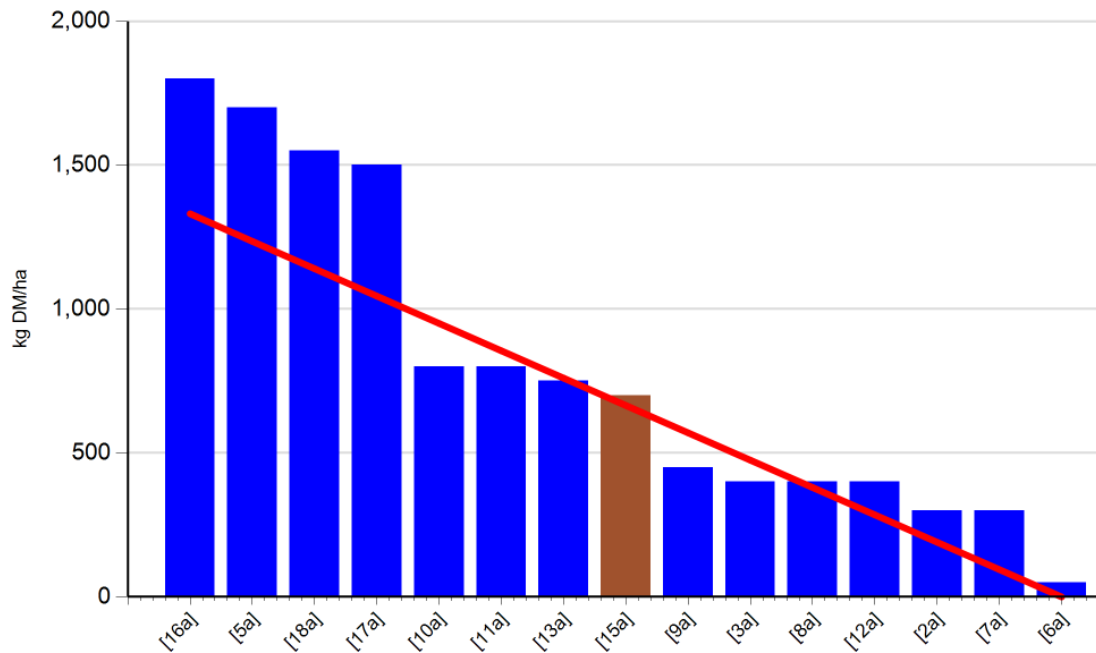


Farm Walk Notes 08/07/13

High SR (3.28 cows/ha)

- Grass growth – 54 kg DM/ha/day
- Farm cover – 798 kg DM/ha (202 kg DM/LU)
- Rotation length – 21 days

Feed Wedge

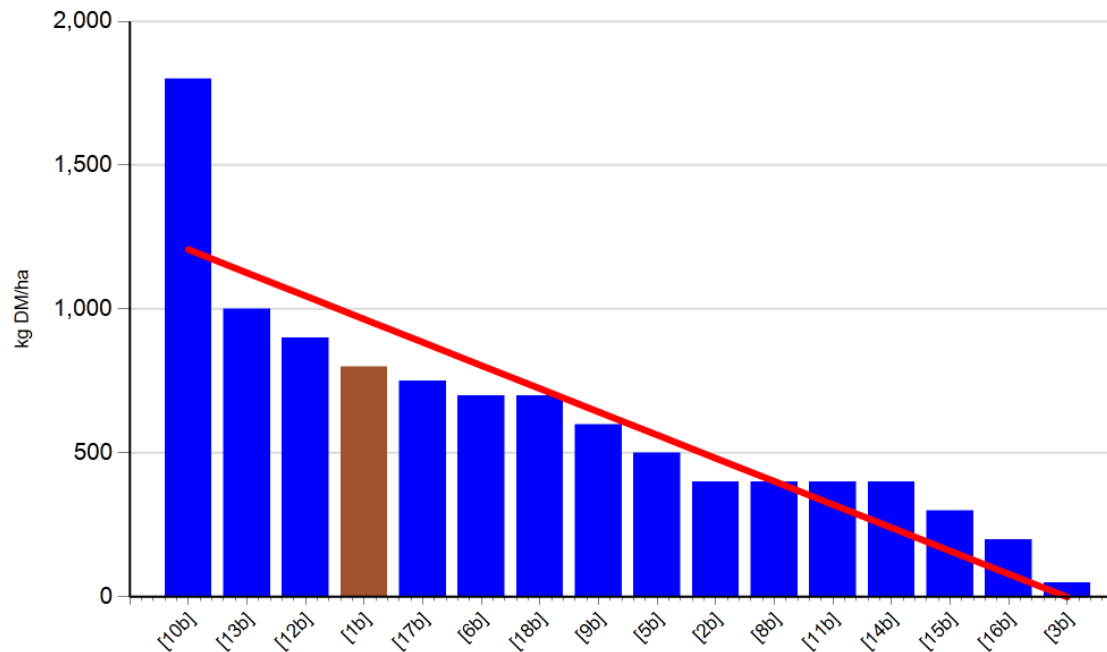


- Grass growth has slowed this week due to moisture restrictions. The warm weather is set to continue in the coming week so growth will remain poor.
- Cows are grazing high covers of almost 2,000 kg this week. If these paddocks were removed from the rotation we would run into a feed deficit.
- Cows are struggling to reach target residual of 3.5 cm this week because the sward base has become very coarse.
- Rotation length remains at 21 days but is set to increase to 25-30 days in the coming weeks.
- The high SR herd have a daily grass allocation of 16 kg with 0.2 kg concentrate. Grass allocation is on a 24 hour basis. The level of concentrate may increase this week to meet the feed deficit.
- We are following the grazing herd with 15 units of sulphha-CAN.
- Reseeded ground is coming on well. It will return to the grazing rotation in 3-4 weeks
- All paddocks removed for silage have been cut and will return to the rotation in the coming weeks. This will lengthen the rotation and lower the herd demand.

Medium SR (2.94 cows/ha)

- Grass growth – 50 kg DM/ha/day
- Farm cover – 610 kg DM/ha (180 kg DM/LU)
- Rotation length – 21 days

Feed Wedge

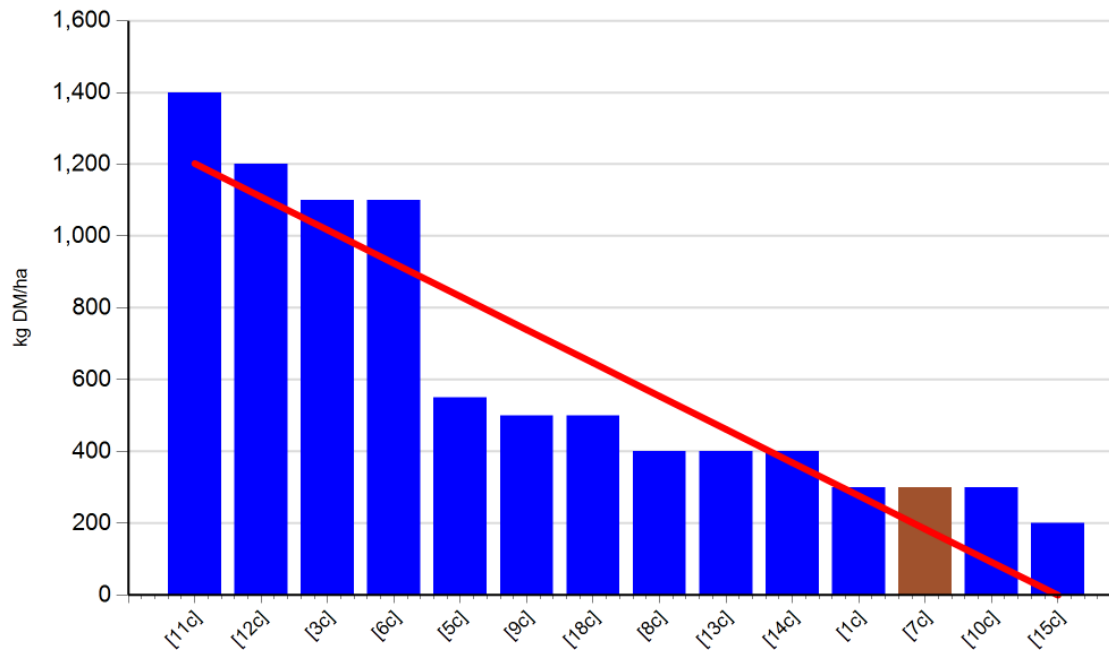


- Grass growth has slowed this week due to moisture restrictions. The warm weather is set to continue in the coming week so growth will remain poor.
- Cows are struggling to reach target residual this week because the sward base has become very coarse.
- Rotation length remains at 21 days but is set to increase to 25-30 days in the coming weeks.
- The medium SR herd have a daily grass allocation of 17 kg with 0.2 kg concentrate. Grass allocation is on a 24 hour basis. The level of concentrate may increase this week to meet the feed deficit.
- We are following the grazing herd with 15 units of sulpha-CAN.
- Reseeded ground is coming on well. It will return to the grazing rotation in 3-4 weeks
- All paddocks removed for silage have been cut and will return to the rotation in the coming weeks. This will lengthen the rotation and lower the herd demand.

Low SR (2.52 cows/ha)

- Grass growth – 43 kg DM/ha/day
- Farm cover – 611 kg DM/ha (192 kg DM/LU)
- Rotation length – 21 days

Feed Wedge



- Grass growth has slowed this week due to moisture restrictions. The warm weather is set to continue in the coming week so growth will remain poor.
- Cows are struggling to reach target residual this week because the sward base has become very coarse.
- Rotation length remains at 21 days but is set to increase to 25-30 days in the coming week.
- The low SR herd have a daily grass allocation of 18 kg with 0.2 kg concentrate. Grass allocation is on a 24 hour basis. The level of concentrate may increase this week to meet the feed deficit.
- We are following the grazing herd with 15 units of sulphha-CAN.
- Reseeded ground is coming on well. It will return to the grazing rotation in 3-4 weeks
- All paddocks removed for silage have been cut and will return to the rotation in the coming weeks. This will lengthen the rotation and lower the herd demand.

Overall farm situation

- Grass DM was recorded at 21% on the farm walk on Monday morning.
- We are applying Mg and minerals using the doseatron and concentrate supplementation is at 0.2 kg per cow per day.
- Milk yield is on average 20 kg per day at 4.43% fat, 3.53% protein and 4.69% lactose. SCC is at 138.

Dealing with the dry conditions at Curtin's

- There is a soil moisture deficit of 50 mm/day due to the current weather conditions. This means we are losing 5 cm of moisture from the soil each day.
- We are holding a higher farm covers – over 200 kg/LU. The cows are therefore grazing higher pre-grazing herbage masses in an effort to build grass.
- Once the high pre-grazing herbage masses have been grazed, we will begin to supplement. Firstly we will increase the amount of concentrate fed. If low growth continues baled silage will also be fed to meet the feed deficit.
- We are aiming to extend the grazing rotation to 25-30 days.
- The newly reseeded ground is moisture stressed. We are spreading water at 2,500 gallons/acre/day at dusk in order to minimise stress.