

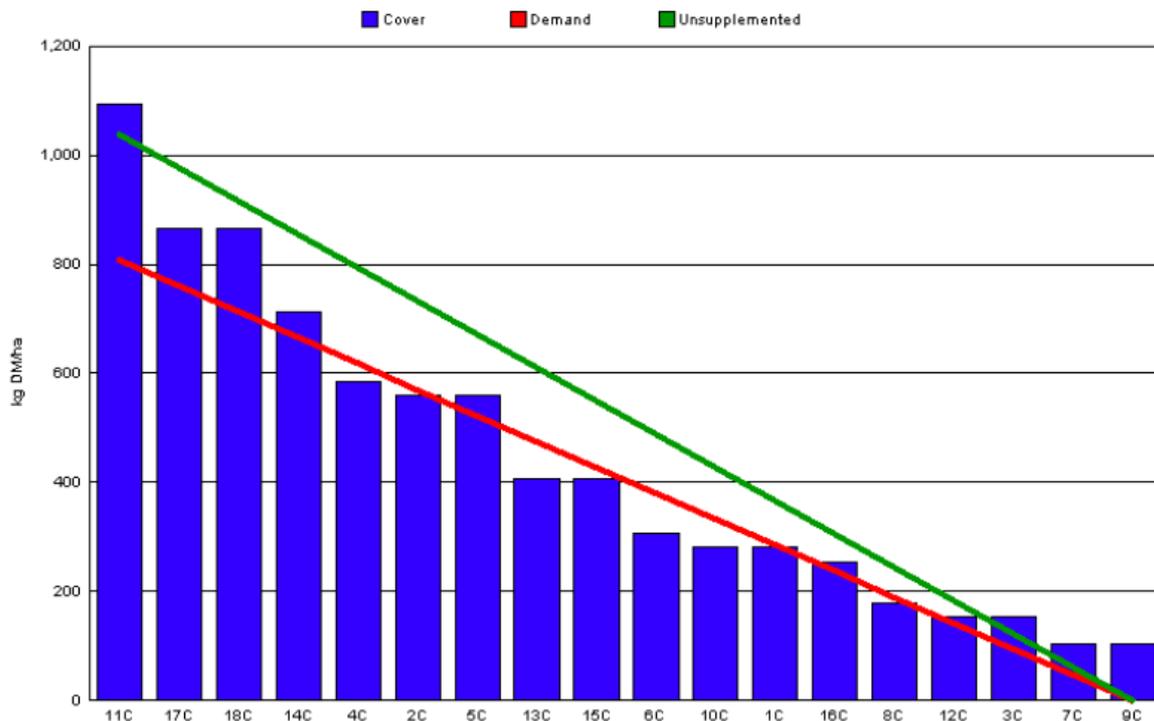
Curtins Farm Walk Notes Wednesday 30-03-11

Low Stocking Rate Group (2.5 Cows/ha)

Situation

Figure 1. Low Stocking Rate Feed Wedge

Moorepark Animal & Grassland Research and Innovation Centre		GrazePlan - Grass Measurement Report	
Group : TEAGASC RESEARCH FARMS		Date Produced 30-MAR-11	
Farm : Curtins Farm		Effect of stocking rate and calving date on animal performance	
Date : 29-MAR-11		Treatment : Low SR	
Rotation Length :	23	Farm Cover (kg DM/ha) :	436
Grass Allocation /cow (kg grass dry matter/LU) :	14	Farm Cover (kg DM/LU) :	173
Concentrate Fed (kg/cow) :	4	Stock Rate (LU/ha) :	2.52
Silage Fed (kg DM/cow) :	0	Growth Rate :	28
N Application Rate (units/acre) :		Farm Demand (kg DM/LU/day) :	35
N Application Rate (kg/ha) :		Target pregrazing yield (kg DM/ha) :	810
Residual Height :	4		
Total Livestock :	23		



- Cows are currently grazing block 15, which is the last paddock to be grazed in the first rotation. They are due to commence the second round tonight (30th of March). Pre-grazing yield is 1100kg, which is satisfactory.

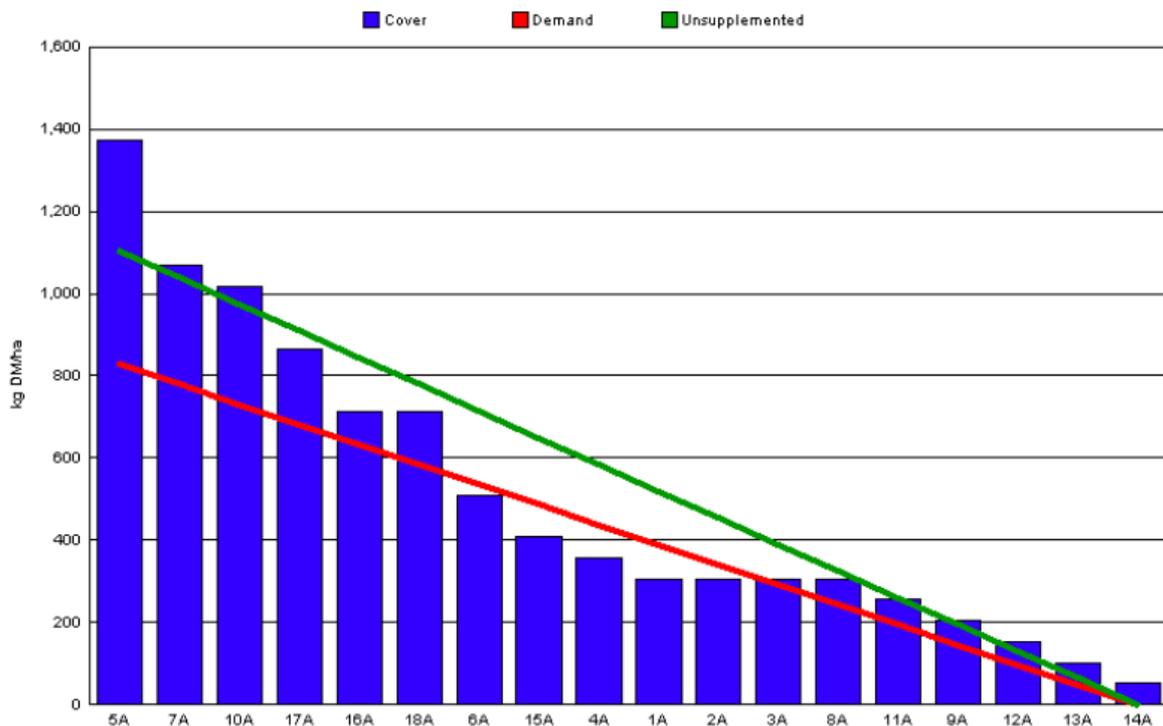
- As can be seen in Figure 1, growth rate for this farmllet over the past 8 days was 28kg/day which is an increase on last weeks figure (it is anticipated that growth rates will increase again this week due to the milder weather we are currently experiencing).
- As a result, silage has been removed from the diet and grass allowance has increased to 14kg/day. 4kg of concentrate is still being fed (12% CP, ~1 UFL) but this will be removed from the diet as soon as growth increases further. The green line on the wedge depicts the demand line without concentrate.

High Stocking Rate Group (3.3 Cows/ha)

Situation

Figure 5. High Stocking Rate Feed Wedge

Moorepark Animal & Grassland Research and Innovation Centre		GrazePlan - Grass Measurement Report	
Group : TEAGASC RESEARCH FARMS		Date Produced : 30-MAR-11	
Farm : Curtins Farm		Effect of stocking rate and calving date on animal performance	
Date : 29-MAR-11		Treatment : High SR	
Rotation Length :	23	Farm Cover (kg DM/ha) :	506
Grass Allocation /cow (kg grass dry matter/LU)	12	Farm Cover (kg DM/LU) :	168
Concentrate Fed (kg/cow) :	4	Current Monthly Fertilizer Rate (kg/ha) :	
Silage Fed (kg DM/cow) :	0	Stock Rate (LU/ha) :	3.01
N Application Rate (units/acre) :		Growth Rate :	26
N Application Rate (kg/ha) :		Farm Demand (kg DM/LU/day) :	36
Residual Height :	3	Target pregrazing yield (kg DM/ha) :	830
Total Livestock :	21		



- Cows are currently grazing block 15. Block 7 is the last paddock to be grazed in the first rotation. The second rotation will start in paddock 5 on the 2nd of April.
- Growth rate for the past week was 26kg/day. As explained above, this is expected to increase this week.

- Silage has been removed from the diet and grass allowance has increased to 12kg per day, 4kg concentrates are being fed but this should be reduced (depending on growth) by next week.

Whole Farm Situation

1. Between slurry and chemical nitrogen the whole farm has received approximately 63 units of nitrogen so far.
2. Average growth rate over the last 8 days was 26kg.
3. Cows are currently on 24hour allocations; this will be reduced to 12hours if ground conditions deteriorate.
4. Latest milk composition details from the processor are: Fat 4.19%, Protein 3.22%, Lactose 4.82%, Sediment B, Thermoduric 0 and SCC 199k.

