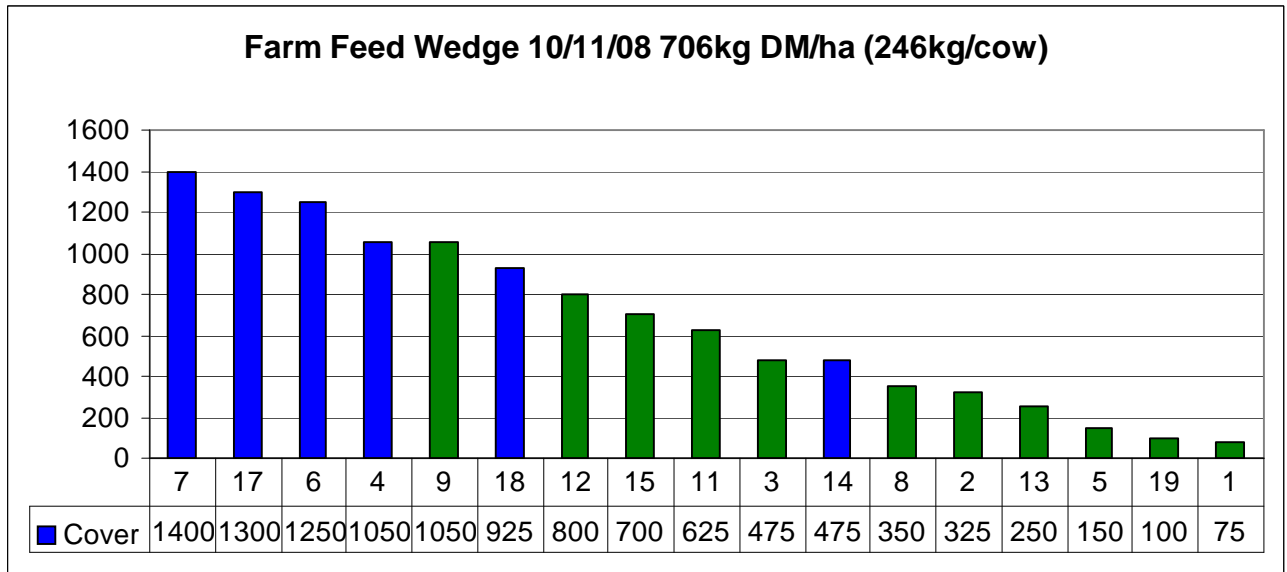


Curtins Farm Walk Notes Tuesday 11-11-08

1. Farm Feed Wedge



2. Growth over the past 7 days was 27.7kg DM/ha/day
3. Mean soil temperature today is 7.4deg Celsius, total rainfall for the past 7 days was 50.4mm
4. Average milk yield is 11.8kg at 4.81% fat and 4.18% protein (1.06kg MS/cow), Lactose 4.51%, SCC 314k, Thermoduric N/D, TBC 24
5. Total milk solids supply to November 1st is up 3.1% on 2007 levels (51,933kg vs. 50812 kg MS; equivalent to 370 kg MS/cow)
6. Fertilizer application for season is 246 kg N per hectare
7. Pasture growth to the 3rd of November is 3.62% ahead of 2007 levels (14.95 tons vs. 14.4 tons) and approximately 641kg DM of winter feed per cow in excess of requirements.
8. Critical Short-term Actions:

- Similar to last week, farm is below target as per Autumn grass budget targets (below);

Week	A Grass Cover (kg dm/ha)	Cover per LU	D Growth (kg dm/day)	G Cow diet kg DM	J Predicted cover close (kg dm/ha)
01-Nov	999	357	33.0	15	935
08-Nov	935	334	32.0	15	865
15-Nov	865	309	30.4	14	803
22-Nov	803	287	14.3	14	646
29-Nov	646	231	6.4	12	534
06-Dec	534	191	4.0		562

- In order to address this;
 - i. 5kg of concentrate is being fed per cow per day
 - ii. 24 cows have been dried off. The cows for drying off have been selected based on milk yield, BCS and calving date.
 - iii. 22 cows have been housed and are being milked indoors
 - iv. This will reduce demand to 23kg DM/day

- As soil temperatures have increased and outlook has improved no more cows will be dried off this week.
- Growth is being monitored twice weekly and concentrate supplementation will be reduced as soon as budget allows.
- On/Off grazing is employed when ground conditions are poor.
- Cows are currently on 12 hour allocations, using a strip wire and back fence.
- Rotation length is currently 44 days
- 66% of the farm is closed

**A comparison of Holstein-Friesian genotypes under two pasture-based production systems*

Group	Milk SI (€)	Fertility SI (€)	Calving SI (€)	Health SI (€)	Beef SI (€)	EBI (€)
NA – Low	36	12	7	-2	-7	46
NA – High	41	41	13	0	-4	90
NZ – High	41	50	14	-4	-18	84

**This table was printed in error in previous weeks.*

**Milk Production Data as of Sunday 02/11/08*

Group	NA- Low		NA - High		NZ - High	
Daily Concentrate (kg/cow/day)	3	6	3	6	3	6
Total Concentrate (kg/cow)	165	853	163	845	179	885
Daily Milk Yield (kg/cow/day)	10.6	13.5	10.3	14.2	11.2	13.0
Fat (%)	4.32	4.53	4.60	4.27	4.77	4.74
Protein (%)	4.26	4.19	4.17	4.20	4.29	4.42
Lactose (%)	4.3	4.43	4.28	4.41	4.31	4.44
Milk Solids (kg/cow)	0.90	1.14	0.89	1.19	1.00	1.18
Cum. Milk Solids (kg/cow)	351	388	364	403	376	421
Bodyweight (kg)	515	544	512	561	514	545
BCS	2.54	2.74	2.59	2.83	2.84	2.92

Provisional Reproductive Performance

24day Submission rate (%)	70	93	83
42 Day In-calf Rate %	50	57	67
14 Week Empty Rate %	20	22	8

**NB: These are raw data with unbalanced groups that have not been statistically analysed and, therefore, no definite conclusions can be drawn from them. Reproductive performance data is subject to final scanning confirmation in early October.*