

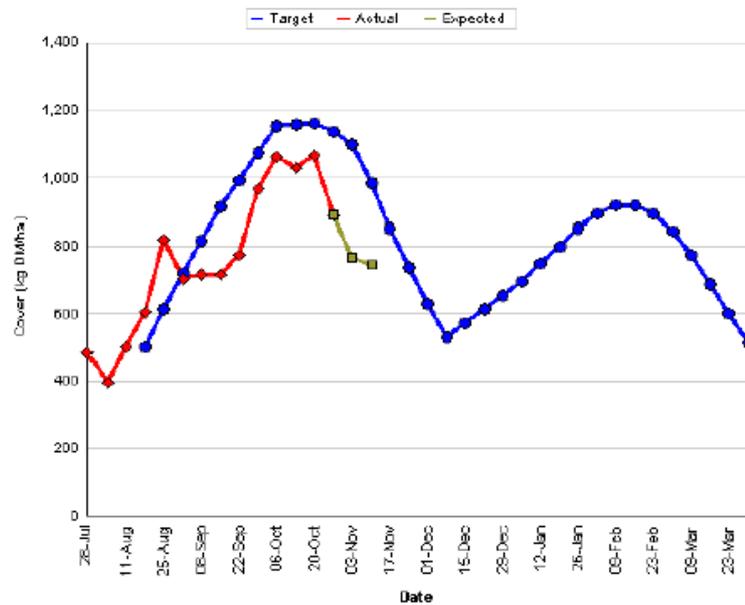
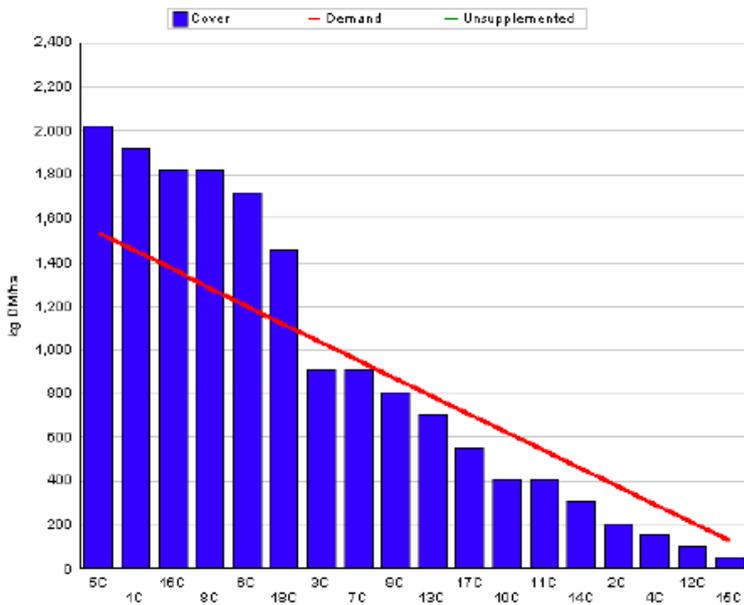
Curtins Farm Walk Notes Tuesday 25-10-11

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 : 25-OCT-11	
Farm : Curtins Farm		Effect of stocking rate and calving date on animal performance	
Date : 24-OCT-11		Treatment : Low SR	
Rotation Length :	40	Farm Cover (kg DM/ha) :	888
Grass Allocation /cow (kg grass dry matter/LU	14	Farm Cover (kg DM/LU) :	353
Concentrate Fed (kg/cow) :	3	Current Monthly Fertilizer Rate (kg/ha) :	2.52
Silage Fed (kg DM/cow) :	0	Stock Rate (LU/ha) :	2.52
N Application Rate (units/acre) :		Growth Rate :	31
N Application Rate (kg/ha) :		Farm Demand (kg DM/ha/day) :	35
Residual Height :	4.5	Target pregrazing yield (kg DM/ha) :	1534
Total Livestock (LU) :	23	Forecast Growth Week 1 and 2:	18 15



- Average farm cover for this week is 888kg/ha (353kg/cow) which is a very substantial reduction on last weeks figure. Farm cover is below target for this group (888kg actual versus 1150kg target). Average growth rate over the past 7 days on this farmlet was 31kg, (last week was 45kg).

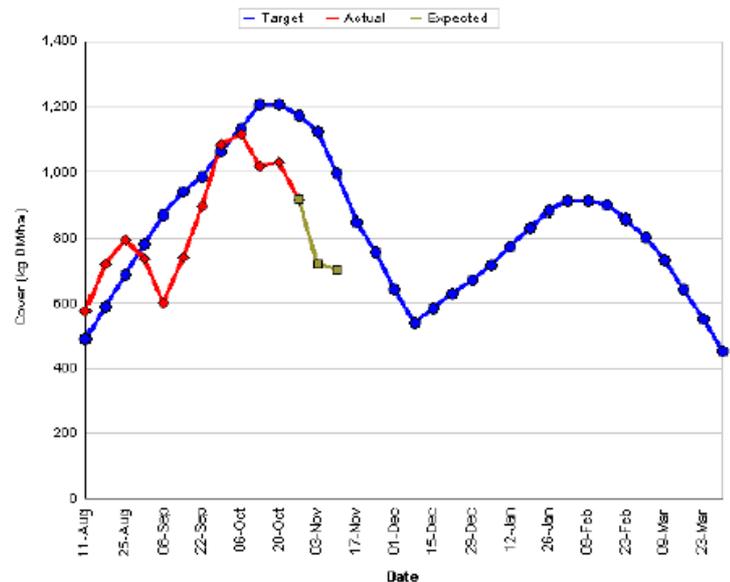
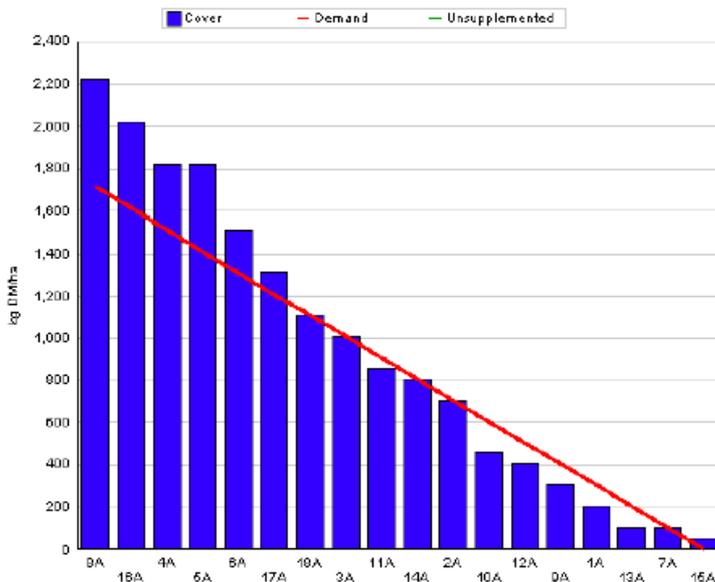
- The reduction in both growth rate and average farm cover was greater than anticipated, as a result, higher levels of supplementation will be required over the coming weeks. However, supplementation will not be increased this week as we want to get more area grazed. To date, 20% of the farmlet has been closed, we plan to graze 3% of the area per day for the next 7 days.
- Concentrate is being fed at a rate of 3kg/cow/day
- Cows were housed on Sunday night.
- Pre-grazing yields are approximately 1900 and conditions are fair. Grass is being allocated after every milking, on/off grazing is practiced when necessary and a back fence is used daily.

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	25-OCT-11
Farm	Curtins Farm	Effect of stocking rate and calving date on animal performance	
Date	24-OCT-11	Treatment	High SR
Rotation Length :	40	Farm Cover (kg DM/ha) :	914
Grass Allocation /cow (kg grass dry matter/LL	13	Farm Cover (kg DM/LU) :	277
Concentrate Fed (kg/cow) :	2	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 :	27
N Application Rate (kg/ha) :		Farm Demand (kg DM/ha/day) :	43
Residual Height :	3.5	Target pregrazing yield (kg DM/ha) :	1713
Total Livestock (LU) :	23	Forecast Growth Week 1 and 2:	15 13



- Average farm cover this week is 914kg/ha (277/cow) which is a reduction on last weeks figure. Farm cover is below target for this group (914kg actual versus 1180kg target). Growth rate for this week was 27kg/day (last week 45kg).
- Concentrate is being fed at a rate of 2kg/day
- To date, 20% of the farmllet has been closed, we plan to graze 3% of the area per day for the next 7 days
- Cows were housed on Sunday night.

- Pre-grazing yields are approximately 2000 and conditions are fair. Grass is being allocated after every milking, on/off grazing is practiced when necessary and a back fence is used daily.
- 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 31kg.
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 brought total N spread this season to 250kgN/ha.
3. Latest milk composition details from the processor are: Fat 5.13%, Protein 4.18%, Lactose 4.68%, Sediment A, Thermoduric 100, SCC 173k, TBC 14k

