

**A. Critical Issues**

1. 36 hour allocations.
2. Maintain target residual (4cm).
3. Maintain good heat detection.

**B. 2014 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.
- Within each group there are equal numbers of Friesian and crossbred cows.

**C. Whole farm situation**

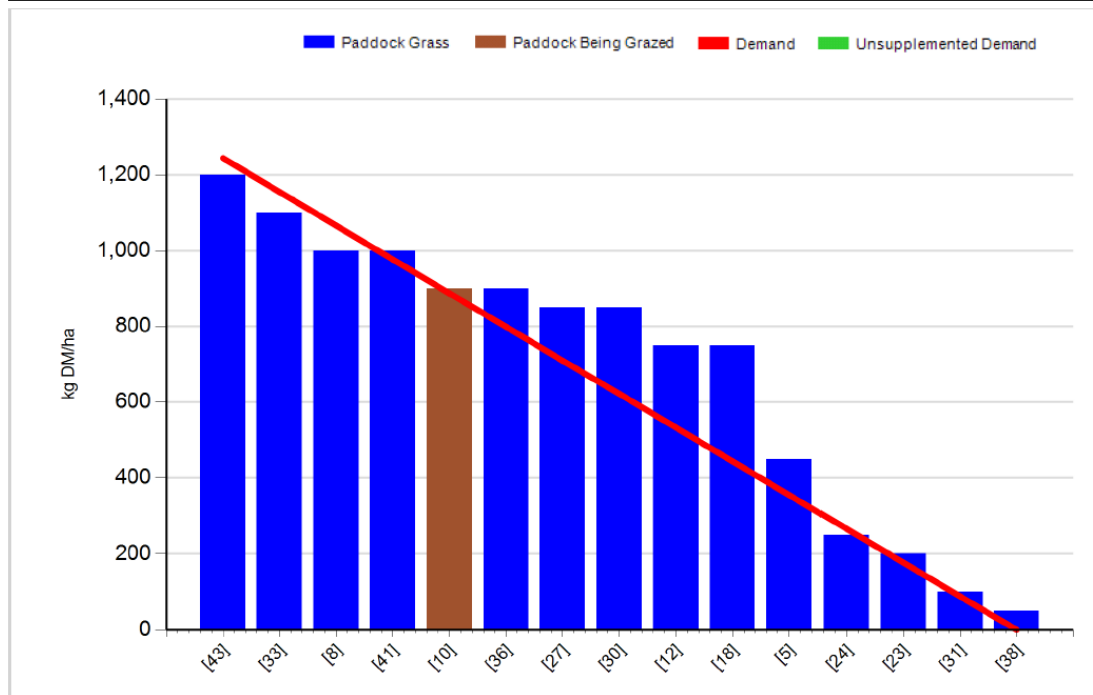
- Soil temperature today is 16.8°C.
- Total rainfall for past 7 days is 30mm.
- Heifers weighed on the 12<sup>th</sup> of May – Fr 348kg and crossbreds 332kg, there are 4 heifers out of 25 under target.
- All heifers served once with AI, stock bulls introduced.
- Milk yield 21.3kg, 4.13% fat, 3.42% protein (1.65kg Ms / cow), SCC 152,000 and TBC 18,000.

**D. Early group**

Rotation Length (days):	18	Silage Fed (kg DM/cow):	
Grass Allocation/Cow (kg DM/cow):	16.0	Residual Height (cm):	3.5
No. of Cows:	60		
Concentrate Fed (kg/cow):	0.8		

**Cover Parameters**

Grass Allocation/LU (kg DM/LU):	16.0	Growth Rate (kg/ha/day):	133
Total Livestock (LU):	60.0	Farm Demand (kg DM/ha/day):	69
Farm Cover (kg DM/ha):	697	Target Pre-grazing yield (kg DM/ha):	1244
Farm Cover (kg DM/LU):	161		
Stocking Rate (LU/ha):	4.32		



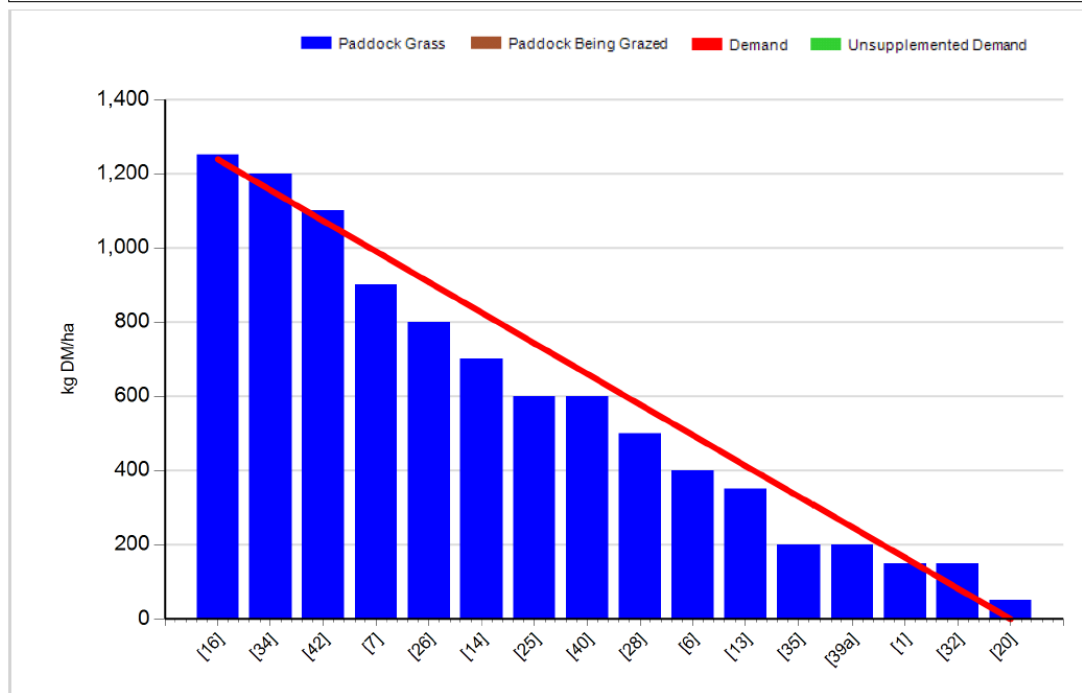
1. Farm cover is 697 kg DM / ha (161kg DM / cow) which is on target.
2. Growth rate was 133 kg DM / ha which is well ahead of demand of 69 kg DM / ha. We have skipped over 20% of the area for silage but none of these paddocks are above 1300 kg DM / ha cover yet. If growth rate continues above 90 kg DM / ha we will have to skip over more area by the weekend.
3. Pre-grazing yield is 1200kg DM / ha which is slightly below target but we wanted to keep the paddocks with the best quality grass in the rotation.
4. Grazing down to 4.1cm on average. Ground conditions are excellent.
5. Started AI on the 28<sup>th</sup> of April, 100% submitted in 6 weeks, Non – return rate is 56% which is on the low side. Introduced stock bulls last week, have had some issues with bulls interrupting cow flow when taking cows in for milking.

### C. Late Group

Rotation Length (days):	18	Silage Fed (kg DM/cow):	0.0
Grass Allocation/Cow (kg DM/cow):	16.0	Residual Height (cm):	3.5
No. of Cows:	59		
Concentrate Fed (kg/cow):	0.8		

#### Cover Parameters

Grass Allocation/LU (kg DM/LU):	16.0	Growth Rate (kg/ha/day):	112
Total Livestock (LU):	59.0	Farm Demand (kg DM/ha/day):	69
Farm Cover (kg DM/ha):	611	Target Pre-grazing yield (kg DM/ha):	1238
Farm Cover (kg DM/LU):	142		
Stocking Rate (LU/ha):	4.30		



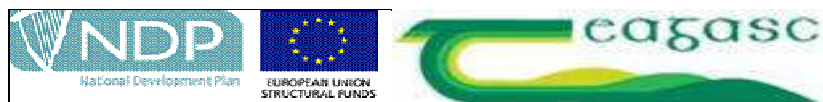
1. Farm cover is 611 kg DM / ha (142kg DM / cow) which is slightly below target.
2. Growth rate was 112kg DM / ha and demand is 69kg DM / ha. Similar to the early group have skipped 28% of the area to increase demand. If PGY exceeds 1400kg DM / ha will skip more area.

3. Pre – grazing yield is 1250kg DM / ha which is below target but quality is excellent..
4. Grazing out to 4.1cm on average.
5. Ai started on the 13<sup>th</sup> of May, 100% submitted in 5 weeks.

**D. Critical short term actions :**

- Maintain pre grazing covers below 1400kg DM / ha
- Focus on good heat detection.
- Monitor stock bull activity.

[www.agresearch.teagasc.ie/moorepark/](http://www.agresearch.teagasc.ie/moorepark/)



Date : 15/06/2014 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)	21.3	19.2	22.8	20.4
% Fat	4.32	4.73	4.33	4.56
% Protein	3.43	3.54	3.50	3.58
% Lactose	4.89	4.93	4.92	4.94
Milk solids (kg/cow/day)	1.65	1.59	1.79	1.66
Supplement (kg/cow/day)				
Concentrate	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75
Silage	0	0	0	0
<b>Cumulative</b>				
Milk yield (kg/cow)	2,741	2,522	2,490	2,332
% Fat	4.23	4.48	4.41	4.51
% Protein	3.29	3.43	3.43	3.49
% Lactose	4.97	5.02	4.93	4.93
Milk solids (kg/cow)	206	199	195	187
Weight	514	470	512	446
Body Condition Score	2.84	2.89	2.87	2.87
Supplement (kg/cow)				
Concentrate		270		191
Silage to milking cows (kg DM/cow)		125		80
Conserved silage (kg DM/cow)		450		420

