Farm walk notes 07/05/13

High SR (3.28 cows/ha)

- Grass growth rates have increased to 62kg DM/ha/day this week
- Farm cover 651 kg DM/ha (152 kg DM/cow)
- Rotation length is now set to 21 days
- Feed wedge High SR 07/05/13

- The high SR herd are on a grass allocation of 15kg grass DM plus 1 kg of concentrate this week. Grass allocation is on a 24 hr basis.
- Grass utilisation is excellent - postgrazing height of 2.8cm on Paddock 9a
- Our priority for the next 2-3 weeks is to increase grazing area SR and close 40% of the land area for silage conservation. We have already closed 22% of the farm area for silage (bringing the grazing area SR up to 4.3 cows/ha)
- We are currently following the grazing herd with 27 units of sulpha-CAN and any paddocks skipped for silage has received an additional 50 units of urea this week
- Paddock 4a will be sprayed out and surface seeded during the next rotation.
Farm walk notes 07/05/13

Medium SR (2.94 cows/ha)

- Grass growth rates have increased to 82kg DM/ha/day this week
- Farm cover 872 kg DM/ha (198 kg DM/cow)
- Rotation length is now set to 21 days
- Feed wedge Medium SR 07/05/13

The medium SR herd are on a grass allocation of 16kg grass DM plus 1 kg of concentrate this week. Grass allocation is on a 24 hr basis.

- Grass utilisation is excellent - postgrazing height of 3.0cm on Paddock 18b
- Our priority for the next 2-3 weeks is to increase grazing area SR and close 40% of the land area for silage conservation. We have already closed 33% of the farm area for silage (bringing the grazing area SR up to 4.4 cows/ha)
- We are currently following the grazing herd with 27 units of sulpha-CAN and any paddocks skipped for silage has received an additional 50 units of urea this week
- Paddocks 6b and 5b are marginally too strong but must be grazed due to environmental measurements in this area.
- Paddock 4b will be sprayed out and surface seeded during the next rotation.

Farm walk notes 07/05/13
Low SR (2.52 cows/ha)

- Grass growth rates have increased to 65kg DM/ha/day this week
- Farm cover 720 kg DM/ha (195 kg DM/cow)
- Rotation length is now set to 21 days
- Feed wedge Low SR 07/05/13

- The low SR herd are on a grass allocation of 17kg grass DM plus 1 kg of concentrate this week. Grass allocation is on a 24 hr basis.
- Grass utilisation is excellent - postgrazing height of 3.2cm on Paddock 4c
- Our priority for the next 2-3 weeks is to increase grazing area SR and close at least 40% of the land area for silage conservation. We have already closed 33% of the farm area for silage (bringing the grazing area SR up to 3.7 cows/ha)
- We are currently following the grazing herd with 27 units of sulpha-CAN and any paddocks skipped for silage has received an additional 50 units of urea this week
- Paddock 4c will be sprayed out and surface seeded during the next rotation.

Overall farm situation (07/05/13)

- All cows are now calved and on treatments
- Grass DM % was 16% on the farm walk on Tuesday afternoon.
- The AI season commenced on April 24th and after 11 days of AI, we have submitted 46% of the total herd. Cows that have not been served during the 1st 3 weeks, and that are calved 32 days, will be scanned and treated to rapidly achieve submission.
- We have reduced concentrate feeding from 3 kg to 1 kg per cow per day on all treatments this week. We are applying Mg and minerals using the doseatron and will reduce concentrate to 0.1kg per cow per day next week.
- Currently, milk yield for the overall group is 24.9 kg per cow per day at 4.37% fat and 3.56% protein (equivalent to 1.96 kg MS/cow/day). SCC is 207 and TBC is 12.
- 60% of all calves have been weaned to date (weaning weight =90kg FR 75kg JE) and these calves are eating 1.5 kg of calf nuts per hd per day.