

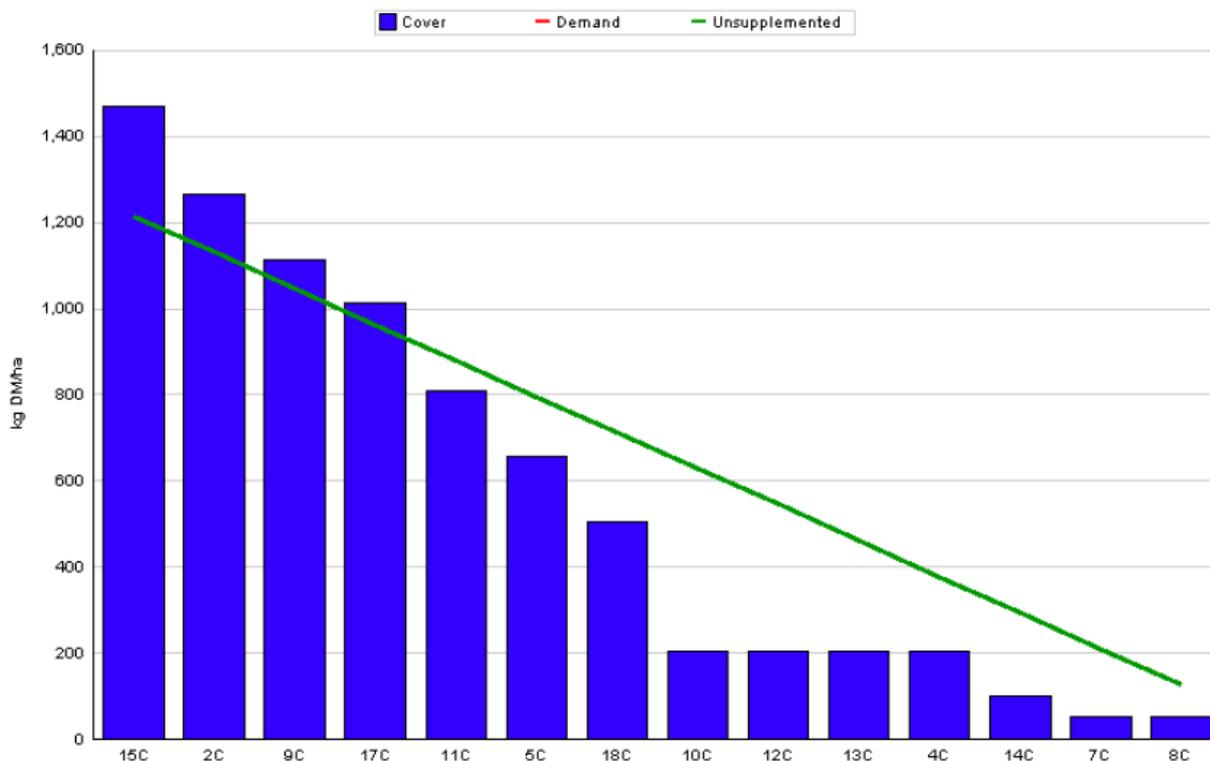
## Curtins Farm Walk Notes Tuesday 14-06-11

### 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 14-JUN-11	
Farm : Curtins Farm		Effect of stocking rate and calving date on animal performance	
Date : 13-JUN-11		Treatment : Low SR	
Rotation Length :	21	Farm Cover (kg DM/ha) :	580
Grass Allocation /cow (kg grass dry matter/LU	18	Farm Cover (kg DM/LU) :	181
Concentrate Fed (kg/cow) :	0		
Silage Fed (kg DM/cow) :	0		
N Application Rate (units/acre) :		Stock Rate (LU/ha) :	3.21
N Application Rate (kg/ha) :		Growth Rate :	74
Residual Height :	4.5	Farm Demand (kg DM/ha/day) :	58
Total Livestock (LU) :	23	Target pregrazing yield (kg DM/ha) :	1214



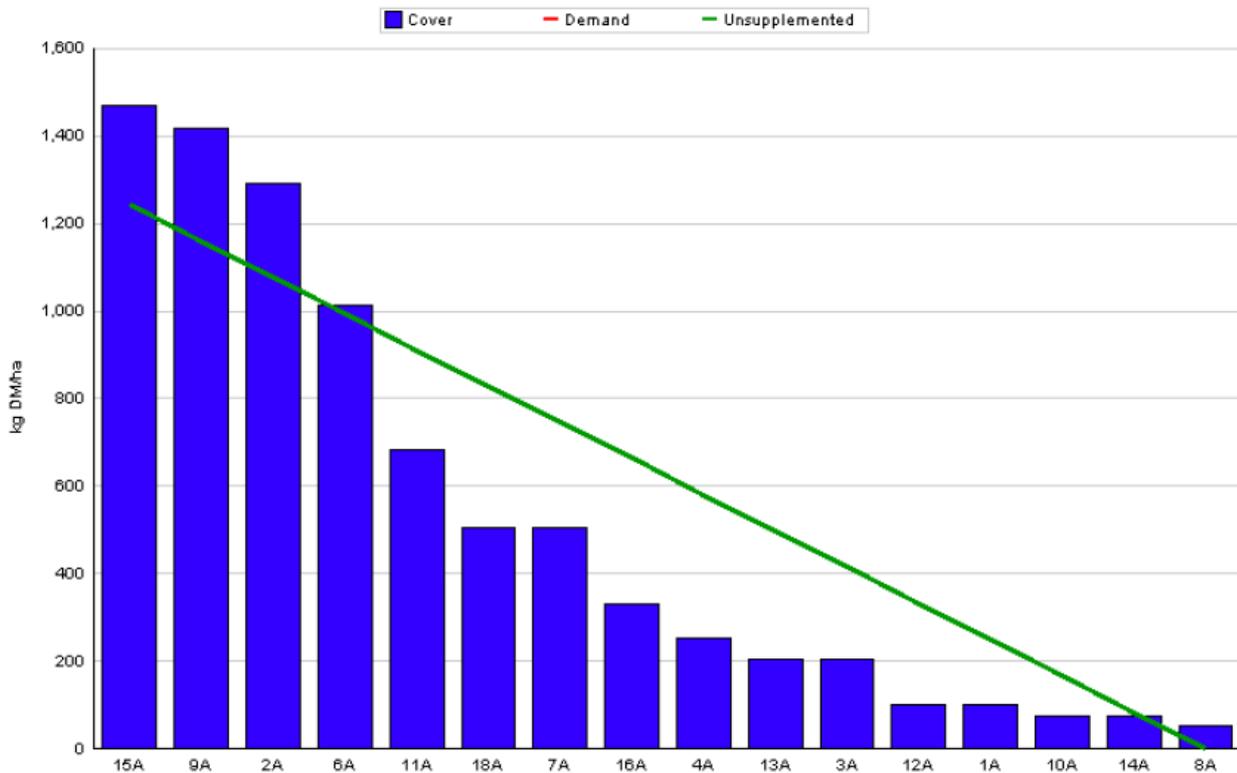
- Average farm cover for this week is 580kg/ha (181kg/cow). Average growth rate over the past 7 days on this farmlet was 74kg.
- Stocking rate is now 3.21cows/ha. This is after returning paddock 8 which was out for reseeded. Two paddocks were skipped this week, paddock 6 and 16 both had a cover of 1100kg. This brings the number of paddocks closed for silage to 4.
- As it is very difficult to predict future growth patterns, we are hesitant to close these paddocks for long periods in case growth rates drop. In an effort to help spread our risk we have decided to top up 2 of these paddocks with fertiliser and close for 4+ weeks. The other two have higher covers and will be cut in the next 2 weeks.
- Cows are currently grazing block 15, residency time per paddock is 36 hours. Cows are grazing to between 4.5 and 5cm. The next 3 paddocks in the wedge are all aftergrass.

## 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	14-JUN-11
Farm : Curtins Farm		Effect of stocking rate and calving date on animal performance	
Date : 13-JUN-11		Treatment : High SR	
Rotation Length :	21	Farm Cover (kg DM/ha) :	542
Grass Allocation /cow (kg grass dry matter/LU)	16	Farm Cover (kg DM/LU) :	147
Concentrate Fed (kg/cow) :	0	Current Monthly Fertilizer Rate (kg/ha) :	
Silage Fed (kg DM/cow) :	0		
N Application Rate (units/acre) :		Stock Rate (LU/ha) :	3.70
N Application Rate (kg/ha) :		Growth Rate :	73
Residual Height :	3.5	Farm Demand (kg DM/ha/day) :	59
Total Livestock (LU) :	23	Target pregrazing yield (kg DM/ha) :	1242



- Average farm cover this week is 542kg/ha (147/cow). Growth rate over the past 7 days on this farmlet was 73kg/day. Average farm cover rose substantially this week as a result of increased growth rates and lower demand as 3.5 round bales of silage were fed out to this group over the previous 7 days (38kgDM/cow) (pre-grazing yields last week were ~900kg).
- Paddock 8 is back in the rotation and has already received a light grazing. Two paddocks were skipped for silage this week, paddock 5 had a cover of 1100 and paddock 17 had a cover of 1000. Paddock 17 will be topped up with fertiliser and cut in 4+ weeks time. Paddock 5 will be cut sooner.
- Cows are currently grazing block 15. Residency time per paddock is 36 hours. Cows in this farmlet must graze to the target residual of between 3 and 3.5cm.

### **Whole Farm Situation**

1. Average growth rate over the last 7 days was 72kg.
2. Two paddocks have been reseeded;
  - Paddock 12 was 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 was dominating the sward. This has been sprayed with CMPP and dicamba and was cut for silage on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> May. Aston Energy grass seed was oversown on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> May at 10kg/acre.
  - 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. 24 day submission rate for the full herd (138 cows, including late calving treatments) was 86%
6. All cows have been vaccinated for Leptospirosis and BVD.
7. 100% of the heifer calves have been weaned. Weaning weight is 90kg for purebred Holstein Friesian and 75kg for crossbreds.
8. Silage was cut on the 16<sup>th</sup> of May average yield was 7 bales/acre. 2500gls of slurry was applied to 60% of the area that was cut.
9. Fertiliser is being spread at a rate of 18units of Sulphur CAN/acre.

10. Latest milk composition details from the processor are: Fat 4.14%, Protein 3.47%, Lactose 4.78%, Sediment A, Thermoduric 35, SCC 137k, TBC 18k