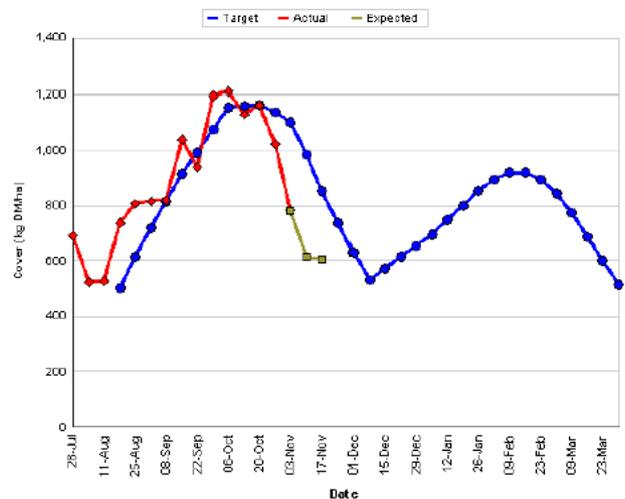
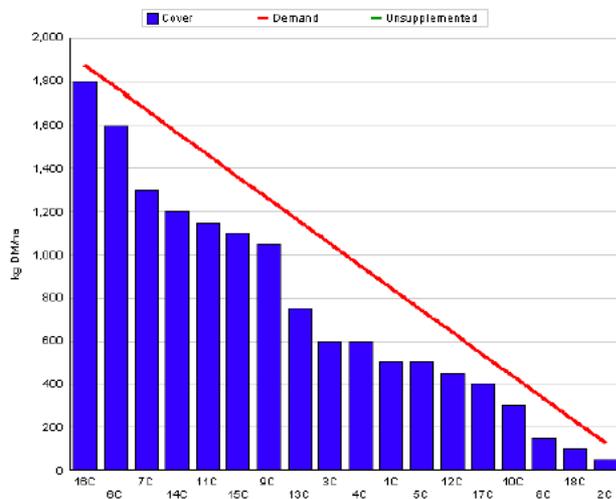


Curtins Farm Walk Notes Tuesday 31-10-12

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: 31-OCT-12	
Farm: Curtins Farm		Effect of stocking rate and calving date on animal performance	
Date: 31-OCT-12		Treatment: Low SR	

Number of Cows :	20	Grass Allocation /LU (kg DM/LU) :	16.0
Grass Allocation /Cow (kg DM/Cow) :	16	Farm Cover (kg DM/ha) :	782
Concentrate Fed (kg/cow) :	3	Farm Cover (kg DM/LU) :	358
Silage Fed (kg DM/cow) :	0	Stock Rate (LU/ha) :	2.19
N Application Rate (units/acre) :		Growth Rate :	12
N Application Rate (kg/ha) :		Farm Demand (kg DM/ha/day) :	35
Residual Height :	4.5	Target pregrazing yield (kg DM/ha) :	1876
Total Livestock (LU) :	20	Forecast Growth Week 1 and 2:	11 9



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 782kg/ha (358/cow). Growth rate for this group over the past 7 days was 12 kg/day (37kg last week)
- As can be seen in Figure 1, the average farm cover is falling behind target for this time (red line). The green 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 3kgs per head per day and the lowest 13% of the herd will be dried this week. This will reduce demand to 35kg/day. Further supplementation may be required over the next few weeks depending on weather conditions and expected grass growth.

- Pre-grazing yields are at 1900kg and cows are currently grazing paddock 2. Grass is being allocated on a 24hour basis this will change if weather conditions deteriorate.
- Rotation length is at 50 days.

High Stocking Rate Group (3.3 Cows/ha)

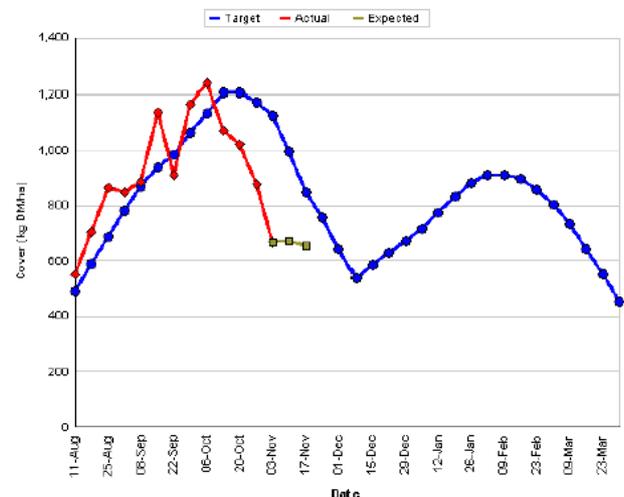
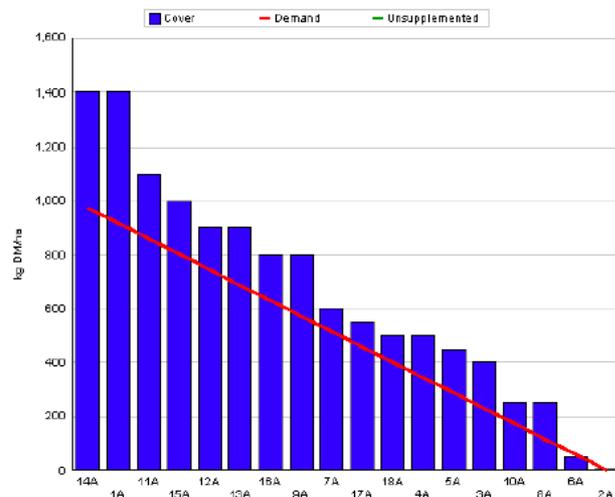
Situation

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 31-OCT-12	
Farm	Curtins Farm	Effect of stocking rate and calving date on animal performance	
Date	31-OCT-12	Treatment : High SR	

Number of Cows :	17
Grass Allocation /Cow (kg DM/Cow) :	8
Concentrate Fed (kg/cow) :	3
Silage Fed (kg DM/cow) :	5
N Application Rate (units/acre) :	
N Application Rate (kg/ha) :	
Residual Height :	3.75
Total Livestock (LU) :	17

Grass Allocation /LU (kg DM/LU) :	8.0
Farm Cover (kg DM/ha) :	668
Farm Cover (kg DM/LU) :	274
Current Monthly Fertilizer Rate (kg/ha) :	
Stock Rate (LU/ha) :	2.44
Growth Rate :	23
Farm Demand (kg DM/ha/day) :	19
Target pregrazing yield (kg DM/ha) :	974
Forecast Growth Week 1 and 2:	20 17



- Average farm cover this week is 668kg/ha (274/cow). Growth rate over the past 7 days was 23kg per day (26kg 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 green 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 and the High stocking rate group will be housed by night on 5kg DM of silage to stretch grass supply for the next 10 days.
- Pre-grazing yield is at 1400kg and grass is being allocated on a 24 hour basis as ground conditions have improved on last week.
- We will have dried off 25% of the high stocking rate groups by the end of this week to reduce demand (dried once yield drops below 8kgs).
- Cows are currently grazing paddock 14 and rotation length is 50 days.

- Animals in the high SR treatment will be completely housed in 10 days to leave sufficient grass for spring.

Whole Farm Situation

1. Latest milk composition details from the processor are: Fat 5.36%, Protein 4.40%, Lactose 4.4% and SCC 207k.

