

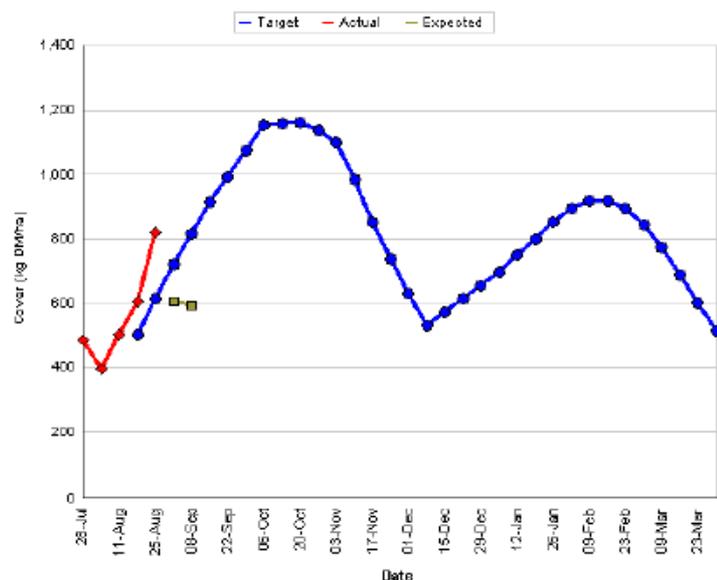
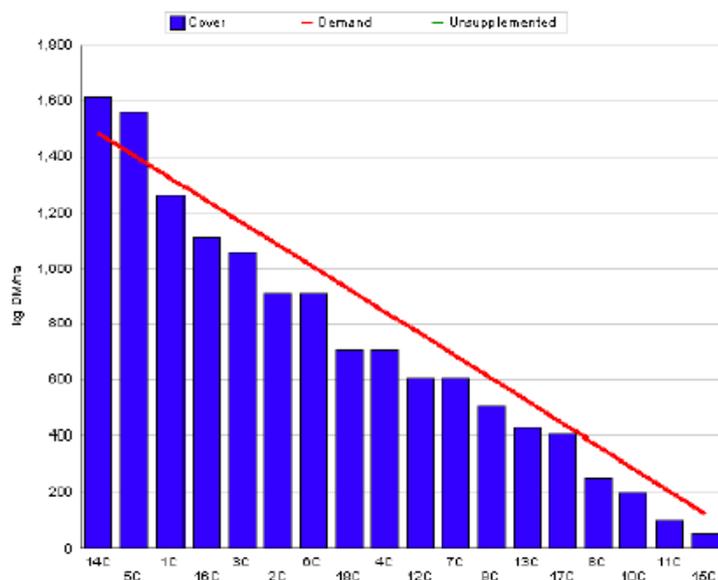
Curtins Farm Walk Notes Tuesday 30-08-11

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 : 30-AUG-11	
Farm : Curtins Farm		Effect of stocking rate and calving date on animal performance	
Date : 29-AUG-11		Treatment : Low SR	
Rotation Length : 30 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) : 703 Farm Cover (kg DM/LU) : 280 Current Monthly Fertilizer Rate (kg/ha) : Stock Rate (LU/ha) : 2.52 Growth Rate : 33 Farm Demand (kg DM/LU/day) : 45 Target pregrazing yield (kg DM/ha) : 1484 Forecast Growth Week 1 and 2: 31 30	



- Average farm cover for this week is 703kg/ha (280kg/cow) which is a reduction on last weeks figure. Average growth rate over the past 7 days on this farmlet was 33kg, (last week was 73kg). The farm appears to be suffering from drought stress.
- However, we are on target in terms of average farm cover for this time so no action will be taken this week.

- Cows are grazing block 4, residency time per paddock is 48 hours. Cows are grazing to between 4.5 and 5cm.
- Rotation length has increased to 30 days. This will be increased incrementally to 50 days by the 1st of October.

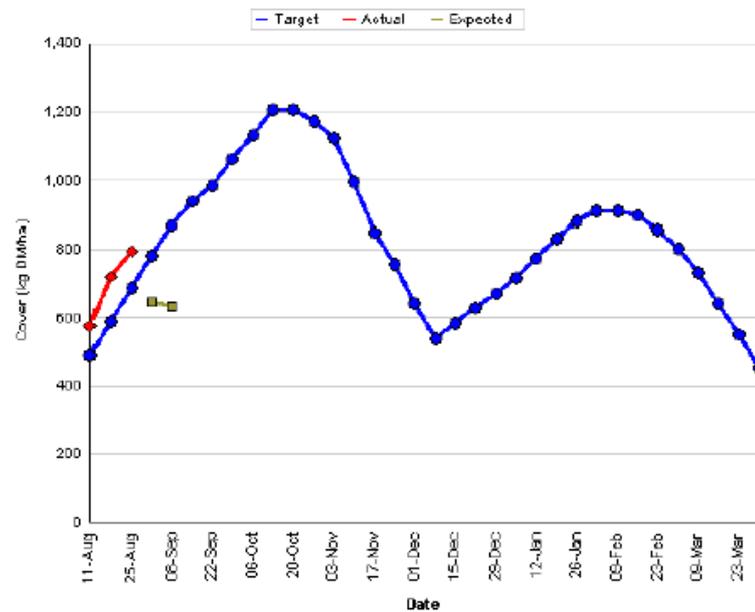
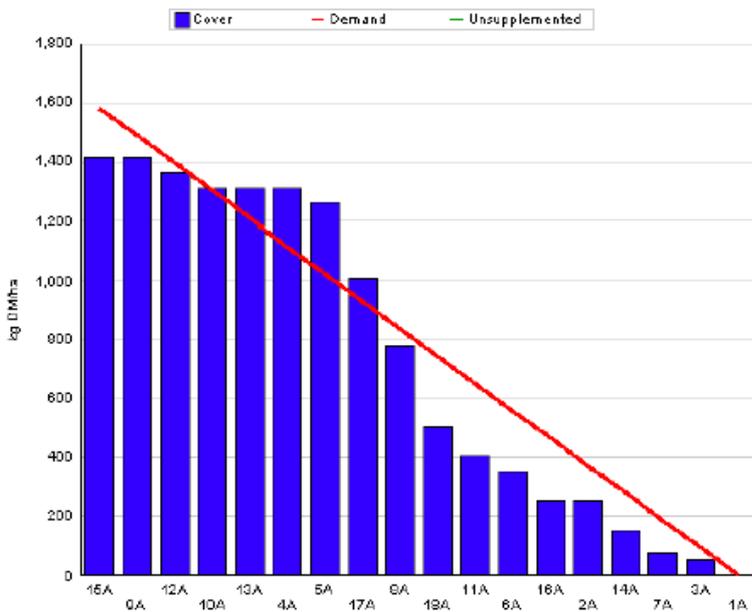
High Stocking Rate Group (3.3 Cows/ha)

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	30-AUG-11
Farm	Curtins Farm	Effect of stocking rate and calving date on animal performance	
Date	29-AUG-11	Treatment	High SR

Rotation Length :	30	Farm Cover (kg DM/ha) :	736
Grass Allocation /cow (kg grass dry matter/LL	16	Farm Cover (kg DM/LU) :	223
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 :	42
N Application Rate (kg/ha) :		Farm Demand (kg DM/LU/day) :	53
Residual Height :	3.5	Target pregrazing yield (kg DM/ha) :	1582
Total Livestock :	23	Forecast Growth Week 1 and 2:	40 38



- Average farm cover this week is 736kg/ha (223/cow). Growth rate over the past 7 days on this farmlet was 42kg/day (last week was 65kg/day)

- While average farm cover has dropped this week, we are still on target for this time so no action has been taken.
- Rotation length has increased to 30 days. This will be increased incrementally to 50 days by the 1st of October.
- Cows are currently grazing paddock 1 and residency time per paddock is 48hours. 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 37kg. The farm does appear to be suffering from stress brought about by moisture deficit. Heavy rain is forecasted for the weekend so hopefully this should rectify the situation.
2. 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.
3. Latest milk composition details from the processor are: Fat 4.52%, Protein 3.88%, Lactose 4.73%, Sediment B, Thermoduric 13, SCC 176k, TBC 11k

