

Weekly update Clonakilty Dairy – 23 June 2014

Tetraploid swards (2.75 cows/ha)



Date Produced: 25-06-2014

PastureBase-Ireland

Grass Measurement Report

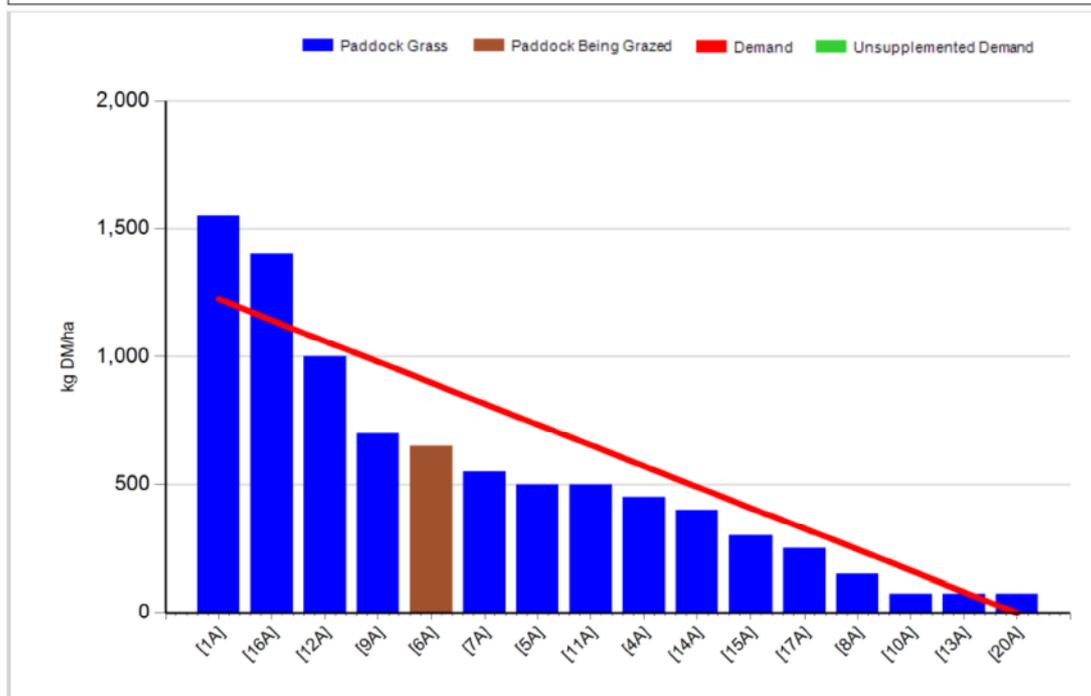
Group:	Cover Date: 23/06/2014
Farm: Clonakilty Farm	Treatment: T

Management Decisions

Rotation Length (days):	21	Silage Fed (kg DM/cow):	0.0
Grass Allocation/Cow (kg DM/cow):	17.0	Residual Height (cm):	4.0
No. of Cows:	30		
Concentrate Fed (kg/cow):	0.0		

Cover Parameters

Grass Allocation/LU (kg DM/LU):	17.0	Growth Rate (kg/ha/day):	59
Total Livestock (LU):	30.0	Farm Demand (kg DM/ha/day):	58
Farm Cover (kg DM/ha):	553	Target Pre-grazing yield (kg DM/ha):	1225
Farm Cover (kg DM/LU):	161		
Stocking Rate (LU/ha):	3.43		



1. Average farm cover (AFC) is 553 kg DM/ha (161 kg DM/LU)
2. Growth rate last week was 59 kg DM/ha per day
3. Stocking rate is 3.43 LU/ha and demand is 58 kg DM/ha per day
4. We cut 3 paddocks (4, 7 and 11) for bales 2 weeks ago. We have 20 % of the farmlet area closed for 2nd cut silage which has been topped up with 70 to 80 units of nitrogen. We were slow to close too much area for 2nd

cut as the dry weather is starting to hit us; we need rain as drought is starting to set in.

- Pre-grazing yield is 1500 and we are allocating 17 kg DM of grass per cow. No concentrate is being fed. Minerals are being given to the cows through the dosatron into the water. The minerals the cows are receiving are Mg, I, Se, Zn, Cu and Co.

Diploid swards (2.75 cows/ha)



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PastureBase-Ireland

Grass Measurement Report

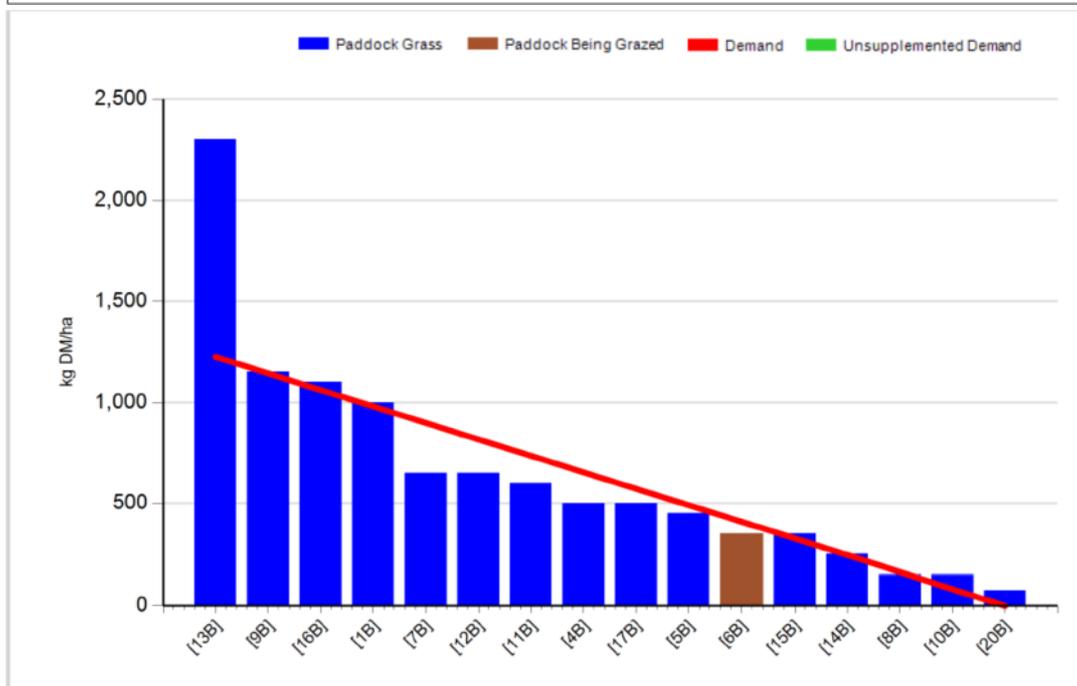
Group:	Cover Date: 23/06/2014
Farm: Clonakilty Farm	Treatment: D

Management Decisions

Rotation Length (days):	21	Silage Fed (kg DM/cow):	
Grass Allocation/Cow (kg DM/cow):	17.0	Residual Height (cm):	4.0
No. of Cows:	30		
Concentrate Fed (kg/cow):	0.0		

Cover Parameters

Grass Allocation/LU (kg DM/LU):	17.0	Growth Rate (kg/ha/day):	63
Total Livestock (LU):	30.0	Farm Demand (kg DM/ha/day):	58
Farm Cover (kg DM/ha):	619	Target Pre-grazing yield (kg DM/ha):	1225
Farm Cover (kg DM/LU):	180		
Stocking Rate (LU/ha):	3.43		



- Average farm cover 619 kg DM/ha (180 kg DM/LU)
- Growth rate last week was 63 kg DM/ha per day
- Stocking rate is 3.43 LU/ha and demand is 58 kg DM/ha per day

4. We decided to graze paddock 13 (even though it has a high cover of 2300 kg DM/ha) as we felt that we didn't have enough grass on the farmlet to take out this paddock. If we had taken out paddock 13 our cover/LU would have dropped to 141 kg DM/LU which we felt would be very low, especially with the dry weather. We cut 3 paddocks (4, 7 and 11) for bales 2 weeks ago. We have 20 % of the farmlet area closed for 2nd cut silage which has been topped up with 70 to 80 units of nitrogen. We were slow to close too much area for 2nd cut as the dry weather is starting to hit us; we need rain as drought is starting to set in.
5. Pre-grazing yield is 2300 and we are allocating 17 kg DM of grass per cow. No concentrate is being fed. Minerals are being given to the cows through the dosatron into the water. The minerals the cows are receiving are Mg, I, Se, Zn, Cu and Co.

Whole farm update

1. We had 193 cows to calve this year and all cows are now calved. There are 178 cows being milked, 2 cows died, 8 cows were sold after they calved, another 3 cows have been dried off early and will be sold and we had one abortion.
2. Cows are currently milking 21.0 kg/day at 4.23% fat, 3.70% protein and 4.78 % lactose. Milk solids per cow are 1.65 kg/day. Latest results from the processor 4.19% fat, 3.59% protein, 4.73% lactose 122 SCC and TBC is 4. Average bodyweight of milking cows is 493 kg and average body condition score is 2.93.
3. Average farm cover on the general area is 785 kg DM/ha (223 kg DM/LU). Demand is 45 kg DM/ha per day and growth rate on the general area last week was 79 kg DM/ha per day. Stocking rate is 3.52 LU/ha. We 3 paddocks for bales over the last 2 weeks which are now all back in the rotation. We have closed up ground for 2nd cut silage and this has increased our stocking rate to 3.52 LU/ha.
4. All calves have been weaned and they are now out on grass. Holstein-Friesian and 3way calves are being weaned at 90 kg and JEX calves are being weaned at 85 kg.
5. We have started breeding on the 20th of April. We are using a mixture of Holstein-Friesian (JRE, WLY, PSZ, AKZ, WDS and MDW), Jersey (PKA, OKT and HWY) and Norwegian Red (VSK, VLX, EKE and EGE) bulls on the cows and heifers.
6. Breeding is going well; we have let off Jersey and Friesian bulls with the different groups as the numbers of repeats is very low and it is hard to pick up bulling cows. We scanned all cows (118) that have been bred over 30 days yesterday i.e. cows that were bred in the first 22 days of the breeding season that haven't been bred again. Four of these cows were not in calf so this gives us a 64% in calf rate for the first 3 weeks of the breeding season. 43 out of the 49 of the heifers are also in calf in the first 3 weeks of the breeding season.