

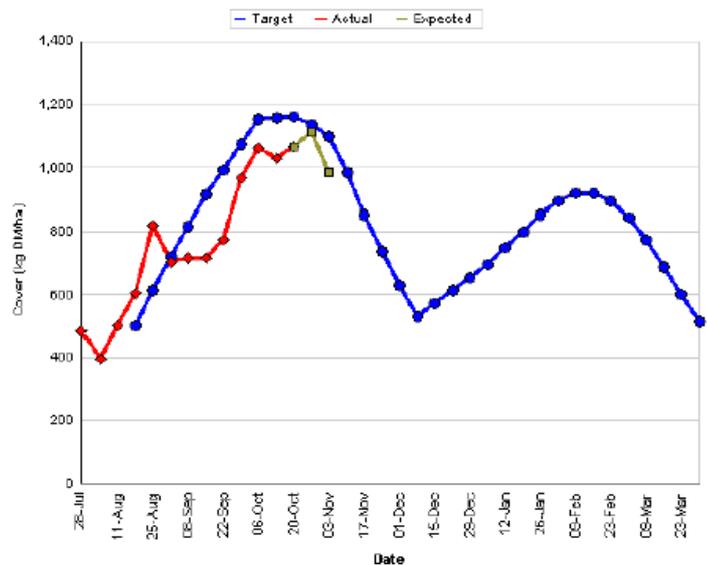
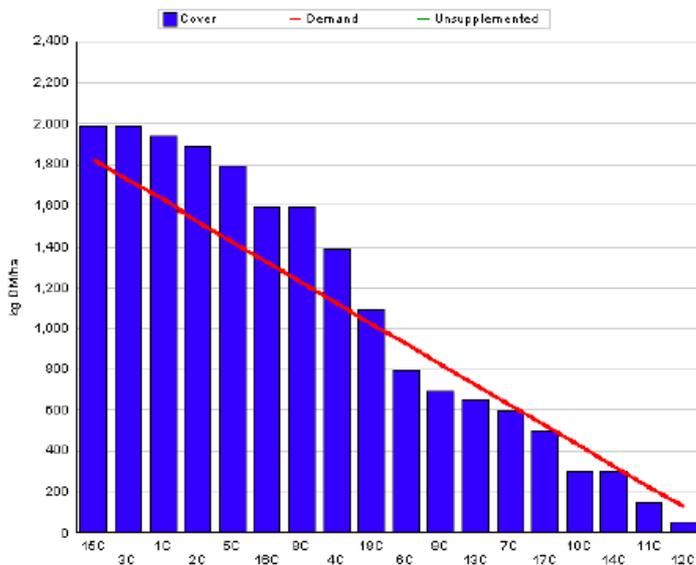
Curtins Farm Walk Notes Tuesday 18-10-11

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 : 18-OCT-11	
Farm : Curtins Farm		Effect of stocking rate and calving date on animal performance	
Date : 17-OCT-11		Treatment : Low SR	
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Rotation Length :	45	Farm Cover (kg DM/ha) :	1066
Grass Allocation /cow (kg grass dry matter/LL	15	Farm Cover (kg DM/LU) :	424
Concentrate Fed (kg/cow) :	1	Current Monthly Fertilizer Rate (kg/ha) :	
Silage Fed (kg DM/cow) :	2.3	Stock Rate (LU/ha) :	2.52
N Application Rate (units/acre) :		Growth Rate :	45
N Application Rate (kg/ha) :		Farm Demand (kg DM/ha/day) :	38
Residual Height :	4.5	Target pregrazing yield (kg DM/ha) :	1824
Total Livestock (LU) :	23	Forecast Growth Week 1 and 2:	44 26



- Average farm cover for this week is 1066kg/ha (424kg/cow) which is a slight increase on last weeks figure. Farm cover is below target for this group (1066kg actual versus 1170kg target). Average growth rate over the past 7 days on this farmlet was 45kg, (last week was 39kg).

Silage continues to be fed at a rate of 2.3kg/cow/day. This is being fed under the electric fence in the paddock and is working extremely well with very little damage being caused and excellent silage utilisation.

- 1 kg of concentrate is also being fed. If weather and ground conditions change we will stop feeding silage outdoors and move to concentrates being fed in the parlour but until then we will continue to feed silage outdoors.
- Pre-grazing yields are approximately 2000 and conditions are excellent. Paddocks are being halved with residency time per half at 36 hours (with the silage).
- Rotation length remains at 45 days.

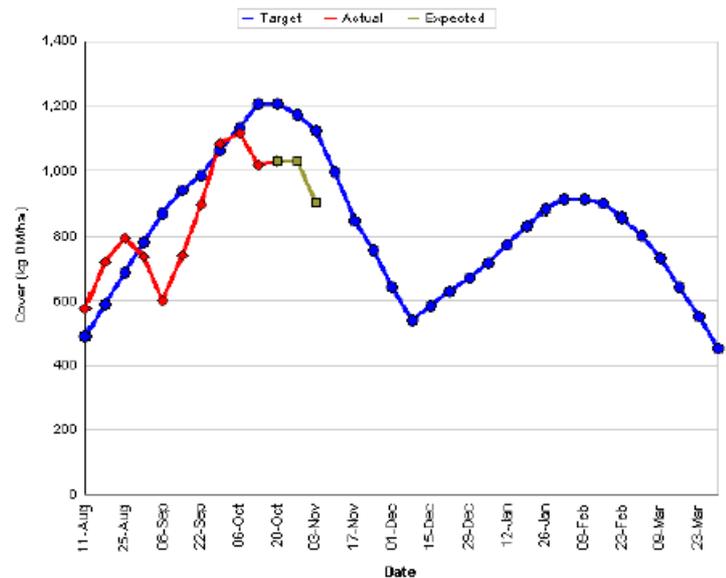
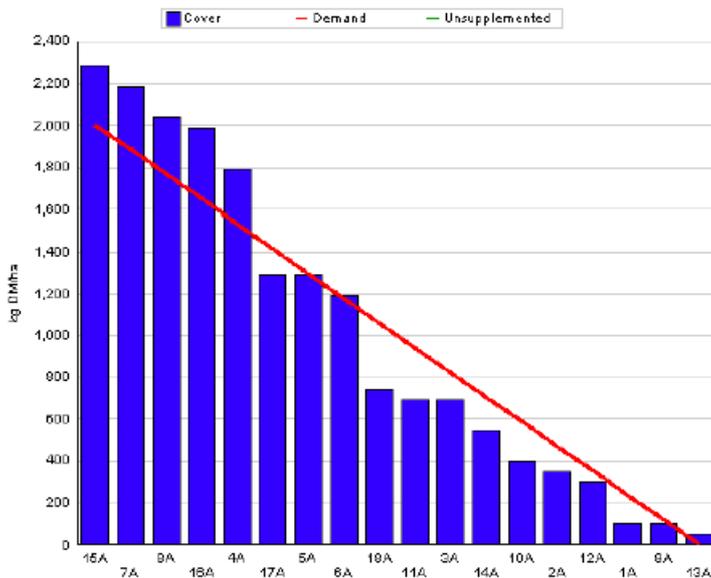
High Stocking Rate Group (3.3 Cows/ha)

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	18-OCT-11
Farm	Curtins Farm	Effect of stocking rate and calving date on animal performance	
Date	17-OCT-11	Treatment	High SR

Rotation Length :	45	Farm Cover (kg DM/ha) :	1031
Grass Allocation /cow (kg grass dry matter/LL)	13.5	Farm Cover (kg DM/LU) :	313
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 :	45
N Application Rate (kg/ha) :		Farm Demand (kg DM/ha/day) :	44
Residual Height :	3.5	Target pregrazing yield (kg DM/ha) :	2002
Total Livestock (LU) :	23	Forecast Growth Week 1 and 2:	44 26



- Average farm cover this week is 1031kg/ha (313/cow) which is a slight increase on last weeks figure. We are still behind target. Growth rate for this week was 45kg/day (last week 37kg).
- Silage is being fed at a rate of 2.5kg/day. It is being fed in a similar manner to the low stocking rate group, described above.
- Rotation length is at 45 days.
- 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 43kg.
2. Fertiliser was blanket spread over the whole farm at a rate of 27units CAN/acre during the first week of September. That was the last application for the year and will bring total N spread this season to 250kgN/ha.
3. Soiled water is being spread after grazing at a rate of 4000gls/acre.
4. Latest milk composition details from the processor are: Fat 5.30%, Protein 4.10%, Lactose 4.71%, Sediment B, Thermoduric 0, SCC 214k, TBC 14k

