

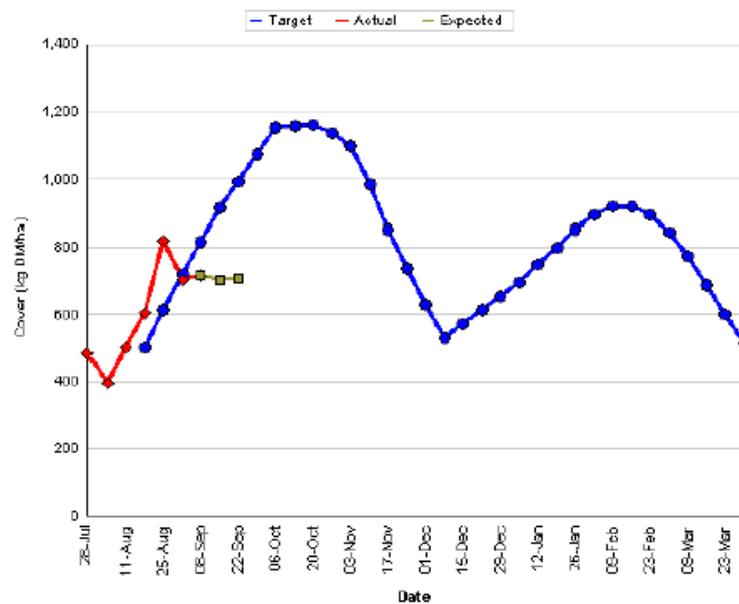
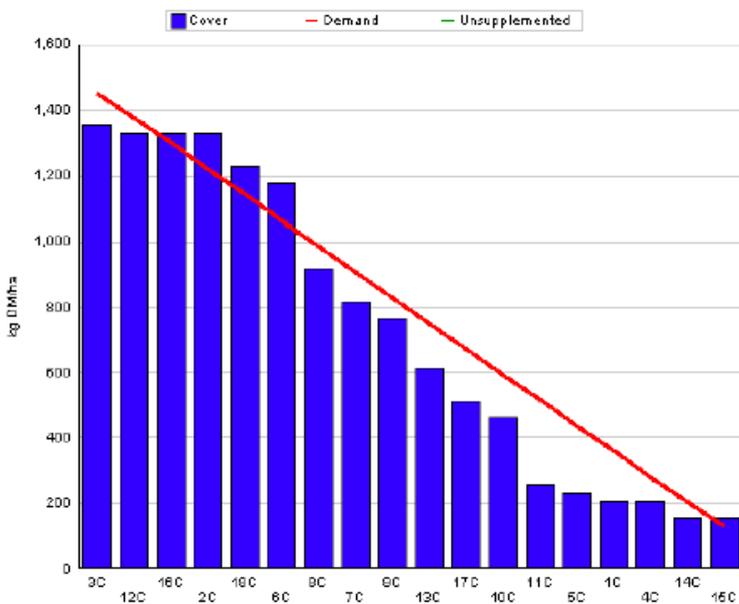
## Curtins Farm Walk Notes Tuesday 06-09-11

### 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 : 07-SEP-11	
Farm : Curtins Farm		Effect of stocking rate and calving date on animal performance	
Date : 05-SEP-11		Treatment : Low SR	
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Rotation Length :	33	Farm Cover (kg DM/ha) :	717
Grass Allocation /cow (kg grass dry matter/LL)	16	Farm Cover (kg DM/LU) :	285
Concentrate Fed (kg/cow) :	0	Current Monthly Fertilizer Rate (kg/ha) :	
Silage Fed (kg DM/cow) :	2.5	Stock Rate (LU/ha) :	2.52
N Application Rate (units/acre) :		Growth Rate :	43
N Application Rate (kg/ha) :		Farm Demand (kg DM/ha/day) :	40
Residual Height :	4.5	Target pregrazing yield (kg DM/ha) :	1454
Total Livestock (LU) :	23	Forecast Growth Week 1 and 2:	38      39



- Average farm cover for this week is 717kg/ha (285kg/cow) which is almost identical to last weeks figure. As farm cover should be increasing week on week we are now below target for this group (717kg actual versus 800kg target). Average growth rate over the past 7 days on this farmlet was 43kg, (last week was 33kg).

- In order to address the situation bale silage is being fed. This is being fed in the paddock under the electric fence at a rate of approximately 2.5kgDM/cow/day and it is succeeding in slowing down the rotation length.
- Cows are grazing block 3, residency time per paddock is 48 -60 hours. Cows are grazing to between 4.5 and 5cm.
- Rotation length has increased to 33 days. This will be increased incrementally to 50 days by the 1<sup>st</sup> of October.

## High Stocking Rate Group (3.3 Cows/ha)

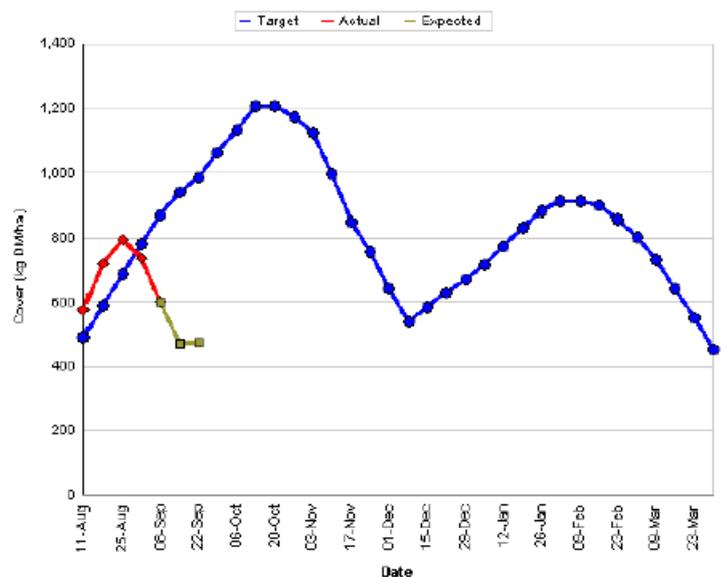
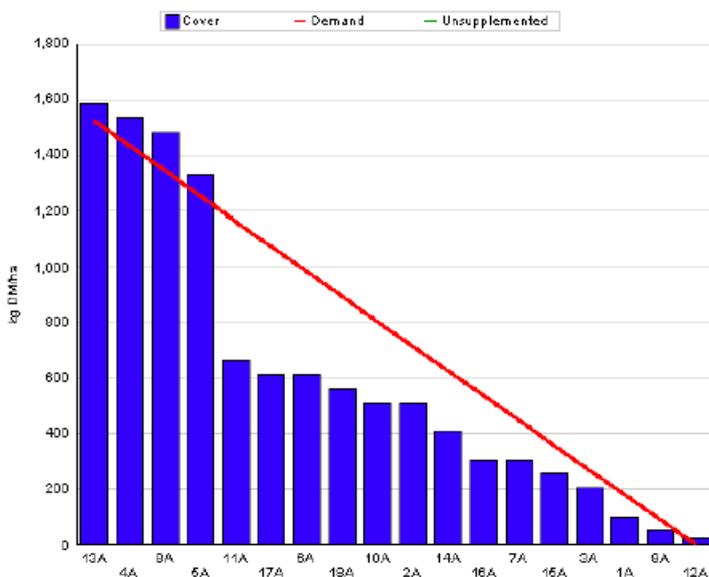
### Situation

**Figure 2. High Stocking Rate Feed Wedge**

Moorepark Animal & Grassland Research and Innovation Centre		GrazePlan - Grass Measurement Report	
Group	TEAGASC RESEARCH FARMS	Date Produced	07-SEP-11
Farm	Curtins Farm	Effect of stocking rate and calving date on animal performance	
Date	05-SEP-11	Treatment	High SR

Rotation Length :	33	Farm Cover (kg DM/ha) :	601
Grass Allocation /cow (kg grass dry matter/LL)	14	Farm Cover (kg DM/LU) :	182
Concentrate Fed (kg/cow) :	0	Current Monthly Fertilizer Rate (kg/ha) :	
Silage Fed (kg DM/cow) :	2.5	Stock Rate (LU/ha) :	3.30
N Application Rate (units/acre) :		Growth Rate :	31
N Application Rate (kg/ha) :		Farm Demand (kg DM/ha/day) :	46
Residual Height :	3.5	Target pregrazing yield (kg DM/ha) :	1522
Total Livestock (LU) :	23	Forecast Growth Week 1 and 2:	28      28



- Average farm cover this week is 601kg/ha (182/cow) which is a substantial reduction on last weeks figure and we are now well below target (601kg actual versus 860kg target). Growth rate over the past 7 days on this farmlot was 31kg/day.
- Bale silage is being fed at a rate of approximately 2.5kgDM/cow/day in the field.
- Rotation length has increased to 33 days. This will be increased incrementally to 50 days by the 1<sup>st</sup> of October.
- Cows are currently grazing paddock 13 and residency time per paddock is 48 – 60 hours. Cows in this farmlot 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. This is the same as last week which shows that the 13.5mm of rain that has fallen has had little impact on growth yet.
2. Fertiliser is being blanket spread over the whole farm at a rate of 27units CAN/acre. This is the last application for the year and will bring total N spread this season to 250kgN/ha.
3. Latest milk composition details from the processor are: Fat 4.63%, Protein 3.89%, Lactose 4.62%, Sediment A, Thermoduric 13, SCC 213k, TBC 15k

