

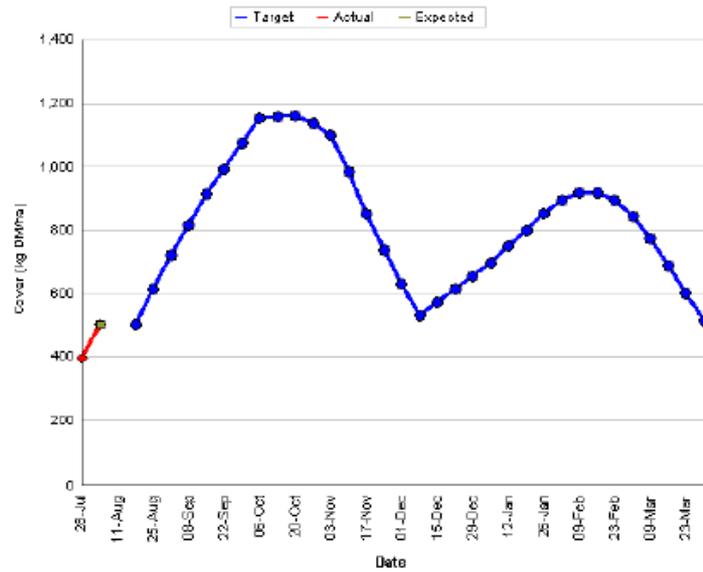
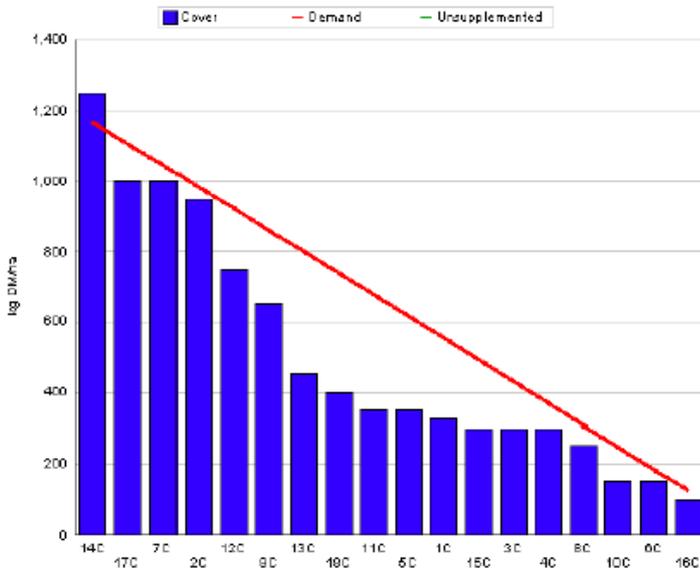
Curtins Farm Walk Notes Tuesday 09-08-11

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 : 08-AUG-11 | |
| Farm : Curtins Farm | | Effect of stocking rate and calving date on animal performance | |
| Date : 08-AUG-11 | | Treatment : Low SR | |
| Rotation Length : 23 Grass Allocation /cow (kg grass dry matter/LL) : 18 Concentrate Fed (kg/cow) : 0 Silage Fed (kg DM/cow) : 0 N Application Rate (units/acre) : N Application Rate (kg/ha) : Residual Height : 4.5 Total Livestock : 23 | Farm Cover (kg DM/ha) : 504 Farm Cover (kg DM/LU) : 200 Current Monthly Fertilizer Rate (kg/ha) : Stock Rate (LU/ha) : 2.52 Growth Rate : 57 Farm Demand (kg DM/LU/day) : 45 Target pregrazing yield (kg DM/ha) : 1167 Forecast Growth Week 1 and 2: | | |



- Average farm cover for this week is 504kg/ha (200kg/cow). Average growth rate over the past 7 days on this farmlet was 57kg.
- As can be seen in Figure 1, there is still a deficit in the centre of the wedge with the three paddocks that were cut for silage two weeks ago forming a plateau. We are not overly

concerned about this as growth rates are well ahead of demand and we are achieving target pre grazing yields.

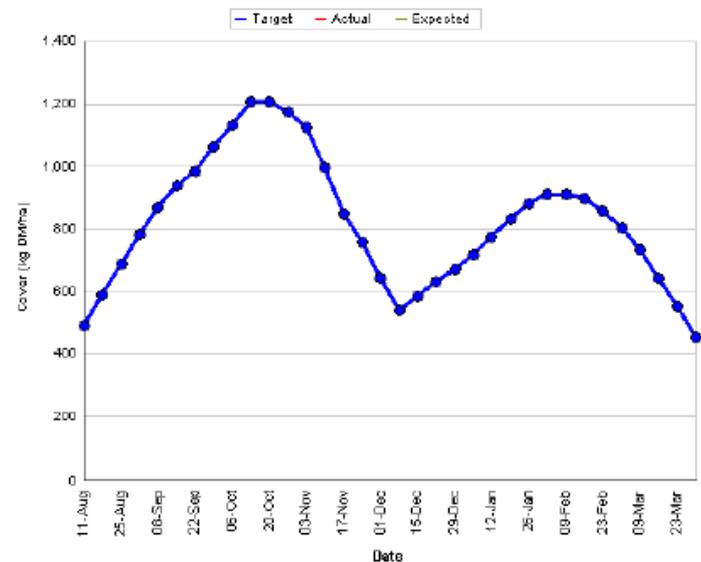
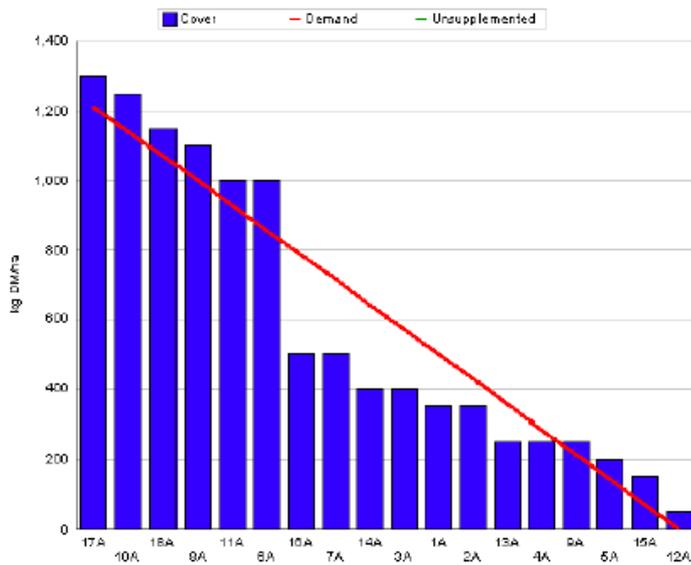
- We are in a far better position now than two weeks ago, when the whole wedge was in deficit. The improvements have come about as a result of increased growth rates and lower demand (after the silage was cut). No supplements were fed.
- 30 units of sulCAN were spread per acre last week across the farmlet. With sufficient heat and moisture conditions are ideal for growth.
- Stocking rate is currently 2.52cows/ha. Cows are currently grazing block 18, residency time per paddock is 36 hours. Cows are grazing to between 4.5 and 5cm.
- Rotation length has increased to 23 days. This will be increased incrementally to 30 days by the 1st of September and 50 days by the end of September.

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 08-AUG-11 | |
| Farm | Curtins Farm | Effect of stocking rate and calving date on animal performance | |
| Date | 08-AUG-11 | Treatment : High SR | |
| Rotation Length : | 23 | Farm Cover (kg DM/ha) : | 577 |
| Grass Allocation /cow (kg grass dry matter/LL | 18 | Farm Cover (kg DM/LU) : | 175 |
| Concentrate Fed (kg/cow) : | 0 | Current Monthly Fertilizer Rate (kg/ha) : | |
| Silage Fed (kg DM/cow) : | 0 | Stock Rate (LU/ha) : | 3.30 |
| N Application Rate (units/acre) : | | Growth Rate : | 64 |
| N Application Rate (kg/ha) : | | Farm Demand (kg DM/LU/day) : | 53 |
| Residual Height : | 3.5 | Target pregrazing yield (kg DM/ha) : | 1213 |
| Total Livestock : | 23 | Forecast Growth Week 1 and 2: | |



- Average farm cover this week is 577kg/ha (175/cow). Growth rate over the past 7 days on this farmlet was 64kg/day.
- As can be seen in figure 2, we have an uneven shaped wedge with a surplus at the top and a deficit in the middle. No action was taken this week.
- 30 units of sulCAN were spread per acre last week across the farmlet.
- Rotation length has increased to 23 days. This will be increased incrementally to 30 days by the 1st of September and 50 days by the end of September.

- Stocking rate is now 3.3 cows/ha. Cows are grazing paddock 13 and residency time per paddock is 36hours. 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 59kg.
2. The breeding season commenced on the 27th of April and ceased on the 28th of July for the early calving treatment. 70% of the herd were inseminated to Jersey AI while the remainder got Friesian AI. Bulls used were ABT, HWY, PKU, KJW, HZS, MWH, WGM, CBH, TKY, BHQ & CWJ. Angus AI sires are being used since 26th June.
3. Fertiliser was blanket spread over all paddocks on week ending 6th of August at a rate of 30units/acre of Sulphur CAN. The plan is to apply one more blanket spread before the closed period in mid September. This will bring us up to 250kg N/ha and ensure consistency of application. Grass quality will be monitored closely.
4. Approximately 3000gls/acre of soiled water is being spread after grazing.
5. Latest milk composition details from the processor are: Fat 4.47%, Protein 3.63%, Lactose 4.72%, Sediment B, Thermoduric 12, SCC 153k, TBC 14k

