

Curtins Farm weekly Farm Walk Notes

1/10/2013

Medium SR (2.94 cows/ha)

- Grass growth –27 kg DM/ha/day
- Farm cover –653 kg DM/ha (221kg DM/LU)
- Rotation length – 38 days

Figure 1. Feed wedge for Curtins Farm Medium SR treatment this week.

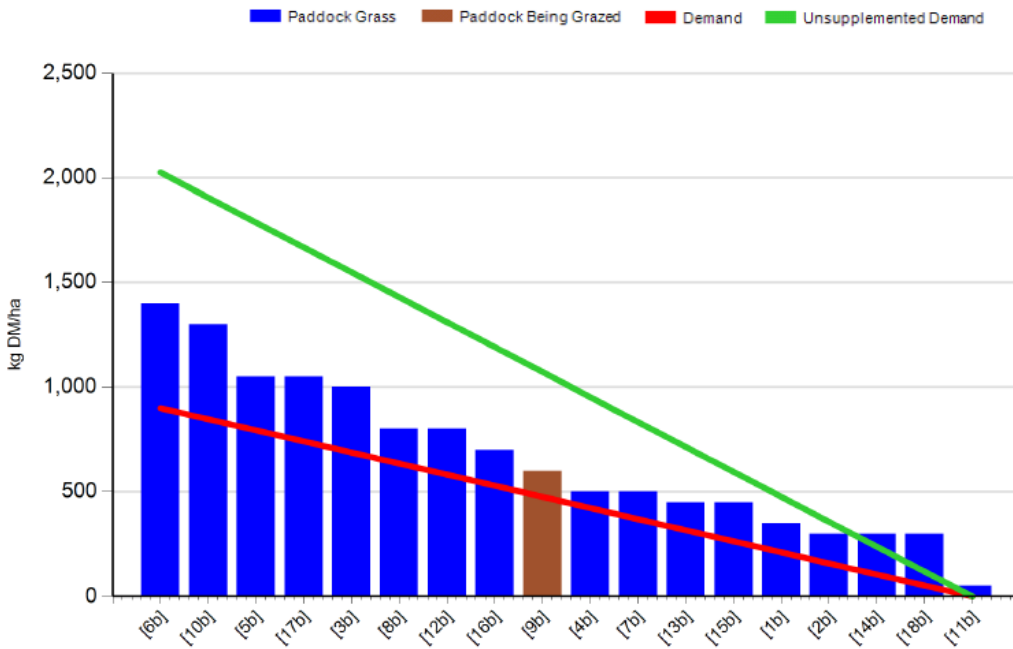
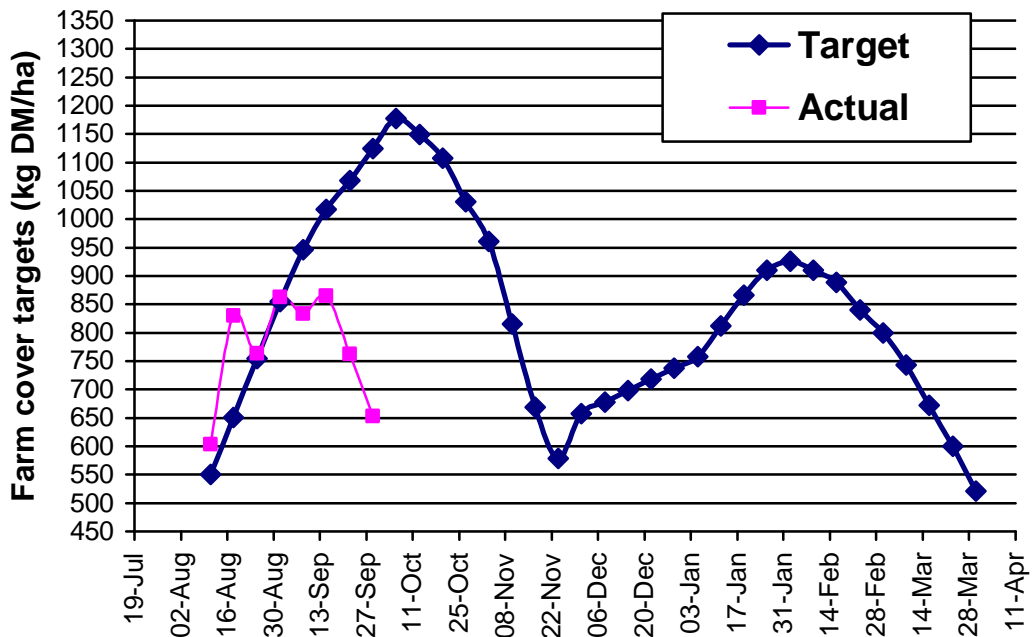


Figure 2. Autumn feed budget for Curtins Farm Medium SR treatment



- Grass growth was poor this week at 27kg Lack of moisture to blame (Rain only started today so too early for response).
- As seen in figure 2. the Autumn planner our actual farm cover is still under our target farm cover this week and we will struggle to get it back to target without a large increase in grass growth and added supplementation.
- We plan on feeding 5kg of concentrate plus 5kgs of silage per cow for the week plus 8kg grass, we are doing this because we need to build overall farm cover in order to carry enough grass into the Autumn.
- Cows are hitting target residual cover of 4 cm with grazing conditions being excellent and silage being fed after morning milking.
- Rotation length is at 38 days.
- We are finished spreading fertiliser with our allocation of 250kg of N per HA being reached.
- Slurry/Dirty water is being applied to paddocks as the cows have finished grazing them at a rate of 2500gal/acer.

Overall farm situation

- Grass DM was recorded at 13% on the farm walk on Monday morning.

Milk yield is on average 13.5 litres per day at 5.22% fat, 4.05% protein and 4.62% lactose.
 SCC is at 117,000, TBC 6k