

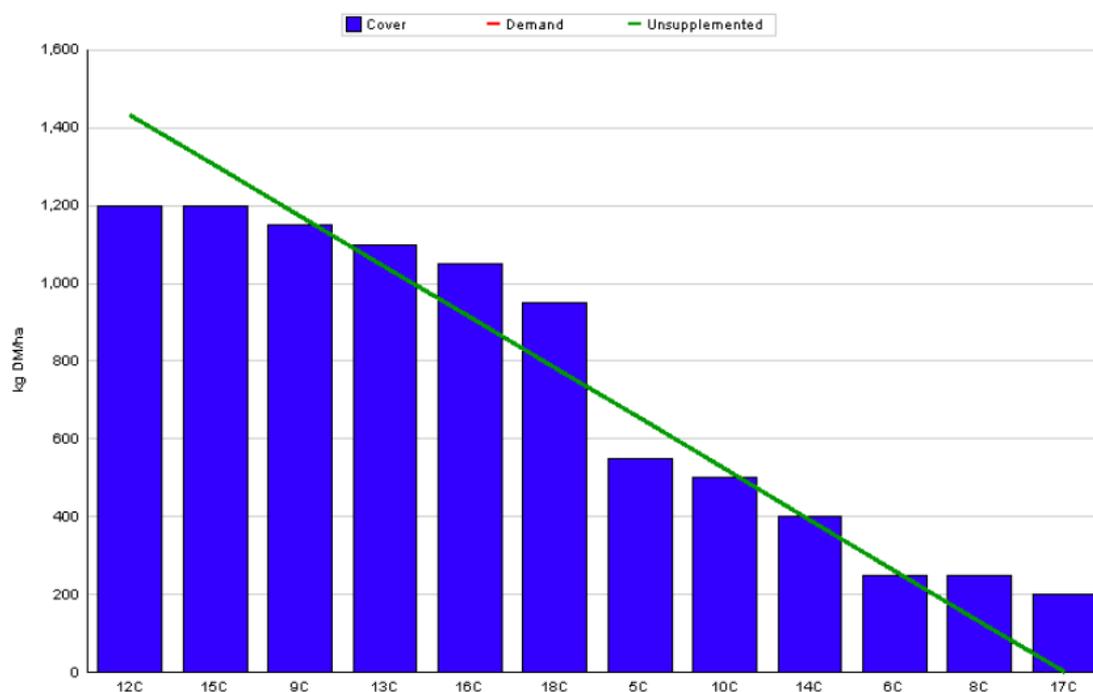
Curtins Farm Walk Notes Tuesday 22-05-12

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 21-MAY-12	
Farm : Curtins Farm		Effect of stocking rate and calving date on animal performance	
Date : 21-MAY-12		Treatment : Low SR	
Rotation Length :	21	Grass Allocation /LU (kg DM/LU) :	18
Number of Cows :	23	Farm Cover (kg DM/ha) :	759
Grass Allocation /cow (kg grass dry matter/LU)	18	Farm Cover (kg DM/LU) :	200
Concentrate Fed (kg/cow) :	0		
Silage Fed (kg DM/cow) :	0		
N Application Rate (units/acre) :		Stocking Rate (LU/ha) :	3.80
N Application Rate (kg/ha) :		Growth Rate :	64
Residual Height :	4	Farm Demand (kg DM/ha/day) :	68
Total Livestock (LU) :	23	Target pregrazing yield (kg DM/ha) :	1435



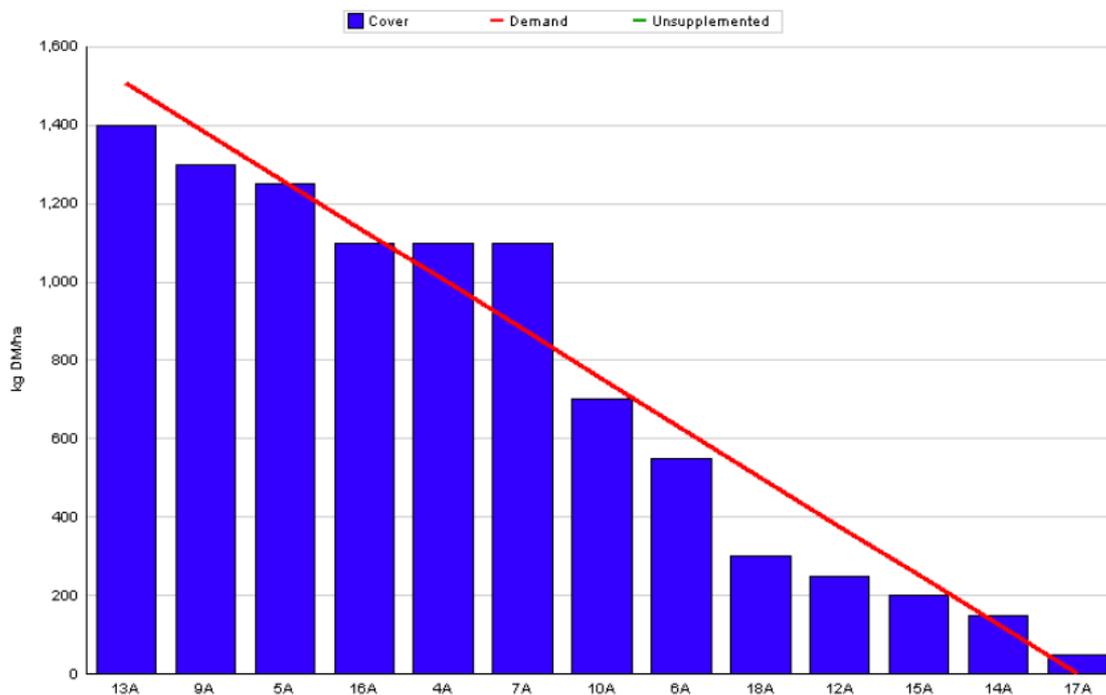
- Average Farm Cover for this week is 759kg/ha (200/cow). Growth rate for this group over the past 7 days was 64kg/day.
- 3 more paddocks were skipped for silage this week, bringing the total area closed to 27%.
- Stocking rate is now 3.8 cows/ha and demand is 68kg/day.
- Average pre-grazing yield is 1200kg and residency time per paddock is between 36 and 48 hours.

High Stocking Rate Group (3.3 Cows/ha)

Situation

Figure 5. High Stocking Rate Feed Wedge

Moorepark Animal & Grassland Research and Innovation Centre		GrazePlan - Grass Measurement Report	
Group : TEAGASC RESEARCH FARMS		Date Produced	21-MAY-12
Farm : Curtins Farm		Effect of stocking rate and calving date on animal performance	
Date : 21-MAY-12		Treatment :	High SR
Rotation Length :	21	Grass Allocation /LU (kg DM/LU) :	16
Number of Cows :	23	Farm Cover (kg DM/ha) :	736
Grass Allocation /cow (kg grass dry matter/LU	16	Farm Cover (kg DM/LU) :	164
Concentrate Fed (kg/cow) :	0	Current Monthly Fertilizer Rate (kg/ha) :	
Silage Fed (kg DM/cow) :	0	Stocking Rate (LU/ha) :	4.48
N Application Rate (units/acre) :		Growth Rate :	65
N Application Rate (kg/ha) :		Farm Demand (kg DM/ha/day) :	72
Residual Height :	3	Target pregrazing yield (kg DM/ha) :	1506
Total Livestock (LU) :	23		



- Average farm cover this week is 736kg/ha (164/cow). Growth rate over the past 7 days was 65kg/day.

- 3 paddocks were skipped for silage this week. Total area closed for silage is 20%.
- Stocking rate is 4.48cows/ha and demand is 72kg/day. Pre-grazing yield is on average 1400kg DM.

Whole Farm Situation

1. 20 units of SulCAN/acre is being spread after grazing during May.
2. All paddocks that were closed for silage last week and this week have received 60 units of SulCAN per acre. These paddocks will be closed for 4 weeks and allowed to bulk up.
3. Residency time per paddock is between 36 and 48 hours depending on grazing conditions which have been difficult at times.
4. Latest milk composition details from the processor are: Fat 4.42%, Protein 3.64%, Lactose 4.85% and SCC 148k.
5. Magnesium, selenium, cobalt, copper, zinc and iodine are being supplemented daily through the water supply via a Dosatron pump.
6. Block 11 was sprayed with *Roundup Biactive* at a rate of 5l/ha on Saturday 31st March. This was grazed 7 days later and was reseeded using a 'one-pass' machine on Friday 20th of April. 3t/acre of lime and 2.7 bags/acre of 10:10:20 was applied at time of sowing. A monoculture of the tetraploid *Aston Energy* was sown with *Chieftan* clover.
7. Mating started on the 26th of April. 36% of the bulls used will be Norwegian Red (BSJ & EKE), 35% will be Friesian (MWH, KNW, MJD, MOK, TJF) and 29% will be Jersey (HWY, ASV, WTL, TIO).

