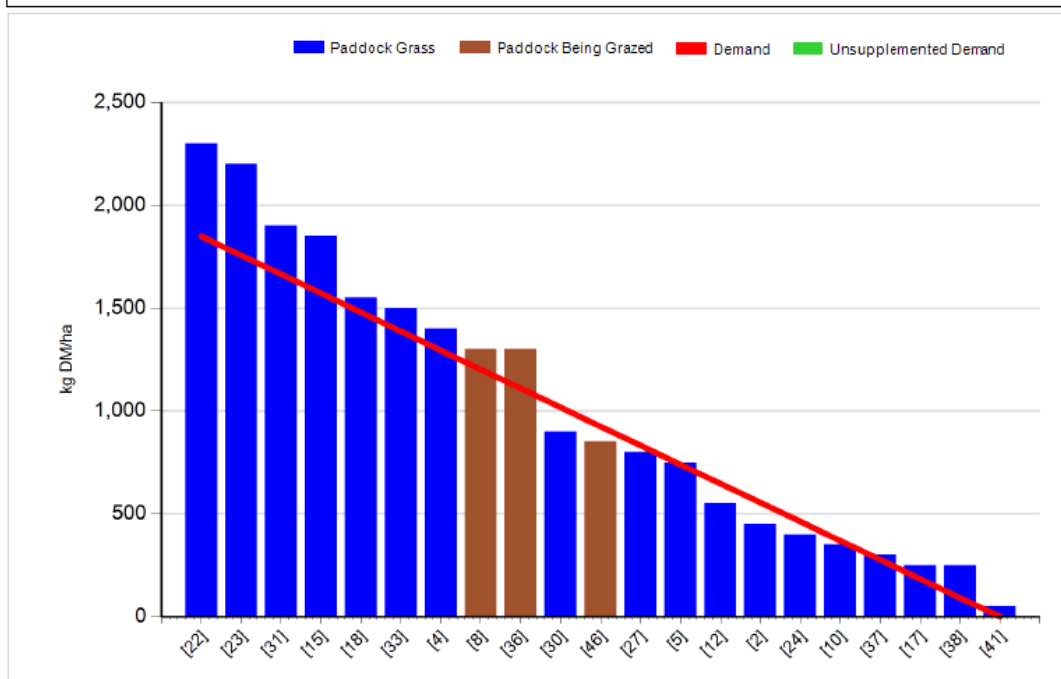
**C. Whole farm situation**

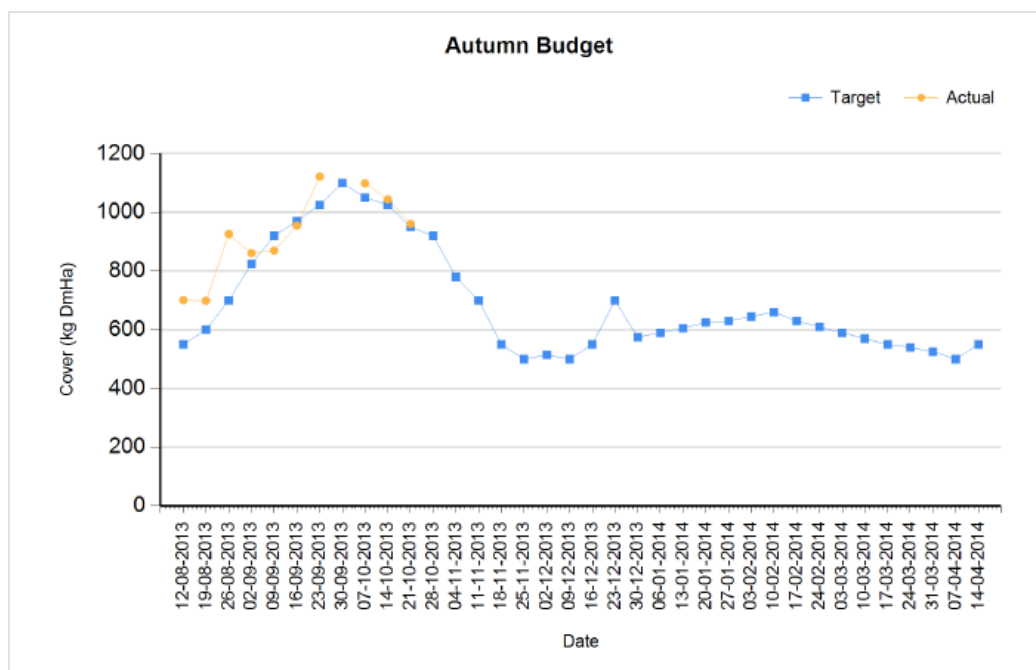
1. Soil temperature today is 9.5°C.
2. Total rainfall over the past seven days was 60mm.
3. Average growth was 48kgDM/ha/day, (13% DM).
4. Rotation length 45 days.
5. Feed wedge 20/10/2013

Rotation Length (days):	45	Silage Fed (kg DM/cow):	0.0
Grass Allocation/Cow (kg DM/cow):	13.0	Residual Height (cm):	3.5
No. of Cows:	60		
Concentrate Fed (kg/cow):	3.0		

**Cover Parameters**

Grass Allocation/LU (kg DM/LU):	13.0	Growth Rate (kg/ha/day):	48
Total Livestock (LU):	60.0	Farm Demand (kg DM/ha/day):	41
Farm Cover (kg DM/ha):	961	Target Pre-grazing yield (kg DM/ha):	1849
Farm Cover (kg DM/LU):	304		
Stocking Rate (LU/ha):	3.16		





6. Farm cover is 961 kg DM / ha (304 kg DM / cow) and pre-grazing cover is 2200 kg DM / ha.
7. Autumn budget is on target, increased concentrate to 3kg to reduce demand as growth is starting to slow this week due to soil temperature drop. We aim to be at a farm cover of 875kg DM / ha next week.
8. Started closing paddocks on the 1<sup>st</sup> October, have 55% closed to date which is ahead of target. This is because we grazed off all of the wet paddocks during dry weather regardless of cover. We have also closed about 25% of the area which is dry and will be suitable for early spring grazing. The first paddocks closed have a cover of 700kg DM / ha this week.
9. Grazing conditions have deteriorated this week with heavy rainfall. We are allocating grass in 12 hour blocks and on-off grazing when necessary. Cows are still grazing out well – 3.6 to 4.2 cm post grazing height.
10. Total N spread to date is 250 kg N / ha
11. Total growth to date is 12.3 tons DM / ha.
12. Cows and heifers were scanned on the 30<sup>th</sup> of August. The empty rate in the cows after 12 weeks of breeding was 9%. Pregnancy rate to first service was 51% and 6 week pregnancy rate was 76%. Heifer empty rate was 10% over 7 week breeding period with 72% conception to 1<sup>st</sup> service AI and the remainder in-calf to jersey stock bulls. There are 145 animals scanned in-calf for next year so will have 20 surplus animals to sell.

### C. Bulk tank details :

Milk yield 12.02kg, Fat 4.9%, Protein 4.01% (1.1kg MS) SCC 186,000, TBC 4,000

Date : 20/10/2013 Mean calving date	Early 25 <sup>th</sup> Feb		Late 10 <sup>th</sup> March	
	FR	JFX	FR	JFX
<b>Stocking rate (cows/ha)</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>2.9</b>
Milk yield (kg/cow/day)	12.9	10.8	14.3	12.5
% Fat	4.86	5.30	4.75	5.05
% Protein	3.95	4.37	4.00	4.18
% Lactose	4.47	4.45	4.51	4.53
Milk solids (kg/cow/day)	1.14	1.04	1.25	1.15
Supplement (kg/cow/day)				
Concentrate	2	2	2	2
Silage	0	0	0	0
<b>Cumulative</b>				
Milk yield (kg/cow)	4,823	4,398	4,423	3,989
% Fat	4.45	4.69	4.50	4.70
% Protein	3.45	3.71	3.53	3.62
% Lactose	4.70	4.73	4.71	4.73
Milk solids (kg/cow)	381	369	355	332
Weight	518	476	524	451
Body Condition Score	2.88	2.93	2.84	2.83
Supplement (kg/cow)				
Concentrate		714		596
Silage to milking cows (kg DM/cow)		330		180
Conserved silage (kg DM/cow)		576 (48%)		605 (50%)

\* These are raw data and have not been statistically analysed.

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