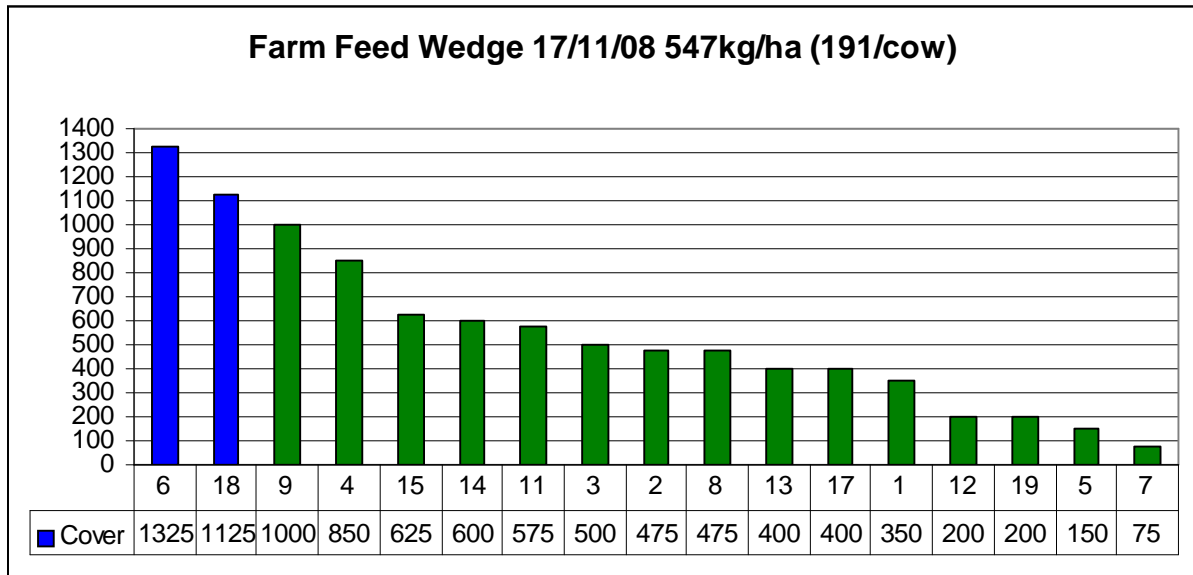


## Curtins Farm Walk Notes Tuesday 18-11-08

### 1. Farm Feed Wedge



2. Growth over the past 7 days was 19.4kg DM/ha/day
3. Mean soil temperature today is 8.06 deg Celsius, total rainfall for the past 7 days was 16.1mm
4. Average milk yield is 11.99kg at 4.71% fat and 4.11% protein (1.05kg MS/cow), Lactose 4.64%, SCC 193k, Thermoduric N/D, TBC 22.
5. Total milk solids supply to November 1<sup>st</sup> 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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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:
  - For the third week in a row, the 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

- This is due to lower than expected growth rates [19.4kg DM/day (actual) versus 30.4kg DM/day (budgeted)].
- On the positive side grazing conditions are excellent and post-grazing height is being maintained at below 3.5cm with no damage being done.
- For this reason, concentrate supplementation will remain at 3kg/cow/day and we will continue to graze out and close the last two remaining blocks, albeit earlier than expected.
- Housing date will be 21/11/08, approximately one week earlier than expected.
- From this date until drying off cows will be fed high quality baled silage indoors.
- Cows are currently on 12 hour allocations, using a strip wire and back fence.
- 90% of the farm is closed
- 24 dry cows are cleaning out certain sections of paddocks that were poorly grazed during the wet weather over the past two weeks.

*\*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.*