

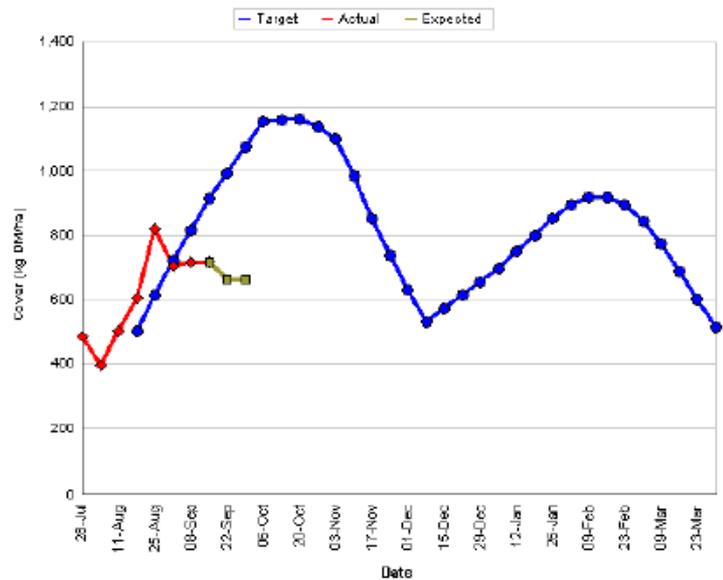
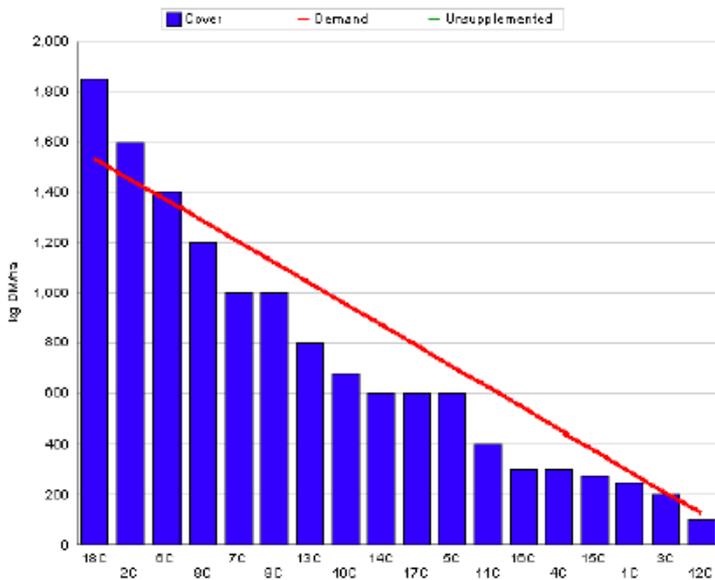
## Curtins Farm Walk Notes Tuesday 13-09-11

### 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 : 12-SEP-11	
Farm : Curtins Farm		Effect of stocking rate and calving date on animal performance	
Date : 12-SEP-11		Treatment : Low SR	
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Rotation Length :	35	Farm Cover (kg DM/ha) :	715
Grass Allocation /cow (kg grass dry matter/LL)	16	Farm Cover (kg DM/LU) :	284
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 :	33
N Application Rate (kg/ha) :	-	Farm Demand (kg DM/ha/day) :	40
Residual Height :	4.5	Target pregrazing yield (kg DM/ha) :	1534
Total Livestock (LU) :	23	Forecast Growth Week 1 and 2:	33      33



- Average farm cover for this week is 715kg/ha (284kg/cow) which is identical to last weeks figure. As farm cover should be increasing week on week we are now well below target for this group (715kg actual versus 900kg target). Average growth rate over the past 7 days on this farmlet was 33kg, (last week was 43kg).

- In order to address the situation we are continuing to feed supplement at a rate of 2.5kgDM/day. At the moment this is in the form of bale silage being fed in the field but will be changed to concentrate on Thursday to facilitate an intake experiment taking place next week.
- Cows are currently grazing block 16, residency time per paddock is 48 -60 hours. Cows are grazing to between 4.5 and 5cm.
- Rotation length has increased to 35 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)

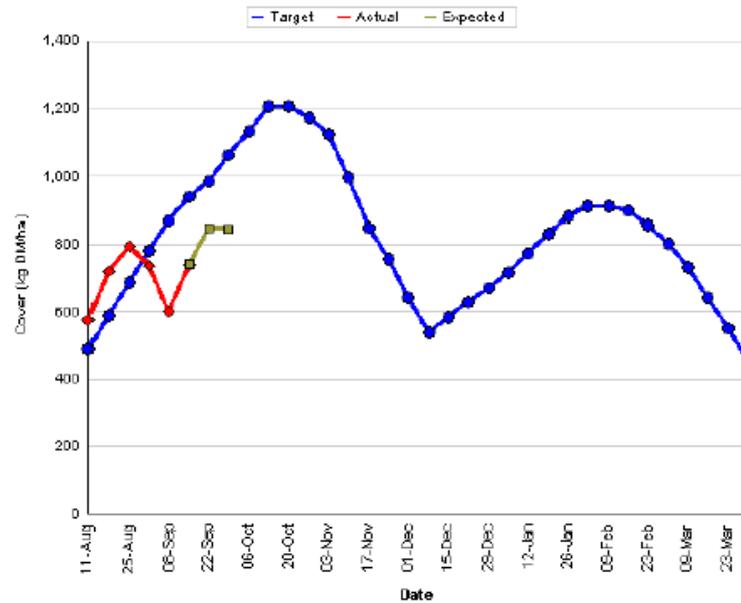
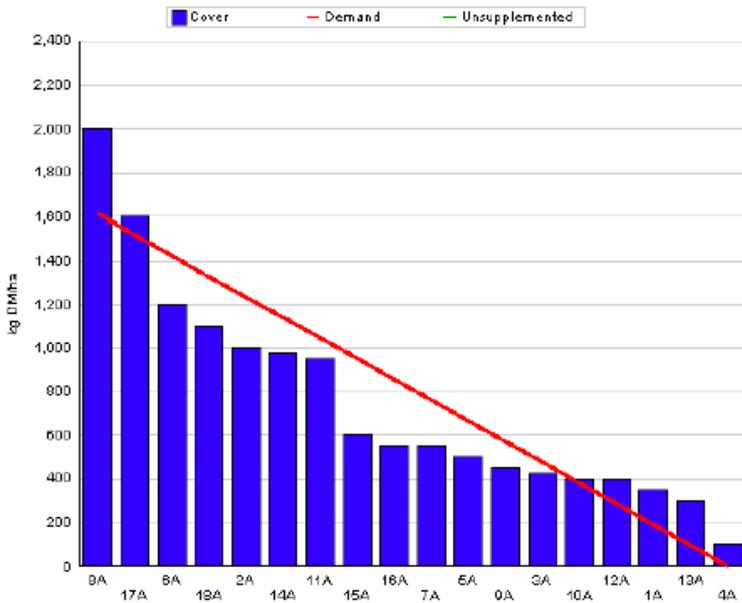
### Situation

Figure 2. High Stocking Rate Feed Wedge

Moorepark Animal & Grassland Research and Innovation Centre		GrazePlan - Grass Measurement Report	
Group	TEAGASC RESEARCH FARMS	Date Produced 12-SEP-11	
Farm	Curtins Farm	Effect of stocking rate and calving date on animal performance	
Date	12-SEP-11	Treatment : High SR	

Rotation Length :	35	Farm Cover (kg DM/ha) :	739
Grass Allocation /cow (kg grass dry matter/LL	14	Farm Cover (kg DM/LU) :	224
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 :	61
N Application Rate (kg/ha) :		Farm Demand (kg DM/ha/day) :	46
Residual Height :	3.5	Target pregrazing yield (kg DM/ha) :	1615
Total Livestock (LU) :	23	Forecast Growth Week 1 and 2:	61      61



- Average farm cover this week is 739kg/ha (224/cow) which is an increase on last weeks figure as a result of increased growth rates this week of 61kg/day (last week 31kg). However, we are still well below target for this week (739kg actual versus 950kg target).
- Bale silage is being fed at a rate of approximately 2.5kgDM/cow/day in the field. This will be changed to concentrate on Thursday to facilitate an intake experiment taking place next week.
- Rotation length has increased to 35 days. This will be increased incrementally to 50 days by the 1<sup>st</sup> of October.

- Cows are currently grazing paddock 5 and residency time per paddock is 48 – 60 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 44kg.
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 4.83%, Protein 4.03%, Lactose 4.71%, Sediment A, Thermoduric 13, SCC 221k, TBC 15k

