

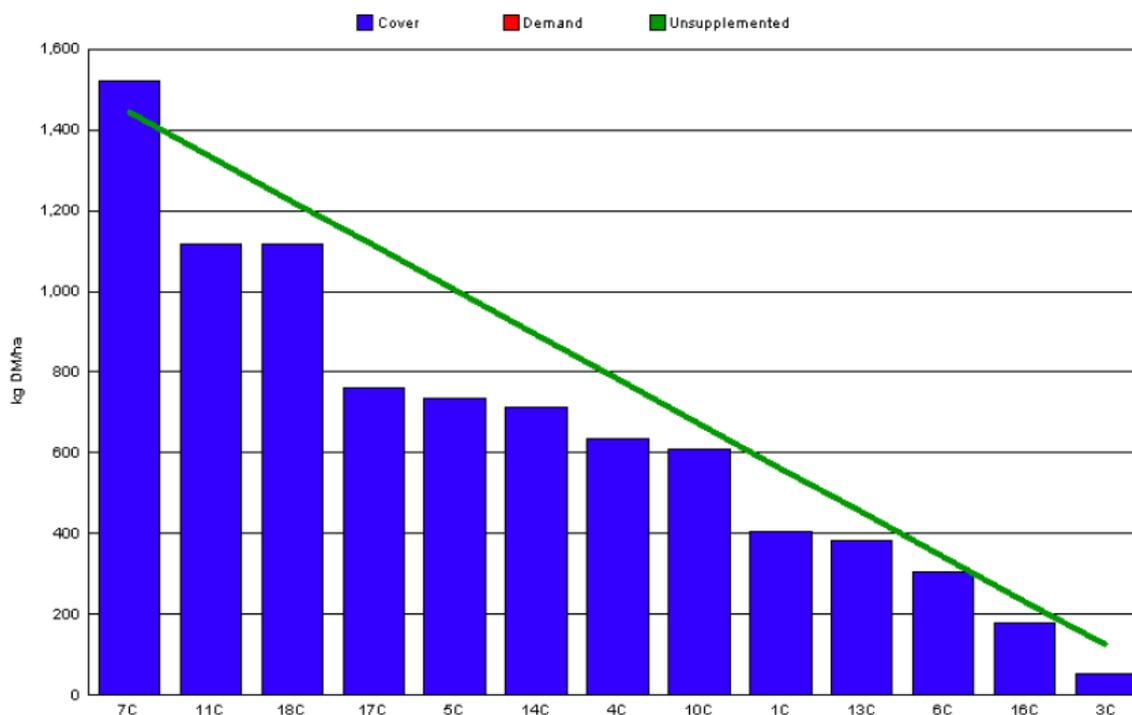
## Curtins Farm Walk Notes Tuesday 27-04-11

### 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 27-APR-11	
Farm : Curtins Farm		Effect of stocking rate and calving date on animal performance	
Date : 26-APR-11		Treatment : Low SR	
Rotation Length :	23	Farm Cover (kg DM/ha) :	671
Grass Allocation /cow (kg grass dry matter/LU	18	Farm Cover (kg DM/LU) :	192
Concentrate Fed (kg/cow) :	0	Stock Rate (LU/ha) :	3.50
Silage Fed (kg DM/cow) :	0	Growth Rate :	48
N Application Rate (units/acre) :		Farm Demand (kg DM/ha/day) :	63
N Application Rate (kg/ha) :		Target pregrazing yield (kg DM/ha) :	1447
Residual Height :	4.5		
Total Livestock (LU) :	23		



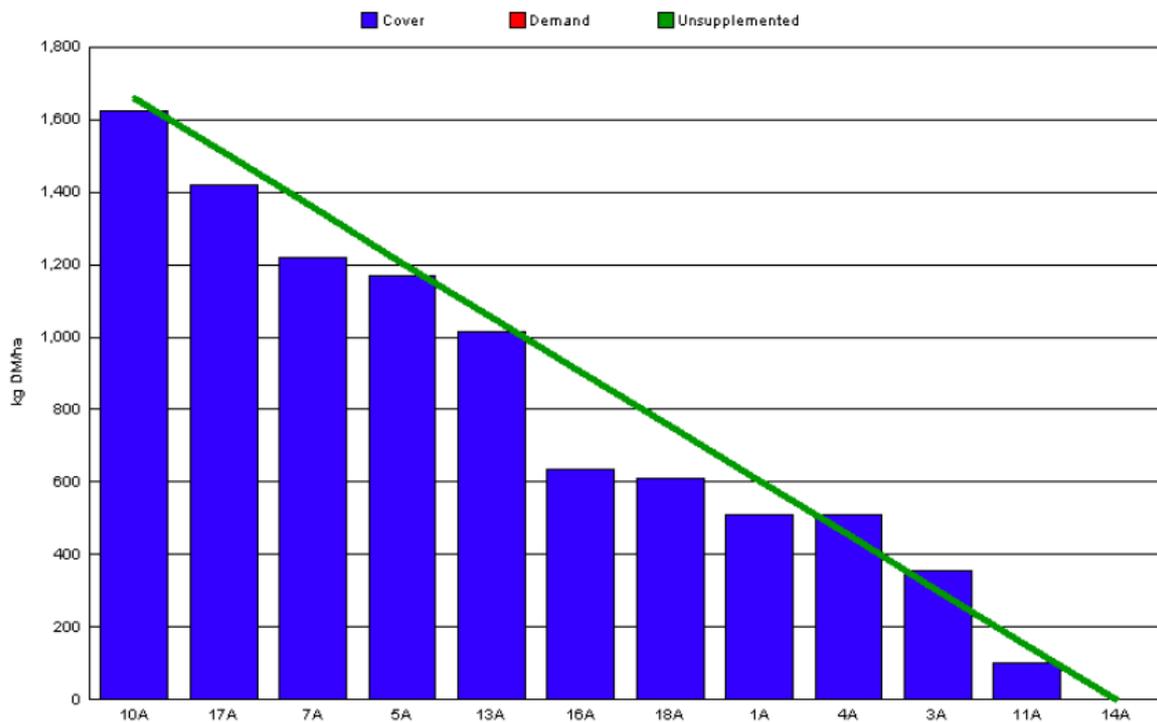
- Average farm cover for this week is 671kg/ha (192kg/cow). Growth rate for the week on this farmlet averaged 48kg/day.
- Paddock 8 was sprayed with glyphosate on the 8<sup>th</sup> of April and was reseeded last Thursday.
- Paddocks 9 and 15 have both been skipped for silage. These will be topped up with 26 units of CAN. 23% of the farmlet is now closed for silage. Stocking rate is now 3.5 cows/ha and demand is 63kg/day. Pre-grazing yields are 1500kg. Cows are getting full paddocks and residency time per paddock is between 36 and 48 hours, slightly longer than desired. Cows are leaving a residual of approximately 100kg.

## 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	27-APR-11
Farm : Curtins Farm		Effect of stocking rate and calving date on animal performance	
Date : 26-APR-11		Treatment :	High SR
Rotation Length :	21	Farm Cover (kg DM/ha) :	772
Grass Allocation /cow (kg grass dry matter/LU)	16	Farm Cover (kg DM/LU) :	156
Concentrate Fed (kg/cow) :	0	Current Monthly Fertilizer Rate (kg/ha) :	
Silage Fed (kg DM/cow) :	0	Stock Rate (LU/ha) :	4.95
N Application Rate (units/acre) :		Growth Rate :	53
N Application Rate (kg/ha) :		Farm Demand (kg DM/ha/day) :	79
Residual Height :	3.5	Target pregrazing yield (kg DM/ha) :	1662
Total Livestock (LU) :	23		



- Average farm cover this week is 772kg/ha (156/cow). Growth rate over the past 7 days on this farmlet was 53kg/day.

- As can be seen in Figure 2., we have an even feed wedge with no surpluses or deficits. This is after removing Paddocks 9 & 15 for silage. These will be topped up with 26 units of CAN and closed for four weeks.
- Cows are currently grazing block 13. Pre-grazing yields are 1500kg. Cows are getting half paddocks and residency time per segment is 24 hours. This is to ensure that cows graze to their target residual of between 3 and 3.5cm.

### **Whole Farm Situation**

1. Average growth rate over the last 7 days was 51kg. This figure is based on the average growth of the paddocks included in the feed wedge. Growth rates on paddocks skipped for silage are likely to be higher but are excluded from the calculation.
2. Two paddocks have been selected for reseeded;
  - 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 will be cut for silage in 3 to 4 weeks time. Aston Energy grass seed will then be oversown after harvest. This paddock will receive no additional nitrogen prior to cutting.
  - Paddock 8 was the worst performing paddock in 2010 (11.6t grown). This paddock was reseeded with Aston Energy and Tyrella (60:40) on the 21<sup>st</sup> of April.
3. Cows are on 0kg concentrate and are getting cal mag through paddock dusting.
4. The breeding season commenced on the 27<sup>th</sup> of April. 70% of the herd are getting Jersey AI while the remainder are getting Friesian AI. Bulls being used are ABT, HWY, PKU, KJW, HZS, MWH, WGM, CBH, TKY, BHQ & CWJ.
5. All cows have been vaccinated for Leptospirosis and BVD.
6. 47% of the heifer calves have been weaned. Weaning weight is 90kg for purebred Friesian and 75kg for crossbreds.
7. Latest milk composition details from the processor are: Fat 4.04%, Protein 3.36%, Lactose 4.9%, Sediment A, Thermoduric 57, SCC 138k and TBC is 49k – we are having issues with milk cooling.

