

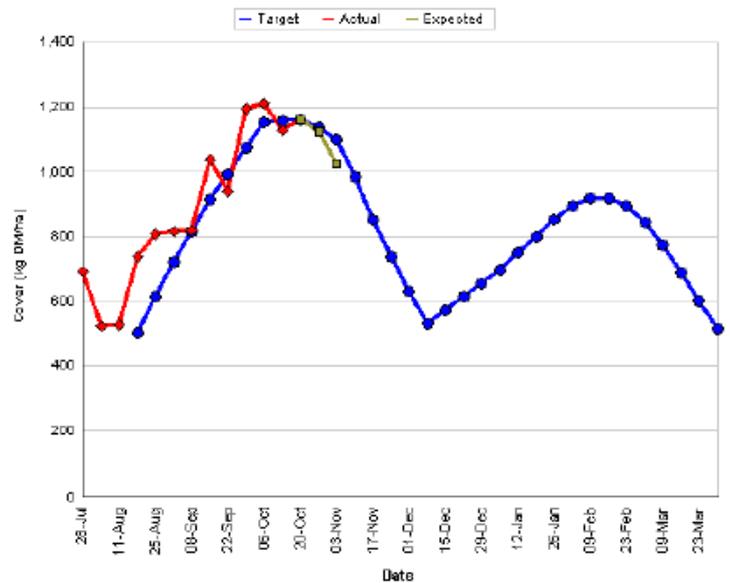
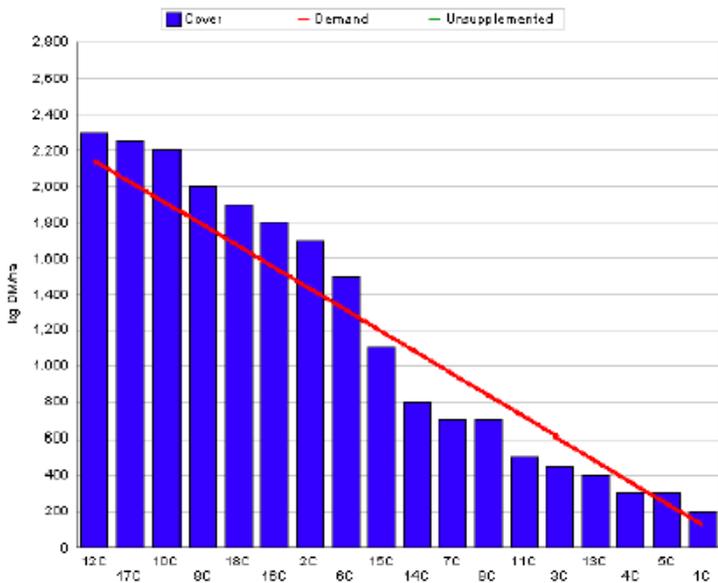
Curtins Farm Walk Notes Tuesday 16-10-12

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 : 16-OCT-12	
Farm : Curtins Farm		Effect of stocking rate and calving date on animal performance	
Date : 15-OCT-12		Treatment : Low SR	
Rotation Length :	50	Farm Cover (kg DM/ha) :	1161
Grass Allocation /Cow (kg DM/Cow) :	16	Farm Cover (kg DM/LU) :	461
Concentrate Fed (kg/cow) :	2	Current Monthly Fertilizer Rate (kg/ha) :	
Silage Fed (kg DM/cow) :	0	Stock Rate (LU/ha) :	2.52
N Application Rate (units/acre) :		Growth Rate :	37
N Application Rate (kg/ha) :		Farm Demand (kg DM/ha/day) :	40
Residual Height :	4.5	Target pregrazing yield (kg DM/ha) :	2138
Total Livestock (LU) :	23	Forecast Growth Week 1 and 2:	35 21



- Average Farm Cover for this week is 1161kg/ha (461/cow). Growth rate for this group over the past 7 days was 37kg/day (34kg last week)
- As can be seen in Figure 1, the average farm cover is 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.

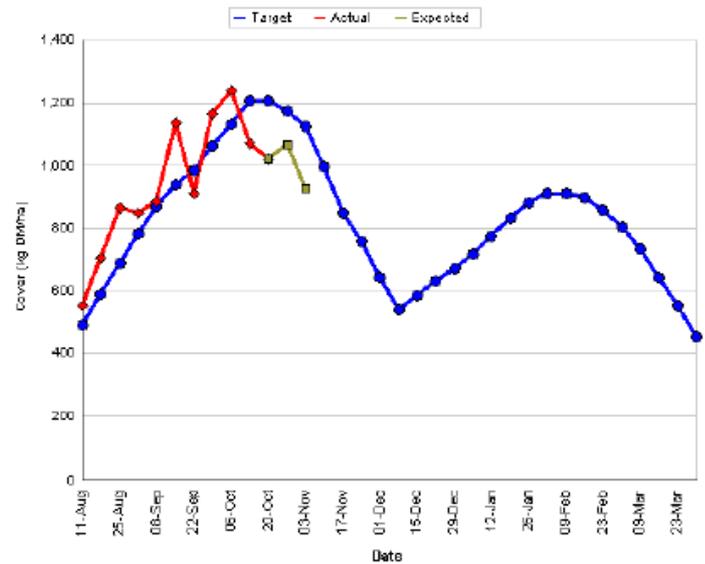
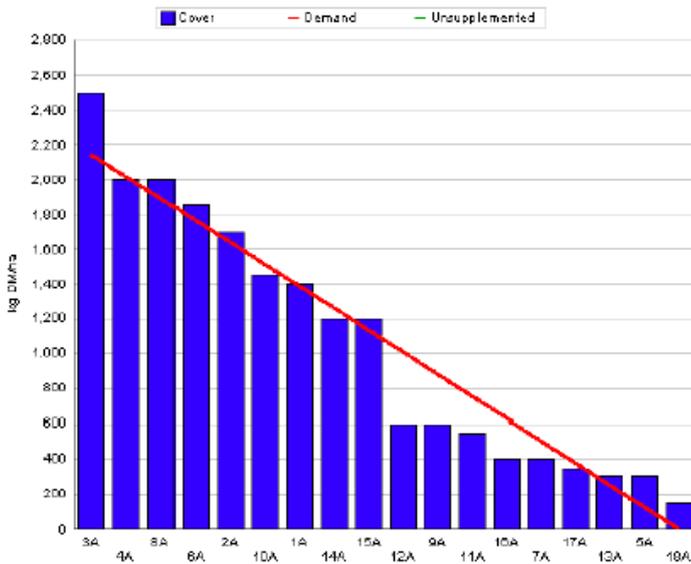
- Supplement has been fed to this group for the past seven days at a rate of 2kg concentrate per head per day. This has reduced demand to 40kg/day. Further supplementation may be required over the next few weeks.
- Pre-grazing yields are at 2300kg and cows are currently grazing paddock 17. Grass is being allocated on a 12 hour basis and on/off grazing will be employed when necessary.
- We have commenced the last rotation and all paddocks grazed since the 7th of October are now considered closed.
- Rotation length is at 50 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	16-OCT-12
Farm	Curtins Farm	Effect of stocking rate and calving date on animal performance	
Date	15-OCT-12	Treatment	High SR
Rotation Length :	50	Farm Cover (kg DM/ha) :	1022
Grass Allocation /Cow (kg DM/Cow) :	13	Farm Cover (kg DM/LU) :	310
Concentrate Fed (kg/cow) :	3	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 :	42
N Application Rate (kg/ha) :		Farm Demand (kg DM/ha/day) :	43
Residual Height :	3.75	Target pregrazing yield (kg DM/ha) :	2142
Total Livestock (LU) :	23	Forecast Growth Week 1 and 2:	49 29



- Average farm cover this week is 1022kg/ha (310/cow). Growth rate over the past 7 days was 42kg per day (43kg last week).
- As can be seen in Figure 2, the average farm cover dropped slightly this week. We are below 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.
- 3kg of concentrate is being fed per cow per day. This has reduced demand to 43kg/day so if growth rate remains the same for this week there should be no change in average farm cover.

- Pre-grazing yield is at 2400kg and grass is being allocated on a 12 hour basis as ground conditions have deteriorated.
- Cows are currently grazing paddock 4 and rotation length is 50 days.
- We have commenced the last rotation and all paddocks grazed since the 7th of October are now considered closed.

Whole Farm Situation

1. 33 units/acre of sulCAN was blanket spread across the farm in mid September. This was the last application for the year and brought total nitrogen applied to 250kgN/ha.
2. Latest milk composition details from the processor are: Fat 5.36%, Protein 4.33%, Lactose 4.49% and SCC 196k.
3. Soiled water was applied to closed paddocks on Monday at a rate of 3300gls/acre

