

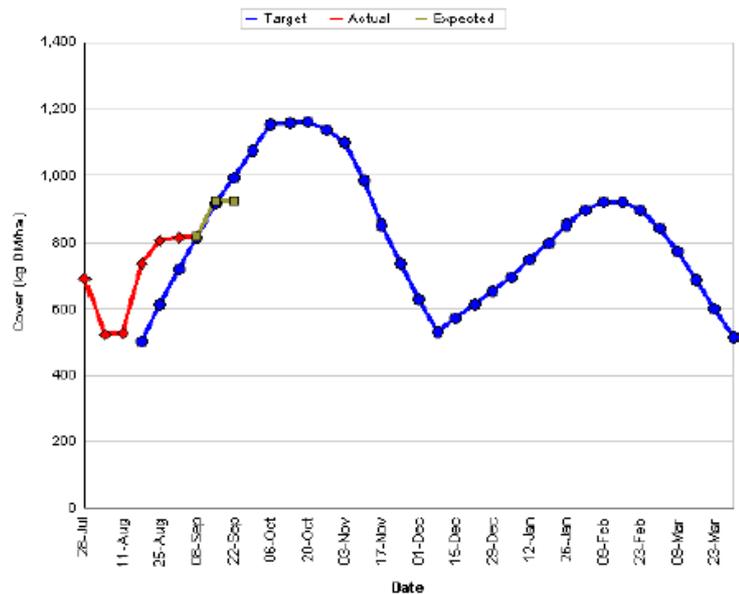
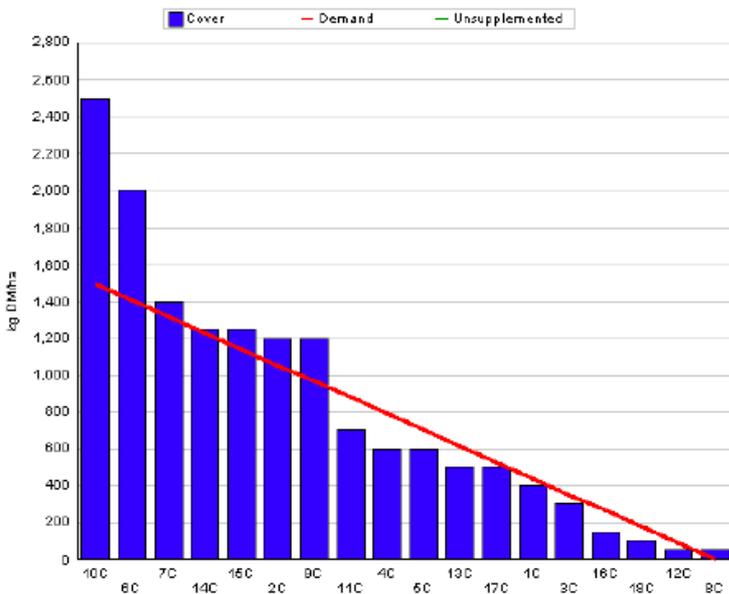
Curtins Farm Walk Notes Tuesday 02-09-12

Low Stocking Rate Group (2.5 Cows/ha)

Situation

Figure 1. Low Stocking Rate Feed Wedge and Average Farm Cover Track

Moorepark Animal & Grassland Research and Innovation Centre		GrazePlan - Grass Measurement Report
Group: TEAGASC RESEARCH FARMS		Date Produced: 04-SEP-12
Farm: Curtins Farm		Effect of stocking rate and calving date on animal performance
Date: 03-SEP-12	Treatment: Low SR	
Rotation Length : 33 Grass Allocation /Cow (kg DM/Cow) : 18 Concentrate Fed (kg/cow) : 0 Silage Fed (kg DM/cow) : 0 N Application Rate (units/acre) : N Application Rate (kg/ha) : Residual Height : 4 Total Livestock (LU) : 23	Farm Cover (kg DM/ha) : 819 Farm Cover (kg DM/LU) : 325 Current Monthly Fertilizer Rate (kg/ha) : Stock Rate (LU/ha) : 2.52 Growth Rate : 57 Farm Demand (kg DM/ha/day) : 45 Target pregrazing yield (kg DM/ha) : 1495 Forecast Growth Week 1 and 2: 60 60	



- Average Farm Cover for this week is 819kg/ha (325/cow). Growth rate for this group over the past 7 days was 57kg/day
- As can be seen in Figure 1, the average farm cover is exactly on target for this time (red line). The yellow line indicates the expected average farm cover over the next two weeks while the blue line is the target average farm cover for Autumn and Spring.
- Current grass management decisions are based around average farm cover with the feed wedge playing a secondary role.

- Pre-grazing yields have risen considerably as rotation length has increased and growth rates have been higher than expected. We predict a continuation of strong growth rates over the next 10 days as weather has improved quite a lot and the final round of nitrogen is due to be applied. Therefore, future surpluses may arise.
- Cows are currently grazing paddock 3. Paddocks are being halved and residency time per segment is 36 hours.
- Rotation length has increased to 33 days.

High Stocking Rate Group (3.3 Cows/ha)

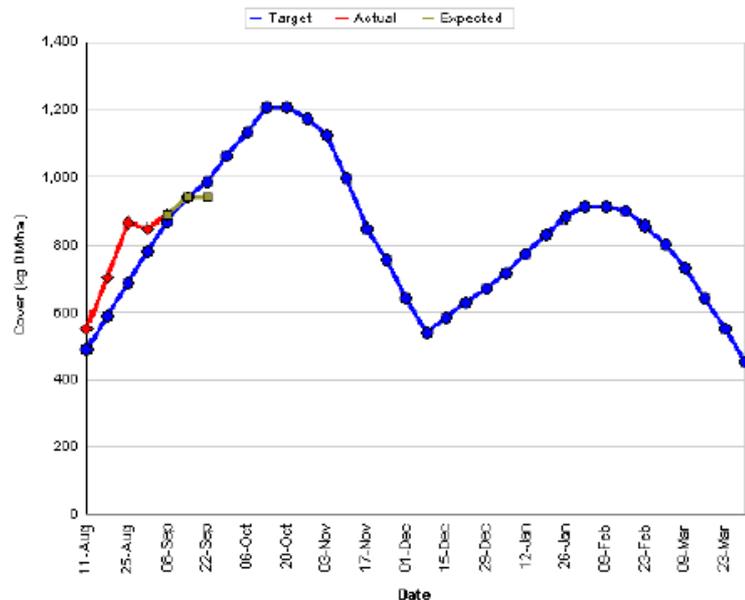
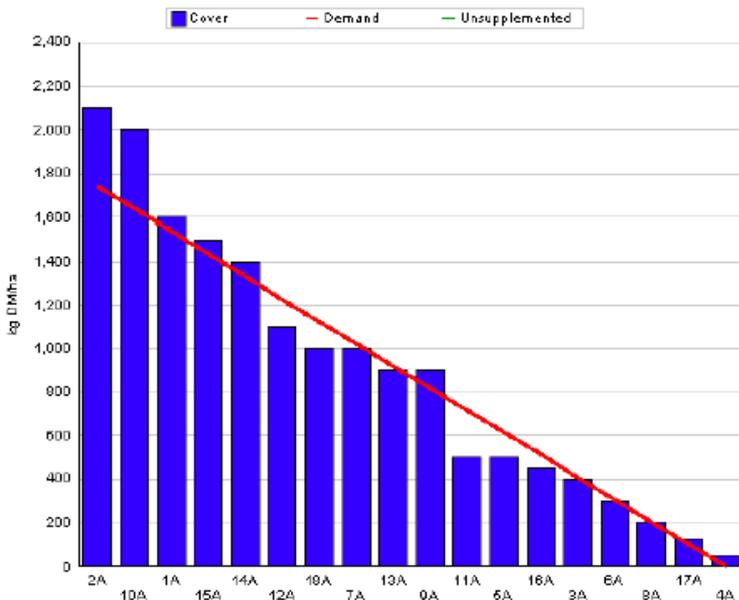
Situation

Figure 2. High Stocking Rate Feed Wedge and Average Farm Cover Track

Moorepark Animal & Grassland Research and Innovation Centre		GrazePlan - Grass Measurement Report	
Group	TEAGASC RESEARCH FARMS	Date Produced	04-SEP-12
Farm	Curtins Farm	Effect of stocking rate and calving date on animal performance	
Date	03-SEP-12	Treatment	High SR

Rotation Length :	33
Grass Allocation /Cow (kg DM/Cow) :	16
Concentrate Fed (kg/cow) :	0
Silage Fed (kg DM/cow) :	0
N Application Rate (units/acre) :	
N Application Rate (kg/ha) :	
Residual Height :	3
Total Livestock (LU) :	23

Farm Cover (kg DM/ha) :	887
Farm Cover (kg DM/LU) :	269
Current Monthly Fertilizer Rate (kg/ha) :	
Stock Rate (LU/ha) :	3.30
Growth Rate :	55
Farm Demand (kg DM/ha/day) :	53
Target pregrazing yield (kg DM/ha) :	1740
Forecast Growth Week 1 and 2:	60 60



- Average farm cover this week is 887kg/ha (269/cow). Growth rate over the past 7 days was 55kg per day.
- As can be seen in Figure 1, the average farm cover is exactly on target for this time (red line). The yellow line indicates the expected average farm cover over the next two weeks while the blue line is the target average farm cover for Autumn and Spring.
- Current grass management decisions are based around average farm cover with the feed wedge playing a secondary role.

- Pre-grazing yields have risen considerably as rotation length has increased and growth rates have been higher than expected. We predict a continuation of strong growth rates over the next 10 days as weather has improved quite a lot and the final round of nitrogen is due to be applied. Therefore, future surpluses may arise.
- Cows are currently grazing paddock 10. Paddocks are being halved and residency time per segment is 36 hours.

Whole Farm Situation

1. 26 units/acre of sulCAN will be blanket spread across the farm next week. This will be the last application for the year and will bring total nitrogen applied to 250kgN/ha.
2. Latest milk composition details from the processor are: Fat 4.99%, Protein 3.94%, Lactose 4.55% and SCC 216k.
3. Mineral supplementation has ceased and cows are on an all grass diet. Paddocks will be dusted for magnesium depending on the weather.
4. The breeding season ended on the 26th of July and we are awaiting the results of the final scan at end of September.

