Weekly update Clonakilty Dairy – 19 October 2015

Tetraploid swards (2.75 cows/ha)

1. We have 30 cows milking in this group.
2. Average farm cover (AFC) is 916 kg DM/ha (332 kg DM/LU).
3. Growth rate last week was 23 kg DM/ha per day.
4. Stocking rate is 2.76 LU/ha and demand is 30 kg DM/ha per day.
5. Pre-grazing yield is 1700 kg DM/ha. Rotation length is 44 days this week. Average Farm Cover dropped significantly and is well below target this week at 916 kg DM/ha (target is 1118 kg DM/ha, see budget below) as growth rate dropped from 52 to 23 kg DM/ha per day. We have increased concentrate to 3 kg/cow and we will also start feeding 3 kg of silage to reduce demand to hold AFC this week. Grazing conditions have been
excellent and paddocks have been cleaned out really well over the past week. We have 37% of the area grazed by Monday the 19th.

6. Cows are being allocating 11 kg DM of grass/cow, 3 kg of concentrate and 3 kg of silage is being fed.

7. This group of cows are currently milking 13.9 kg/day at 5.02% fat and 4.53% protein. Milk solids per cow are 1.31 kg/day.

**Tetraploid + clover swards (2.75 cows/ha)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Management Decisions</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rotation Length (days): 44</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grass Allocation/Cow (kg DM/cow): 14.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>No. of Cows: 30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Concentrate Fed (kg/cow): 3.0</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cover Parameters</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grass Allocation/LU (kg DM/LU): 14.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Livestock (LU): 30.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Farm Cover (kg DM/ha): 943</td>
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<td>Farm Cover (kg DM/LU): 342</td>
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<td>Stocking Rate (LU/ha): 2.76</td>
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1. We have 30 cows milking in this group.
2. Average farm cover 943 kg DM/ha (342 kg DM/LU).
3. Growth rate last week was 20 kg DM/ha per day
4. Stocking rate is 2.76 LU/ha and demand is 39 kg DM/ha per day.
5. Pre-grazing yield is 2200 kg DM/ha. Rotation length is 44 days this week. Average Farm Cover is well below target this week at 943 kg DM/ha (target is 1118 kg DM/ha, see budget below) so we have increased concentrate to 3 kg/cow. We have 2 paddocks with heavy covers of over 2000 kg DM/ha so
although we are below target for AFC, we will hold off on feeding silage to
this group until we have these heavy covers grazed. We will introduce 3 kg of
silage once these paddocks are grazed. We have 36% of the area grazed by
Tuesday the 19\textsuperscript{th}.

6. We are allocating 14 kg DM of grass/cow and 3 kg of concentrate is being fed.

7. This group of cows are currently milking 17.6 kg/day at 5.00% fat and 4.27%
protein and milk solids per cow are 1.62 kg/day.

### Whole farm update

1. We had 202 cows to calve this year and all cows are now calved. There
are 179 cows being milked. 20 cows were sold after they calved.

2. Cows are currently milking 15.9 kg/day at 4.88% fat, 4.30% protein and
4.62% lactose. Milk solids per cow are 1.44 kg/day. Latest results from the
processor 4.98% fat, 4.46% protein, 4.70% lactose and 122 SCC, TBC 4.
Average bodyweight of milking cows is 541 kg and average BCS is 2.96.

3. Average farm cover on the general area is 846 kg DM/ha (333 kg DM/LU).
Demand is 34 kg DM/ha per day and growth rate on the general area last
week was 33 kg DM/ha per day. Stocking rate is 2.54 LU/ha. We have 60
general cows calved and they are now being allocated 14 kg DM of grass,
and 3 kg of concentrate.

4. Eight cows out of the 179 that were bred were not in-calf, giving us a
4.5% empty rate in a 12 week breeding period. Our 6-week in-calf rate
was approximately 85%.

5. We had 42 out of 44 heifers bred in 11 days (96%). After scanning the
heifers they are 100% in calf (44/44).

6. The heifers were weighed and their average weight was 465 kg.

7. To date 310 kg/cow concentrate has been fed.