

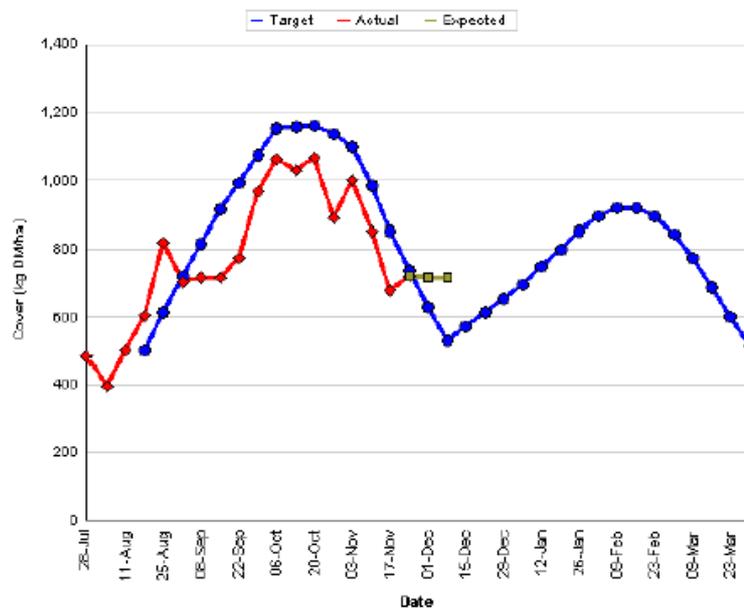
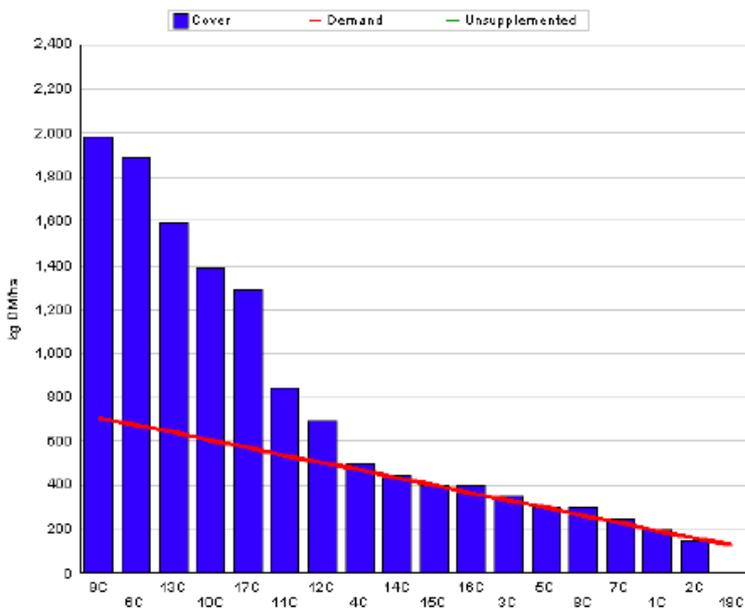
Curtins Farm Walk Notes Tuesday 22-11-11

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: 23-NOV-11																															
Farm: Curtins Farm	Effect of stocking rate and calving date on animal performance																																
Date: 21-NOV-11	Treatment: Low SR																																
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- Average farm cover for this week is 720kg/ha (346kg/cow). Farm cover is above target for this group as a result of higher than normal growth rates (23kg/day) and reduced demand as cows were housed for 4.5 days last week due to inclement weather.

- 93% of this farmlet is grazed which is on target. There is only one paddock left to be grazed (paddock 9) once this is grazed average farm cover will drop to 600kg approx and the cows will be housed fulltime.
- As can be seen in the feed wedge we will be carrying over some high covers over the winter. This is not ideal but if we graze them now our average farm cover will drop too low. With a dry farm and a high demand in spring we feel that we should be able to utilise these paddocks next spring.
- Concentrate is being fed at a rate of 3kg/cow/day
- 17% of the herd is dried off.
- Pre-grazing yields are approximately 2000kg 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.

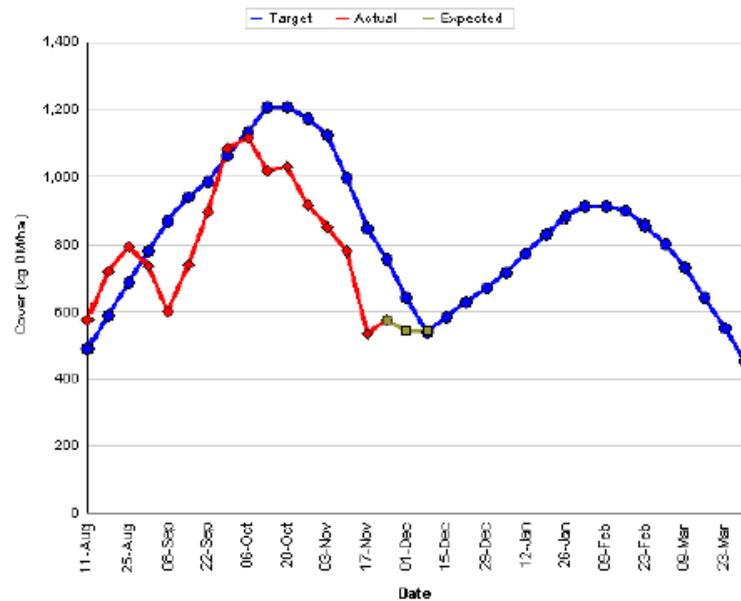
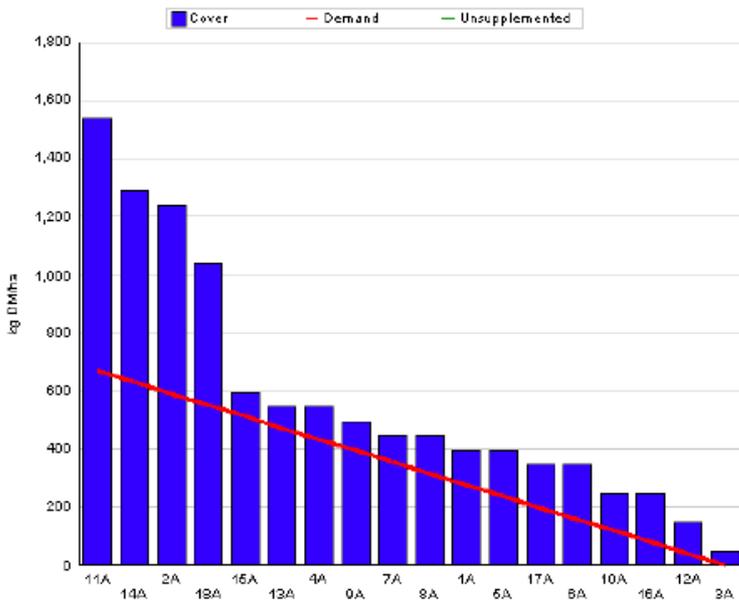
High Stocking Rate Group (3.3 Cows/ha)

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 23-NOV-11	
Farm	Curtins Farm	Effect of stocking rate and calving date on animal performance	
Date	21-NOV-11	Treatment : High SR	

Rotation Length :	40	Farm Cover (kg DM/ha) :	576
Grass Allocation /cow (kg grass dry matter/LL	6.5	Farm Cover (kg DM/LU) :	223
Concentrate Fed (kg/cow) :	2	Current Monthly Fertilizer Rate (kg/ha) :	
Silage Fed (kg DM/cow) :	6.5	Stock Rate (LU/ha) :	2.58
N Application Rate (units/acre) :		Growth Rate :	22
N Application Rate (kg/ha) :		Farm Demand (kg DM/LU/day) :	17
Residual Height :	3.5	Target pregrazing yield (kg DM/ha) :	670
Total Livestock :	18	Forecast Growth Week 1 and 2:	12 12



- Average farm cover this week is 576kg/ha (223/cow). Growth rate for this week was 22kg/day
- This group is half way through their last paddock and will be housed fulltime on Tuesday PM. Average farm cover at this point will be approximately 550kg/ha
- As can be seen in the feed wedge we will be carrying over some high covers over the winter. This is not ideal but if we graze them now our average farm cover will drop too low. With a dry farm and a high demand in spring we feel that we should be able to utilise these paddocks next spring

- Concentrate is being fed at a rate of 2kg/day
- 22% of the herd has been dried off.
- Pre-grazing yields are approximately 1800 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 23kg.
2. All cows will be housed fulltime by Thursday of this week. 20% of the herd has been dried off to date. These have comprised of low yielders, low BCS and early calving cows. Empty cows will be sold next week (20% of herd). The remaining cows will be milked on and dried off when due depending on calving date and BCS.
3. Long acting dry cow therapy is used (Cepravin) without teat sealer. Dry cows will be dosed for lice, fluke and worms in two weeks time.
4. Latest milk composition details from the processor are: Fat 5.76%, Protein 4.10%, Lactose 4.66%, Sediment A, Thermoduric 210, SCC 176k, TBC 36k

