

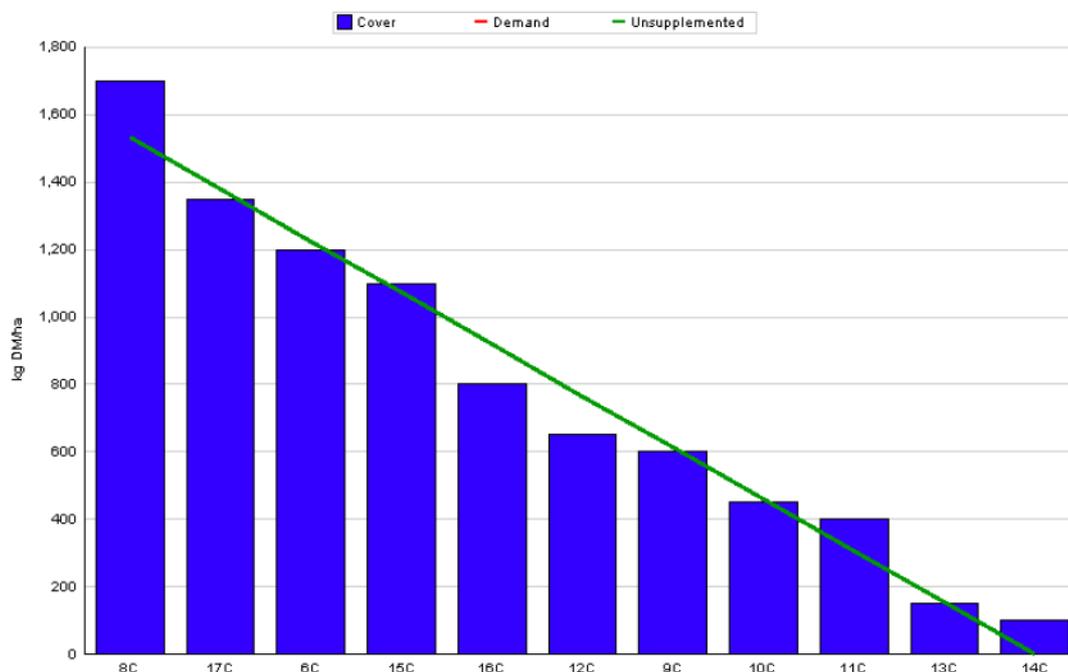
Curtins Farm Walk Notes Tuesday 05-06-12

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 05-JUN-12	
Farm : Curtins Farm		Effect of stocking rate and calving date on animal performance	
Date : 05-JUN-12		Treatment : Low SR	
Rotation Length :	21	Grass Allocation /LU (kg DM/LU) :	18
Number of Cows :	23	Farm Cover (kg DM/ha) :	765
Grass Allocation /cow (kg grass dry matter/LU)	18	Farm Cover (kg DM/LU) :	189
Concentrate Fed (kg/cow) :	0	Stocking Rate (LU/ha) :	4.05
Silage Fed (kg DM/cow) :	0	Growth Rate :	83
N Application Rate (units/acre) :		Farm Demand (kg DM/ha/day) :	73
N Application Rate (kg/ha) :		Target pregrazing yield (kg DM/ha) :	1531
Residual Height :	4		
Total Livestock (LU) :	23		



- Average Farm Cover for this week is 765kg/ha (189/cow). Growth rate for this group over the past 7 days was 83kg/day.

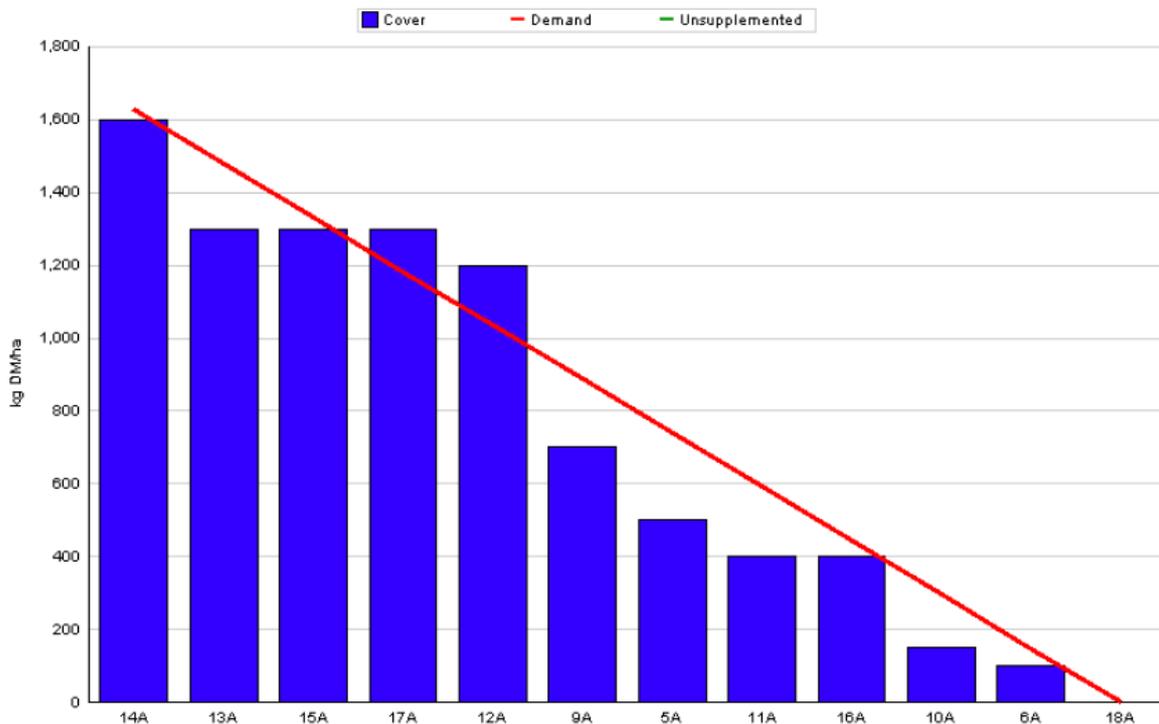
- 38% of this farmlet is closed for silage. Paddock 11, which was reseeded is now back in the wedge and is due to be grazed this week weather permitting.
- Stocking rate is now 4.05 cows/ha and demand is 73kg/day.
- Average pre-grazing yield is 1700kg and residency time per paddock is between 36 and 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	Effect of stocking rate and calving date on animal performance		Date Produced 05-JUN-12
Farm : Curtins Farm			
Date : 05-JUN-12	Treatment :	High SR	
Rotation Length :	21	Grass Allocation /LU (kg DM/LU) :	16
Number of Cows :	23	Farm Cover (kg DM/ha) :	747
Grass Allocation /cow (kg grass dry matter/LU)	16	Farm Cover (kg DM/LU) :	154
Concentrate Fed (kg/cow) :	0	Current Monthly Fertilizer Rate (kg/ha) :	
Silage Fed (kg DM/cow) :	0	Stocking Rate (LU/ha) :	4.84
N Application Rate (units/acre) :		Growth Rate :	100
N Application Rate (kg/ha) :		Farm Demand (kg DM/ha/day) :	77
Residual Height :	3	Target pregrazing yield (kg DM/ha) :	1627
Total Livestock (LU) :	23		



- Average farm cover this week is 747kg/ha (154/cow). Growth rate over the past 7 days was 100kg/day.

- 33% of this farmlet is closed for silage. Paddock 11, which was reseeded is now back in the wedge and is due to be grazed this week weather permitting.
- Stocking rate is 4.84cows/ha and demand is 77kg/day.
- Average pre-grazing yield is 1600kg DM and residency time per paddock is between 36 and 48 hours.

Whole Farm Situation

1. 20 units of SulCAN/acre is being spread after grazing.
2. Most of the paddocks that were skipped for silage were topped up with between 20 and 60 units of SulCAN/acre depending on closing date. We plan to cut these towards the end of next week. By allowing these paddocks to bulk up we are knowingly sacrificing quality for quantity, which is a change to previous policy. The reason for this is 1) we have a stock of high quality bales carried over from last year and 2) we are behind last year in terms of silage area harvested/closed. The downside of this policy is that we will have higher cutting residuals after the mower and slower re-growths.
3. Latest milk composition details from the processor are: Fat 4.5%, Protein 3.59%, Lactose 4.85% and SCC 160k.
4. Magnesium, selenium, cobalt, copper, zinc and iodine are being supplemented daily through the water supply via a Dosatron pump.
5. 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.
6. Mating started on the 26th of April. 36% of the bulls being used are Norwegian Red (BSJ & EKE), 35% are Friesian (MWH, KNW, MJD, MOK, TJF) and 29% are Jersey (HWY, ASV, WTL, TIO). 90% of the herd was submitted in 24 days.

