Ballyhaise Farm Walk Notes Tuesday 12-05-15

Figure 1. Early Calving (mean calving date 23rd Feb) feed wedge Tuesday 12/05/15

- Average farm cover is 727 kg DM/ha (182 /LU), DM 15%.
- Growth rate for the last 7 days was 69 kg DM/ha/day, this is an increase from last week and is driven by higher soil temperatures – soil temperature is 11 °C this am.
- 28% of area closed for silage.
- Ground conditions are poor and we are using 12 hour strip wire most of the time, on dry days we are allocating in 24 hr blocks.
- Average post grazing residual for the week is 4.5cm, even with 12 hr allocation cows have dirtied grass and would not graze out on the very wet days.
- Feeding 1.5kg of Cal mag and mineral carrier ration.
- There are 7% of animals below BCS of 2.75; these cows are being milked once a day.
- Breeding started on the 5th of May, 36% of herd submitted in first seven days.
- The herd are milking 24.4 kg milk/cow/day and (with latest milk composition details from the co-op of fat 4.40%, protein 3.59%, lactose 4.86% and SCC 172k) are producing 1.95 kg milk solids/cow/day currently.