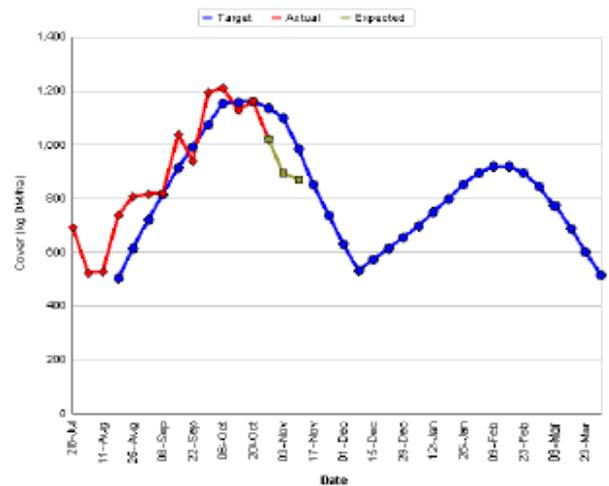
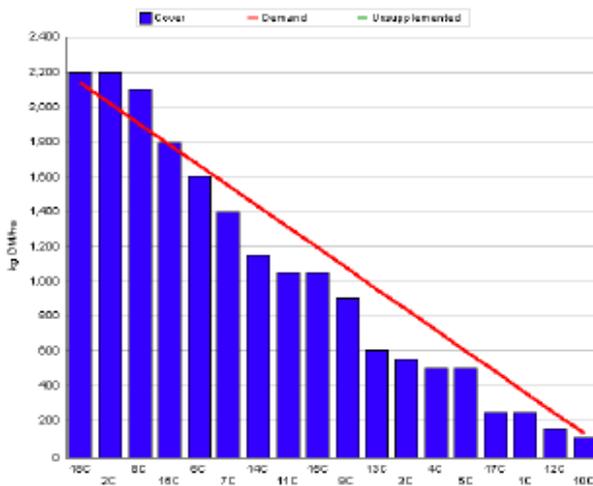


## Curtins Farm Walk Notes Tuesday 22-10-12

### Low Stocking Rate Group (2.5 Cows/ha)

Moorepark Animal & Grassland Research and Innovation Centre		GrazePlan - Grass Measurement Report	
Group : TEAGASC RESEARCH FARMS		Date Produced : 24-OCT-12	
Farm : Curtins Farm		Effect of stocking rate and calving date on animal performance	
Date : 22-OCT-12	Treatment : Low SR		
Number of Cows : 23 Grass Allocation /Cow (kg DM/Cow) : 16 Concentrate Fed (kg/cow) : 2 Silage Fed (kg DM/cow) : 0 N Application Rate (units/acre) : N Application Rate (kg/ha) : Residual Height : 4.5 Total Livestock (LU) : 23		Grass Allocation /LU (kg DM/LU) : 16.0 Farm Cover (kg DM/ha) : 1020 Farm Cover (kg DM/LU) : 405 Stock Rate (LU/ha) : 2.52 Growth Rate : 37 Farm Demand (kg DM/ha/day) : 40 Target pregrazing yield (kg DM/ha) : 2138 Forecast Growth Week 1 and 2: 22      19	



### Low Stocking Rate Group (2.5 Cows/ha)

#### Situation

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

- Average Farm Cover for this week is 1020kg/ha (405/cow). Growth rate for this group over the past 7 days was 37kg/day (37kg 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.

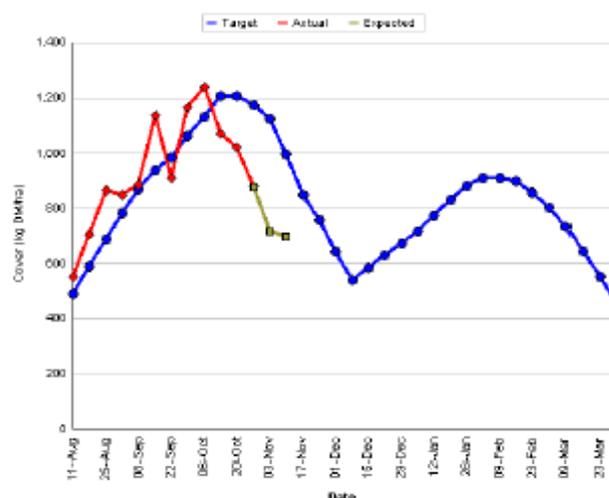
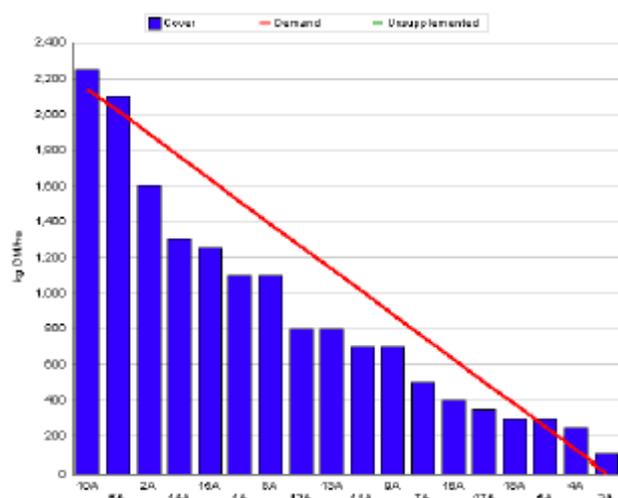
- Concentrate is being fed at a rate of 2kgs per head per day. This has reduced demand to 40kg/day. Further supplementation may be required over the next few weeks depending on weather conditions and expected grass growth.
- Pre-grazing yields are at 2100kg and cows are currently grazing paddock 8. Grass is being allocated on a 24hour basis this will change if weather conditions change.
- 40% of the grazing area is closed until spring since the 7<sup>th</sup> of October.
- 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 24-OCT-12	
Farm	Curtins Farm	Effect of stocking rate and calving date on animal performance	
Date	22-OCT-12	Treatment : High SR	
Number of Cows : 23 Grass Allocation /Cow (kg DM/Cow) : 13 Concentrate Fed (kg/cow) : 3 Silage Fed (kg DM/cow) : 0 N Application Rate (units/acre) : N Application Rate (kg/ha) : Residual Height : 3.75 Total Livestock (LU) : 23		Grass Allocation /LU (kg DM/LU) : 13.0 Farm Cover (kg DM/ha) : 876 Farm Cover (kg DM/LU) : 266 Current Monthly Fertilizer Rate (kg/ha) : Stock Rate (LU/ha) : 3.30 Growth Rate : 26 Farm Demand (kg DM/ha/day) : 43 Target pregrazing yield (kg DM/ha) : 2142 Forecast Growth Week 1 and 2 : 20 17	



- Average farm cover this week is 876kg/ha (266/cow). Growth rate over the past 7 days was 26kg per day (42kg last week).
- As can be seen in Figure 2, the average farm cover dropped again this week. We are below target for this time of year (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 in order to extend the grazing season.
- Pre-grazing yield is at 2300kg and grass is being allocated on a 24 hour basis as ground conditions have improved on last week.
- We will dry off 8% of each of the high stocking rate groups to reduce demand
- Cows are currently grazing paddock 10 and rotation length is 50 days.

- We have commenced the last rotation and will have 55% of grazing platform closed on 25/10/12.

### **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 5.46%, Protein 4.32%, Lactose 4.4% and SCC 225k.

