

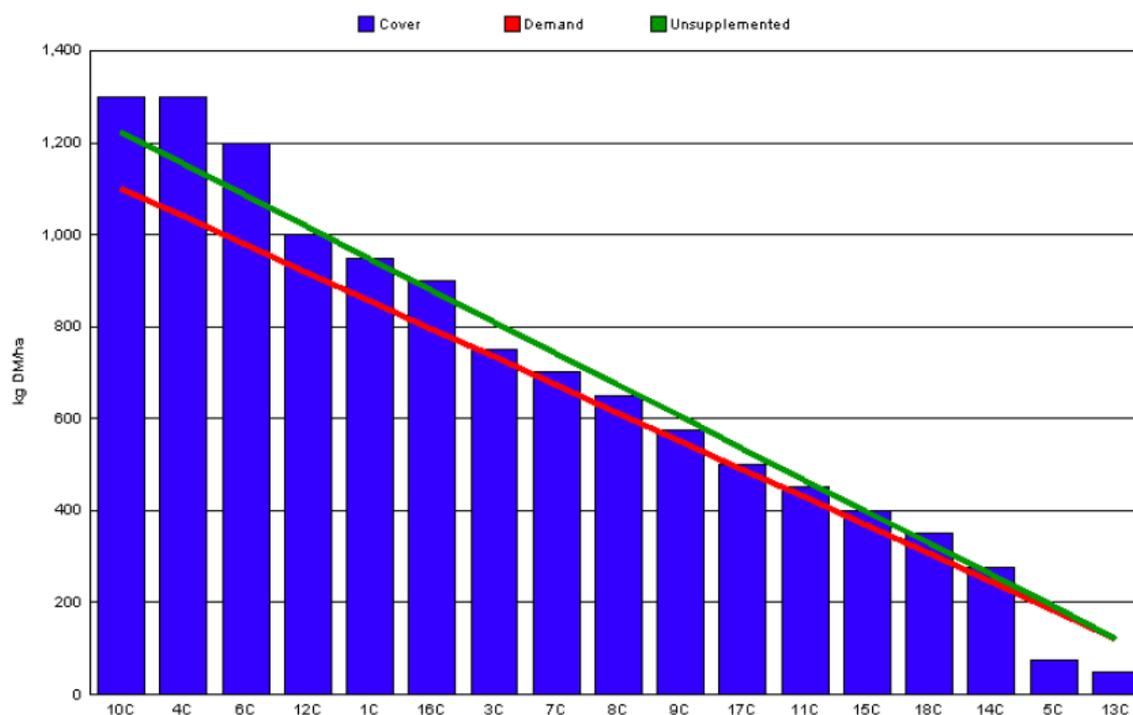
Curtins Farm Walk Notes Tuesday 12-04-11

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 11-APR-11	
Farm : Curtins Farm		Effect of stocking rate and calving date on animal performance	
Date : 11-APR-11		Treatment : Low SR	
Rotation Length :	23	Farm Cover (kg DM/ha) :	662
Grass Allocation /cow (kg grass dry matter/LU	16	Farm Cover (kg DM/LU) :	249
Concentrate Fed (kg/cow) :	2	Stock Rate (LU/ha) :	2.66
Silage Fed (kg DM/cow) :	0	Growth Rate :	63
N Application Rate (units/acre) :		Farm Demand (kg DM/ha/day) :	42
N Application Rate (kg/ha) :		Target pregrazing yield (kg DM/ha) :	1102
Residual Height :	4.5		
Total Livestock (LU) :	23		



- There was an increase in growth this week to 63kg DM/day. Paddock 2, which had a cover of 1200kg has been closed for silage and will be topped up with 40 units of urea/acre.
- As can be seen in Figure 1, there are still surpluses in the feed wedge. However, block 8 and 12 have been sprayed off since Friday so these are effectively closed for reseeding once

they are grazed later in the week. This will raise stocking rate to 2.98 cows/ha and demand will be 48kg/DM/day.

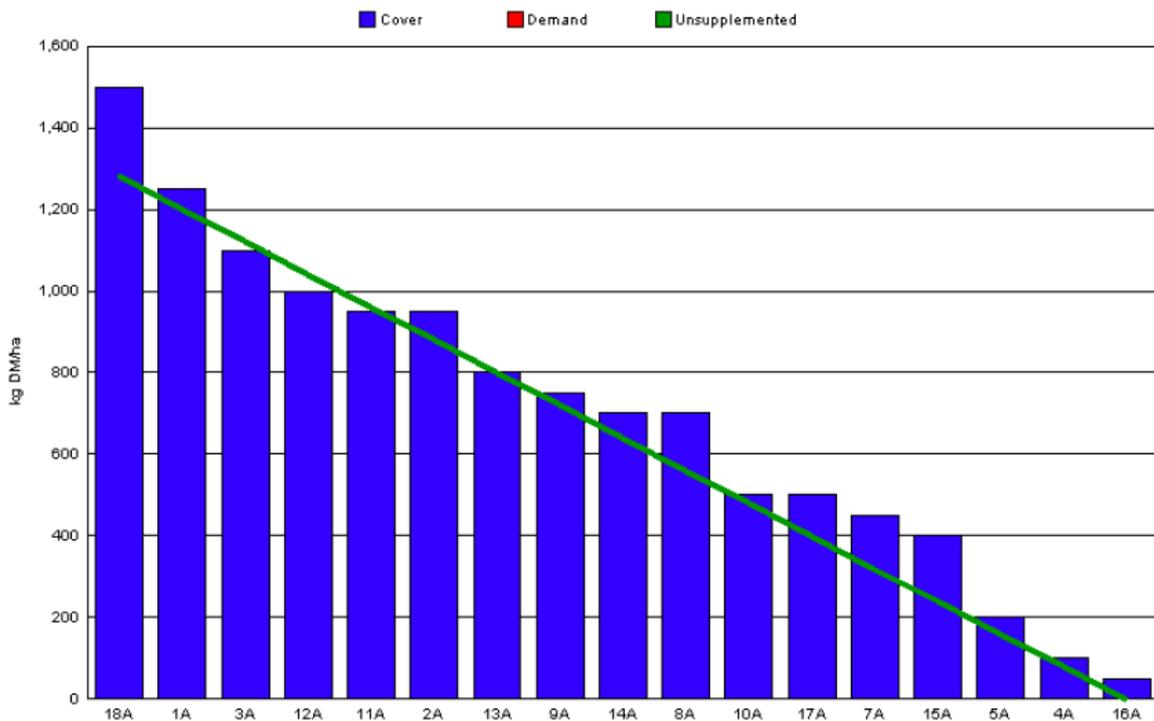
- Cows are currently grazing block 4 which has a pre-grazing yield of 1300kg
- Cows are getting full paddocks and residency time per paddock is between 36 and 48 hours, slightly longer than desired.

High Stocking Rate Group (3.3 Cows/ha)

Situation

Figure 2. High Stocking Rate Feed Wedge

Moorepark Animal & Grassland Research and Innovation Centre		GrazePlan - Grass Measurement Report	
Group : TEAGASC RESEARCH FARMS		Date Produced 11-APR-11	
Farm : Curtins Farm		Effect of stocking rate and calving date on animal performance	
Date : 11-APR-11		Treatment : High SR	
Rotation Length :	23	Farm Cover (kg DM/ha) :	685
Grass Allocation /cow (kg grass dry matter/LU	16	Farm Cover (kg DM/LU) :	196
Concentrate Fed (kg/cow) :	0	Current Monthly Fertilizer Rate (kg/ha) :	
Silage Fed (kg DM/cow) :	0	Stock Rate (LU/ha) :	3.49
N Application Rate (units/acre) :		Growth Rate :	65
N Application Rate (kg/ha) :		Farm Demand (kg DM/ha/day) :	56
Residual Height :	3.5	Target pregrazing yield (kg DM/ha) :	1284
Total Livestock (LU) :	23		



- Growth rate for the past 6 days was 65kg/day, an increase on last weeks figure.
- Cows are currently grazing block 18, which has a pre-grazing yield of 1500kg. Cows are getting half paddocks and residency time per segment is 24 hours. Post grazing heights are 3.5cm.

- As can be seen in Figure 2., we have a fairly even shaped wedge. Paddock 6 had a cover of 1300kg and has been skipped for silage. This will be topped up with 40 units of urea/acre in the coming days.
- Block 8 and block 12 have been sprayed and will be closed for reseeding when they are grazed later in the week. This will push stocking rate to 3.91cows/ha and demand will be 62kg/day

Whole Farm Situation

1. Average growth rate over the last 7 days was 64kg.
2. Two paddocks have been selected for reseeding;
 - Paddock 12 is a bealy and clover paddock, which suffered extensive frost damage over the winter. A majority of the grass plants died with the result that the clover is now dominating the sward. This has been sprayed with CMPP and dicamba and Aston Energy grass seed will be over-sown in 10 days time.
 - Paddock 8 was the worst performing paddock in 2010 (11.6t grown). This has been sprayed with glyphosate and will be reseeded with Aston Energy and Tyrella (60:40)
3. Cows on the medium and high stocking rate are on 0kg concentrate and are getting cal mag through paddock dusting. Cows in the low stocking continue to get 2kg of concentrate per day
4. Latest milk composition details from the processor are: Fat 4.30%, Protein 3.34%, Lactose 4.85%, Sediment A, Thermoduric 0 and SCC 146k.

