

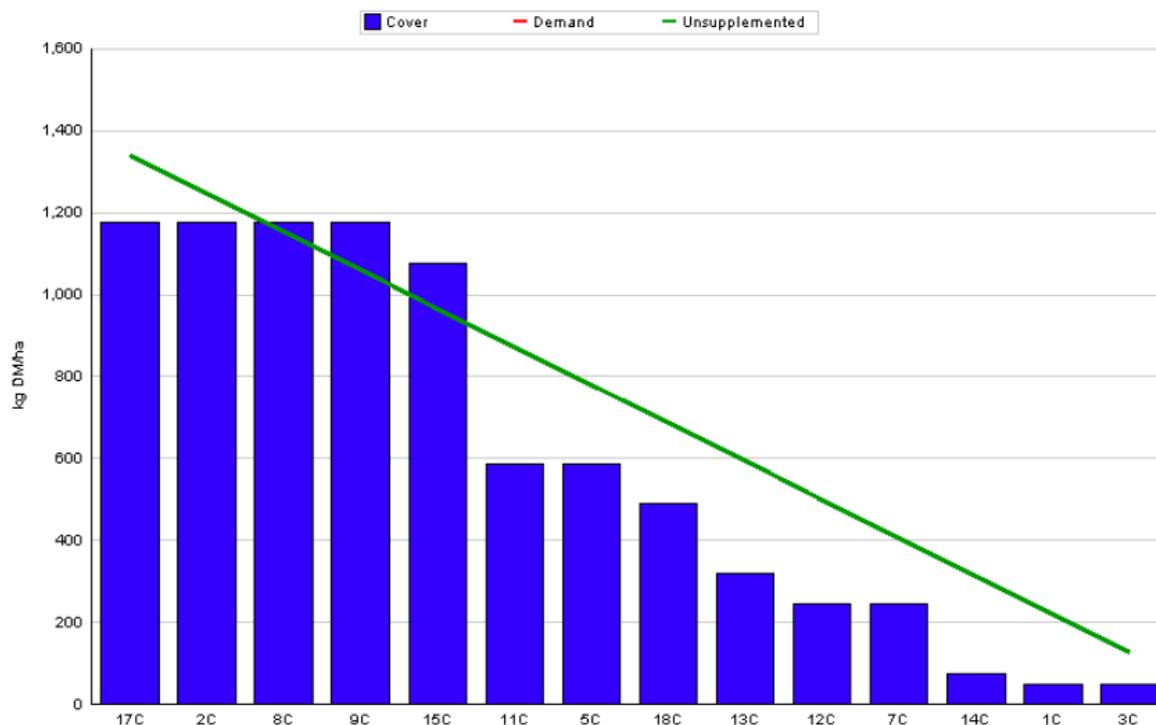
## Curtins Farm Walk Notes Tuesday 05-07-11

### 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 05-JUL-11	
Farm : Curtins Farm		Effect of stocking rate and calving date on animal performance	
Date : 04-JUL-11		Treatment : Low SR	
Rotation Length :	21	Farm Cover (kg DM/ha) :	611
Grass Allocation /cow (kg grass dry matter/LU	18	Farm Cover (kg DM/LU) :	190
Concentrate Fed (kg/cow) :	0	Stock Rate (LU/ha) :	3.22
Silage Fed (kg DM/cow) :	0	Growth Rate :	64
N Application Rate (units/acre) :		Farm Demand (kg DM/ha/day) :	58
N Application Rate (kg/ha) :		Target pregrazing yield (kg DM/ha) :	1341
Residual Height :	4.5		
Total Livestock (LU) :	23		



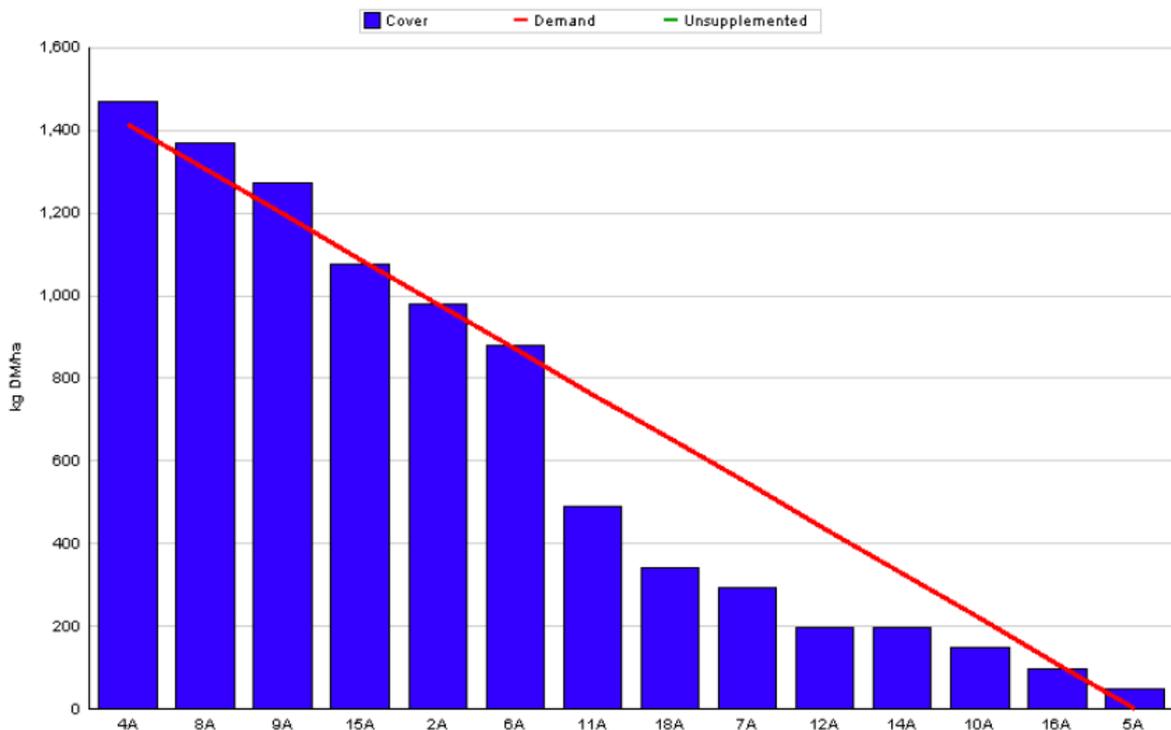
- Average farm cover for this week is 611kg/ha (190kg/cow). Average growth rate over the past 7 days on this farmlet was 64kg.
- As can be seen in Figure 1, there is a deficit in the wedge we have an uneven feed wedge with a plateau at the top and a deficit at the bottom. Re-growths have slowed considerably in the last few days but this is expected to change as rain is forecasted for this week.
- Stocking rate is 3.22cows/ha. Two paddocks were skipped for silage last week while two more paddocks were cut for silage. At present, 4 paddocks are closed. 2 of these will be cut next week. The other 2 were topped up with 30 units of N/acre last Monday and will be cut in 3 to 4 weeks. The silage last week yielded 6 bales per acre.
- Cows are currently grazing block 8, residency time per paddock is 48 hours. Cows are grazing to between 4.5 and 5cm.

## 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	05-JUL-11
Farm : Curtins Farm		Effect of stocking rate and calving date on animal performance	
Date : 04-JUL-11		Treatment :	High SR
Rotation Length :	21	Farm Cover (kg DM/ha) :	630
Grass Allocation /cow (kg grass dry matter/LU)	16	Farm Cover (kg DM/LU) :	150
Concentrate Fed (kg/cow) :	0	Current Monthly Fertilizer Rate (kg/ha) :	
Silage Fed (kg DM/cow) :	0	Stock Rate (LU/ha) :	4.21
N Application Rate (units/acre) :		Growth Rate :	69
N Application Rate (kg/ha) :		Farm Demand (kg DM/ha/day) :	67
Residual Height :	3.5	Target pregrazing yield (kg DM/ha) :	1415
Total Livestock (LU) :	23		



- Average farm cover this week is 630kg/ha (150/cow). Growth rate over the past 7 days on this farmlet was 69kg/day.

- As can be seen in Figure 2 the latter half of the wedge is in deficit. This is a sign that re-growths have slowed down but the warm wet this week is likely to lead to an increase in growth.
- Two paddocks were cut for silage last week and two other paddocks were closed for silage. At present, 4 paddocks are closed. 2 of these will be cut next week. The other 2 were topped up with 30 units of N/acre last Monday and will be cut in 3 to 4 weeks. The silage last week yielded 6 bales per acre.
- Cows are currently grazing block 4. Residency time per paddock is 48 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 69kg.
2. The breeding season commenced on the 27<sup>th</sup> of April. 70% of the herd are getting Jersey AI while the remainder getting Friesian AI. Bulls being used are ABT, HWY, PKU, KJW, HZS, MWH, WGM, CBH, TKY, BHQ & CWJ. Angus AI sires are being used since 26<sup>th</sup> June.
3. Fertiliser was blanket spread over all grazing paddocks on week ending 1<sup>st</sup> of July at a rate of 30units/acre of Sulphur CAN. The plan is to apply two more blanket spreads before the closed period in mid September. This will bring is up to 250kg N/ha and ensure consistency of application. Grass quality will be monitored closely.
4. Latest milk composition details from the processor are: Fat 4.3%, Protein 3.58%, Lactose 4.77%, Sediment B, Thermoduric 13, SCC 124k, TBC 12k

